



President
Paul Fazzino
 Essex Fire Engine Co. No. 1

Vice President
Mike Jenkins
 Westbrook Fire Dept.

Secretary - Treasurer
Steve Biasi
 North Madison Vol. Fire Co.

Minutes of the February 23, 2015 VSMAI meeting in Deep River, CT.

President Paul Fazzino called the meeting to order at 19:40 hrs. with a salute to the flag.

Attendees – February 23, 2015

Charles Herrschaft – Guilford	Dick Bauer – Killingworth
Jeremy Adametz – Killingworth	Tim Lee – Deep River
Doug Whittaker – Deep River	James Budney – Deep River
Jim Schaefer – Chester	Chris Going – Essex
Joe Johnson – Old Saybrook	Jed Perkins – Essex
Bobby Kyttle – Madison	Chris Yenco – Madison
Tom Rison - Old Lyme	

Special Presentations:

NONE

Approval of the previous meeting minutes: MMS (Budney/J. Johnson) to accept the November 24, 2014 minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Reading of communications:

The Secretary read a letter from the Killingworth Volunteer Fire Company Ladies Auxiliary thanking Valley Shore for the \$250.00 donation.

The secretary also received the invoice for the organization’s annual State of Connecticut filing fee. The annual filing fee is \$50.00 and is included in the amount contained in the bills/payments in the following paragraph.

Treasurer’s report: The Treasurer reported an opening balance of \$4,921.80, with \$0.00 of income and \$881.69 bills or payments. Ending balance is \$4,040.11. MMS to accept the Treasurer’s report as presented (Bauer/Budney). Motion passed unanimously.

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The secretary opened discussion on the 2015 annual dues for each of the Valley Shore departments. Discussion amongst the attendees resulted in the dues payment for 2015 remaining at \$150.00. The Secretary will send/email invoices to each fire chief/department.

Bills to be paid:

None

Committee report(s):

State Fire Coordinator's Report:

NO REPORT

Regional Preparation/Pre-Planning:

NO REPORT

Radio Frequency/Communications Committee

NO REPORT

Website:

NO REPORT

Tanker Strike Team SOP:

NO REPORT

Tanker Fill Site Setup SOP:



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NO REPORT

Accountability SOP

NO REPORT

RIT/Mayday SOG Review

NO REPORT

Old Business:

- Chief Tim Lee of Deep River announced Deep River would be hosting a Fire Instructor I starting March 7, 2015. Chief Lee stated the course is full.

New Business:

- Chief Dick Bauer of Killingworth announced Killingworth FD has secured sufficient capital funding to build a fire-training tower that will be located behind the Killingworth Town Hall and town garage. The training facility will not be visible from Route 81. Chief Bauer announced the Town of Killingworth gave final approval and ground breaking should be sometime in early spring. The tower should be completed in the fall 2015. The training facility will be a two story "cape" type building equipped with equipment in order for standpipe operations training, ventilation training, and ladder training.
- Deputy Chief Jim Budney of Deep River inquired as to whether any money from the Middletown fire training facility project was available.
- President Paul Fazzino explained the Middletown fire training facility money was a bonded project but the bonded money never got released from the State.

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- Chief Dick Bauer stated he presented it to the Town of Killingworth as a training facility only available to Valley Shore mutual aid towns and is not going to be a regional training facility. Chief Bauer stated the town was concerned the training facility as a regional facility would be used seven nights a week and create lots of noise for the town. Chief Bauer stated he assured them it was only going to be used for his department and the mutual aid towns.
- President Paul Fazzino explained the Valley Shore organization wanted to bring a fire training facility down into one of the valley shore towns many years ago but there was quite a bit of opposition in relocating the Middletown facility to one of the Valley Shore towns because Middletown could not train outside their district during their on duty shifts. Unfortunately, Middletown's tower is no longer serviceable and they currently do not have a training facility.
- Chief Dick Bauer opened discussion on how to handle a Valley Shore town that is not paying their annual dues and not participating in the organization. Chief Bauer inquired as to there was anything written in the Organization's by-laws?
- President Paul Fazzino stated there is nothing written in the by-laws concerning this issue. President Fazzino stated he did have discussion with a chief officer concerning this issue recently. The Secretary stated he also had a phone conversation with a chief officer concerning the outstanding dues payment remaining from 2014.
- Deputy Chief Jim Budney of Deep River recommended sending a letter expressing the organization's concern over the lack of payment and participation. The letter may also want to offer that department a means for leaving the organization.
- President Paul Fazzino stated the by-laws do not address when departments lack participation and fail to pay annual dues. President Fazzino explained it was Chief Hall that approached the organization many years ago and Durham joined the organization. President Fazzino stated they are a welcomed participant in the organization would like to see them continue being an active participant.
- Chief Dick Bauer of Killingworth made a motion to draft and send a letter to the Durham Fire Company stating the following:
 1. Their intentions on staying a member of the Valley Shore Mutual Aid Organization; and,



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2. How Durham plans to handle their outstanding annual dues payment; and,
 3. Their reason for not participating in the organization.
- Deputy Chief Jim Budney of Deep River seconded the motion.
 - The attendees at the meeting unanimously approved the motion.

 - President Paul Fazzino turned the floor over to the Election/Nominating Committee (Chief Dick Bauer of Killingworth and Deputy Chief Jim Budney of Deep River). The Election/Nominating Committee made a motion presenting the same or current officers for 2015. Deputy Chief Jed Perkins of Essex seconded the motion. The attendees unanimously approved the motion and the Secretary cast one vote for Vice President and President. The President cast one vote for the Secretary.

 - President Paul Fazzino turned the floor over the Audit Committee. The committee was comprised of Chief Dick Bauer of Killingworth and Deputy Chief Jim Budney of Deep River. Chief Bauer and Deputy Chief Budney reviewed the financial records maintained by the Secretary and approved the financial records for 2014.

Interest to the Organization:

- Deputy Chief Joe Johnson of Old Saybrook thanked everyone for their help and assistance during the services for David Heiney Sr.

- Chief Tim Lee of Deep River announced Doug Whittaker as Deep River's new 3rd Assistant Chief.
- Chief Tim Lee of Deep River announced Deep River would be hosting a "movie night" on Wednesday, February 25, 2015 at 6:30 pm on the third floor of town hall in Deep River. Pete Woodcock obtained numerous old 16mm film/movie tapes from former Fire Chief Al Camire's wife. Many of the movies are from the 1970's and 1980's. Mr. Woodcock worked to have just about all the movies transferred to a modern day media (DVDs). Anyone interested is welcome to attend.
- Chief Tim Lee of Deep River opened discussion concerning the proper ways to communicate to the host town when conducting mutual aid. The attendees and President Paul Fazzino stated the lead fire officer of the mutual aid town should communicate to the host town's Incident



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Commander. Additionally, the responding/mutual aid town's responding apparatus and officers (not the responding town's Incident Commander) should communicate on their own channels. Chief Lee explained communications is instructing department officers and apparatus to communicate on the host department's channels. Chief Lee is requested a letter and the SOG for communications explaining the procedures be sent to communications.

- Chief Tom Risom of Old Lyme stated during his fire incidents Old Lyme utilizes it's own channels but scans the other department's channels to monitor their activity.
- President Paul Fazzino stated the purpose of not having all the responding mutual aid units communicating on the same channel was to minimize the amount of radio traffic for the host town.
- Deputy Chief Jim Budney of Deep River recalled a very memorable story about David Heiney Sr. whereby he was the one that started "plain language". Deputy Chief Budney, in order to get the firefighters off a roof after the third time of instructing them to get off was to simply state in "plain language" to "get the f--- off the roof"!

MMS to at 20:35 hours (Bauer/Herrschaft).

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Biasi

Steve Biasi
Secretary/Treasurer

Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 23, 2015 in Durham at 7:30pm.