



*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 August 27, 2012 VSMAI meeting in Clinton, CT.**

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

**Attendees – August 27, 2012**

Frank Schrempp – Clinton	J.T. Dunn – Old Saybrook
Paul Fazzino Jr. – Essex	James Budney – Deep River
Jeremy Adametz – Killingworth	Dick Bauer – Killingworth
Sam Baber – Haddam	Charles Herrschaft – Guilford
Doug Harreys – Essex	Richard Tsou – Westbrook
Mike Jenkins – Westbrook	Pete Lefrancois – Clinton
Brian Manware – Clinton	Paul Fazzino – Essex
Steve Biasi – North Madison	

**Special Presentations:**

NONE.

**Approval of the previous meeting minutes:** MMS (Bauer/Budney) to accept the July 23, 2012 minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

**Reading of communications:**

NONE

**Treasurer’s report:** The Treasurer reported an opening balance of \$7,971.41, with \$0.00 of income and \$170.16 bills or payments. Ending balance is \$7,801.25. MMS to accept the Treasurer’s report as presented (Manware/Harreys). Motion passed unanimously.

**Bills to be paid:**

Flowers/Arrangements for Carl Hubbard	\$170.16
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 860-669-8131

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## **Committee report(s):**

Chief Dick Bauer of Killingworth opened discussion concerning a committee being established for the Larry Davis course. President Fazzino announced Chief Bauer, Deputy Chief Budney of Deep River and President Fazzino would be nominated for the committee. The Larry Davis course is known as the Rural Water Supply Operations course that is scheduled for April 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

President Fazzino announced the course is tentatively scheduled for April 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013 and will be held at Regional Jr. High School in Killingworth. President Fazzino explained he is currently looking for vendors to assist. President Fazzino explained Kevin Hannigan from Firemantic is working with Kockek, a manufacturer of large diameter hose and hardware fittings. The course will focus on long water supply lays and relay operations.

Chief Bauer stated the facility at the middle school has a great layout for the large diameter hose lays and relay operations. Chief Bauer confirmed the organization has the facility for the weekend. The school will be open so the classrooms can be used.

## Statewide Disaster:

NO REPORT

## Regional Preparation/Pre-Planning:

NO REPORT

## Radio Frequency/Communications Committee:

NO REPORT

## Website:

Chief Dunn of Old Saybrook announced Sonalyst has loaded all the versions of the commercial onto the joinyourfd.com website.

## Tanker Shuttle SOP:



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President Fazzino asked the attendees if there were any further changes to the tanker shuttle SOP. Secretary Biasi announced there were some changes from Durham and Killingworth. No additional changes were announced.

### Accountability SOP

NO REPORT

### RIT/Mayday SOG Review

Chief Herrschaft of Guilford opened discussion concerning the status and updating of the valley shore Mayday policy/SOP.

President Fazzino explained there was past discussion on the topic and there was quite a bit of conversation regarding the portable radios transmitting Mayday signals to communication and dispatch centers or locations.

Chief Dunn of Old Saybrook stated there is a Valley Shore Mayday policy and is coincides with the Valley Shore RIT Policy. Chief Dunn reminded the attendees that if valley shore towns do not plan on following the Valley Shore Mayday policy then they should make other towns aware of their policy towards either using or not using the Valley Shore policy.

Chief Herrschaft stated if towns are under valley shore they should use the Mayday policy. Basically, if we have the policy we should use it.

Chief Dunn explained the accountability issue needs to be resolved as well. President Fazzino asked the attendees if there were any individuals that would like to volunteer to look into these matters.

Chief Dunn stated the policies should be reviewed and revised if necessary.

President Fazzino announced Assistant Chief Rich Tsou of Westbrook, Assistant Chief Doug Harreys of Essex and Chief Dunn of Old Saybrook would be assigned to the new RIT/Mayday SOG Review Committee.

### **Old Business:**

Deputy Chief Fazzino of Essex explained the burn trailer was planned to arrive at Essex on August 4<sup>th</sup> but did not show up. Deputy Chief Fazzino explained after two weeks of email and telephone calls to Ray Crowley he finally got some replies and answers.



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Chief Dunn of Old Saybrook explained the trailer recently went to Meriden, Orange and then Stratford. Chief Dunn explained when the trailer went to Orange is sustained some significant damage. Chief Dunn explained Region 2 has maintenance money to fix the trailer but there was not enough money to fix the trailer. The rental money charged to fire departments to use the trailer only pays for the daily upkeep of the trailer. They also received a grant for the upkeep but the major damage is not covered under the service contract.

Deputy Chief Fazzino of Essex stated his argument was the long delay in Mr. Crowley responding to the emails and phone calls. Deputy Chief Fazzino explained Essex had drills and live burn exercises planned in early August and during the time period they had the trailer rented for. Additionally, the trailer was already paid for and they were currently looking to have their money refunded. Deputy Chief Fazzino argued the trailer's scheduling calendar should have been blocked out to prevent other departments from scheduling the trailer especially since it is currently not in service. Deputy Chief Fazzino added the trailer was supposed to go from Essex to Clinton and then Middletown but with the trailer being out of service and damaged Clinton might see the trailer in the middle of winter.

Discussion ensued with the group concerning the trailer being damaged at Orange and Stratford using the trailer. It was discussed having Orange pay for the damage to the trailer and why Stratford was using the trailer since they are not part of Region 2.

Chief Dunn explained Stratford was allowed to use the trailer but pays a higher cost for using the trailer, however, believes the policy will change to have only Region 2 use it. Chief Dunn explained each time the trailer is used by a fire department each department is required to complete forms and paperwork for using the trailer and submit the paperwork to New Haven. Meriden filed the paperwork after they used the trailer but Orange did not. The trailer goes from town to town according to the schedule.

Chief Herrschaft inquired as to whether anyone was checking the trailer when it leaves each town to evaluate the trailer's condition. Chief Herrschaft added that it would be difficult to have Orange pay for the damage when it seems that nobody checked and evaluated the trailer after it left Orange.

Chief Dunn explained the tow truck operator just moves the trailer and does not evaluate the trailer's condition. Chief Dunn added the trailer does not routinely go back to New Haven for inspection when it leaves one town and is transported to another town.



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President Fazzino stated the trailer simply needed to be fixed and put back into service. President Fazzino stated Region 2 can collect the cost of the damage from Orange later but in the meantime the trailer needs to be fixed so other Region 2 departments and use the trailer. President Fazzino stated if it takes Region 2 a year to collect the cost of the damage from Orange would the trailer be out of service for a year?

Assistant Chief Harreys of Essex believed some of the Region 2 towns don't care about the trailer nor it's condition because they see active fires very frequently and have other trailer facilities available to them for fire training while some town including the valley shore towns do not.

### **New Business:**

No Reports

### **Interest to the Organization:**

Chief Dunn of Old Saybrook announced the Fire Act grant has been submitted for the driver training simulator. If it gets approved he will let everyone know.

Assistant Chief Sam Baber of Haddam announced Haddam's Firefighter I course started and had twenty-one students.

Chief Dunn of Old Saybrook announced Old Saybrook's Firefighter II course is scheduled to start on September 10, 2012.

Assistant Chief Pete Lefrancois of Clinton announced their new engine 953 is having rear suspension problems. The truck is four years old and has been out of service for about one month. The department has the truck manufacturer involved in the repair process. After determining the truck was having rear suspension problems all the equipment on the truck was weighed and it was determined the rear suspension was overweight by 600 pounds that is minimal for a truck of this size.

Deputy Chief Manware of Clinton announced the Pride and Ownership: The Love for the Job seminar being held at the Morgan School on Saturday, September 29, 2012 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Flyers were available detailing the seminar at the meeting. The cost is \$30 per person and \$25 per person for Valley Shore Departments. Chief Rick Laskey is presenting the seminar.



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Deputy Chief Fazzino of Essex announced Essex's upcoming golf outing that is scheduled for October 3, 2012.

Deputy Chief Fazzino also announced the request to raise equipment for the East Corinth, VT Fire Department. Deputy Chief Fazzino explained the department's equipment, apparatus and personnel needs and requested equipment and apparatus donations be sent to their department. East Corinth, VT Fire Department is made up of 25 members between 18 and 50 years of age. The department has two firehouses (actually garages). The firehouse floors are stone and gravel with no bathrooms or running water in either firehouse. Their first alarm response area covers 48 square miles and there are about 110 miles of road in this area. Their mutual aid coverage area is 106 square miles. Their apparatus consists of two 1979 pieces and only two firefighters can ride in each apparatus and one 1984 engine with an open cab. For equipment, they have one ax and one hook and no forcible entry tools, fans or saws for ventilation. The department's gear is outdated and their masks and radios will be obsolete in January 2013. If you can help out please contact the following individuals:

Deputy Chief Donald Lee  
Colchester Fire Department  
860-625-5343 – Cell  
[Drl159@gmail.com](mailto:Drl159@gmail.com) - email

Jim Peruta  
Wethersfield Fire Department Company 2  
860-670-7254  
[jim@peruta.net](mailto:jim@peruta.net) - email

Doug Harreys announced Essex recently purchased a Polaris off road utility vehicle. The vehicle was purchased without equipment and is currently being outfitted with equipment.

Deputy Chief Fazzino of Essex announced their department recently got approved for \$180,000 to build out their training facility.

Deputy Chief Budney of Deep River announced their tanker is back in service.

Chief Mike Jenkins of Westbrook announced their tanker is be going out of service very shortly.

MMS to at 21:10 hours (Budney/Jenkins).



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Respectfully Submitted,

**Steve Biasi**  
Secretary/Treasurer

Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, September 24, 2012 in Deep River at 7:30pm.

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