



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 November 24, 2014 VSMAI meeting in Clinton, CT.

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

Attendees – November 24, 2014

Mike Jenkins – Westbrook	Jeff Heser – Clinton
Brian Manware – Clinton	Deb Miller – Clinton
Don Venuti – Killingworth	Glann Coffin – Clinton
Sam Baber – Haddam	John Bratnald – Chester
James Budney – Deep River	Joe Johnson – Old Saybrook
Jeff True – Old Saybrook	Tom Risom – Old Lyme
Mike Shove – Guilford	Charles Herrschaft – Guilford
Steve Biasi – North Madison	Paul Fazzino - Essex

Special Presentations:

Captain Mike Shove of Guilford conducted a presentation on the Kaplan Fire and EMS training.

Approval of the previous meeting minutes: MMS (Jenkin/Budney) to accept the October 27, 2014 minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Reading of communications:

NONE

Treasurer's report: The Treasurer reported an opening balance of \$6,576.25, with \$550.00 (\$150.00 dues-Chester and \$400.00 from November 8, 2014 seminar) of income (\$7,126.25 balance) and \$2,204.45 bills or payments. Ending balance is \$4,921.80. MMS to accept the Treasurer's report as presented (Baber/Heser). Motion passed unanimously.

DUES PAYMENTS for 2014:

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PO Box 214
Chester, CT 06412-0214
860-526-0019

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Clinton, CT 06413-2049
860-669-8131

DEEP RIVER FIRE DEPT.
57 Union Street
Deep River, CT 06417-2011
860-526-6042

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860-349-9112

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860-767-1258

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390 Church Street
Guilford, CT 06437-2004
203-453-8000

HADDAM VOL. FIRE DEPARTMENT
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Higganum, CT 06441-4110
860-345-4945

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860-663-1785

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203-245-2772

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Old Lyme, CT 06371-0102
860-434-2424

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Secretary received dues payments from Westbrook, North Madison, Haddam, Essex, Guilford, Clinton, Deep River, Madison, Killingworth, Old Saybrook, Chester and Old Lyme.

The following departments have **NOT** submitted their annual dues:

1. Durham

Bills to be paid:

1. P.J. Norwood - \$800.00
2. Sean Gray – 1,404.45

Committee report(s):

State Fire Coordinator's Report:

No Report

Regional Preparation/Pre-Planning:

No Report

Radio Frequency/Communications Committee

Assistant Chief Mike Jenkins of Westbrook announced Westbrook has received approval for two more tactical channels.

Website:

No Report



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Tanker Strike Team SOP:

No Report

Tanker Fill Site Setup SOP:

No Report

Accountability SOP

- President Fazzino announced the revised draft Accountability SOG was distributed via email earlier this month and inquired with the attendees whether anyone had any issues or concerns with the revised draft SOG?
- President Fazzino inquired whether the attendees wanted to pass the SOP as a final SOG. Joe Johnson of Old Saybrook made a motion to accept the draft Accountability SOG as a final Accountability SOG. Jeff True of Clinton seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

RIT/Mayday SOG Review

- Chief J.T. Dunn of Old Saybrook updated and described the draft RIT/mayday SOG. President Fazzino announced the draft and updates were distributed earlier today. President Fazzino requested everyone review the draft documents.
- Deputy Chief Brian Manware of Clinton inquired whether there was a second part to the accountability SOG that contained the requirements pertaining to the firefighter identification tags.
- President Fazzino stated there was a second part the contained the firefighter identification tags.
- Chief Charles Herrschaft of Guilford distributed the draft and current SOG for firefighter identification tags.
- Assistant Chief Mike Jenkins of Westbrook made a motion to accept the draft firefighter identification tag SOG as a final version. Chief Sam Baber of Haddam seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously

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approved.

Fall Fire Seminar – November 8, 2014

- President Fazzino announced the seminar and the presenters did a good job and it was well received by everyone that attended. President Fazzino stated the speaker topics were current to the firefighting trends of today. President Fazzino stated the organization did not make any money on the seminar but a lot of firefighters got some good training from the seminar. President Fazzino was hoping for a great turnout and was disappointed there were valley shore towns that did not show up.
- President Fazzino opened discussion on making a donation to the Ladies Auxiliary from Haddam and Killingworth. Assistant Chief Mike Jenkins of Westbrook made a motion for the valley shore mutual aid organization to make a \$250 donation to each Ladies Auxiliary. Deputy Chief Brian Manware of Clinton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

- Deputy Chief Brian Manware of Clinton stated the Man vs. Machine course hosted by Clinton Fire Department was well attended. Feedback from the course was very positive and everyone learned a great deal of information.
- Glenn Coffin of Clinton stated 50 firefighters attended the Man vs. Machine course.

TIC Course:

- Chief Charles Herrschafft of Guilford announced the course was very good and well attended. Chief Herrschafft stated the course was especially well attended by Old Saybrook and Madison. The cost of the course was \$1,200 for the classroom portion that is eight hours long and \$1,100 for the hands-on portion but only 12 students can attend each hands-on portion of the course.

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New Business:

- President Fazzino opened discussion concerning a memorandum of agreement with the U.S. Coast Guard. President Fazzino stated some people had some concerns over the memorandum.
- Chief J.T. Dunn of Old Saybrook stated he did received information concerning the memorandum from Joel Severance and at this time Chief Dunn does not believe its in the best interest of his department to enter into the agreement or memorandum. Chief Dunn explained the Coast Guard not longer fights fires any longer and did not believe the its in the best interest of his department. Chief Dunn stated Old Saybrook is opting out of the agreement but is willing to communicate at emergency incidents with the Coast Guard and will communicate over the radio with the organization when needed at events and emergencies.
- Captain Mike Shove of Guilford explained the Coast Guard has different groups operating within Region 2. There are three Con-Ops groups including a Haz-Mat group and other divisions. The Coast Guard also has the Connecticut shoreline divided up into three geographical areas – Bridgeport south to the NY border, Bridgeport to Old Saybrook and Old Saybrook to the Rhode Island border. Captain Shove explained the purpose of the agreement is to have standardized training between groups (Coast Guard and local fire departments).
- Attendees asked who is paying for the training? The training is 40 hours for the initial training and then 16 hours each year annually thereafter.
- Captain Shove explained the Coast Guard conducted SARS-OPS training for all four shifts and volunteers four to five years ago in Guilford.. According to Captain Shove, the training was four hours and to prepare and conduct the training took a lot of coordination and resources. Captain Shove stated the Con-Ops meetings are Tuesday mornings at 10:00 AM in Norwalk. Attendees questions how can any valley shore representative work and attempt to attend a meeting at that time and location.
- Chief Dunn of Old Saybrook stated he has also had confusing and disorganized responses during emergency incidents with the Coast Guard.
- Captain Shove explained at the next Con-Ops meeting the Coast Guard plans to push through the memorandum and recommends each valley shore town express their opinions and concerns.
- Captain Shove also discussed about whom would pay for the cost of providing career firefighters with the Coast Guard training.

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- Captain Shove also explained the Coast Guard's operations are again sometime disorganized. Captain Shove explained an incident near Faulkner's Island in Guilford where the Coast Guard notified Branford and East Haven to respond initially and then notified Guilford, the host town, 25 minutes into the incident. Captain Shove also explained the Coast Guards response to an incident is 30-45 minutes under the best circumstance.

Interest to the Organization:

- Chief Jeff Hesper of Clinton announced his department recently had their department elections. Chief Hesper announced the results of the department elections.

MMS to at 20:45 hours (Hesper/Budney).

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Biasi

Steve Biasi
Secretary/Treasurer

Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, December 22, 2014 in Deep River at 7:30pm.