



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.

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Minutes of the November 25, 2013 VSMAI meeting in Deep River, CT.

President Paul Fazzino called the meeting to order at 19:45 hrs. with a salute to the flag.

Attendees – November 25, 2013

Bobby Kytte – Madison	Tim Lee – Deep River
Jim Budney – Deep River	Dick Bauer – Killingworth
John Kollmer – Deep River	Richard Tsou – Westbrook
Gregg Prevost – Westbrook	Paul Fazzino, Jr. – Essex
Jed Perkins – Essex	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 October 28, 2013 minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Reading of communications:

NONE

Treasurer's report: The Treasurer reported an opening balance of \$4,981.41, with \$566.00 of income and \$250.00 bills or payments. Ending balance is \$5,297.41. MMS to accept the Treasurer's report as presented (Budney/Bauer). Motion passed unanimously.

Big Water seminar payments were received from Guilford (\$150.00), Haddam (\$150.00), and Killingworth (\$266.00).

A Big Water seminar payment was received from Madison (\$234.00) tonight.

Bills to be paid:

A check for \$250.00 was sent to the Scott Andrews benefit.



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Committee report(s):

State Fire Coordinator's Report:

President Fazzino reported six departments responded with their updated inventory lists. If any department has corrections or updates to the inventory list please forward those changes to President Fazzino ASAP.

Gregg Prevost explained the State of Connecticut has approximately ten pages of various equipment on the statewide inventory list of available equipment. Mr. Prevost stated Valley Shore could merge the State's equipment list with the Valley Shore inventory list.

Mr. Prevost also stated the draft State of Connecticut disaster pplan is being finalized and the plan is to have the plan go for printing in January/February 2014.

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

President Fazzino opened discussion concerning the revised documents that were handed out at this meeting following their submittal last month by Chief Dunn. Discussion amongst the attendees included the potential legal issues and concerns for fire department officers due to the language contained in the revised documents.

Discussion was also had concerning the Valley Shore documents in general and their purpose was to have all the valley shore towns work collectively together in order to help everyone work better and create a better fire service in the valley shore area.

Deputy Chief Fazzino of Essex explained these documents were really good to have as guidelines but some of the wording in the languages may overstep their ground and the purpose of the valley shore organizations. Deputy Chief Fazzino questioned where does the valley shore document's authority stop?

President Fazzino explained the RIT function is the most important functions in the fire service and the need to have the best and most trained firefighters is highly important. President Fazzino stated these firefighters are required to take on the most significant tasks at a fire scene and must get in to do their job and get the down/injured firefighter out as quickly as possible.

Gregg Prevost agreed with the training requirements and stated Westbrook has always trained to the level stated in the valley shore documents.

Deputy Chief Fazzino of Westbrook opened discussion concerning the use of radion transmissions and fire department channels during RIT operations. Deputy Chief Fazzino stated the down firefighter should remain on the original fire ground channel with the other fire ground operations being moved to another designated fire channel. The Incident Commander and the RIT team needs to maintain contact with the down firefighter.

Gregg Prevost stated the documents should have guidelines to ensure the Incident Commander obtains and used resources as needed. The dispatchers are very good and do a great job in notifying and/or consulting with the Incident Commanders

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when resources may be needed or to check with Incident Commanders to ensure all available resources are utilized.

Deputy Chief Fazzino of Essex opened discussion concerning the possibility of obtaining or seeking the advice of legal counsel.

President Fazzino stated the review committee did an outstanding job reviewing and putting the revised document together.

Deputy Chief Manware of Clinton stated the review of the SOP went deeper than expected but it was an extremely good review.

Jed Perkins of Essex explained the document is good for possibly a home department that does not have a RIT document. Mr. Perkins recommended possibly placing a disclaimer to the Valley Shore documents.

Chief Bauer of Killingworth stated the documents still needed to be cleansed of the shalls and they both need to have additional cleanup.

A Motion was presented by the attendees stating the following:

“To place the pending documents in hold till an adequate review and consensus can be completed on how the Valley Shore organization can feasibly apply these documents to all the Valley Shore fire departments with a legal review and counsel”

Chief Bauer of Killingworth seconded the motion

The motion was unanimously agreed to.

Old Business:

NONE

New Business:

Deputy Chief Budney of Deep River opened discussion concerning a nominating committee for the organization's officers for 2014.

President Fazzino appointed Deputy Chief Jim Budney of Deep River, Chief Dick Bauer of Killingworth and Chief Bobby Kyttle of Madison to be members of the committee.

Deputy Chief Manware of Clinton opened discussion concerning the water supply document/SOP. Deputy Chief Manware stated the document was up and running but there have been problems at fire incidents. The identified problem is tankers are showing up and just talking to each other without an officer being assigned to the tanker operation.



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Discussion was had about the first arriving fire officer (mutual aid officer) being the water supply officer. The discussion also included whether the mutual aid fire officer would be capable of operating at another department's incident.

Gregg Prevost stated the Incident Commander should be appointing an officer to oversee the tanker operations.

Deputy Chief Fazzino of Essex explained the dispatchers should designate an operating channel for the water supply operations.

Chief Bauer of Killingworth inquired with the attendees whether each department's water supply locations could be posted on the valley shore website.

Deputy Chief Fazzino of Essex stated there might be some slight complacency with the tanker operators being very well trained and doing a good job setting up the water supply operations. It always seems as though the water supply operations gets set up very well and in a timely manner. Deputy Chief Fazzino explained there may be no clear answer but in order to improve the situation pre-planning may be helpful and the Incident Commander letting go of some control at the scenes and allowing another officer to control the water supply.

Interest to the Organization:

Gregg Prevost announced CDL drivers must now submit their medical cards to DMV. Mr. Prevost explained CDL licenses expire every four years, however, not submitting your medical clearance cards every two years will result in the license being revoked.

Deputy Chief Fazzino of Essex opened discussion concerning fire department members respecting the equipment of other fire departments when operating at mutual incidents. Deputy Chief Fazzino explained at one incident a firefighter using a SCBA from another department laid the SCBA in the middle of street and left it. Firefighters need to ensure fire officers and personnel are aware of what equipment is taken by mutual aid departments and the mutual aid departments must ensure the borrowed equipment is brought back and replaced on the trucks. President Fazzino announced on behalf of Chief JT Dunn of Old Saybrook that Old Saybrook has decided to purchase their new engine from Pierce. The new engine will be on a Velocity chassis and the estimated cost will be approximately \$600,000.



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MMS to at 20:50 hours (Fazzino, Jr./Bauer).

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Biasi

Steve Biasi
Secretary/Treasurer

Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, December 23, 2013 in Durham at 7:30pm.