

Connecticut State Firefighters Association

Education Committee

Meeting minutes

September 27, 2007 – 19:00

Stamford Fire Department, Training Center
148 Magee Street

The meeting was called to order at 19:08 with the following representatives present:

Connecticut State Firefighters Association – Charles Stankye, Jr
Burrville Fire School – Scott Potter
Eastern Connecticut Fire School – Al Hawkins
Fairfield Regional Fire School – Christopher Tracy
Hartford Fire School - Mike Jepeal, Jim Baldis
Valley Fire Chief's Regional Fire School – Peter Wols, Jr.
Stamford Regional Fire School - Tony Conte, Robert McGrath
Commission on Fire Prevention and Control – Jim Wilkinson, Rich
Connecticut Fire Academy - Jeff Morrisette
Guest: Ct. Department of Public Works - Don Ouillette

No one was present from the Middlesex County Fire School, New Haven Regional Fire Academy, or the Wolcott State Fire School.

The minutes of the July 1 meeting were presented. Motion made by Stankye, second by Jepeal to accept as presented. Motion carried.

1. Status of properties acquisitions

Valley Chief's Regional School - Don Ouillette reported that the owners of the Oxford site have been offered \$600 K for the site by DPW. They are intent on securing a higher price now for the site. The site is now "off the table". A local real estate agent is representing other properties in the area.

Charlie Stankye reported that he knows of a 13-14 acre site in the Seymour area.

Eastern Connecticut Fire School – Don reported that there have been a multiple meetings with the property representative in the last two months. Every time that a new agreement is drafted someone proposes changes at a subsequent meeting.

Burrville Regional School – D.E.P. and D.P.W. attorneys have continued to discuss a successor lease agreement.

Middlesex – Don has not heard from anyone relative to the status of a site for Middlesex.

Fairfield - Christopher Tracy reported that Fairfield officials are ready to sign the boiler plate M.O.U. Feedback from negotiations between Fairfield officials and the D.P.W. attorneys has been very positive. Fairfield would like to move up on the schedule and get their project completed.

2. New Haven Renovation – Design

New Haven - The schematic design will be submitted for review next week.

3. Hartford County – Design

Hartford - There is a tentative contract proposal that is in the hands of the DPW contracts group.

4. Bond Bill Status

There was a discussion about the plan by Jim Baldis to embark on a media blitz to push the project forward.

The general feeling was that with all of the discord between the Governor and House and Senate leadership that this would be a poor time.

5. Other items from membership

Scott Potter reported that Burrville will be sponsoring a legislative night on the second Monday in December at 19:30.

Jeff Morrissette reported on the training bill. That legislation provides for reimbursement to municipal, state and tribal fire departments.

Firefighter I programs not delivered by a regional fire school will require pre-approval and the submission of the proposed syllabus.

Any recruit school not offered by the C.F.A. will be evaluated against the core competencies established for the C.F.A. recruit school. Each program will be evaluated on a case by case basis.

C.F.A. recruit programs will require a purchase order for \$5,250. The C.F.P.C. will invoice for half of that cost upon successful completion. The reimbursement policy is available on the C.F.P.C. web site.

Jeff also reported that the C.F.P.C. has been asked by the Governor's staff to prepare a proposed budget reduction. The C.F.P.C. after review of three options, selected an option that would not impact the regional fire school budgets. Those budgets are a pass through that represent approximately 19.5% of the total commission budget.

Jim Wilkinson reported that he will chair the Joint Council this coming year. He wants to promote the establishment of a fire service caucus as a high priority.

Mike Jepeal reported that O.S.H.A. is currently conducting a review of the new fire training standards. They will post their findings in December.

Jeff Morrissette reported that D.E.M.H.S. will be providing calibration of the fit testing equipment.

6. Next meeting date

The October meeting was scheduled for October 25 in Wethersfield (meeting subsequently canceled).

Motion made by Wilkinson, second by Jepeal to move the September meeting to Stamford to coincide with the opening of their new classroom. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 20:58 (motion by Wilkinson, second by Tracy)

Submitted by:
Al Hawkins, chairman