

# Connecticut State Firefighters Association

## Educational Committee

### Meeting minutes

July 15, 2004 – 19:00

Wethersfield Fire Company #3

Amended 09/23/04

The meeting was called to order with the following members present:

Burrville Fire School – Richard Winn, Robert Norton, Jr.  
Eastern Connecticut Fire School – Lloyd Niles, Al Hawkins  
Fairfield Regional Fire School – Scott Bisson  
Hartford Fire School – Chet Haber, Michael Jepeal, Jim Baldis  
Middlesex County Fire School – Fred Dudek  
New Haven Regional Fire Academy – Gregory Liggins  
Stamford Fire Department Regional School – Robert McGrath, Peter Brown  
Valley Fire Chief's Regional Fire School – Peter Wols, Charles Stankye, Jr.  
Wolcott State Fire School – Paul Perrotti, Jim Trzaski  
Connecticut State Firefighters Association – Scott Potter  
Commission on Fire Prevention and Control – Jim Wilkinson, Rich Nicol  
Connecticut Fire Academy – State Fire Administrator, Jeff Morrissette  
Guest – Donald Ouillette, DPW

#### 1. **Property acquisition**

Waterbury Fire Chiefs have not yet made a decision about where they wish to relocate. There is approximately ten acres in Cheshire adjacent to the correctional facility. There is also a state parcel in Waterbury under consideration.

Middlesex – The city of Middletown received about 400 acres of surplus property adjacent to the state hospital. The mayor of Middletown wants the fire school to stay in Middletown but not on part of that parcel.

Derby – Looking at five or six potential parcels. One ten acre parcel is in the Seymour Industrial Park.

Hartford – DOT and DPW have a meeting scheduled for July 19<sup>th</sup> at the Connecticut Fire Academy to review property options.

#### 2. **Stamford Fire Department Training Facility**

Chief McGrath and Asst. Chief Brown reported on the Stamford training facility.

In 1995 the Mayor appropriated \$1 million to construct a training facility. The facility consists of a five story training tower with a Symtron propane fired simulator on the first floor. There are several outside training props, a maze and a classroom building. Stamford Fire Dept. is interested in expanding the operation and continuing to improve their facility. They expressed interest in adding a second floor burn room.

There was some discussion about the process for Stamford becoming a regional fire school.

chg

Jeff Morrissette reported on correspondence that was recently distributed to state department heads by Governor Rell. The Governor was asking for current issues faced by various state agencies. Jeff responded that we needed to develop a systematic approach to fire service training.

### **3. Temporary Burn Facilities – Burrville and Willimantic**

A motion was made to solicit funds as a grant to the Connecticut State Firefighters Association to construct two temporary burn facilities, one to be located at the Burrville school and one in Willimantic. The motion passed unanimously.

### **4. Priority of capital funding projects Subsequent years**

It was pointed out that the budget for the Fairfield Regional School was built on the retention of the existing training tower. All other components of the facility are budgeted for replacement.

Don Ouillette (DPW) distributed “B-100” forms to representatives of each fire school. Don reviewed the procedure for filling out these forms and offered help if needed. He DPW project number assigned is BI-FP-008-\_\_\_. This is the same number used as a contract number for the Survey of Existing Conditions and Recommendations study. Each school would get a letter suffix designated for their project. These letters would be designated by the order in which the forms are submitted. The project title is from the above referenced study. The date of initiation should be left blank. The Bond Account is 8- from the May Special Session “Section 2-D-(3)”. Total bonding amount is \$10 million.

As each regional fire school is ready to move forward with their portion of the capital project, the Form “B-100” is the vehicle to initiate that portion of the project.

Don pointed out that there was enough money remaining in the study appropriation to cover the DPW efforts to get started on this project.

### **5. Other items from membership**

There was a discussion about the ODP training initiative. Students attending the “Train the Trainer” programs have not received either a syllabus or any information on instructional methodology. Feeling was expressed that these programs deliveries would be enhanced if they were better coordinated with other fire service training initiatives. There was also a discussion on the criteria for overtime reimbursement for attendance for these programs. Apparently, this overtime is only for reimbursement for a municipality that has to pay for replacement workers.

There was also discussion about the apparent lack of funds to cover costs incurred by existing fire training facilities for hosting these program deliveries.

There will be a validation technical committee meeting of IFSTA to review the draft for the Essentials of Firefighting 5<sup>th</sup> edition in Tulsa or Oklahoma City in July. Mike Jepeal volunteered to attend to represent Connecticut. There were no other volunteers. The committee agreed by consensus to send Jepeal.

Jim Trzaski asked for an agenda item for the next meeting to deal with developing a sub-committee to work on injury management, standardization of S.O.P.s, and liability release forms.

**The next meeting was set for Thursday, August 26, 2004 at 19:00, in Stamford.**

submitted by:  
Al Hawkins, chairman