

Connecticut State Firefighters Association

Education Committee

Meeting minutes

April 23, 2009

Wethersfield Fire Department

Company #3, Kelleher Court

The meeting was called to order at 19:12 with the following representatives present:

Burrville Regional Fire School - John Field
Eastern Connecticut Fire School – Al Hawkins, Les Shull
Fairfield Regional Fire School – Chris Tracy
Hartford County Regional Fire School – Chet Haber, Jim Baldis, Mike Jepeal
Middlesex County Fire School - Fred Dudek
New Haven Fire Academy – Chuck Hewitt
Stamford Regional Fire School – Tony Conte
Valley Fire Chiefs’ Regional Fire School - Peter Wols, Jr
Wolcott State Fire School - Steve Veneziano, Paul Perrotti
Commission on Fire Prevention and Control – Rich Nicol
Connecticut State Firefighters Association - Charles Stankye, Jr., Ted Schroll
Guests: Danbury Fire Dept. - Mark Omasta

Minutes of the March meeting were distributed. Charles Stankye had a question regarding the bill to establish the Danbury Fire School as a regional fire school. No action was taken on the minutes awaiting clarification from Jeff Morrissette.

1. Status of properties acquisitions

Nothing new. Directors of the Eastern Connecticut Fire School continue to seek negotiations for property at their current site.

The Department of Public Works is not currently pursuing any property acquisitions.

2. Other projects status

Hartford - Don Ouillette provided an updated spreadsheet showing escalation of design and construction costs based upon the change in the project to locate all new construction on the existing site. The cost increase is projected at \$500,352.

Fairfield - Don also provided an email showing the projected timeline for the project. No dates have been offered by DPW at this time, only necessary time intervals for the various phases of work. Don projects completion of the Fairfield construction on or about July 2011.

Burrville - Don has indicated that the same timeline projected for Fairfield will also apply to Burrville. Only the start date should change.

New Haven - Don provided a copy of a memorandum from Barbara Bergeron outlining the bidding schedule. Bids are due on May 27, 2009. Al Hawkins will send a letter to Commissioner Curtis asking for clarification on the time projections made at our meeting with her in March.

3. Legislative update -

The legislators budget has removed the \$5 million included by the Governor for additional bond funding for the regional fire school project in 2011. Also deleted from budget projections are \$10 million of the \$28 million previously authorized for the project.

Chris Tracy suggested that we consider trying to meet with the Governor and legislative leadership to discuss the status of the projects.

Ted Schroll reported that the CSFA continues to oppose the bill requiring CPR and AED as prerequisite requirements for Firefighter I certification. Ted estimates that the payroll and backfill cost for a career firefighter would be approximately \$500.

4. Other items from membership

No other business.

5. Next meeting date

May 28, 2009, 19:00 at Wethersfield Company #3

The meeting was adjourned at 21:25.

Submitted by Al Hawkins