

# Connecticut State Firefighters Association

## Education Committee

### Meeting minutes

October 21, 2004 – 19:00

Wethersfield Fire Department

Company #3, Kelliher Court

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

Burrville Fire School – Richard Winn, Robert Norton  
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 – William Seward  
Valley Fire Chief's Regional Fire School – Charles Stankye, Jr.  
Connecticut State Firefighters Association – Ted Schroll  
Commission on Fire Prevention and Control – Jim Wilkinson, Rich Nichol  
Connecticut Fire Academy – Jeff Morrisette

There were no representatives present from the Stamford Fire Department Regional School and the Wolcott State Fire School

Guest:

Connecticut Department of Public Works – Don Ouillette

**Minutes:** Meeting minutes were presented for consideration from the September 23rd, 2004 meeting. One correction was offered. On page 3 the minutes show that Bob Crist has left the Connecticut Fire Academy and now works for the department of Homeland Security. He actually works for the Office of Emergency Management. Motion by Stankye to accept the minutes as corrected, second by Winn. Motion passed.

## 1. Status of property acquisition

Don Ouillette reported that Jack Farrell from D.P.W. conducted a meeting with the owner of the Willimantic school property and representatives from the E.C.F.S. board of directors on October 7<sup>th</sup>. The owner indicated his willingness to discuss sale of the property. D.P.W. will seek approval to hire two appraisers at the Bond Commission meeting scheduled for December.

Wolcott State Fire School – The Waterbury Area Fire Chiefs are looking at two parcels of state-owned property. At a meeting last evening they decided to pursue property in Waterbury as their first choice. That property is adjacent to the Mattatuck Community College. The property in Cheshire, adjacent to the corrections facility is their second choice.

Middlesex Fire School – The mayor does not support the utilization of former Connecticut Valley Hospital property for construction of a fire school. The city is pursuing property on Newfield Street. The city of Middletown has expressed intent to purchase the subject property. They wish to construct a fire department sub-station on the property and include the fire school on the same parcel. Their intent is to deed the school property to the Middlesex Fire School. There was a brief discussion on the need to complete a Phase I or Phase II environmental study on the property prior to transfer.

Burrville Fire School – The property used for the Burrville school belongs to the State Department of Environmental Protection. The property is used under a “revocable license”. Richard Winn will provide the details of the agreement to Don Ouillette. Don will investigate options with D.E.P. staff.

Hartford County Fire School – Chet reported that he had met last Thursday with Bob Bruno from the Connecticut Department of Transportation about property near the Connecticut Fire Academy complex. He proposed the property to the east of the current C.F.A. facility on the north side of Perimeter Road. D.O.T. administration is reviewing the feasibility of transferring that parcel.

Don Ouillette suggested that that it would be preferable for the regional fire schools to be built on property that belongs to the state, or that belongs to a municipality with a Memorandum of Understanding between the state and the municipality. Don feels that this committee should suggest a “holding agency” within the state. One suggestion offered was the Connecticut State Firefighters Association.

**2. New Haven Burn Building – status**

Bill Seward completed the B-100 forms and submitted them to Don at D.P.W. A project manager has been assigned. After proposals from architects have been submitted they will be reviewed by D.P.W. Finalists will be interviewed for selection. One representative from the Education Committee would be selected to serve on the interview panel.

Because of work performed by the city of New Haven the state will be able to accomplish more under the renovation work than originally intended.

**2. Temporary Burn Facilities**

At the meeting with Representatives Boukus and Pawelkiewicz held in September there was a lengthy discussion about the “temporary burn facilities”. At that time commissioner Fleming advised that he would be unwilling to construct any buildings until ownership of the subject property was by a regional fire school or the state of Connecticut. Until property in Willimantic was secured this option seems to be out of the question.

**4. Standardization Committee – S.O.P., injury management, forms**

A list of members and contact information was distributed. There was a brief discussion. Most of the communications by committee members could probably be by email.

**5. Q-2 Driver Program update**

The Joint Council of Fire Service Organizations has met with representatives of the Department of Motor Vehicles. They are attempting to reach an agreement about retaining the Q license for the fire service.

**6. Other items from membership**

Don Ouillette pointed out that most projects under control of the D.P.W. were currently in flux. The Task Force on contracting has submitted their report. The Governor and her staff are reviewing the report. New state procedures for contracting should be written into legislation for submission in January when the legislature goes into session. Once that legislation is passed work should start to flow again.

There was a discussion about what amount of capital funding this committee should request to continue the project during the upcoming legislative session. Don Ouillette reminded the group that 2005 was the first year of the biannual budget. Motion was made by Jepeal second by Stankye that we pursue \$20 million next year and \$20 million the following year. Motion passed unanimously.

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 16, 2004 tentatively in Wethersfield. (NOTE: that meeting was canceled.)

Submitted by:

Al Hawkins, chairman