

Connecticut State Firefighters Association
Educational Committee Meeting
Wethersfield, November 1, 2001
Minutes

Present:

Burrville Fire School – Richard Winn, Robert Norton
Derby Fire School – Peter Wols
Eastern Connecticut Fire School – Lloyd Niles, Al Hawkins
Hartford Fire School – Tom Post
New Haven Fire Academy – William Seward
Connecticut State Firefighters Association – Neil Burrows, Charles Stankye, Jr.
Commission on Fire Prevention and Control – Commissioner, James Wilkinson
Connecticut Fire Academy – State Fire Administrator, Jeff Morrissette

There were no representatives in attendance from the Joseph S. Elias Fire Training Center of Fairfield, the Middlesex County Fire School, or the Wolcott State Fire School. Fred Dudek called to say that he was out of the state, Robert Massicotte called to say that he would not attend.

There was a discussion about an article in the New London Day about an effort by the Mystic Fire Departments to acquire land at the former Mystic Oral School from the state for a fire school. Apparently the Mystic departments have been using space in the school for training. Jeff Morrissette stated that he had received an inquiry about setting up a school in the Mystic area over a year ago. He has also received similar inquiries about Danbury and Rocky Hill.

There was discussion about the burn building at the New Haven Fire Academy. Bill Seward has pricing for demolition of and rebuilding the burn building for \$500,000. It was suggested that this item be incorporated in a preliminary report by the consultant for inclusion into the upcoming budget cycle if the consultant can be brought on line early enough.

There was a brief discussion about the regional schools that have consistently not had representation at the Educational Committee. Opinion was expressed that there should not be a “free ride” for those schools that are not willing to help. There was no action taken.

A discussion was conducted on the request from Donald Ouillette from DPW for a list of capital items required for the study. It was suggested that existing roofs, heating plants, air conditioners and similar equipment be evaluated for inclusion. Most systems that are out of warranty should probably be included for replacement within the next five to ten years.

There was a discussion about the list of capital requirements from each of the regional schools. Lists of each regional schools requirements was provided to Al Hawkins for the schools in Burrville, New Haven, Hartford, and Wolcott for dissemination to Don Ouillette from D.P.W. Information was provided directly to Don Ouillette from Middlesex, Fairfield and Derby.

Jeff Morrissette provided an updated on the Thermal Imaging Camera initiative of the state. Applications are scheduled to be sent next Wednesday from the Department of Administrative

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Services. December 15th will be the deadline for placing orders. The contract specifies delivery of units is to take place within 90 days of the processing of the orders. A copy of the bids is available on-line on list serve on the Connecticut Fire Net website.

There was a discussion to add the positions of a chairman and a recording secretary to the Educational Committee. Donald Ouillette also asked for a member to be designated to the selection committee for the consultant.

By consensus the following selections were made:

Chairman: Al Hawkins

Vice Chairman: Jim Wilkinson

Recording Secretary: Tom Post

Selection Committee: Al Hawkins, alternate Bill Seward

There was a discussion about regional fire school delivery of programs that have historically been under the control of the Connecticut Fire Academy. Al Hawkins reported on discussions that he has had with Adam Piskura to define which programs were affected and how those programs could be delivered regionally. Adam is concerned that Fire Service Instructor and Fire Officer certification programs be delivered exclusively by his staff and under his control. He states that his objectives are for quality control of these complex programs. All other programs are available for hand-off and delivery by the regional fire school staff, or C.F.A. adjunct instructors working for the regional fire schools. It is between the regional fire school administration and the individual instructors to work out the details of the employment relationship.

Adam has agreed to the following:

For delivery of Fire Service Instructor and Fire Officer certification programs by a regional fire school, the regional fire school administration should contact Adam Piskura directly to request the program delivery at the regional school. Adam will forward the request to Paul Nyrick for scheduling and coordination. Instructors will be hired by the C.F.A. and all costs will be borne by the C.F.A. Upon completion of the program delivery the regional fire school will be invoiced for \$26 per hour for all instructor time associated with the program delivery. The Eastern Connecticut Fire School will be offering a Fire Service Instructor I program utilizing this arrangement during January and February of 2002.

Jeff Morrissette reported that \$2.6 million has been appropriated by the Department of Justice for equipment for first responders to terrorism. This money will be distributed based upon density of population and demographics. Jeff noted that several other initiatives are also under consideration. Additional funding for setting up new U.S.A.R teams, regional Haz-Mat response teams, etc. is currently under discussion. Jeff also noted that the C.F.A. has money currently available for delivery of their response to terrorism classes. John Kawalski is the program coordinator.

Submitted by,

Al Hawkins