

# Connecticut State Firefighters Association

## Education Committee

Meeting minutes

March 24, 2011

New Haven Regional Fire Academy

The meeting was called to order at 19:07 with the following representatives present:

Eastern Connecticut Fire School – Al Hawkins, Les Shull  
Fairfield Regional Fire School - Chris Tracy  
Hartford County Regional Fire School – Chet Haber, Jim Baldis  
Middlesex County Fire School - Fred Dudek  
New Haven Fire Academy - Matt Marcarelli  
Stamford Regional Fire School - Tony Conte  
Wolcott State Fire School - Paul Perrotti, Steve Veneziano  
Connecticut Fire Academy - Jeff Morrissette  
Commission on Fire Prevention and Control – Rich Nicol  
Connecticut State Firefighters Association – Ted Schroll, Jim Wilkinson  
Guests: D.P.W. - Donald Ouillette  
Geoff Herald - Danbury  
T.J. Wiedl - Danbury

No one was present from the Burrville Regional Fire School, or from the Valley Fire Chiefs' Regional Fire School.

Minutes of the February 24<sup>th</sup> meeting were distributed for review. Motion was made by Rich Nicol second Tony Conte to accept the February minutes as presented. Motion carried.

### **1. Status of properties acquisitions**

No changes.

### **2. Other projects status**

Cheshire - Members of the Waterbury Fire Chiefs' Association met with members of the prison advisory board on May 10 to discuss the planned construction.

Hartford Regional Fire School - P.D.S. has been recommended as the contractor to build the facility. Contracts should be executed by mid to late April 2011. The staff at the Department of Public Works is developing the design/build construction documents. The request for proposals development will be covered under the existing funding. Site specific lay out for other schools will require additional funding. The R.F.P. could be ready by October 2011.

There was a discussion about the construction technique for the burn buildings. The New Haven building was cast in place concrete, the Hartford building design is pre-cast concrete panels. Don felt that the pre-cast process would probably be less expensive. Don also advised that he wanted all future projects to be design/build. Don further added that there is little direction being given by the Department of Public Works administration. There is an acting commissioner running the department (Holmes).

Chris Tracy reported that he has been pushing the town of Fairfield to move forward on the remediation of the site. The funding has now been approved but is not available until July 1, 2011.

Don Ouillette pointed out that there is currently \$14.3 million in bonding that has not been allocated for any particular project(s). Don would like direction from the committee regarding our priority for projects going forward after the Hartford County build out. There was a brief discussion about action on this item, since

neither the Burrville school or the Valley Fire Chiefs' had anyone in attendance this item would be held until the next meeting.

Representatives from all regional fire schools should come to the April meeting prepared to discuss the current state of readiness to move forward with each school.

### **3. Regional Schools operations budgets**

There has been no positive feedback from any of the members of the General Assembly. Chris Tracy reported that Representative Aresimowicz had held a meeting to discuss operational budget shortfalls. Representatives Orange and Abercrombie were also present. A request was made of O.F.A. to examine the operational funding for the regional fire schools.

### **4. Lobbying efforts for capital improvements**

There has been no positive feedback from any members of the General Assembly regarding the potential for any additional capital funding for the project during this legislative session.

### **5. Live burn procedures for new Class A burn buildings**

Al Hawkins reminded the committee members present that we had committed to develop a standard operating procedure for the new concrete burn buildings. It would be beneficial to develop one standard for application to all of the new class A burn buildings.

### **6. Other items from membership**

Jeff Morrissette reported that effective April 1, 2011 results of testing failures would be expedited in order to allow for more timely re-testing.

### **7. Next meeting date**

April 28, 2011 at 19:00 at the Wethersfield Company #3, Kelleher Court.

Motion by Jim Baldis, second by Chet Haber to adjourn, motion carried at 21:57.

Submitted by Al Hawkins