

# Connecticut State Firefighters Association

## Education Committee

### Meeting minutes

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Wethersfield Fire Department  
Company #3, Kelleher Court

The meeting was called to order at 18:04 with the following representatives present:

Burrville Regional Fire School - Robert Norton, Jr.  
Eastern Connecticut Fire School - Al Hawkins, Les Shull, Eric Deschamps  
Hartford County Fire School - Chet Haber, Jim Baldis, Michael Jepeal  
Stamford Regional Fire School – Tim Conroy  
Valley Chiefs Regional Fire School – Charles Stankye, Jr.  
Wolcott Regional Fire School - Steve Veneziano  
Commission on Fire Prevention and Control - Rich Nicol, Jeff Morrissette  
Connecticut State Firefighters Association – Ted Schroll

#### Guests:

Danbury Fire Department – T.J. Wiedl, Mark Omasta

No one was present representing the, New Haven Fire Academy, the Middlesex County Regional Fire School, or the Fairfield Regional Fire School.

**Hartford County Burn Building** – The contractor continues to resolve issues with lighting fixtures. All of the broken or damaged panels for the thermal lining system (Paginite) have been replaced. One existing panel is beginning to de-laminate, Don Ouillette has directed the school to utilize their attic stock of panels for replacement. The material intended as “attic stock” is not on-site.

**Fairfield County School** – The presentations by the design/build teams were conducted earlier today by the DCS designated selection committee. The results of the evaluation are scheduled to be tabulated tomorrow morning. Following that process, DCS staff will open and evaluate the bid prices that were submitted with the proposals. By early afternoon the successful team should be designated.

**Burrville School** - The remediation of the site is continuing.

**Eastern Connecticut Fire School** – The RFQ went out from the state DCS on last Thursday.

**Valley Fire Chiefs Regional Fire School** – The directors are waiting for the fourth meeting with Tecton. Charlie had questions about the items at the new school that fall under the FF&E category. A message has been communicated by the DCS that there were no funds in the FF&E budget. Charlie also reported that the \$11 million of additional bonding authorization funding will be intended to provide for the \$9 million for the Middlesex school as well as whatever shortfall would exist for the other regional schools.

**Stamford Regional Fire School** – August 15, 2014 the Stamford school will begin a “rookie class” for entry level firefighters.

Danbury Fire School – A public hearing was conducted on the plan to turn the Danbury School into a regional fire school. There was little public participation and no opposition expressed to the plan.

Jeff Morrissette reported an update on the Hazardous Materials Training MOUs that he provided for the regional fire schools. Any requests for funding of Haz Mat training should be directed to Mark Salafia.

Jeff also reported the state fire training academies are now eligible for the first time for competitive awards of \$80 million in federal funding.

There is some progress on the “Q” endorsement driver program with DMV. Plans are going forward on a Train the Trainer program for the new “Q” endorsement training. The plan is to provide this training to the regional fire schools and also provide additional training opportunities, as needed, annually.

Jeff also reported that the Commission Office is planning a FF1 / Haz Mat practical skills testing to be conducted on July 26, 2014 at the CFA in Windsor Locks.

There was some discussion about the testing fees for practical skills testing. Jeff suggested that the regional fire schools may wish to develop a testing fee structure designed to recuperate the necessary costs of evaluations based upon the number of station evaluators required and the number of students scheduled for testing.

The committee decided not to have a committee meeting in July. It was decided to leave the decision with the chair to determine when the next meeting will be scheduled.

Motion to adjourn by Mike Jepeal, seconded by Jim Baldis. Meeting adjourned at 20:00.

Submitted by Al Hawkins