

Rutland County Fire Mutual Aid Association, Inc.
Minutes of the April 26, 2007 Annual Meeting

The meeting was held at the Clarendon Fire Station and called to order by President Schlachter at 7:00 p.m. and began with the Pledge of Allegiance, moment of silence for passed members. Chief Flanders offered a welcome on behalf of the Clarendon Fire Department.

SICK AND DISTRESSED:

None reported.

ROLL CALL:

Department Members Present: Benson Fire Department, Clarendon Fire Department, Fair Haven Fire Department, Killington Fire-Rescue, Mt. Holly Fire Department, Rutland City Fire Department, Shrewsbury Fire Department, West Haven Fire Department, West Rutland Fire Department

Officers Present: Chief Robert Schlachter, President; Chief Tom Fucile, Vice-President; Michael Skaza, Secretary/Treasurer

Coordinators Present: Schlachter, Fucile, Skaza

Other Guests: Paul Connor, Rutland Regional Planning Commission, LEPC

APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the February 25, 2007 meeting. PASSED.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Schlachter reported that he has been busy attending his normal cadre of meetings to represent the local fire service. He is watching the Cancer Bill closely as it has come against some opposition from the Vermont League of Cities and Towns. They feel that there will be a huge increase in insurance premiums if this law passed. Firefighters are encouraged to contact their legislators to seek support of this bill.

President Schlachter presented information on the April Norøaster that struck our region.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

None.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The Treasurer presented an end of year report. He reported that the Association is solvent. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. PASSED.

STATE DISPATCH:

Chief Schlachter reported that the dispatch system weathered the recent damaging storm extremely well. Our system remained at 100% operation during the entire storm and after.

It was stated that the development of run cards was still on the table. Chief Schlachter will work with the PSAP Administrator to move forward with this concept. Chief Schlachter said that he will most likely form a task group for this project.

OLD BUSINESS:

Southern Vermont Regional Fire School will be held on the upcoming weekend. Chief Schlachter reported that there were approximately 330 students registered. Anyone who is available to help with the set up of the school is needed on Friday evening.

Paul Connor of the Rutland Regional Planning Commission and the LEPC was present to update the Association on the fire equipment inventory that he has been working on for the County. The inventory was distributed for proofing. Any discrepancies should be reported to Paul for correction. An EMS inventory will be completed and available soon.

The following upcoming events were announced:

5/1/2007	Wallingford Tabletop Exercise
5/7/2007	VEM/LEPC Emergency Director Training Workshop, RRMC, 6 p.m.
6/5/2007	LEPC Spring Wrap Up Session, Location TBA, 6 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chief Schlachter called for the nomination of Association Officers. The following persons were nominated:

President:	Robert Schlachter
Vice-President:	Tom Fucile
Secretary/Treasurer:	Michael Skaza

After hearing no other nominations, the floor was closed to nominations. A motion was made and seconded to instruct the Secretary to cast one ballot for each of the nominees. PASSED.

President Schlachter pointed out that the old 1800 psi training cylinders were still in our possession, never used, and in need of maintenance. A motion was made and seconded to scrap the cylinders and deposit the money into the General Fund. PASSED.

President Schlachter reported that the Cancer Bill was receiving opposition in committee from the Vermont League of Cities and Towns. A motion was made and seconded instructing President Schlachter to send a letter of support for the Cancer Bill from the Association to our local legislators. PASSED.

Chief Flanders voiced concerns that junior firefighters do not qualify for the Federal Public Safety Officer Benefit. It was pointed out that many of our local departments have junior or cadet programs and although we protect them closely, if an accident should occur, they should be entitled to a benefit. A motion was made and seconded instructing President Schlachter to send correspondence to our congressional delegation seeking support of inclusion of junior firefighters in the PSOB program. PASSED.

A discussion took place surrounding a proposal by President Schlachter to move the Southern Vermont Regional Fire School from April to September. The idea is to revamp the program to present nationally known speakers, move to a collegiate setting to provide greater comfort to the attendees, and conduct the training at a time of the year where there is greater instructor availability. A motion was made and accepted to accept this plan and hold the next Southern Vermont Regional Fire School in September 2008. PASSED.

Chief Fucile thanked Chief Flanders for Clarendon Fire Department's role in hosting the latest Firefighter I Course. Chief Fucile reported that this was a very successful course and produced several Level I Firefighters for our local departments.

The previously approved meeting schedule was revised and is as follows:

June 24, 2007	June Meeting	Chittenden Fire Station
August 26, 2007	August Meeting	West Haven Town Hall
October 28, 2007	October Meeting	West Rutland Fire Station
December 16, 2007	December Meeting	West Pawlet Fire Station
February 24, 2008	February Meeting	Benson School

A motion was made and seconded to accept the meeting schedule as revised. PASSED.

With no other business at hand, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. PASSED. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael J. Skaza

Michael J. Skaza
Secretary/Treasurer