

**FINAL DRAFT
SIMSBURY FIRE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
JULY 13, 2015**

President Wilcox called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

Members present were: G. Wilcox, D. Coppinger, G. Gidding, D. Fagone, J. Solury, P. Pabich. Also attending were Chief J. Baldis. Excused: D. Hayes, K. Kowalski, C. O'Connor.

1. It was moved; seconded; and carried that the minutes of the June 2015, meeting be approved as distributed earlier by email. A copy of the report is on file.
2. Public Audience: None
3. Fire Marshal Report - K. Kowalski: The report for the month of June 2015, as distributed earlier by email, was accepted. A copy of the report is on file.
4. Fire Chief Report - J. Baldis: President Wilcox commented on the membership numbers and the recent vehicle accidents within a month. Discussion continued concerning people that work in town and availability of people due to work hour shift variability. The report for the month of June 2015, as distributed earlier by email, was accepted. A copy of the report is on file.
5. District Treasurer Report – P. Pabich: Two reports were presented. One for the end of year and one up to the current date. A question was raised concerning payback to the town on taxes collected of 1.55%. Peter stated it was for our share of salaries for the processing of our taxes. It was moved and seconded and carried that the financial report and invoices paid through July 13, 2015 be approved. A copy of the report is on file.
6. District Commissioners Report – G. Gidding: No report
7. District Maintenance Division Report - J. Baldis: The report for the month of June 2015, as distributed earlier by email, was accepted. A copy of the report is on file.

Two new drinking water systems, one at Main Station and one at Bushy Hill are being tested. They will not save money but are more sanitary than current bottle water. These systems utilize house water supply and purify via filters and ultraviolet light. Several positive comments have been received.

Engine 1 is moving on. The tire issue, split ring rims, has been solved with a company in Bethlehem Ct. agreeing to mount the tires. Several pictures were passed around concerning the brake conditions.

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8. District Chief of Administration Report - K. Kowalski: The report for the month of June 2015, as distributed earlier by email, was accepted. A copy of the report is on file.
9. Personnel Committee – D. Coppinger: Personnel issue just about complete. Report will be issued to commissioners for review.
10. Civil Preparedness - K. Kowalski: None
11. Correspondence – G Wilcox: Congratulation letter received from Elizabeth Esty.
12. Old Business: ISO insurance rating still in progress.

Radio station on going. Committee established consisting of: Kevin Kowalski, Jeff Hugabonne, Steve Hess, Peter Pabich and SCTV representative.

UHF (simulcast): No change

Engine 1 ownership: No change

DOC Hydrant painting program was discussed: An Email was received from a member of the department expressing opposition to the program. Concern was not only the type of people but a general concern for the program. President Wilcox talked to the individual. We discussed the plus and minuses of the program and while there may have been one concern the program has been used for many years and very successful. President Wilcox concerns were that we need to be able to answer any questions that the town's people may ask. Motion made and seconded to proceed with the program.

The hydrant ordinance has been drafted. District will be represented at the Selectmen's meeting.

Engine 3 front end parts are now available. Dan will arrange to have the work done at our facility by next month.

Dry hydrants at Stonepost and Cricket lane still in progress.

13. New Business: Present Wilcox spoke to several interested and qualified candidates for the open Commissioners position which will be appointed at the August meeting.

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Fire Act Grant: We received notice that the District will be awarded a grant of 451,628.00 toward the replacement of our self-contained breathing apparatus. This was based on the federal cost estimates of 6,500.00 per pac not our original budget estimate of 9,450.00 per pac. The grant amount plus funds presently budgeted will allow us to complete the purchase of all breathing apparatus. Additionally, we will look for any state bids that we may participate in. Motion made and seconded to accept the Assistance to Firefighters Grant under its guidelines.

Motor Vehicle Tax Status: President Wilcox and Chief Kowalski met with the First Selectman and other town budget officials. The town will work with us to ensure that the District receives our vehicle taxes as in the past. While the new laws will continue to change, we will continue to monitor and work with the town on the matter.

Abatement Program: District considering taking over control of this program from the town. Approximate cost is \$60,000 dollars. Currently the abatement is taxable to the recipient with the feds receiving approximate \$250.00 dollars of the \$1000.00. Eligibility requirements are being reviewed and could be changed to \$500.00 at 2 years and the full \$1000.00 at 5 years. Further discussion will take place August with more accurate numbers to be developed.

A review into District programs to improve and ensure all are performing as intended will be discussed over the next couple of months.

14. Executive Session: Regular meeting was suspended at 8:31pm to go into to Executive Session to discuss the personnel matter. No votes were taken. Regular meeting reconvened at 8:53pm

15. Adjournment: The regular meeting adjourned at 8:58pm

Respectfully submitted,

John J Solury Sr.
Clerk

Next regular meeting: Monday August 10, 2015