



NEW HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS, INC.

Working Together to Make a Difference

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Minutes of a Meeting of the NH Association of Fire Chiefs

Thursday, January 12, 2023 – Virtual on “Go To Meeting” platform

The meeting was called to order at 0903 hours by Chief Best.

After a salute to the flag, a moment of silence was requested for departed members and for Hudson Fire Lt. Todd Berube and his family.

INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS.

Special Guests:

Minutes of the December meeting have been posted. A MOTION (Emanuel/Sitar) to accept carried unanimously.

Financial Reports: December reports have been received and posted. A MOTION (Thomas/Emanuel) to accept them carried unanimously.

Communications: n/a

Applications for membership:

Life Memberships: n/a

President’s Report: (Best) –

- He asked if the vacancies on committees have been filled. They have and paperwork is being processed.
- Senator Hassan was in Portsmouth Friday the 6th at 10:00. They invited the fire chiefs to participate in the discussion on PFAS bill that passed.
- We met with Adam and reviewed bills that have been filed on Friday, January 6 at 1:00 pm.
- Monday, January 10 there was another Mental Health seminar. We sponsored one of the coffee breaks.
- He announced that the panel he had been serving on for the Line of Duty Death application have approved the award. He will be following up on it.

- NH Association of Police Chiefs have asked the fire chiefs to participate in a study group for legislation concerning dispatchers and their responsibilities.

Executive Director's Report (Lemire) –

- Next board meeting will be Wednesday, February 1. We will be at Primex updating the association's Strategic Plan with Rick Alpers.
- The February meeting will be at Johnson's in Northwood, NH. on the 9th.
- The March 9 meeting will be a breakfast meeting at the Academy
- We will be working with Adam for the appropriate date for a Legislative Breakfast. We may have to forgo it this session as the Democratic caucus takes place there each time they meet.
- I've contacted Chief Morrison in Plymouth for assistance in possibly having our Annual Meeting there. He is working on that.
- The Primex Conference will be in Portsmouth in 2023 and we have been asked to partner with them again. Dates will be May 15, 16 and 17. Pre-conference workshops will be on the 15th.
- All positions for committee members that we know of are filled or in the process. When the process is complete, I will update the chart and distribute it.
- The NHAFC sponsored the coffee break for the recent mental health seminar at the NHFA.

1st Vice President Report (Emanuel) –

NHAFC LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – January 12

- **Session has started** - Hearings at the State House started this week.
- **To date, NHAFC has identified almost 60 bills to track during the session.** Some bills have been made public while others are still in "bill title only" form. There is a complete list of all the bills on a spreadsheet which can be provided. We can expect about 1000 bills. Roughly 400 have been published.
- **Meeting** - On Friday, January 6, NHAFC Executive Board met with Marshal Toomey, Director Buxton, and Director Cutting to look at the various bills and share information. We had all identified many of the same bills. It was good to get on the same page prior to the start of session. We plan to continue to be in contact on legislation over the next several months.
- **HB 373 – relative to billing for ambulance services.** The bill would prohibit balance billing for ambulance services under the managed care law and requires insurers to reimburse ambulance

providers directly. NHAFC opposed similar legislation in prior sessions. We are attempting to connect with the sponsor (Rep. Anita Burroughs, D-Glen). Depending on how the discussions go, we may need local chiefs who could be impacted by the loss of the ability to balance bill to reach out to local House members. Expect additional updates moving forward.

- **HB 182 – prohibiting discharge of volunteer firefighters or volunteer emergency medical technicians from other employment.** The bill would prohibit an employer from discharging/disciplining an employee who is a volunteer firefighter or EMT who fails to report to work due to an emergency response. The bill was discussed at the 1/6 meeting. It was a good conversation. We realized it was worth taking the bill to the membership for more feedback. You should have received the text of the bill via email on Monday. We would be interested in the perspective from members. NHAFC will likely be asked about their position on the bill.
- **Group II Legislation** – There are a number of bills seeking to alter provisions applicable to Group II in the NH Retirement System. Many of the bills have not yet been printed. We will share additional details once the more information is made public.

2nd Vice President Report (Watkins) – He is unable to attend this meeting but reports that the PTSD Commission will meet this Friday.

Sgt. At Arms (Hunter) – No report

Committee Reports

Scholarship Committee – (Marshal Toomey) – No report

Division Reports

Fire Marshal – (Marshal Toomey)

ADMINISTRATION:

Personnel:

We currently have 7 full-time vacancies and 4 part-time vacancies. The following openings are those that we are actively recruiting for at this time:

Full-time Fire Investigator (2 positions)

Full-time State Building Inspector
Full-time Fireworks Inspector/Program Manager
Full-time Hazmat Coordinator
Full-time Administrative Assistant
Part time State Building Inspector
Part-time State Building Permit Coordinator
Part-time Building Code Review Board Administrative Secretary
Part-time Outreach & Education Specialist

Roxie Beall has been promoted to Administrative Supervisor effective January 13, 2023.

Erin Newnan has joined our staff as the 91-A & Rules Coordinator effective December 30, 2022.

Zach Coburn has resigned his position as State Building Permit Coordinator effective January 12, 2023.

Legislation:

The 2023 session is just getting started. Below are some of the bills and LSR's that we are watching:

HB 265 relative to municipal property tax relief for installation of fire suppression systems
HB 296 relative to local authority for granting driveway permits
LSR 271 relative to ratification of amendments to the state building code and state fire code
LSR 806 relative to small group child day care centers

Board of Fire Control:

The Board of Fire Control and the SFMO staff have started the review of the 2021 editions of NFPA 1 and NFPA 101. The goal is to have a package ready for legislative action in 2024.

The Board of Fire Control has received inquiries on two possible code amendments to the 2018 edition of NFPA 1. A public hearing notice will be posted for a January 18, 2023 at 1:30 pm. The possible amendments are:

- Sprinkler Systems for Fire Stations: Consider aligning the sprinkler system requirement for new fire stations with the State Building Code which would be sprinkler systems are required for fire stations greater than 5,000 square feet.
- Food trucks: Consider removing the requirement of an LP gas system certification

Foam Take-back Program:

We continue to work with DES to launch the foam take-back program. Due to contracting and permitting challenges the launch of this program is delayed into 2023. An important consideration in the program is the best and safest disposal methods to destroy the PFAS chemicals. The latest inventory is approximately 9,600 gallons.

2022 Year in Review:

Investigations

- 100 scene responses
- 22 death investigations (9 fire, 6 CO)
- 29 K9 calls
- 31 criminal cases with 6 arrests

Inspections

- 1,191 plan reviews
- 684 permits issued
- 1,352 inspections completed
- 1,614 technical consults
- 91 fire code variances

Tramway & Amusement

Amusement Rides:

Registrations: 578

Inspections: 1047

Incidents: 6

Tramways:

Registrations: 163

Inspections: 320

Incidents: 20

Outreach & Education

- 38 educational classes delivered
- 44 outreach events
- 41 K9 Demonstrations

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS:

In the month of December, we received 19 incident notifications resulting in 6 scene responses. The Bureau of Investigations currently has 11 active arson or suspected arson investigations.

New/Active cases (synopsis of some of our cases are listed below):

- On December 4, 2022, investigators responded to a structure fire in Rochester and determined that the fire started in a bedroom at an overloaded electrical outlet.
- On December 11, 2022, investigators responded to a structure fire in Newport. The cause was undetermined but suspected to be due to overloaded extension cords in a shed.
- On December 11, 2022, investigators responded to Rye to investigate a structure fire. The origin and cause were undetermined due to the extensive damage.

- On December 20, 2022, an investigator responded to a structure fire in Gilford. The origin appeared to be in a bedroom but the cause was undetermined due to several possible accidental causes.
- On December 22, 2022, investigators responded to a motor vehicle crash and fire in Hooksett. The driver died due to the crash, which also caused the fire.
- On December 24, 2022, an investigator responded to a structure fire in Amherst. The cause was undetermined but likely electrical.

Fatal Fire/CO Incidents:

- The BOI is investigating a suspected carbon monoxide death from December 18, 2022, that is believed to have been a suicide.

Ignitable Liquid Detection Canine Teams:

- There were no IGL canine deployments in December.

Public Outreach:

- The BOI conducted one youth firesetter assessment in December.
- An investigator presented about youth firesetters at a School Resource Officer class on December 7, 2022.

Training/Committees:

- Two investigators taught warrant and complaints training at the fire academy in December. This training is required for non-law enforcement personnel seeking citation authority.

BUREAU OF BUILDING SAFETY & CONSTRUCTION:

State Building Permit System:

We processed the following permits in the month of December:

- Building: 8
- Electrical: 1
- Plumbing: 4
- Mechanical Fuel Gas: 0
- Mechanical Non-Fuel Gas: 1
- Fire Protection: 1
- Fire Alarm: 1

Technical Assistance, Educational & Healthcare Reviews:

We initiated 1 educational and 5 healthcare plan reviews, completed 74 inspections and 108 technical consults in the month of December.

Variance Requests:

We processed 4 variance requests in the month of December.

BUREAU OF OUTREACH & EDUCATION:

Hazardous Materials:

Hazardous Materials response, coordination and consultation is available through the on-call FMO supervisor. Our Hazardous Materials Coordinator is available for PEAC Software training for fire departments. PEAC is used for documentation of Tier II facilities and chemical storage.

In the month of December, our Hazardous Materials Coordinator attended the Hazardous Materials Collaborative meeting and provided training to the Bureau of Investigations on air monitoring at incidents. He also worked with Homeland Security and Emergency Management on updating the State Hazard Mitigation Plan and continued working with the Regional Haz Mat Teams and HSEM on planning a Wide Area Air Monitoring Exercise for the spring of 2023.

Further discussions and work is ongoing to evaluate the hazmat problem and funding sources.

Swiftwater Rescue Working Group:

Further discussions and work is ongoing to evaluate the swiftwater problem and funding sources.

Regional Outreach/Chief's Roundtables:

We continue to partner with the Commissioner's Office, Director Cutting and the NHAFC to conduct regional outreach/Chief's Roundtables. An Upper Valley Area Roundtable is scheduled for January 24th at 6:00 pm and an Ossipee Area Roundtable is scheduled for February 8th at 6:00 pm.

Incident Reporting:

If you don't already have an account to securely transfer to and receive files from the SFMO, please register for free today! More info included in this link: [SFTP2020bulletin.pdf \(nh.gov\)](#).

Can you believe 2023 is already here? As 2022 draws to a close, we ask that fire departments please submit their NFIRS data as soon as possible so we can close out the year in a timely fashion.

Have you looked at your .err files lately? These are important files that you likely receive on a monthly basis that contain invalid incidents, a.k.a. error messages. We can help you through the process so that you can resubmit any invalid incidents, and receive full credit. Please contact us at nhfirs@dos.nh.gov. We continue to work with the team at the Fire Academy as departments implement the NHESR program, available free of charge, for incident reporting. If you are interested in giving a presentation on the program or would like to request one, please email NHESR@dos.nh.gov.

We are monitoring changes proposed by the USFA to the NFIRS system. We understand a substantial redo of the system as we know it is in the works. We anticipate more details will be available in late spring 2023.

If you have questions or you are having difficulties, please reach out to the NHFIRS data team using the following email: NHFIRS@dos.nh.gov.

Training Opportunities:

Program preparations are in the works, and we anticipate additional trainings beginning again in early 2023. Please reach out to Deputy Stacey Dubois at stacey.l.dubois@dos.nh.gov if you are interested in hosting a program or would like to suggest a future training topic.

Fire Standards/Training/EMS – (Scott Doherty) **ADMINISTRATION**

Personnel

- We conducted interviews for our two open full-time Fire Service Instructor Supervisor (Captain) positions. We had three finalists that all declined the positions when offered. We have reposted these positions and are expanding our advertising nationally.
- We continue to interview candidates for our open Curriculum Administrator position.
- One full-time EMS Training Coordinator in Bethlehem position is open and we are seeking applicants.
- Our part-time Program Coordinator positions for the Fire Officer, Mentoring, Hazardous Materials and Swift Water programs are open and we are seeking applicants.

Grants

- We continue to work with the architectural firm on the design process for the Raymond S. Burton Fire and EMS Training Facility project.
 - We are working with all parties to overcome the challenge of significant price increases in construction costs over the last year.
- We are working through the approval process to accept the 2021 AFG grant and the 2021 Homeland Security grants.
- All grant funded Technical Rescue and EMS in the Warm Zone training programs that are eligible for overtime and backfill will require us to change our registration process, more specifically closing registration earlier than we have historically so we can process all necessary paperwork. Grants agreements now need to be in place with local agencies prior to the training program and will require approval from Governor and the Executive Council to be reimbursed.

Fire Standards and Training Commission / Curriculum

- The next Fire Standards and Training Commission meeting will be March 2nd at 0930 in Classrooms 5/6 in the dormitory building at the main campus. The full schedule for 2023 also includes meetings on May 4th, September 7th and November 2nd.
 - The Visiting Committee's for the development of a Fire Officer III & IV program and the Technical Rescue Program – Rope Operations and Technician continue their work. The second Technical Rescue Visiting Committee was held on December 7th. The Fire Officer III/IV Visiting Committee has reviewed other state programs and are now reviewing available textbooks.
- Fire 602 requires that each fire department supply the Commission with a current roster of all fire service personnel by December 31st of each calendar year. 82% of departments complied in 2022.

Special Projects

- We are now registered with NH Works which will provide grant funding to train non-affiliated individuals seeking training at the Fire Academy for Firefighter I, Firefighter II and CPAT. We have our first student enrolled through this program. More information will be released soon.
- The remaining online content modules for the Firefighter I and II programs have been completed by our Educational Technology group. These are under final review by senior staff and are expected to be in place for new programs.
- We continue to work with New Hampshire Employment Security on developing the specifics of this program and will announce those details as soon as they are available on the \$2,535,030 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds that were approved for the New Hampshire Emergency Medical Technician Training Program.

- We are planning to upgrade the current Online Learning Academy to a new platform. This upgrade is scheduled for January 1, 2023.

Legislative/Administrative Rules

- The new legislative session has begun and we are tracking a number of bills this year. A few include:
 - HB 183 Relative to Employment of Retired Firefighters at the Fire Academy
 - HB 376 Relative to establishing a committee to study the current education, training, and requirements for personnel employed as emergency dispatchers and 911 telecommunicators for police, fire, and emergency medical organizations.
 - HB 410 Relative to municipality ranked list promotions.
 - LSR 83 (SB) Relative to New Hampshire Workforce Training Programs
- We continue our work in partnership with the Police Academy to develop a more comprehensive program for PTSD training utilizing experts from this field in development of the curriculum.

Outreach

- We are continuing our Leadership Roundtables with the Commissioner, Fire Marshal's Office, HSEM and Emergency Services and Communications with regional Fire Chiefs and EMD's.
 - Upper Valley area at Lebanon Fire on January 24th at 1800.
 - Ossipee area at Center Ossipee Fire on February 8th at 1800.

Mental Health & Resiliency

- The *2023 Mental Health Leadership Seminar* was held on January 9, 2023. We had over 130 participants including nearly 20 mental health clinicians.
 - The planning group is also working towards "Part 2".
- Crisis Intervention Team Training begins February 27th in Keene.
- Mental Health First-Aid for Fire & EMS will begin in Glen March 8th.

Recruitment and Retention

- The first Recruitment and Retention Newsletter was distributed and included information on many upcoming training and related events planned this spring.
 - January 11th Marketing for Fire and EMS in Milford
 - January 24th LOSAP for Volunteer Fire and EMS in Bethlehem
 - February 9th Anti-Bullying & Bridging the Generational Gap in Concord
 - February 24th How to Recruit U.S. Veterans for Fire and EMS in Concord
 - February 25th CPAT For Women in Concord
 - March 11th NVFC Recruitment and Retention 8 hour workshop in Concord

BUREAU OF FIRE TRAINING

Courses/Programs

- Firefighter I
 - There will be two Recruit Schools offered in 2023. The Spring program begins with orientation on March 13th and the Fall program on August 14th.
 - The LRCC I/II combined class has begun.
 - The Bethlehem class will begin on January 18th
 - The East Kingston class will begin on January 28th
 - The Brookline I/II combined class will begin February 20th.
- Firefighter II
- Technical Rescue
 - Swift Water Level II will begin in Lincoln beginning April 28th.
 - Confined Space Rescue begins at the Concord campus on January 14th.
 - Ice Rescue Technician will begin in Center Harbor January 21st, in Campton on March 11th and in Sunapee - date TBD.
 - Swift Water/Flood Rescue Boat Operator will begin in Bedford on April 10th.
 - Swift Water Level I will begin in Bedford on June 9th.
- Driver Operator
 - Partner delivery programs have been conducted in Bedford and Derry with more planned.
 - All Driver Operator All Vehicle programs will include the necessary content for eligibility for CDL licensing.
 - We have confirmed that this will also allow individuals that live in Vermont, Massachusetts or Maine the ability to test for their CDL as well.
- Facilities and Prop Usage
- Online Training Courses
 - NFPA offers an online training program for Alternative Fuel Vehicles Training Program for emergency responders and can be accessed at <https://catalog.nfpa.org/Alternative-Fuel-Vehicles-Training-Program-for-Emergency-Responders-Online-Training-P15552.aspx?icid=W414>
 - “Fire Mobilization” is a free 1-hour program that supports the NH Federation of Mutual Aid “Fire (& EMS) Mobilization Plan”
 - “Fire Service Communications” is a free 1 hour program.
- All of the curricula for programs may be found at <https://nhfa-ems.com/curricula/>. Departments have asked for this information so it can be used in the delivery of local training drills and evolutions.
- For all current course listings you can go to <https://nhfa-ems.com/scheduled-courses/>

Facilities

- We continue to work with NH Public Works on getting the design and engineering complete to repair the roadway washout on the south side of the drill yard at the Concord campus. An engineering firm has been hired to design the reconstruction.

Apparatus/Equipment

- The new ARFF truck is in production at E-One in Ocala, Fl. and delivery is expected in the fall of 2023 which is later than anticipated.
- The new Engine bid has been awarded to Rosenbauer. At this time it appears the chassis will be available in early 2023 with an anticipated timeframe for completion later that fall.
- We are developing a train-the-trainer program for our new Ladder 1 and expect to place it in service in February.

BUREAU OF CERTIFICATION AND SUPPORT

Courses/Programs

- Instructor I/II/III Programs
 - Instructor I begins in Concord March 14th.
 - Instructor I in Concord and at Monadnock Hospital begin May 2nd.
 - Instructor II/III begins January 23rd.
 - Instructor Professional Development – January 26th - Evidence-Based Teaching and Learning (I/C CE: 2 Hours) Location: Concord
 - Instructor Professional Development – February 9th - Universal Design for Learning (I/C CE: 2 Hours) Location: Concord
 - Instructor Professional Development – March 9th - Debriefing for Skills Development (I/C CE: 2 Hours) Location: Concord
 - Instructor Professional Development – April 6th Learning Accommodations in the Classroom (I/C CE: 2 Hours) Concord
- Fire Officer I/II Programs
 - Fire Officer I will begin in Epping January 21st.
 - Fire Officer I will begin in Concord March 23rd.
- Fire Inspector Programs
 - The Warrants and Citations course was held December 14th & 15th.
 - Fire Inspector I will begin in Concord January 10th and at the Bethlehem campus on April 1st.
 - Fire Inspector II will begin at the Concord campus on April 6th.
- Fire Investigator
 - The 2023 offering is being planned.
- National Fire Academy
 - Strategy and Tactics for Initial Company Operations will begin Concord February 11th.

- Exercising Leadership to Facilitate Adaptive Change begins February 23rd in Concord.
- 2023 Three State Weekend in Emmitsburg, MD will be March 10-12, 2023.
- Youth Firesetter Intervention Specialist will begin at the Concord campus on March 14th.
- Leadership in Supervision: Creating Environments for Professional Growth will be held in Bethlehem on April 11th.
- Incident Command
 - ICS 300 and 400 are in person courses that are offered at no cost to students and funded through grants. These are delivered in conjunction with Homeland Security and Emergency Management.
 - If you register for one of the few trainings at the Emergency Management Institute (EMI) in Maryland or other training institutes that require a “current” version of ICS 300 you would need to take it again for them to accept the prerequisite if your original course was prior to 2018. This is true for all prerequisites for EMI, including if you took ICS 100 in 2002; they would require you to take the current version, as the trainings are updated and change over time.
 - FEMA does **recommend** that you update your classes every 3 to 5 years, but when it comes to the local presentation it is up the authority having jurisdiction, which in state-run classes is the State of New Hampshire. There is an ICS 400 class being held in Concord, NH, in May of 2023 and the authority having jurisdiction, the State of New Hampshire, is accepting any ICS 300 version as the prerequisite for that class.
 - Please note that if EMI or any training institution states it must be “current” or a specific version, and it is their class, they are the authority and they make that decision.
 - If you have any further questions please contact either Richard Cloutier at 603-717-1644 at the NH Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management or Scott Cathy at 603-223-4200 x34223 at NHFA.
 - ICS 300 begins in Concord January 31st.
- We have developed a new 6 hour non-certification program titled “Your Workplace has Changed: Fire Dynamics for Structural Firefighting”.
- For all current course listings you can go to <https://nhfa-ems.com/scheduled-courses/>

Instructors

- We continue to work on the Instructor Recruitment Plan and analyzing the onboarding and probationary instructor process.
 - The Division is always looking for highly motivated team members to become instructors. At the end of 2022 we had 187 instructors. If you are interesting in becoming an instructor please contact Assistant Director Jeffrey Phillips at Jeffrey.r.phillips@dos.nh.gov or 603-223-4213.

CPAT

- We are in the process of finalizing the costs and dates for the 2023 CPAT offerings.

Testing

- We continue to work with the Department of Information and Technology to finalize the RFP for new testing software for the Division. When complete this will enable us to begin computer based testing and eliminate the paper method.

BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Boards and Commissions

- The NH Medical Control Board and the NH Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Coordinating Board meetings will take place at 0900 and 1300, respectively, on January 19th in classrooms 5 & 6 in the dormitory building.
- The NH Trauma Medical Review Committee (TMRC) will meet at 0930 on February 15th in classroom 2 in the administration building.

Operations

- Administrative rules for Educational Training Agencies have been drafted and are under review by the Department of Safety legal unit.

Courses/Programs

- A Mobile Integrated Healthcare Provider course begins at the Concord campus on January 19, 2023 and at the Bethlehem campus on January 24, 2023.
 - The MIH-P continuing education program consists of classes developed to equip experienced EMS providers with the skills they need to succeed in a mobile integrated healthcare program.
 - These courses are full with waitlisted registrants.
- The winter 2023 Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) course begins January 11th.
 - We have had three classes consecutively with a 100% pass rate.
- EMS in the Warm Zone Awareness and Operations courses are available free to students on our online training platform. The RTF Concepts class is a half-day in-person training that is also available. Grant funding opportunities are available for those that have not done so already.
- Our EMS Education Coordinator continues the monthly continuing education courses at the Concord campus and regionally around the State.

- For all current course listings you can go to <https://nhfa-ems.com/scheduled-courses/>

Clinical Systems

- The Public Health Incident declared by Acting Commissioner Weaver of NH Department of Health and Human Services has been extended to March 31, 2023. The extension of the Public Health Incident allows for the continuation of all Emergency Protocols and any modifications to ambulance staffing requirements. These include:
 - Emergency Protocol - COVID-19
 - Emergency Protocol - COVID-19 Testing
 - Emergency Protocol - COVID-19 Immunization
 - Emergency Protocol - Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
 - Emergency Protocol - COVID-19 Temporary Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH)
 - Staffing modifications under Saf-C 5902.06 (m), as it relates to a public health or safety incident declared in writing to the governor by the commissioner of the department of safety or the commissioner of the department of health and human services.
 - We are continually reviewing these Emergency Protocols for their effectiveness on the delivery of patient care as well as their necessity in day to day operations within this evolving environment.
- The development of Trauma Rules are still underway and making progress.
- We continue our outreach and support to agencies for inter-facility transfers and mobile integrated health programs.

Data Management

- NFIRS/Respond NH
 - Work continues on the New Hampshire Emergency Services Reporting System (NHESR), which is an extension of the TEMSIS system. If you would like to start using the system, please fill out the form available at <https://nhfa-ems.com/nhesronboard/>.
 - There are numerous departments that have completed the onboarding process for this software and many are using it.
 - Coordination continues with the Fire Marshal's Office for further education and guidance for reporting.
 - Anyone interested in the system can contact Joseph Cartier at 603-223-3403 or joseph.w.cartier@dos.nh.gov.
- RespondNH
 - The Division continues to expand the capabilities of the RespondNH system. As we are able to utilize this system and analyze more data it is

important to have department roster information updated and current. Each department has the full capability to manage their own roster by adding new staff and removing those that may have left. Departments are able to do this at any time. For State level reporting information please fill out your roster information to include their status (career, call, or volunteer) as well as the duties they provide such as EMS care and/or fire suppression.

➤ **TEMSIS**

- 266,320 EMS incidents were entered into the system for 2022.
- We are working in preparation for NEMSIS 3.5.

Compliance

- There are currently over 20 active investigations and ongoing cases.

Preparedness and Special Projects

- Our Division has a Preparedness and Special Projects Coordinator who is available to assist communities with planning efforts for multiple and mass casualty incidents.
- We continue our outreach on AED's and CPR programs across the state.

Fire Standards and Training Commission – Chiefs Clark/DeAngelis –

- Chief Wilking (Chair) may add additional information.
- He reiterated Scott Doyle's information on the FF I and II classes.
- Commission was advised of concerns of delivery of FF I and II classes. The commission is interested in all input before taking any action.
- Burton Fire Academy expansion costs came in higher. Commissioner is attempting to retrieve more funding.
- Visiting Committee for Rescue/Ropes will be presenting their findings also.
- Chief Wilking mentioned that all seats are now filled and the sub committees, especially the rules committee will be working on issues and reporting back.
- Next meeting will be March 2, 2023.

NH Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Coord. Board – (Dep. Chief Bean) – (Report submitted in writing)

- There are two public member vacancies and two expired members
- FS&T is working with the Governors' office to provide +/- \$2.5 Million to fund EMT/AEMT courses over the next two years, as well as a \$1,000 bonus for staying employed
- The Public Health Incident remains in effect through December 31, 2022
- There will be six upcoming MIH classes (@ 40 hours)
- 18 EMR did not renew their licensing

- There is a +/- 4 week delay on background checks
- Dave Simpson replaced Liza Burrill
- The North Country opening will be relocating from Gorham to Bethlehem
- There are eight people enrolled in the NHTI Paramedic-To-RN program
- Committee of Merit – remains Sunday afternoon 9/17/23
- July 2023 Bill Wood will have fifty years of continuous certification
- There will be a presentation of the Recruitment & Retention Committee at the January 2023 meeting – Kim will be presenting
- There is a stroke care symposium at St. Anselm 3/16/23
- Protocols being sent out for approval at the January 2023 meeting
- Possibility of a State EMS conference in the future
 - North Country, Sunapee may not be doing it
- Handtevy presentation by Ann K. Sessa
 - Nine NH services use the tool now
 - \$400,000 statewide cost
 - Salem paid +/- \$20,000 for five years
- Next meeting: 1/19/23

National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) – (Chief Corey) – ED Lemire reported that the NVFC fund raiser for us in NH has netted \$8,600.00 for the organization. Martingetti will be cutting the check this week.

Homeland Security and Emergency Management – (Dir. Buxton)

- Division continues to operate with a 25% vacancy rate. Recruitment efforts are underway to fill open vacancies.
- On Friday, January 13th, our new EMPG Program Manager Bob Keller will be joining the HSEM team. We look forward to the impact Bob will have on the EMPG program.
- Starting the week of January 17th, we will be starting the preliminary damage assessment process with FEMA. This assessment will surround the December 22-25 winter storm. HSEM staff will be reaching out to start the scheduling process. Communities are going to offered two meeting options virtual or in-person. The type of visit will be at the discretion of the community. If there are any concerns, please reach out to Director Buxton cell # 603-688-5570.

EMS Trauma Medical Review Board – (Chief Beaudoin) – No report

Commission to study the Incidence of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in First Responders – (Chief Watkins) (Report submitted in writing).

On December 2, 2022 the Commission met at the NH Fire Academy.

The majority of the meeting was discussing the organization of the commission as it was the first meeting.

With that said; I believe there were two points that were brought up that should be of interest.

1. Director Cutting asked about the mandated online class. He has been approached by several Chiefs and asked if there is an in house option or could departments pay for someone to come in and do an in-person class for the department. With that said; the current legislation would require a change in order to do this. After much discussion the committee is open to suggesting changes however it was decided to wait a year and bring this up next fall to change the legislation. During this time Director Cutting and Director Scippa will continue to update the online program and the committee will look at standards to be met if hiring an outside source to teach a program.
2. A subcommittee was set up to discuss legislation on therapy / care dogs for First Responders.

Forests and Lands – (Chief Sherman) – No report

Board of Fire Control – (Chiefs Clark/Hunter) –

- Chief Clark reiterated the Marshal's report.
- A vacancy will be occurring on the Board (Forest Fire Warden) due to the retirement of Chief Mike McQuillen.
- He mentioned additional seats that may become available. They hope to get a Fire Protection Specialist on the board soon.
- The board is very active and has a busy agenda ahead of them.

Building Code Review Board – (Marshal Lennon) –

- The board is meeting December 9.

Manufactured Housing Installation Standards Board: (Chief) – No report

Division of Emergency Services and Communications – (Director Doyle) –

- Laconia Facility Update: RFP Review for an A&E firm to provide a rendering for the new PSAP now that sale of Laconia Property is complete – scheduled for Jan. 24th;

- DESC made posts regarding 9-1-1 fun facts incorporating Elf on The Shelf (Dash), employees' recognition; PSAP tours; community engagement; safety tips; Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day; and HSEM situational updates (shared from HSEM page).
- Dispatcher and Group II Study Committee legislation discussion with Rep. Trottier
- E9-1-1 Commission Meeting held on 12/9 (Defer to Chief Thomas);
- Rendered EOC Assistance during the winter storm / Dec. 23rd, (PSAP managed very high call volume during the day);
- Inquiries from "Mountain Times", Re: iWatch crash detection on ski slopes impacting 9-1-1 call reconciliation.
- FirstNet Infrastructure Discussion took place at the IPOC with the SWIC
- Recognized employees for over 200 years of accumulated service & longevity with the State;
- AAR with HSEM took place to review School Shooting Hoax calls throughout the state in December;
- 988 Coalition meetings continue – working on trainings to be held in Littleton (TBD) and possibly with NHEDA in Hampton;
- Interview with Jack Heath on Binnie media – All about 9-1-1; Emergency preparedness & weather considerations for folks calling 9-1-1;

E-911 Commission – (Chief Thomas) –

- E-9-1-1 getting back into schools to promote Text 911
- If your Department has a CPR Save resulting from a call from 911 let E_9-1-1 know so they can recognize the Dispatcher who handled the call
- There were 67,000 less calls in 2022
- There has been 71 transfers to 988 since July

- Currently there are 5 laptops on line that can answer 911 calls when it gets busy in the dispatch area Currently getting a quote for 5 more laptops
- To date there are nearly 5000 AED registered with 911
- NH View makes updates only at night so does not disrupt service during daytime hours, trail data is constantly being updated
- Seven new cell towers are online across the state
- E-9-1-1 is training their tower climbers in house to have climbers available for repairs
- First Net will have been serving NH for 5 years in 2023,70 agencies are online with First Net, 328 towers have bank 14, In January First Net is coming to NH to announce their plans for the future

IAFC Director – (Chief) – No report

New England Fire Chiefs – a Division of the IAFC – (Director Buxton) –

- Chief Jones reported that they have been meeting to work on the conference. It will be at Mohegan Sun for the next two years (against his wishes).
- They continue to see changes in membership for NH. Retired chiefs are still on the rolls and new chiefs are asked to join. Contact him or Chief Buxton with questions.

Old Business

New Business – Chief Hall stated that Lakes Region Training will be sponsoring a few events and pamphlets will be distributed.

Nick Mecuri reported that they will be sponsoring a Jobs Fair in April. More info to follow.

Good and Welfare – Golf Tournament this year will be August 7.
Also Chief Sitar is still accepting applications for NHCFO for this term.

Raffle – n/a

The meeting was adjourned at 1008 hrs.

Chief Brent T. Lemire, Ret.
Executive Director, NHAFC

January 12, 2023