



## **NEW HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS, INC.**

*Working Together to Make a Difference*

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### Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Directors – February 5, 2020

Granite Restaurant, Centennial Hotel, Concord, NH.

Meeting was called to order at 0846 hours by Chief Buxton.

**Present:** Chiefs Buxton, Jones, Rhodes, Beattie, Sitar, Christopoulos, Thomas, Howard, Chapman and Toomey, Marshal Parisi and Executive Director Brent Lemire.

**Minutes of previous meeting:** The minutes of the January 9 meeting and December 5 meeting. A MOTION (Rhodes/Jones) to approve both sets carried unanimously.

**Financial Reports:** n/a

**Correspondence:** n/a

**Life Membership:** n/a

#### **President's Report: (Buxton)**

- FF 1 Visiting Committee – He attended the meeting in Keene and summarized the discussions. They are working through the issues. HazMat and Forestry issues were important subjects. Modularization was discussed and it was stated that that is possible now through the Academy.
- Suspension and Revocation Rules – He summarized the intention of these rules which appeared to be exclusive to career firefighters. Problems with personnel convicted of arson related crimes that are still associated with departments. Call and volunteer firefighters are exempt.
- Fire Marshal Appointment – We have notified the Commissioner and the Governor of our support of the reappointment of Marshal Parisi.
- Board of Fire Control - He spoke to the Governor our recommendation to fill the vacancies on the Board of Fire Control. Chief Michael Gagnon of Derry and Chief Todd Germain of Portsmouth have expressed interest. The Governor has asked for two names and these will be forwarded.
- Extractor Money – He discussed moving money from the employee physicals appropriation to the purchase of extractors for fire departments.

- Merger Association/Division 2/20 - He discussed this meeting that will happen at the NH Fire Academy. Chief Christopoulos stated that the IAFC will agree to a phase in for dues payment if approved. Chris also mentioned the process for hiring a new Executive Director. There have also been two more leadership resignations. Chief Jones mentioned the issue of non-career, smaller departments may not be able to afford the dues.
- Physical pre 1996 – He mentioned the struggle in determining reimbursements. It was suggested that LifeScan Systems be contracted to conduct physicals. Blood work and extraneous tests would be on an a la carte basis.
- SB113 Amendments to Fire and Building Codes – He attended a work session on the bill. He is encouraged by the progress in defining the language. Local code amendments will have to be discussed by governing body before approval. Approval shall be sent to SFMO.
- First Responder Suicide HB 1122 – This will allow approval for firefighters and police officers events to be a line of duty cause of death. Issues with this need to be vetted.
- Tax Exemption for Call/Volunteer FF – He mentioned that we had signed in favor of this.
- Legislative Breakfast 2/20 – Dress uniforms. Please sign up on the website for a count.
- Financial Planning – He will be meeting with Chris to formulate a financial plan for the Association.
- Public Safety Leaders Academy
- Nomination Committee - The committee will be doing their work shortly.
- Manchester Firefighters will be bringing back their Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner. More info will follow.

Marshal Parisi gave an update on the fundraiser. We've collected about \$60,000 so far and \$19,000 is ours.

He also stated that a group will be offering to attend department meetings on early cancer detection. Information will be shared.

He thanked the board of directors for their support in re-nomination.

He left the meeting at 0945 to attend hearings at the State House.

### **Report of the Executive Director:**

- Next week's meeting will be at Gunstock. Please sign up to attend ASAP.
- The Legislative Breakfast is Thursday, February 20. Please sign up on the website if you're attending.
- March meeting will be on the 12<sup>th</sup> with a Corned Beef dinner at Alan's of Boscawen.

- Moving ahead with the Annual Meeting/Vendor Showcase again at the same location on Thursday the 9<sup>th</sup>. Kirk and I have been discussing professional development. He will detail.
- CFSI will be April 29-May 1, 2020. I would like to make hotel reservations at the earliest date.
- We have committed to partnering with Primex again on their Mt. Washington conference. The days are different this year and will be Tuesday and Wednesday, May 19 and 20. Our meeting will be on Wednesday the 20<sup>th</sup>. I'm working out details with them.
- The Red Jacket has been reserved for our 2020 Professional Enhancement Weekend. Which weekend? Nov. 8 or Nov. 15.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President's Report (Chief Jones) –**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President's Report (Rhodes) –**

**Sgt.- At- Arms Report – (Sitar) –**

**Treasurer – (Christopoulos) – n/a**

**New Business:**

**Old Business:**

**Good and Welfare:**

The meeting was adjourned at 1055 hours.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brent T. Lemire, Executive Director  
New Hampshire Association of Fire Chiefs