



NEW HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS, INC.

Working Together to Make a Difference

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Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the NH Association of Fire Chiefs

Thursday, April 14, 2022 – Margate Resort, Laconia, NH

Prior to the meeting, representatives from NH HHS made a presentation on Rapid Response which is the state's program to provide crisis response to those in mental health crisis anywhere in NH within an hour by dialing 9-8-8.

A DetecTogether representative also offered a presentation on cancer prevention for firefighters.

The meeting was called to order at 1947 hours by Chief Sitar.

After a salute to the flag, a moment of silence was requested for departed members.

Chief Kirk Beattie welcomed everyone to Laconia and the meeting.

Introduction of members.

Special Guests: Safety Commissioner Robert Quinn

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Minutes of the March 10 meeting have been posted. A MOTION (Buxton/Watkins) to accept carried unanimously.

Financial Reports: March reports have been posted. A MOTION (Thomas/Buxton) to accept it carried unanimously.

Communications: n/a

Applications for membership: Chief Jon-Thomas Harmon of Effingham; Asst. Chief David Nadeau of Hooksett and Deputy Chief Maurice Paquette of Allenstown. Also, Dep. Chief Nathan Nichols of Wolfeboro and Chief Al Poulin of Barnstead (who are present tonight) will be approved for the May meeting.

Life Membership: n/a

President's Report: (Sitar) –

- Attended the “5 Families” Meeting and discussed:
 - The need for a State Swift Water Team
 - Recruitment and Retention
 - Mental Health Training
 - The definition of firefighter in regard to firefighter deaths
- Submitted testimony and letters to the legislature regarding proposed legislation
- Attended CFSI where our delegation met with Senators Shaheen and Hassan and Congressman Pappas and Congresswoman Kuster.
 - Asked for continued support of grant programs such as SAFER and AFG
- Attended the monthly DOS update call with Marshal Toomy, Director Cutting, and Director Harper
 - Discussed COVID and ongoing Legislation

Executive Director's Report (Lemire) –

- I'm relieved that the CFSI trip went without a hitch. Quite an experience.
- Next board meeting will be on May 4.
- I am working with Primex and the Mt. Washington Hotel on our cooperative May 12, 2022 meeting. The Primex room rate this year is \$199, which will be extended to our group also. Sign up for rooms now!
- June meeting will be in Brookline, hosted by Chief Corey on the 9th.
- July meeting will be at the Atlantic Grill in Rye on the 14th.
- August meeting will be at the Town and Country Inn in Gorham on the 11th.
- We are looking at a breakfast meeting at LRCC in September.
- We are hoping to have a Candidates' Forum at the Institute of Politics in October.
- We need to appoint a representative to the Committee of Merit.
- We will need to caucus with NE Fire Chiefs Division member for our state Director.

1st Vice President Report (Beattie) –

- I attended CFSI in Washington DC along with Executive Director Lemire, and Chiefs Sitar and Jones. The trip was very productive. We had the opportunity to meet with our federal delegation to discuss issues facing the fire service, both on a state and federal level.
- The Division of Fire Standards and Training & Emergency Medical Services Recruitment and Retention Committee continues to meet. We are meeting every Friday from 1400-1530 at the NHFA.
- I have been asked to be part of the 2022 Mental health Leadership Seminar on June 8th at the NHFA. I will be partnering with Captain Perriello of the Pelham Police Department to discuss the positives and pitfalls of transitioning an employee back to work after being out on mental health leave.

- He summarized the Legislative Committee report. All the information is on a new section for members on the website.

2nd Vice President Report (Emanuel) – n/r

Sgt. At Arms (Best) – No report

Committee Reports

Scholarship Committee – (Dep. Toomey) – Announcement will be out early May

Recruitment and Retention Committee – (Chief Beattie) – (above)

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:

- Deputy Fire Marshal I/District Chief (Bureau of Investigations) – background in process
- 2 Fire Investigators- background in process
- Hazmat Coordinator
- Administrative Assistant I-interviews in progress
- Part-time Education & Outreach Specialist
- Part time State Building Inspector
- Part time Modular Building Program Administrator- interviews in progress
- Part-time Building Code Review Board Administrative Secretary

We are pleased to announce the promotion of District Chief Stacey Dubois to the position of Deputy State Fire Marshal assigned to the Bureau of Outreach & Education.

Legislation:

HB 1681	Relative to the State Building & Fire Code Passed/Adopted in House On Senate Consent Calendar OTP, 4/21
SB 223	Relative to Requirements for Recovery Houses Passed/Adopted in Senate On House Consent Calendar OTP
SB 227	Relative to Death Benefits For First Responders Who Die From Suicide

SB 249	Passed with amendment in the Senate House Executive Session scheduled 4/26 Prohibiting Planning and Zoning Ordinances That Prohibit Short-term Rentals
SB 398	Passed/Adopted with amendment in Senate House Executive Session scheduled 4/18 Relative to Building Code and Fire Code Enforcement
SB 443	Passed/Adopted with amendment in Senate On House Consent Calendar OTP-A Relative to Municipal Authority Regarding the State Building Code Passed/Adopted with amendment in Senate On House Consent Calendar OTP-A

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS:

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

- Investigators continue to follow up on leads for a fatal fire in Stratford that occurred on February 7, 2022. The fire cause is still under investigation. The sole survivor has been treated for her injuries and released from the hospital. A joint follow-up interview with Major Crime is forthcoming.
- Investigators responded to an explosion with entrapment and serious injury at 2345 Route 114 in Bradford on March 3, 2022. The cause of the explosion is under investigation and both victims were treated on scene, transported to Boston hospitals and are recovering.
- Investigators responded to a fire at 26 Merrick Rd. in Raymond on March 14, 2022. The fire cause is undetermined and there does not appear to be any criminal indicators.

Fatal Fire:

- On March 4, 2022, a deceased male was discovered in a car on fire at 12 Kyle Rd. in Concord. The cause of the fire was determined to be accidental.
- On March 24, 2022, a deceased female was discovered at a structure fire at 115 Centennial Dr. in Seabrook. The Medical Examiner determined the cause of death was smoke inhalation with the manner of death being undetermined. This incident is currently under investigation.

Ignitable Liquid Detection Canine Teams:

Our two IGL Canine Teams were deployed three times in the month of March. Four K9 demonstrations were conducted.

Public Outreach:

On March 9, 2022, a Youth Firesetter Taskforce presentation was given to representatives from DHHS.

On March 21, 2022, investigators and a K9 team presented at the 188th Full-Time Police Academy.

Arrests:

Messiah McMaster of Berlin was arrested on March 4, 2022, charging him with felony level arson for a fire that occurred on February 28, 2022 in Berlin.

Cathy Canfield was indicted by a Merrimack County Grand Jury on March 16, 2022 on three counts of felony level arson.

Training/Committees:

Annual Use of Force Training was completed by all sworn law enforcement personnel.

One of our fire investigators is currently enrolled in a Firefighter I certification class.

BUREAU OF BUILDING SAFETY & CONSTRUCTION:

State Building Permit System:

We processed 35 building permit applications in the month of March.

Technical Assistance, Educational & Healthcare Reviews:

We initiated 18 educational and 4 healthcare plan reviews, completed 68 inspections and 145 technical consults in the month of March.

Variance Requests:

We processed 36 variance requests in the month of March.

BUREAU OF OUTREACH & EDUCATION:

Hazardous Materials:

Hazardous Materials response, coordination and consultation is available through the on-call FMO supervisor.

We continue to work on Tier II reporting and associated follow-ups when deficiencies are identified. We also continue to provide training on the PEAC Haz Mat Response software to the regional teams and local fire departments. Our Hazardous Materials Coordinator continues to attend the regional Haz Mat Team trainings to offer support and provide updates regarding statewide Haz Mat response.

Swiftwater Rescue Working Group:

Several grant awards were recently issued to the established teams. Further discussions and work is ongoing to evaluate the swiftwater problem and funding sources.

Regional Outreach/Chief's Roundtables:

We continue to partner with Director Cutting and staff and the NHAFC to conduct regional outreach/Chief's Roundtables. On March 2, 2022 we were in Jaffrey to meet with the Monadnock Area Fire Chiefs. Please reach out to schedule. We are working to finalize a date for the Seacoast in May.

Incident Reporting:

As we continue working to close-out the 2021 calendar year call data we request that Fire Departments submit their NFIRS data as soon as possible. If you have questions, you can notify the NHFIRS data team using the following email: 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. On March 10, 2022, we participated in a NHESR program informational session at the Franconia Fire Department.

Training:

We delivered an Assembly & Tent Inspection class at the Sunapee FD on March 16th that was well attended. An investigation case study, which was previously scheduled for March 24th in Franconia, has been rescheduled to April 21st at 1830 hrs.

We are also delivering two Inspection Essentials: Part I classes in the month of April. The first is on April 13th from 1800-2030 hrs at the Burton Academy in Bethlehem and the second is on April 20th from 1800-2100 hrs at the Sunapee Fire Department. The Inspection Essentials: Part I class is designed to assist the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) with an understanding of where your authority comes from, the essentials of constructing an inspection report and exploring frequently asked questions and common violations encountered in NFPA 1. If you are interested in attending either of these classes, please email stacey.l.dubois@dos.nh.gov.

Additional programs are in the works. Please reach out if you are interested in hosting a program.

Fire Standards/Training/EMS – (Director Cutting)

ADMINISTRATION

Personnel

- Interviews have been conducted for the Fire Officer part-time program coordinator position.
- The part-time MIH Program Coordinator and IFT Program Coordinator positions have been advertised for applicants and remain open.

- The position(s) of Education Technologist have been advertised for applicants and remain open.
- The Recruitment & Retention Coordinator position continues to be advertised and closes April 15th.
- Interviews for our new Curriculum Administrator will be Thursday April 14th.
- We are accepting applications for individuals wishing to be promoted to Senior Staff Instructor. Interviews are expected to be conducted in May.
- We have hired Matt Robblee as the full-time Specialty Services Coordinator.
- We have hired Christine Wrightington as a Program Assistant I for the Bureau of Certification and Support.

Grants

We met with the NH Department of Public Works on March 15th and 18th to kick off the Raymond S. Burton Fire and EMS Training Facility project. Proposals are being prepared by architects to be reviewed in the next weeks.

- Our estimated timeline to begin construction is the spring of 2023.

Fire Standards and Training Commission / Curriculum

- The next Fire Standards and Training Commission meeting will be June 2nd at 0930 in Classrooms 5/6 in the dormitory building at the main campus. The Commission also approved meeting dates for September 1st and November 3rd.
- The Hazardous Materials Technician program and Fire Officer I/II program updates were approved, following the public hearing process, by the full Commission at their April meeting.
 - The Fire Officer program update includes two hours of instruction under strategy and tactics related to the UL research.
- The NFPA 1001, FF I/II Curriculum Analysis Report was submitted to and accepted by the full Commission at the April meeting.
- The Commission seated a Visiting Committee for the development of a Fire Officer III & IV program in New Hampshire.
- The Commission voted to establish a Visiting Committee for the Technical Rescue Program – Rope Operations and Technician.

Special Projects

- We are working to finalize the training calendar for the fall 2022 and spring 2023 semesters.
- Our staff is working to administratively support the Fire and EMS Recruitment and Retention Workgroup that Commissioner Quinn established which continues to meet here at the Fire Academy on Friday's at 2:00 pm. Minutes and other materials can be found at <https://nhfa-ems.com/board-committee-documentation/>
- We are working with the Department of Safety Division of Administration (Human Resources) on implementation of a new Work Time Management system. Analysis continues on the application of this system to our Staff Instructors as well.
- We are hosting the Maine Specialty Arson Dog program for the month of April.

Legislative/Administrative Rules

- We are monitoring a number of bills in the legislature. A few that we want to highlight are:
 - SB 307, relative to the issuance of safe boater education certificates and commercial driving instruction. – signed by the Governor March 18th.
 - SB 357, relative to Mental Health Training for First Responders. - passed the Senate and was heard in the House on April 12th.
 - SB 339, relative to Meetings of Boards and Commissions in the Department of Safety. – passed the Senate and was heard in the House on April 6th.
 - SB 337, relative to Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Data sharing for the purposes of analysis. – passed the Senate and awaiting a hearing date in the House.
- The “Letter of Concern” option for EMS licensure actions that was passed in 2021 legislation continues to be worked on through the administrative rules process.

Outreach

- We are continuing our Leadership Roundtables with the Fire Marshal's Office and regional Fire Chief's with additional dates being planned.
 - Planning is underway for a Seacoast Roundtable in May.

Mental Health & Resiliency

- We are still waiting for notification on whether our American Rescue Plan Act grant request through the Health Resources and Services Administration officials has been approved or not to address suicide, burnout and behavioral health conditions - including substance abuse among public safety officials.
- The *2022 Mental Health Leadership Seminar* will be a day long program held at the NH Fire and EMS Academy, aimed at providing education and creating partnerships between public safety leadership and mental health professionals. This event is for fire, law enforcement, EMS, corrections, and communications leaders, union officials, HR managers, and mental health professionals interested in serving this population. Attendees will learn about the value and necessity of developing mental health and wellness plans for their organization/agency/municipality. They will also network with the mental health professionals available to help and learn how to build relationships with the resources they need to support their employees through healthy careers.
 - This seminar will be held June 8th.
 - Registration is open until May 9th at <https://nhfa-ems.com/events/leadingwithcompassion/>
- We are working on a project with the International Association of Firefighters to host a two-day Mental Health Clinician Training seminar here at the Fire Academy this fall that will include one day of classroom and one day of practical fire ops on the drill yard. This will be the first delivery of this program in the country.

BUREAU OF FIRE TRAINING

Courses/Programs

- Firefighter I
 - Plaistow, Henniker and Bethlehem classes are ongoing.
- Firefighter II
 - The Tilton and LRCC classes are ongoing.
- ARFF

- Planning and preparations for the upcoming certification and recertification courses are underway.
- Technical Rescue
 - The program coordinator is developing a course delivery plan and actively recruiting instructors for these disciplines.
- The 2022 Recruit School begins with an orientation on June 7th and start date beginning in August.
- On February 7th, to be eligible to take the required skills or knowledge tests, commercial driver's license applicants must have completed applicable entry-level driver training from a registered training provider. This is a federal requirement.
 - Our staff has completed an analysis of the federal requirements and of our current Driver Operator All Vehicle program and are finalizing the necessary content for eligibility for CDL licensing.
- For all current course listings you can go to <https://nhfa-ems.com/events/>

Facilities

- We are awaiting work to begin on the roadway washout on the south side of the drill yard at the Concord campus.

Apparatus/Equipment

- Progress has started on the new ARFF truck.
- The new Engine bid has been reissued.
- Completion of the new aerial is still expected in May.

BUREAU OF CERTIFICATION AND SUPPORT

Courses/Programs

- Instructor I/II/III Programs
 - There will be an evening offering of Instructor I at the Hanover Fire Department beginning May 3rd.
 - There will be two daytime offerings of Instructor I at the Concord campus beginning on August 23rd and October 4th.

- The first Instructor II/III course will be complete mid-April. This is the first delivery of the newly approved program. Additional offerings are being planned for this program.
- Fire Officer I/II Programs
 - The Fire Officer I class will begin June 9th.
 - The Fire Officer II course began March 24th.
- Fire Inspector Programs
 - The Warrants and Citations course will be held December 8th & 9th.
 - Fire Inspector I is ongoing.
- Fire Investigator
 - The next offering will begin August 25, 2022.
- National Fire Academy Programs
 - NIMS Resource Management for the Fire Service will be held in Manchester May 9th & 10th and May 13th & 14th.
 - Incident Safety Officer will be held in Manchester May 11th & 12th.
 - Decision Making for Initial Company Operations will be held at the Concord campus May 14th & 15th.
- For all current course listings you can go to <https://nhfa-ems.com/events/>

Instructors

- We continue to work the Instructor Recruitment Plan and analyzing the onboarding process.
 - There are currently 54 individuals in the mentoring process to become instructors.
- We have completed telephone interviews with our inactive instructors to identify their future plans or any barriers to future instructional assignments.

CPAT

- The 2022 CPAT dates are planned for April 18th & 19th, May 23rd, June 6th & 7th and September 19th & 20th.
 - There will be tables set up for departments that want to meet with candidates after they complete testing.
 - As of October 2021 there were 414 candidates on the eligibility list.

Testing

- Nothing to report.

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 May 19th in classrooms 5 & 6 in the dormitory building.
- The NH Trauma Medical Review Committee (TMRC) will meet at 0930 on April 20th in classroom 2 in the administration building.

Operations

- EMS provider license renewals are available online in Respond NH for the current recertification cycle. There is an average of 25 renewals per day being processed with approximately 900 provider's still due for renewal in the next few weeks.
- The Spring EMR class is open for registration and will begin in May. This blended delivery course will be held in Concord, Bethlehem and at Monadnock Community Hospital and is free for NH residents.
- 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/events/>
- Administrative rules for Educational Training Agencies have been drafted and are under review by the Department of Safety legal unit.
- We have begun the process of licensing wheelchair vans for hire. Letters were sent to each provider in late March.

Clinical Systems

- Patient Care Protocol updates and corrections (8.1 Mid Cycle Roll-out) became effective March 24th.
- The Public Health Incident has been extended until June 30, 2022 which includes the emergency protocols.

Data Management

- We are working on a data use agreement between the Division and hospitals to submit data to the trauma registry.

- 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 currently 56 departments using the software.
 - 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.

Compliance

- There are currently twelve active investigations and seven preliminary cases being worked on.

Preparedness and Special Projects

- The Division is currently revising the existing COOP plan and conducted a table top exercise with senior staff in March. Over the course of the next few months this plan will evolve and each Bureau will participate in training.

Miscellaneous

- We continue to work with the Board of Nursing as a Subject Matter Expert for consideration and development of an In-State Paramedic to RN Program to be run through the community college systems as well as an Out of State online Paramedic program.

Fire Standards and Training Commission – Chiefs Clark/Buxton –

- Chief Buxton stated that he had nothing to add to Director Cutting's report.

Subsequently, Chief Clark submitted a report in writing:

- The NH Board of Fire Control last met on March 9th and welcomed Scott Hunter of Bedford as a new member representing career departments. A high priority for the Board is having the State Fire Code updated to incorporate NFPA 1 and NFPA 101 version 2018 and it appears that it will pass in this legislative session as well as an update of the State Building Code.
- The Board is monitoring SB 443 which would require the building code review board to approve local amendments to the state building code prior to their adoption and

enforcement and requires the Board to maintain and publish a catalog of local amendments to the State Building Code and State Fire Code.

- The Board continues to closely watch court cases of Short-Term Rentals (“STR”) and subsequent compliance with the Fire Code. At issue is if a single-family home rented on a short-term basis year-round without the owner’s ever occupying the home a residential use or a commercial use for zoning.
- A committee of the Marshal’s Staff, Board members and interested Fire Chiefs will be formed to review the impact of Short-Term rentals may have on the Fire Service.
- The Board is actively working to fill the position reserved for an individual representing Manufacturing. Any suggestions would be appreciated. In the past this position was held by someone from the modular home industry.
- The Board is strongly encouraging the Department of Safety to develop a buy-back program for AFFF foam that contains PFAS. It is estimated that there are thousands of gallons of PFAS foam in the field. Although banned from used in training it can be used in an emergency which will result in a clean-up that would far exceed the cost of collecting and disposing of the AFFF with POFAS and replacing with environmentally clean foam.
- A committee was formed to start the process of reviewing the changes between NFPA 1 and NFPA versions 2018 versus 2021. This review will likely start within the next few months.
- The next meeting of the Board is June 15, 2022.

NH Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Coord. Board – (Dep. Chief Bean) – n/r

National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) – (Chief Corey) –

He went to Gilsum Fire Station on March 22, 2022 to help Erica Bernstein from Chemtrec, give a \$10,000.00 grant to Gilsum Fire Department. We enjoyed a catered dinner and presented the award to Chief Denehy of Gilsum Fire Department. They were one of five to get a grant in USA. Here are few photos.



The next application period will open June 1, 2022.

eberstein@chemtrec.com<https://link.edgepilot.com/s/d265bf94/7R5pjCxxlka2JHd9o1F1oQ?u=http://www.chemtrec.com/>https://link.edgepilot.com/s/7a1b5c70/4nEL_CKGb0WubcO8QbTjXg?u=http://www.transcaer.com/

Advisory Council on Emergency Preparedness and Security – (Chief Christopoulos) – n/r

Homeland Security and Emergency Management – (Director Harper)

- COVID FEMA Public Assistance projects continue to progress to the obligation phase--meaning applicants are receiving reimbursements for expenses related to the pandemic.
- July 2021 Flooding Disaster Declaration Cheshire & Sullivan Counties - The PA Team continue to build out projects for local/state/non-profit applicants; currently 144 projects are in the works with more yet to be developed. As of 3/28/22, the total amount of damage between the two federally declared disasters is \$23,569,288.80.
- Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant FEMA graded exercise was held on Wednesday, April 6th. There were more than 70 FEMA evaluators from across the country in NH at state and local EOCs and other facilities. There were over 550 participants in this exercise – it is one of the largest that FEMA evaluates in the country. Preliminary meetings with FEMA indicate that NH successfully passed the exercise – less than a handful of planning items they noted that are already being working on. Thanks to all the EPZ communities for a job well done!
- Cybersecurity is on the forefront of everyone’s agenda lately and even more so with the Russia/Ukraine conflict – we encourage all communities to up their game and ensure staff are trained to identify emails that don’t look quite right and IT staff to work with your network providers to ensure security measures are up-to-date.
 - We conducted a cyber workshop on 4/10 with state and utility infrastructure partners to reestablish relationships and discuss mitigation measures and opportunities for further collaboration – it was 3 hours well spent. We are happy to share the PPT Template if you want to do something similar with your staff/private sector partners/etc in your community.
- HSEM training staff have lined up a lot of classes that are scheduled through the end of the year – please share the email from our training staff on these great

opportunities.....you can also find courses on our “Resource Center”
https://prd.blogs.nh.gov/dos/hsem/?page_id=1055

- The HSEM School Readiness Program has conducted a total of 42 school security assessments with school staff and emergency responders of the participating schools. There are an additional 16 assessments scheduled for the remainder of the school year with additional assessments being added weekly after our outreach activities.
 - Five training exercises have been completed to-date and staff are working with five additional schools to develop training for active threat exercises.
- Kick off meeting held with stakeholders for the July 17th NASCAR Race
- HSEM is starting a ‘monthly local briefing’ Teams meeting on April 21st – various topics to provide updates on programs, disasters, etc. – if you have a topic you would like us to brief out on let me know. We heard from many of you that the daily/weekly/monthly COVID briefings provided good info so we look forward to this more EM focused briefing opportunity.
- Reminder that we have “See Something/Say Something” materials - let us know if you want any.
- Staffing--like everyone else we continue to find great staff and lose great staff.
- **If you have any questions/concerns/issues please call me anytime 603-419-9179.**

Legislation:

- HSEM continues to monitor the following House and Senate Bills
 - [SB 234](#) - This bill requires student identification cards for public schools and institutions of higher education include the telephone number for the suicide prevention lifeline.
 - [SB 325](#)- This bill is relative to local organization for emergency management and first responders and, expanding the definition of “First Responder” to include members of Public Works and other associated disciplines.
 - [SB 402](#)- Provides matching funds from the state for FEMA public assistance disaster grants and hazard mitigation grant program resulting from two presidential disaster declarations in response to July-August 2021 flood damage sustained by communities in Cheshire and Sullivan counties. HSEM will need to write a Rule if/when it passes.
 - [SB 409](#)- This bill modifies the circumstances under which the governor may approve exceptional disaster relief loans. It has been adopted with amendments. Hearing was held on 4/5/22 where we clarified points and answered questions. HSEM will update the current Rule if/when it passes.
 - [HB 275](#)- This bill revises the authority of the governor and general court to declare, renew, or terminate a state of emergency.

- [HB 1037](#)- This bill clarifies the governor's duty to provide a list of expenditures in a state of emergency to the executive council.
- [HB 1125](#)- This bill provides for the submission of school emergency response plans to the director of homeland security and emergency management of the department of safety, rather than to the department of education. As of 2/16/22, it was deemed that it ought to pass with amendment. HSEM attended a hearing on this Bill on 4/5/22 and clarified few points/questions for the committee.
- [HB 1311](#)- Which seeks to alter RSA 189:13-a and 189:13-c to include language which would prohibit persons charged with or convicted of certain assault (*Specifically 631:1, 1st Degree Assault*) or controlled drug possession violations (*Specifically 318-B:2, possession with intent to sell*) from employment in a public school or being granted teaching credentials.
- [HB 1665](#)- This bill seeks to establish a municipal road and bridge disaster relief fund. HSEM will need to write a Rule for this if it passes.

EMS Trauma Medical Review Board – (Chief Beaudoin) – n/r

Forests and Lands – (Chief Sherman) – n/r

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

- The NH Board of Fire Control last met on March 9th and welcomed Scott Hunter of Bedford as a new member representing career departments. A high priority for the Board is having the State Fire Code updated to incorporate NFPA 1 and NFPA 101 version 2018 and it appears that it will pass in this legislative session as well as an update of the State Building Code.
- The Board is monitoring SB 443 which would require the building code review board to approve local amendments to the state building code prior to their adoption and enforcement and requires the Board to maintain and publish a catalog of local amendments to the State Building Code and State Fire Code.
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training it can be used in an emergency which will result in a clean-up that would far exceed the cost of collecting and disposing of the AFF with POFAS and replacing with environmentally clean foam.

- A committee was formed to start the process of reviewing the changes between NFPA 1 and NFPA versions 2018 versus 2021. This review will likely start within the next few months.
- The next meeting of the Board is June 15, 2022.

Building Code Review Board – (Marshal Lennon) – n/r

Manufactured Housing Installation Standards Board: (Chief) n/r

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

E-911 Commission – (Chief Thomas) –

The quarterly meeting of the commission was held on March 11, 2022.

E 9-1-1 is repairing and changing out some of the gear on the mountain tops. Tower climbers are out this spring to check on winter damage. Some of the older generators are being replaced at tower locations.

The First Net Conference is being held at UNH on May 3 and 4. First Net has been working with the New Cheshire County Ambulance with their communications needs.

The Nurse Triage Program was introduced at a session on March 23 at the Fire Academy. The Session was Hosted by Director Mark Doyle. There was a good presentation by users and the representatives from Nurse Triage. The program is working successfully across the World. The Nurse Triage program can help on delays to 9-1-1 emergency calls due to ambulances being tied up at non-emergency calls.

E 9-1-1 is looking at property $\frac{3}{4}$ mile from the existing site in Laconia to construct the new facility which will also house Lakes Region Dispatch. A Project Manager has been hired. HB 1548 is proposing funds from the sale of the existing facility to off-set the cost of the project.

IAFC Director – (Chief Christopoulos) –

- The IAFC Board met April 5 & 6, 2022 in Chantilly to begin an update to the IAFC Strategic Plan.
- All Divisions, Sections and Committees will be receiving an invite to the 2nd phase of the Strategic Plan update for June 1 & 2, 2022. The IAFC Board is expected to vote to adopt the updated plan at FRI.
- FRI – August 24-26 in San Antonio – Registration and Hotels will be open in late April.

New England Fire Chiefs – a Division of the IAFC – (Chief Jones) –

- **NED-IAFC Members** will caucus immediately following the meeting to nominate a name for the upcoming opening of the NH Director Position, as Chief Jones will be moving up in the chairs.
- **New England 100th Anniversary Conference & Exposition**, June 22nd – 25th at the DCU Center Worcester. Hotel/Motels to open for reservation tomorrow, April 15th.

PARKING INFORMATION:

The two city garages are the Major Taylor Blvd Garage at 30 Major Taylor Blvd. and the Worcester Common Garage at 3 Eaton Place, Worcester. The Major Taylor Blvd. Garage is directly across the street and the Worcester Common Garage is adjacent to the AC Marriott Hotel, 1 block from the Arena side of the Building. Both garages can have discounted parking at \$8.00 for customers pay.

FYI, the Major Taylor Blvd Garage is used as the parking lot for the Hilton Garden Hotel. And the Worcester Common Garage is used as the parking lot for the AC Marriott Hotel.

Looking for names of deceased Chief's with in the State during the past fiscal year. In Discussion with IAFC Treasurer Steve Lock, from Burlington VT., the IAFC is scheduled to end the fiscal year 1.7 million in the black. A major turnaround in the past 3 years.

- A friendly reminder that the Ben Franklin Award for Valor nominations are open. Please see this link <https://www.iafc.org/about-iafc/awards/iafc-motorola-solutions-ben-franklin-award-for-valor>

Old Business

- Chief Thomas reported on activities of the NH Overdose Fatality Committee. The next meeting is April 26.
- CFO certifications were presented to Chief E J Hoyt of Newington; Chief Chris Christopoulos of Lebanon and Deputy Chief James Paquette of Hudson.

New Business – Chief Sitar asked for a report of the Nominating Committee, which reads as follows:

- President – Kirk Beattie (Laconia)
- 1st Vice President – Chief Larry Best (Salem)
- 2nd Vice President – Chief Dave Emanuel (Durham)
- Sgt. at Arms – Chief James Watkins (Berlin)
- Executive Director/Secretary - Chief Brent Lemire, ret. (Litchfield)
- Treasurer –Chief Stephen Carrier (Gilford) 1 year term

- Fulltime Chief Director - Chief Steve Buxton (Nashua)
- Combination Chief Director – Chief Michael McQuillen (Littleton)
- Voting Member Director - Chief Hank Thomas (Newbury)

BELOW WILL ALSO BE UP FOR RE-ELECTION IN 2023

- Fulltime Chief Director - Chief Scott Hunter (Bedford) **expiring 4/2023**
- Combination Chief Director – Chief David Chamberlain (Jaffrey) **expiring 4/2023**

Chief Robert Buxton MOVED (seconded by Christopoulos) to authorize the Executive Director to cast one ballot for the slate of officers. The motion carried unanimously.

The 2023 Budget has been posted on the website for review. A MOTION (Buxton/Jones) to approve it carried unanimously.

Chief Sitar took a few minutes to thank everyone for the opportunity to have served, and shared that it was a moving experience for him. He then turned the meeting over to Chief Beattie.

Chief Beattie presented Chief Sitar with a token of appreciation from the organization. He also thanked the membership for being elected

Good and Welfare –

Following the raffle, the meeting was adjourned at 2058 hours.

Respectfully submitted,
Chief Brent T. Lemire, Ret.
Executive Director/Secretary, NHAFC

April 14, 2022