



## **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 – April 5, 2023

Primex Facility, 46 Donovan Street, Concord, NH

Called to order by Chief Best at 0830 hours

Present: Chiefs Best, Emanuel, Watkins, Thomas, McShane, Sitar, Chamberlain and Executive Director Lemire.

**Minutes of previous meeting:** The April meeting minutes have been distributed. A MOTION (S. Buxton/Thomas) to approve the minutes carried unanimously.

**Financial Reports:** April reports are not available yet.

**Correspondence:** n/a

**Life Membership:** n/a

### **President's Report (Best)**

- Strategic Plan- Will be presented to the membership when today's notes are uploaded
- North Country Fire Chiefs and DOS meeting- Brent & Jay attended
- Director Doyle suggested that AC Steve Lavoie to attend 5/11 meeting. ED Lemire will extend invitation.
- He spoke of the SB-71 Cancer expansion bill and the SB-207 Mental Health bill
- Question on Golf Tournament prize procurement? What does Jenn need?
- It was agreed that the July BOD meeting will be on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

### **Report of the Executive Director: (Lemire)**

- Next board meeting will be Wednesday, June 7 and will be in person at the Primex.
- This month's meeting will be a breakfast meeting at the NH Fire Academy.
- The June 8 meeting will be in Brookline, NH hosted by Chief Corey and feature a home-cooked roast beef dinner.
- In July, the BOD meeting date falls on the 5<sup>th</sup>. Should we move it to the 12<sup>th</sup>? The regular will be at the Atlantic Grill in Rye on the 13<sup>th</sup>.
- August 2 (Wednesday) you are all invited to Litchfield for our usual outdoor meeting and the regular meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> will be in Gorham at the Town and Country.
- We have two candidates for the Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Coordinating Board, Chief James Beaudoin of Alton and Dep. Maurice Paquette of Allenstown. A MOTION (McShane/Watkins) to appoint Dep. Paquette to the position carried unanimously.

- Chief Thomas has done some refining of the budget and it appears to meet our needs and is in balance.
- I attended the North Country Chiefs' Roundtable at the Burton Academy on April 20.

### **1st Vice President's Report (Emanuel) –**

Seacoast Chief Fire Officer Mutual Aid District is hosting New Haven fire chief John Alston as a national speaker on May 25, 2023 at UNH. <https://chiefjohnalstonseminar.rsvpify.com>

The Seacoast Chiefs have been working with the Director of NHFST and EMS regarding the NH Administrative rules about course registration and pricing for NHFA programs/classes for non-NH residents or non-NH fire departments. Mutual aid partners from Maine and Massachusetts are permitted to attend NHFA programs if there is seating availability and they will be charged out of state pricing.

#### IAFC Safety Stand Down 2023

The 2023 Safety Stand Down takes place June 18-24 and focuses on lithium-ion battery response with the theme "Lithium-Ion Batteries: Are you Ready?" [Five daily focus areas](#) highlight different aspects of this critical safety topic. Additional planning materials and resources will be added to this web site leading up to Safety Stand Down.

Taking place each year during the third full week of June, Safety Stand Down highlights critical safety, health, and survival issues for fire and emergency services personnel. Departments are asked to suspend all non-emergency activities during the week to focus their attention on safety and health education efforts. A week is provided to ensure that all duty shifts can participate.

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<https://www.safetystanddown.org/>

#### NIOSH National Firefighter Registry (NFR) for Cancer is live

The National Firefighter Registry (NFR) for Cancer is the largest effort ever undertaken to understand and reduce risk of cancer among U.S. firefighters.

NIOSH is recruiting firefighters to join the NFR so that we can better understand the link between firefighting and cancer.

Firefighters are exposed to chemicals on the fireground that could increase their risk of developing cancer. There are many unanswered questions about how cancer risk may vary across our nation's diverse fire service.

<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/firefighters/registry.html>

Emanuel will be representing the IAFC at a USFA/FEMA joint initiatives on DEI and Safety Culture in the fire service on May 17-18, 2023.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: (Watkins) –**

- PTSD commission met with the State Director of Funeral Homes and also discussed how death certificates are filled out and filed with the State Medical Examiner. He will not be able to make the next meeting.

**Sgt. At Arms Report (Hunter) – n/r**

**New Business:**

- 2024 Proposed Budget – discussion ensued. A MOTION (Emanuel/Watkins) to approve the 2024 Proposed budget and send to the membership, carried unanimously.

**Old Business:**

**NED AFC – IAFC – (R. Buxton) – n/a**

**Good and Welfare:**

- Chief Sitar reminded members about the Golf Tournament August 14th.
- He also stated that the Certified Officer program certificates will be given at the May meeting.
- He also spoke of the actions of the Statewide Crisis Care Committee.

**Upcoming Events:**

**Meeting adjourned at 1139 hours.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

Brent T. Lemire, MPA  
Executive Director  
NH Association of Fire Chiefs

May 3, 2023