



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

*Working Together to Make a Difference*

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### **Minutes of a Virtual Meeting of the Board of Directors – February 3, 2021**

Called to order by Chief Jones at 0833 hours

Present: Chiefs Jones, Beattie, Emanuel, Christopoulos, Thomas, Rhodes, Buxton, Watkins, and Executive Director Lemire.

**Minutes of previous meeting:** Motion (Buxton/Thomas) to approve the minutes from the December meeting carried unanimously.

**Financial Reports:** A Motion (Beattie/Thomas) to approve the January financial reports carried unanimously.

**Correspondence:** Letters sent to Commissioner Quinn on NFPA 1582 physical reimbursements, NH House Commerce Committee on HB 343 and the sponsor's email reply.

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

- Bi-Weekly Covid -19 virtual mtgs held this past Monday, current numbers currently on the trend down, Depts. Offering assisting w/ vaccines.
- Bi weekly meetings with Marshall Parisi, current covid-19 numbers, legislation Decision/up-dates, current fire trends.
- Met with Commissioner Quinn on 1/11 with discussion on filling the two current vacancies; Assistant Commissioner & FST Director
- Attended the Board of Fire Control Meeting last week for proposed amendments to the 2018 NFPA Codes by the Marshal and his staff all amendments approved
- Participated in the Five Family meeting with Chief Sitar, discussed Fire Code with the amendments, cost increase/decrease and continue discussion on sober housing, PTSD with Academy through Commission a bill to just reestablish the PTSD commission, HB 91 suicide benefit, HB 619 moving dispatchers into group II retirement, AFFF Foam DES survey 10,000 gals to take back, requesting funding to support such, some departments have not turned in 2020 department roster to NHFA & 1582 physicals current update and start drafting legislation work for 1582 physicals for remaining FF's.

- Letter sent to commissioner Quinn requesting immediate action on moving forward with 1582 physicals prior to 1997 hires.
- Primex Chief's working Group, continue to work and hope for a 2 day conference, possibly hybrid, combined with the Police Association late in Sept., and they are looking into venue. Primex annual conference May 11,12,13 to be virtual. Looking into post covid-19 issues returning back to work. Also no workers Comp for adverse reaction with vaccines.
- Discussion with Director Pendergast on Student vaccinations, Chief sign off
- Tried to have the daily covid-19 list reduced to 14 days instead of 21. But due to the MOU 21 days will remain in place

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

- Regular meeting this month will be on February 11 at 1600.
- No Legislative Breakfast this year. Should we do one in the Fall?
- I'm awaiting information on charitable gaming options for us.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President's Report (Sitar) n/r**

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

- He spoke on HB 619 (dispatchers to Group II) – to be retained.
- He and M. Sitar met with Adam and Rep. Weston the Balance Billing legislation (HB 343) and the successive action to retain the bill and fine tune it for 2022.

**Sgt. At Arms Report (Emanuel) –**

- Seacoast Chiefs meet tomorrow night.

**Scholarship Committee (Toomey) – n/r**

**New Business:** Chief Thomas reported the first meeting on the NH Drug Overdose Fatality Review Commission and that a wealth of information will be coming forth.

**Old Business:**

**Good and Welfare:**

Chief Christopoulos will have more information from the IAFC after upcoming meetings. FRI is still scheduled for Charlotte at the end of July. He also addressed the new order from President Biden that directs FEMA to reimburse municipalities for Covid 19 expenses retroactive to January 20.

Chief Jones reported that the NE Chiefs still hope to hold their conference in Worcester June 23 – 26 but will know more after their April 15 deadline. They're having issues with the automated dues notices that failed to include the division and section options. It is being fixed and the IAFC will re-send. They are still fixing a number of problems.

They are also discussion of funding under Cares Act which will give a tax credit to Volunteer and Call firefighters. The budget is finally balanced.

Chief Emanuel stated that the Center for Public Safety Excellence is presenting a program on Professional Credentialing and Certification March 2, 3 and 4 virtually. The link is <https://cpse.org/conference/registration/>

**Upcoming Events:** The monthly meeting will be held Thursday, February 11 at 1600 hours.

**Meeting adjourned at 0919 hours.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

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