



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, December 8, 2022 – Café 532, Jaffrey, NH

The meeting was called to order at 1850 hours by Chief Best.

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

Chief David Chamberlain welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the Jaffrey Town Manager John Frederick who also welcomed everyone.

INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS.

Special Guests:

Minutes of the November 10 meeting have been posted. A MOTION (Sitar/Rhodes) to accept carried unanimously.

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

Communications: n/a

Applications for membership: Battalion Chief Robert Atwater of Derry; Deputy Chief Sean Valovanie of Tilton/Northfield; Battalion Chief Kenneth Proulx of Manchester; Battalion Chief Shawn Haggart of Derry; Asst. Chief David Hanna of Dover; Deputy Chief David Golding of Dover; Division Chief Keith Irwin of Dover and Battalion Chief Jonathan Starr of Manchester were approved as new members. Congratulations and welcome!

Life Memberships: n/a

President's Report: (Best) –

- Discussion on NHAFC committee vacancies (State Interoperability Executive Committee, the Mass Casualty Incident Management Committee, and the Manufactured Housing Standards Board.)

- A few of the BOD members attended the North Country Public Safety Foundation Awards Banquet and Dinner on November 10th at the Mount Washington Hotel. This is an annual event that we have attended for several years. It's always nice to connect with the Fire Chiefs, Law Enforcement, Dispatchers, EMS providers and other Public Safety officials in the North Country and hear about the awards and recognition for their actions during the previous year.
- Several members of the BOD attend the FMO 75th Anniversary luncheon on November 14th.
- On November 16th, I attend a zoom meeting with our legislative representative Adam. The meeting was with the PFFNH and other members of the NH Retirement Coalition. During this meeting the PFFNH discussed some potential legislative changes to the retirement system for the future. These changes were focused on recruitment and retention. We will know more as the bills are written and begin moving through the legislative process.
- The Galimberti LODD final order was issued to the parties on Friday the 2nd. The appeals panel has been advised not to discuss the decision at this time. However, the order is a public document and can be requested.
- Yesterday we held the month BOD meeting. We discussed the various committee vacancies or openings that still exist.
 - The Executive Director is gathering some more information on the Mass Casualty Incident Management Committee and will work next month on filling that one.
 - One committee that we are still looking for help with is the Manufactured Housing Standards Board.

Discussion ensued about the meeting schedules for both the board and the membership for 2023 as follows: THIS PLAN IS TENTATIVE PENDING ARRANGEMENTS

Board Meetings – (All on the first Wednesday of the month)

January 4; February 1; March 1; April 5; May 3; June 7; June 28 (for July); August 2; September 6; October 4; November 1 and December 6. A Strategic Planning is tentatively scheduled for the February meeting. January, March, May, July, September and November meetings will be virtual.

Monthly Membership Meetings – (usually the second Thursday of each month)

January 12 – Morning virtual meeting
 February 9 – Evening meeting in Northwood
 March 9 – Morning NHFA (breakfast)
 April 13 – Special evening dinner meeting to commemorate the Assn. 90th birthday (possibly in Plymouth)
 May 17 – In conjunction with the PRIMEX Conference in Portsmouth.
 June 8 – Morning NHFA (breakfast)
 July 13 – Evening meeting at the seacoast (Rye?)
 August 10 - Evening meeting at Gorham with North Country colleagues
 September 14 – Morning NHFA (breakfast)

October 12 – Vendor Showcase – Manchester

December 14 – Evening meeting in Upper Valley area (Lebanon?)

Executive Director’s Report (Lemire) –

- Next board meeting will be Wednesday, December 7 at the Primex facility in Concord.
- The December meeting will be held at the Café 532 in Jaffrey on the 8th. There will be 3 meal choices and sign-up information will be posted shortly
- The January meeting will be virtual.
- Attending the North Country Public Safety Awards dinner tomorrow night in Bretton Woods.
- The Primex Conference will be in Portsmouth this year and we have been asked to partner with them again.
- We will be working with the Legislative Committee and our Government Relations firm to set up another Legislative Breakfast. Stay tuned for additional information.

1st Vice President Report (Emanuel) –

- **NHAFC LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – December 6**
- **BILL TITLES** – To date, we have identified about 35 bill titles, also known as Legislative Service Requests or “LSRs”. Sometime later this month, we can expect to see the actual language of the bills. Currently, only the title and sponsor are public information. Lots of familiar issues including:
 - Code Adoption
 - Ambulance Billing
 - Group II Pension Alterations
- The House deadline to file bills has passed. The Senate has until December 19 to file bills for the session. There will likely be around 1100 bills filed. Currently, less than 800 have been made public.
- **ORGANIZATION DAY** – The House and Senate will meet on Wednesday, December 7 for Organization Day. At that time, they will elect their respective leaders.
- **Senate** – Senator Jeb Bradley (R-Wolfeboro) will become Senate President. Senator Donna Soucy (D-Manchester) will serve as Democratic Leader.
- **House** - On the House side, the question is how many members attend the session on 12/7. Currently, Republicans hold a 201-198 majority, with one race tied. If all the Republicans show up to vote for Speaker, it is fair to expect current Speaker Sherm Packard (R-Londonderry) will get a second term. If more Democrats show up to the session on 12/7 then Republicans, there is a chance Rep. Matt Wilhelm (D-Manchester) will be elected Speaker. Both parties are

working to push all their members to attend to participate in the very important vote for Speaker.

- Once Organization Day wraps up, we can expect to see information on committee assignments and printing of bills.
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- **POTENTIAL SESSION SCHEDULE** – As part of the Senate Organization Day, they have proposed rules creating the schedule for the session. At this point, if the proposed Senate rules are adopted, and the House rules align, there are a few important dates:
 - • Opening Day – Wednesday, January 4, 2023
 - • Crossover – March 20, 2023 - Generally, considered “half time” of the Session. It is the date by which all House bills must “crossover” to the other side, and vice versa.
 - • Final Day – Thursday, June 29, 2023.
- Once the House rules become clearer, we will work to find a date for a Legislative Breakfast.
- 2023 Homeland Grant Committee Announcement
- Grant information and details can be accessed at: [2023 Homeland Security Grant \(nh.gov\)](https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/homeland/2023/documents/2023-score-sheet.pdf)
- The State grant application went live on 10/18/22 and is a N-Forms all electronic submission.
- Grant applications are due at Noon on January 11, 2023.
- The DHS approved equipment is available at: <https://www.fema.gov/grants/tools/authorized-equipment-list>. The grant scoresheets may be found at <https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/homeland/2023/documents/2023-score-sheet.pdf>
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2nd Vice President Report (Watkins) – No report

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) - posted
- Full-time State Building Inspector
- Full-time Hazmat Coordinator
- Full-time Administrative Supervisor
- Part time State Building Inspector
- Part-time Building Code Review Board Administrative Secretary
- Part-time 91-a & Rules Coordinator
- Part-time Outreach & Education Specialist

Emily Crosby joined our staff as a Fire Investigator on December 2nd. Once she has completed her field training she will be assigned to the Hillsborough County area.

Mary MacCaffrie has announced her retirement as a Public Education Specialist effective December 15th. Mary worked with us for about 13 years. We wish her well in her upcoming retirement.

Erica Webb resigned her position as an Administrative Supervisor on December 1st. We wish her well in her new position within another state agency.

School Safety:

Annual school inspections are required pursuant to RSA 153:14. These inspections are required while school is in session. Please remember to submit a written report to the State Fire Marshal no later than December 15th.

School safety resources are available on the following website: [NH School Safety Resources](https://schoolsafetyresources.nh.gov/) <https://schoolsafetyresources.nh.gov/>

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.

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS:

In the month of November, we received 24 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 November 9, investigators responded to Sugar Hill to investigate a structure fire that had occurred the night before. It appears to have been accidentally caused by an electrical overload although the official classification is undetermined as a result of extensive damage to the area of origin.
- On November 16, investigators responded to Meredith for an untimely death suspected to be from carbon monoxide poisoning. Autopsy results indicate it was a natural death and not from carbon monoxide.
- On November 23, an investigator responded to Charlestown to investigate a structure fire. This was an accidental electrical fire.

Fatal Fire/CO Incidents:

- On November 28, investigators responded to New Boston for a suspected accidental carbon monoxide poisoning death. The victim died from CO exposure while working on a lawnmower in a garage.

Ignitable Liquid Detection Canine Teams:

Our IGL Canine Teams were deployed two times in the month of November and performed three canine demonstrations.

- On November 10, an IGL K9 team went to Boscawen to assist the Division of Forests and Lands Forest Protection Bureau with the investigation of a wildland fire.
- On November 28, an IGL K9 team went to Hanover to assist with the investigation of a structure fire.

Public Outreach:

- One youth firesetter assessment was scheduled during the month of November with three new youth firesetter intakes.

Training/Committees:

- Investigators Stephen Dennis and Brynn Dunne completed the Certified Fire Investigator program presented by the NH Fire Academy.
- All BOI personnel completed fall firearms training in November.
- The District Chiefs attended First-Line Supervisor training.
- BOI personnel provided FMO response criteria training to the Medical Examiner's office.

BUREAU OF BUILDING SAFETY & CONSTRUCTION:

State Building Permit System:

We processed 26 building permit applications in the month of November.

Technical Assistance, Educational & Healthcare Reviews:

We initiated 8 educational and 3 healthcare plan reviews, completed 82 inspections and 85 technical consults in the month of November.

Variance Requests:

We processed 7 variance requests in the month of November.

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.

Our Hazardous Materials Coordinator attended the monthly training on PEAC software and worked with HSEM on the State Threat & Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment (THIRA). A training was provided to the Seacoast Regional Haz Mat Team on the State's Unknown Substance Protocol. Our Hazardous Materials Coordinator continued to work with the Regional Haz Mat Teams on planning a Wide Area Air Monitoring Exercise for the spring of 2023.

A SERC meeting was held in November, the bylaws were finalized and accepted.

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.

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 \(nh.gov\)](#).

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.

Public Education and Community Outreach:

On November 1, 2022, Fire Marshal Toomey and Deputy Stacey Dubois traveled to Beverly Middle School in Beverly, MA to award Dennis Andrew Dantas, age 14, with the Fire Marshal's Award of Excellence in Fire and Life Safety. Andrew was camping with his family at a campground in Ashland on September 3rd of this year when he noticed a young girl laying at the bottom of the swimming pool. Dennis' quick actions to remove the girl from the pool and yell for help were instrumental in saving her life. Job well done, Dennis!



Pictured: Dennis Andrew Dantas with his family, Fire Marshal Toomey, and Beverly, MA public safety officials

Training Opportunities:

On November 9, 2022, we offered an *Inspection Essentials: Part II* class at the Wilton Fire Department from 6:30-9:00PM. This session was a continuation of Part 1, as well as exploring frequently asked questions and common violations encountered in NFPA 101.

On November 15 and 16, 2022, we offered four sessions of *NFPA 1 & 101: 2018 Edition Updates*. We held a day and evening session at the NHFA and a day and evening session at the Raymond Burton Training Facility in Bethlehem. The seminar provided attendees with an overview of the changes, updates, removals and additions to NFPA 1 and NFPA 101 from the 2015 to 2018 editions of the codes. We are happy to report that all sessions were well attended, and over 120 personnel received the training!

Additional programs 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 – (Director Cutting)

Director Cutting was unavailable for the meeting but submitted his report in writing. Bureau Chief Romanello highlighted several areas of the report

ADMINISTRATION

Personnel

Kelly Teeboom has been hired as our full-time position for an Administrative Supervisor position for the Program

Support Unit.

We conducted interviews scheduled for our two open full-time Fire Service Instructor Supervisor (Captain) positions.

Additional interviews are planned 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 position for the Fire Officer program is 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.

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

- 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 January 5 th at 0930 in Classrooms 5/6 in the

dormitory building at the main campus. The full schedule for 2023 also includes meetings on March 2 nd , May 4 th ,

September 7 th and November 2 nd .

- 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 7 th . 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 31 st of each calendar year. This can be accomplished using RespondNH.

Special Projects

\$2,535,030 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds were approved for the New Hampshire Emergency Medical Technician Training Program. This program will assist in recruiting, training and retaining EMS providers, and assist licensed NH EMS Units in the delivery of emergency, non-emergency transportation and emergency response services to the people of New Hampshire. We will be working with New Hampshire Employment Security on developing the specifics of this program and will announce those details as soon as they are available.

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

We have implemented a new Wi-Fi system at the fire academy which will allow guests to self-register for their own accounts.

Legislative/Administrative Rules

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.

We are continuing our Leadership Roundtables with the Commissioner, Fire Marshal's Office and regional Fire Chief's with additional dates being planned this fall and early winter of 2023.

Mental Health & Resiliency

The 2023 Mental Health Leadership Seminar will be held on January 9, 2023. This is a second offering of the seminar that was held at the NH Fire and EMS Academy on June 8 th .
- The planning group is also working towards "Part 2".

Recruitment and Retention

Marketing for Fire & Emergency Service Organizations was held at the Burton campus on December 7 th and will be held January 11, 2023 in Milford.

BUREAU OF FIRE TRAINING

Courses/Programs

Firefighter I

- The Jaffrey classes will complete testing this month.

- The Lakes Region Community college Firefighter I and II class will complete testing this month.

- The Bethlehem class will begin on January 18, 2023.

- The East Kingston class will begin on January 28, 2023.
- The Brookline class will begin in the spring semester.
- Firefighter II
- The Bethlehem and Plaistow classes finished this month.
- The Henniker class will complete testing this month.
- Technical Rescue
- Swift Water Level II will begin in Bedford beginning April 28, 2023.
- Confined Space Rescue begins at the Concord campus on January 22, 2023.

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- Ice Rescue Technician will begin in Center Harbor January 21, 2023, in Campton on March 11, 2023 and in Sunapee - date TBD.
- Swift Water/Flood Rescue Boat Operator will begin in Bedford on April 10, 2023.
- Swift Water Level I will begin in Bedford on June 9, 2023.
- Driver Operator
- Driver Operator programs have or will be held in Chichester, Goffstown, Bedford, Northwood, Henniker, Ossipee and Lyme.
- 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
- We hosted Concord Fire Department members who conducted annual training at the main campus in Concord.
- 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.
- We are working to update the Site Visit evaluation form utilized for programs held off campus.
- 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.

BUREAU OF CERTIFICATION AND SUPPORT

Courses/Programs

Instructor I/II/III Programs

- Instructor I in Concord and at Monadnock Hospital begin May 2, 2023.

- Instructor II/III begins January 24, 2023.

Fire Officer I/II Programs

- The Campton Fire Officer I class will conclude this month.

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- Fire Officer I will begin in Epping January 21, 2023.

- Fire Officer I will begin in Concord March 23, 2023.

Fire Inspector Programs

- The Warrants and Citations course will be held December 14 th & 15 th .

- Fire Inspector I will begin in Concord January 10 th , 2023 and at the Bethlehem campus on April 1, 2023.

- Fire Inspector II will begin at the Concord campus on April 6, 2023.

Fire Investigator

- The 2022 offering is complete.

National Fire Academy

- Strategy and Tactics for Initial Company Operations will begin Concord February 11, 2023.

- Youth Firesetter Intervention Specialist will begin at the Concord campus on March 14, 2023.

- Leadership in Supervision: Creating Environments for Professional Growth will be held in Bethlehem on April 11, 2023.

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.

ICS 300 will be held Concord beginning January 31, 2023.

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.

- We are reaching out to all instructors that have not taught in the last 24 months to determine their future plans teaching here at the academy and assist them with becoming current if they choose to.

CPAT

The last 2022 CPAT was held September 19 th & 20 th .

- The list has been distributed.

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 19 th in classrooms 5 & 6 in the dormitory building.

The NH Trauma Medical Review Committee (TMRC) will meet at 0930 on December 21 st in classroom 2 in the administration building.

Operations

New Hampshire EMT license renewals are due by December 31 st .

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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.

The fall 2022 Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) course began October 12 th and will conclude with the BLS exam on December 10 th .

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 Commissioner Shibinette of NH Department of Health and Human Services has been extended to December 31, 2022. The extension of the Public Health Incident allows for the continuation of all Emergency Protocols and any modifications to ambulance staffing requirements. These include:

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 currently 88 departments that have completed the onboarding process for this software and 56

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.

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TEMSIS

- 21,090 EMS incidents were entered into the system in November with 246,490 to date for 2022.

- We are working in preparation for NEMSIS 3.5.

Compliance

There are currently nineteen active investigations and two preliminary 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.

Fire Standards and Training Commission – Chiefs Clark/DeAngelis – No report

NH Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Coord. Board – (Dep. Chief Bean) – No report

National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) – (Chief Corey) – No report

Homeland Security and Emergency Management – (Dir. Buxton)

In early 2023, we will be coordinating regional meetings with our local partners to make sure we are aligned with your expectations.

As we announced during last month's local partners call, we are working to redevelop our field representative service program and look to bring this back the first quarter of 2023.

December 15, 2022 at 12:00 will be our next Local EMD call. This month's call will include an update on the Seabrook Station program.

Below you will find a brief list of events that has taken place over the last month:

- We are actively working to address staffing shortages within HSEM. A working group has been established to work specifically on our recruitment and retention program.
- We have collaborated with NH Ed to review and award \$13 million dollars in SAFE grants. This includes 512 projects at 341 schools. Projects include the hardening of the school entry points. It is imperative that you communicate with your school when the projects are completed.
- We continue to collect School Emergency Operations Plans (SEOP).
- We continue to conduct and develop school security plans.
- As of today we are managing 7 separate disaster relief programs;
 - DR 4329 – July 2017 Floods
 - DR 4355 – October 2017 Severe Storms and Flooding
 - DR 4370 – March 2018 Severe Storms and Flooding
 - DR 4457 – July 2019 Severe Storms and Flooding
 - DR 4516 – COVID
 - DR 4622 – July 2021 Severe Storms and Flooding
 - DR 4624 – July/August 2021 Severe Storms and Flooding
- Upcoming deadline submission of December 31, 2022 for 100% federal reimbursement for COVID; to date we have processed over \$160 million dollars in recovery monies.
- Opened conversation with the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard regarding some long-term exercise efforts.
- Please be tracking your local hazard mitigation plan. We are anticipating a very busy year with over 80 communities entering the planning process.
 - We will be coordinating with the Regional Planning Commissions to assist in this effort
- Homeland Security Grants are posted; January 11, 2023 is the deadline for applications.

If you should have any questions, please feel free to reach out to (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) – He deferred to Marshal Toomey.

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: Working with DAS to get latest info on proposed sale of the facility and establish a potential timeline for a move;
- DESC made posts regarding employees' recognition; winter and holiday safety; and texting to 911.
- 11/11/22 – Director attended the North Country Public Safety Awards event at Bretton Woods
- 12/1/22 - Met (virtually) with the Rye Police Chief, Fire Chief and HSEM re: Communications issues with Consolidated Communications, Inc.
- 12/1/2022 – 988 Coalition meeting - Planning continues for the January 5th, Littleton 1st responder / 988 / Access Point forum;
- 11/8/22 – Director participated in the 988 Forum for Law Enforcement and Mobile Crisis Response and the Access Point in Manchester (PAL)
- Met with Department of Education regarding a statewide school Threat alert system (providing guidance on development of an RFP);

- Met with Public Safety Reps and stakeholders (from the 45th Parallel, F&G, NHSP, CBP) from Pittsburg to talk about improvements to their Radio Communications system (enhancements / coverages / interoperability);
- Working with Beth Sargent and NHEDA reps. Re: Dispatcher Group II Study Committee development;
- Met with CISA reps and SWICS / 9-1-1 Directors from Northern Border states to discuss Interoperability, radio communications, etc.;
- Sadly, one of our long-time employees, Greg Cadarette who was a Supervisor in our mapping section passed away last week.

E-911 Commission – (Chief Thomas) – They meet tomorrow.

IAFC Director – (Chief) – No report

New England Fire Chiefs – a Division of the IAFC – (Director Buxton) – Chief Jones will report on the board meeting held today.

Old Business

New Business –

Good and Welfare – Golf Tournament next year will be August 7.

Raffle – The raffle was held and \$90.00 was given away in prizes and \$120.00 is to be deposited. Counted by Chiefs Hunter and Emanuel.

The meeting was adjourned at 1939 hrs.

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

December 8, 2022