



## **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

Whelen Engineering Company – Charlestown, NH

Thursday, May 8, 2025

Following a tour given by representatives of the company, and dinner, the meeting was called to order at 1734 hours by Chief Watkins.

Jerry Maslan of Whelen asked members how the tour was and what they got out of it and explained a bit of the history of the company.

Chief Watkins thanked him for hosting the tour and the facility and Jim Lindquist from Patriot Fleet Group (one of our Advocate Members) for providing the food.

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

**Welcome from Host:** Chief Gerald Beaudry (a new member of the NHAFC!) welcomed all to Charlestown and expressed his gratitude at being a new member of the association.

## **INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS.**

**Special Guests:** n/a

**Minutes:** A MOTION (Fraitzl/Jones) to approve the minutes of the April meeting, carried unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** A MOTION (Sitar/Emanuel) to approve the financial reports from April, carried unanimously.

**Communications:** n/a

**Applications for membership:** Chief Eric Mattson of Swanzey, Chief Brandon Skoglund of Dunbarton, Chief Perry Plummer of Dover and Dep. Chief Nathan Armstrong of Nashua have been approved for Active membership.

**Life Membership: n/a**

**President's Report: (Watkins) –**

- He received an email from Chief Thomas with the Audit report. The Audit Committee would like to be reappointed for next year.
- He attended the swearing in for Chief Fraitzl.
- He mentioned that anyone who has taken the swift water and related classes from Rescue 3 will have their certifications expire after 3 years. He and other members are working on a solution.

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

- The Annual Meeting/Seminar/Vendor Showcase/Dinner held on April 10 in Plymouth was a great success. We had 77 attendees at the dinner/meeting and we had 26 vendors with \$5,000 in sponsorships.
- Our May monthly meeting will be tomorrow at the Whelen facilities in Charlestown, NH and we will be their guest for dinner. 26 have signed up.
- The June BOD meeting is scheduled for the 4<sup>th</sup> at Primex.
- The June 12 regular monthly meeting will be virtual.
- The July BOD meeting is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> as is virtual and the regular monthly July meeting will be a breakfast meeting at the NHFA at 0900 hours.
- The August 6 BOD meeting will be at Primex and the monthly meeting will be on the 14 at the Town and Country Inn in Gorham. The seminar will be presented by Commissioner John Steere of Nashua.
- I am attending the Primex conference next week at the Omni Mt. Washington
- Ad book proceeds to date: Total: \$17,065.00 ; Vendor: \$11,945.50; Assn: \$5,119.50.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Report (LaRoche) –**

He summarized the important points of the lobbyist report and also spoke of upcoming legislation concerning the Risk Pools that we may want to monitor.

Chief Sitar spoke of the progress on legislation to eliminate balance billing and the challenges of competing interests in the process.

**Government Relations – (Schmidt) – Submitted for the minutes**

**UPDATE**

With about 6 weeks left in the legislative session, the major issue in the State House remains the state budget. The House passed version included major reductions when compared to the budget introduced by Governor Ayotte. The Senate Finance Committee will begin their work later this week now that they have heard from all of the state agencies and completed a public hearing. Generally, it appears the Senate revenues will be higher than the House but lower than the Governors, likely meaning that they will attempt to restore some, but maybe not all, the cuts made by the House. They need to complete their work by June 5. The Legislature is scheduled to conclude the session by June 26.

**Group II, Tier B Reform:** The House passed version of the budget includes provision intended to restore retirement benefits for members of Tier B in Group II. Due to the costs associated with the restoration, the issue will reviewed closely by the Senate, since it is one of the bigger expenses. NHAFC submitted testimony in favor of the provisions when the bill was in the House and to the Senate Finance Committee.

**Ambulance Reimbursement:** There were 5 separate bills introduced dealing with ambulance reimbursement at the outset of the session. The two remaining bills are **HB 316** which would eliminate balance billing and create a reimbursement level of roughly 200% of Medicare for ambulance providers. NHAFC testified against the legislation, highlighting the need for a more reasonable level of reimbursement. The bill passed the House and is in the Senate. **SB 245** would require carriers to pay communities at the rates they set or 325% of Medicare. NHAFC submitted testimony in support of the bill. SB 245 passed the Senate and will be heard in the House next week. Simultaneously, there has been a working group, including legislators, regulators, ambulance providers, and the Governor's office attempting to forge a compromise. At this point, there is framework for a potential deal. NHAFC has been involved with these conversations via the participation of Chief Mike Sitar.

**Codes:** There has been an increased interest in codes and code applications as the Legislature debates ways to help address the current housing issues. **SB 94** would prohibit all local legislative bodies from adopting any new regulations which differ from the state building code. Marshal Toomey testified that if the bill was going to pass, it would need to be amended. Specifically, communities need to adopt "technical amendments" to existing codes in order to offer inspections or enforcement or charge fees. The Senate passed the bill without any additional amendments. Recently, the House Executive Departments and Administration Committee vote to retain the bill, meaning it will not move forward. Instead, they asked that the Marshal work with other parties to develop language to enable communities to adopt technical amendments, and have that language added to **HB 428**. We will likely see the Senate take action on an amendment in the next week or so. There are many bills dealing with codes, etc., on the legislative chart.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Report (D. Chamberlain) – No Report**

**Sgt. At Arms (Fraitzl) – No report**

### **Committee Reports**

**Scholarship Committee – (Marshal Toomey) – No report**

### **Division Reports**

**Fire Marshal: (Marshal Toomey) – No report**

**Fire Standards/Training/EMS – (Asst. Director Phillips) Submitted in writing for the minutes**

## **ADMINISTRATION**

### **Personnel**

- Senior Staff Instructor Jeffrey Whitcomb's name was added to the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial at the ceremony in Emmitsburg, MD, on May 3-4, 2025.
- On January 22<sup>nd</sup>, Governor Kelly Ayotte signed an Executive Order instituting a hiring freeze across state government. We will work within the process to identify any positions that are eligible for a waiver under the order.
- We have one vacancy for Program Specialist III (Education Technologist) of the Educational Technology section.
- We have one vacancy for a full-time Bureau Chief.
- We have one vacancy for a full-time Fire Training Captain.
- We have one vacancy for a full-time Fire Training Instructor position.
- We have one vacancy for a full-time Program Assistant I.
- We have one vacancy for our full-time EMS Compliance Coordinator.
- We have one vacancy for our part-time EMS Compliance Specialist.
- We have one vacancy for our part-time EMS Vehicle Inspector Coordinator.
- We have one vacancy for our part-time EMS Investigator.
- We have vacancies for EMS Exam Coordinators.
- We have vacancies for EMS Vehicle Inspectors.

### **Grants**

- We submitted our application for the 2024 AFG grant and are awaiting to hear on additional information.

### **Special Projects**

- The early detection cancer screening pilot program RFP submission period closed on February 19<sup>th</sup>. Initial scoring on the technical portions of the proposals was held on March 7<sup>th</sup>. The Division is currently working through the contract process which will then be submitted to the Governor and Executive Council for consideration.
  - We anticipate this program to begin mid-summer 2025.
  - We are developing a website dedicated to this program where eligible individuals can find information about the program.

- The Raymond S. Burton Fire and EMS Training Facility infrastructure project continues to move forward with completion of the project expected on or before November 2025.
  - Phase II which includes the heated garage and classroom building upgrades is ongoing.
    - The garage foundation has been constructed.
    - Work on the Admin/Classroom building is underway with framing, wiring and ductwork.
    - JA McDonald is back on the site doing earthwork.
    - No new classes or prop usages are being scheduled for this campus until construction is completed. Classes will be moved to other facilities in the area.



*Aerial view of Raymond S. Burton Training Facility under construction in Bethlehem as of April 2025. Photography credit: Don Himself*

- We continue to work on our website transition and improvements with NH DoIT. Much of this work is being done offline in preparation of a full transition to the new state web platform.
- The *Law Enforcement Officers, Professional Firefighters and Emergency Medical Technicians Career Development, Recruitment and Retention Program* established in New Hampshire RSA 188-F:70 remains active and available.

- Details can be found on our website under the Recruitment and Retention link from the homepage.

### **National Fire Academy**

- On Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, we received the following notice from the NFA Superintendent:
  - “FEMA is currently in the process of evaluating agency programs and spending to ensure alignment with Administration priorities. While this review is underway, we will be cancelling all in person training offered by the National Fire Academy (on and off campus). For those courses that can continue virtually, we will do so, and you will receive more information soon. For those that are unable to proceed in a virtual format we will reevaluate rescheduling of courses once the review is complete.”
- We are monitoring this closure and will notify students if future scheduled programs will remain cancelled.

### **Legislative/Administrative Rules**

- The 2025 legislative session continues. We are monitoring many legislative Bills.
  - We have submitted written testimony to the House and Senate relating to HB183, HB559, and SB202.
- The proposed Trauma Rules are working through the internal DOS process.
- An EMS discipline and other various administrative rule changes proposal has been submitted to JLCAR. This proposed change is supported by the EMS Coordinating Board and would allow for deceased providers names to be removed the public listing, along with other various changes to the ruleset.
- Administrative Rules to make the full transition to ETA's and sunset the former process have been developed and are working through the internal DOS process for submission to JLCAR.

### **Outreach**

- Staff members continue to attend various stakeholder and mutual aid group meetings and make department visits.

### **Mental Health & Resiliency**

- Crisis Intervention Team Training – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, May 5<sup>th</sup>
- 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 and delivery.

## **Fire Standards and Training Commission**

- The Fire Standards and Training Commission met on May 8<sup>th</sup> at 0930 in Classrooms 5/6 in the dormitory building at the Richard Flynn Fire Academy in Concord.

### **Curriculum**

#### **Accreditation**

- The five-year process of re-accreditation through The Pro Board has begun. This process involves completing a comprehensive self-assessment of the Division's policies and certification exam practices, and a resubmission of all assessment instruments used by the Division for accredited certification exams.
- The re-accreditation process will culminate in a site visit from Pro Board representatives early next year. They will review the Division's documentation, make recommendations for improvement, and determine the Division's accreditation for five more years.

#### **Airport Firefighter**

- The Airport Firefighter test bank validation is waiting for the certification test bank from IFSTA. The publisher has indicated that the bank will be available by the end of May.

#### **Driver-Operator**

- The Division will make a recommendation to the Fire Standards and Training Commission for the establishment of a Driver-Operator Visiting Committee to review and update the curricula for the All Vehicles, Pumper, and Aerial programs.
- Regular test bank item review is scheduled for the All Vehicles program.

#### **Fire and Emergency Services Instructor**

- Regular test bank item review is scheduled for the Instructor III program.

#### **Firefighter I & II**

- The visiting committee will meet on May 21<sup>st</sup> to review the Tools & Equipment, Portable Extinguishers, Ropes & Knots, and Forcible Entry modules.

#### **Fire Inspector**

- The visiting committee will meet on May 14<sup>th</sup> to review the project components of the Fire Inspector program and to discuss the continued development of the First Responder Inspector program now that textbooks are available.

- Initial test bank item validation for Fire Inspector has begun. Bureau of Firefighter Training

## **Courses/Programs**

- Firefighter I
  - Litchfield – January 21<sup>st</sup>
  - Keene – March 10<sup>th</sup> (FF I & II)
  - Spring Recruit School – March 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Firefighter II
  - Epping – February 19<sup>th</sup>
- Technical Rescue
  - Swiftwater Level I – North Woodstock, May 5<sup>th</sup>, and Franklin, June 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Driver Operator
  - All inquiries for these programs should be directed to Captain Paul Ingersoll at [paul.h.ingersoll@dos.nh.gov](mailto:paul.h.ingersoll@dos.nh.gov)
- Hazardous Materials
  - Hazardous Materials Awareness is available at <https://www.nhfaemslearning.org/login/index.php>
  - IAFF Hazardous Materials Technician – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, June 2-13
- Module Deliveries
  - Spring Twin State School – Blue Mountain Union School – Wells River, May 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>
  - Firefighter I: PPE & SCBA Skills – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, May 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>
  - Firefighter II: Foam & Flammable Liquids Skills – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, June 1<sup>st</sup>
- Airport Rescue Firefighting
  - ARFF – Live Fire Recertifications – numerous dates beginning in April
    - Nantucket, Bar Harbor, Vermont Air National Guard, and Pease Air Force Base visited the facility in April.
  - Richard Flynn campus – September 25<sup>th</sup>
- “On My Time” Program
  - We continue to offer support and guidance to many departments participating in this program.

- Electric Vehicle Training Resources
  - US Department of Energy, Alternate Fuels Data Center, EV Safety Training Resources for First and Second Responders:  
<https://afdc.energy.gov/vehicles/electric-responders>

## **Testing**

- Monthly Testing was completed in March for the NFPA 1001, 1002 and 1003 testing processes which includes administering the written and practical exams.
  - Monthly testing is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month. Burton campus monthly testing is only in March, June, September and December on the Wednesday after the Flynn campus exam date. Submissions must be entered by the last day of the month before the month you wish to test.

## **Apparatus/Equipment**

- We received the last of the battery powered extrication tools, a Holmatro Cutter and Spreader. This gives the Division four sets of hydraulic extrication tools, three sets of which are battery powered.
- Crash Five went out of service on April 7<sup>th</sup> for an engine issue. This was promptly repaired at Camerota Truck Center and returned to service on April 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Engine Three returned to service in early April.
- Utility Five has been removed from service and is scheduled to be replaced this year.
- Utility Six went back in service in mid-March.
- Three of the Equinox required maintenance during the month of April and are back in service.
- All other apparatus and Fleet Vehicles are in service.

## **Facilities, Prop Usage and Projects**

- The Durham Fire Department used our “A” Building for live fire training on April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- The Northwood Fire Department used our “A” Building for live fire training on April 5<sup>th</sup>.
- The Auburn and Candia Fire Departments used our “A” Building for live fire training on April 19<sup>th</sup>.
- The Keene Fire Department used our “A” Building for live fire training on April 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- IAFF Fireground Survival props were in Portsmouth from April 7<sup>th</sup> to April 18<sup>th</sup>.

- The Forcible Entry prop traveled to Deerfield on April 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Our DOAV props were used by Allenstown Fire to deliver their Driver Operator PDP Programs.
- The “J” Building required some work on the interior stairwell.
- The “A” Building has minor Padgenite damage that will be repaired at the earliest opportunity.
- Parts have been ordered for the repair of two hydrants that have been out of service. Bureau of Certification and Support

## **Courses/Programs**

- Instructor I/II/III Programs
  - Instructor I – Richard Flynn campus – Concord – May 7<sup>th</sup>
  - Instructor II – Virtual October 21<sup>st</sup>
  - Instructor III – Virtual April 9<sup>th</sup>
- Instructor Professional Development
  - *Assessing Student Performance Using a Skill Acquisition Model* – Virtual, May 27<sup>th</sup>, and Richard Flynn campus May 29<sup>th</sup>
  - *Interpreting EMS Education Standards* – Virtual, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, and Richard Flynn campus, July 24<sup>th</sup>
- Fire Officer I/II Programs
  - Fire Officer I – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, May 13<sup>th</sup>
  - Fire Officer II – Virtual October 15<sup>th</sup>
- Fire Inspector Programs
  - Fire Inspector II – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, April 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Fire Investigator – Richard Flynn campus – August 21<sup>st</sup>
- Warrants and Citations – Laconia, May 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>
- National Fire Academy
  - Supervising Emergency Medical Services (SEMS) – Littleton Regional Healthcare – Littleton, April 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>

## **Education Technology**

- Staff are working with the Firefighter I visiting committee and will continue to attend their meetings.
- Work continues on the Resource Center with an updated and more comprehensive schedule and catalog descriptions that students and potential

students should find more informative and better to use. A more robust curriculum section is being developed as well.

- The new OB Emergencies courses have been completed. Part I is online and available for students. Part II is being rolled out as grant funding allows, with two classes currently scheduled to be held in Whitefield (May) and Littleton (June).
- Safe Pediatric Transport is online and available for students.
- The new HazMat Awareness is online and available for students.
- The updated FFI Communication module was completed and is in all courses. The module has new video from NH911 and that portion of the course was expanded.
- The new Stroke program is in the full production phase.
- Preliminary work for the initial video for the Cancer Screening Initiative has begun.
- New computers have been installed in Classrooms 5 and 6.
- The Drylab classroom has a new display screen.

## **Instructors**

- The State Fire Instructor renewal portal is now open. Email reminders were sent out starting in April.
- The Fire Training Captains have been actively training and endorsing Instructors and Program Assistants in numerous classes and prop operations.
- The Division is always looking for highly motivated team members to become instructors. If you are interested in becoming an instructor, please contact Assistant Director Jeffrey Phillips at [Jeffrey.r.phillips@dos.nh.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.r.phillips@dos.nh.gov) or 603-223-4213.

## **CPAT**

- There are (6) CPAT dates in 2025. We restructured the schedule of these exams to better span the entire year to make this test more aligned with department hiring needs.
  - June 17<sup>th</sup> – Laconia – Merrill Fay Ice Arena
  - August 12<sup>th</sup> – Laconia – Merrill Fay Ice Arena
  - Additional dates TBA
- Staff are beginning to develop an electronic scoring of CPAT exams using RespondNH.
- Department member assistance is needed for CPAT on testing days. Please confirm available personnel to assist with PC Nick Poulin at

[Nicholas.a.poulin@dos.nh.gov](mailto:Nicholas.a.poulin@dos.nh.gov) prior to the test date to assist in planning. Bureau of Emergency Medical Services

## **Boards and Commissions**

- The Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Coordinating Board will meet on May 8<sup>th</sup> at 1300.
- The Medical Control Board will meet on May 15<sup>th</sup> at 0930.
- The Trauma Medical Review Committee will meet on June 18<sup>th</sup> at 0930.
- The Protected Health Information: Privacy Committee meeting on April 30<sup>th</sup> was cancelled.

## **Operations**

- With final adoption of the Educational Training Agency ruleset as of April 30, 2024, the Administrative Packet for application can be found at on the Division website and Resource Center.
- The EMS Simulation Training Program is active with ongoing open enrollment courses.
- There are currently 310 licensed EMS Units and 6,391 EMS Providers.
- 15 ambulance inspections were conducted in March.
- Background checks are currently averaging 1.8 days for new applicants for licensure.
- EMS Psychomotor Exams
  - 1 BLS exam and 2 ALS exams were held in March.

## **Courses/Programs**

- Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)
  - The Spring 2025 Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) course is ongoing.
- EMS Continuing Education and Simulation Education
  - *Capnography: What Does It Mean?* – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, May 7<sup>th</sup>, and Virtual, May 15<sup>th</sup>
  - *Adult and Pediatric Electrical Medical Emergencies (Simulation)* – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, May 14<sup>th</sup>
  - *My Brother's Keeper: Mental Wellness in Fire & Emergency Services* – Concord, June 4<sup>th</sup>, and Virtual, June 19<sup>th</sup>
  - *Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (TECC)* – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, June 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>

- *Germs and Source Control for EMS Providers* – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, June 9<sup>th</sup>
- *Adult and Pediatric Electrical Medical Emergencies (Simulation)* – Littleton Regional Healthcare – Littleton, June 14<sup>th</sup>
- *Outlaw Motorcycle Gang Awareness for Fire & EMS* – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, June 23<sup>rd</sup>
- *IFT and PIFT: Not Taxi Work* – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, August 6<sup>th</sup>, and Virtual, August 21<sup>st</sup>
- EMS in the Warm Zone Awareness, Operations and Rescue Task Force Concepts
  - The 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.
  - We are developing the 2025 schedule for six open enrollment RTF courses.
  - If anyone is looking for this program, please contact Shawn Croteau at [Shawn.A.Croteau@dos.nh.gov](mailto:Shawn.A.Croteau@dos.nh.gov)

## **Clinical Systems**

- We continue our outreach and support to agencies for inter-facility transfers and mobile integrated health programs.
- EMS Protocols Version 9.1 Mid Cycle Rollout was implemented starting April 1, 2025. This included a Version 9.1 Mid-Cycle modification to protocol 8.1 Baby Safe Haven of the NH Patient Care Protocols to comply with the revised requirements of RSA 132-A and He-C 6429.
- EMS Protocols Version 10.0 development has begun.
- All EMS Bulletins can be found on our website at: <https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/ems/bulletins/index.html>

## **Data Management**

- NHESR
  - If you would like to start using the New Hampshire Emergency Services Reporting System (NHESR), please fill out the form available at <https://nhfa-ems.com/nhesronboard/>.
  - 114 fire departments are utilizing the system for incident reporting.
  - Anyone interested in the system can contact [nhesr@dos.nh.gov](mailto:nhesr@dos.nh.gov) by email, submit a ticket at <https://nhfa-ems.com/support/>, or call 603-223-4200 and ask for a member of the data team to reach us.

- 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 can 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.
- EMS Instructor Initial/Reinstatement applications are available online for licensing.
- EMS Instructor Renewal applications are available online.
- The monthly EMS and Fire Reporting Users groups have restarted.

## **Compliance**

- There are currently 23 active investigations and ongoing cases.
- All compliance related inquiries should be directed to Bureau Chief Romanello.
- The Division has transitioned from the “old” list on our website to a new public look-up page in RespondNH. This will allow anyone to search an individual and find out if they have any license sanctions against them.

## **Preparedness and Special Projects**

- Staff conducted 8 outreach events for AED consultations and preparedness last month.
- Staff continue to support MIH and IFT programs and outreach. There are 15 current MIH programs in the state.
  - Laconia Fire has proposed a program known as the Community Paramedicine Program (CPP) by the Partnership for Public Health, Inc. (PPH) to enhance healthcare delivery and accessibility in Laconia, NH, and surrounding towns. The program is designed to reduce unnecessary hospital admissions and emergency department visits.
- May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 - New Hampshire Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Provider Recognition Day
- May 18 – 24, 2025 – National EMS Week
  - May 21<sup>st</sup> – EMS for Children Day
- ARPA Funds for the WorkInvest Program

Program ended on December 27, 2024, and all funds must be allocated and expended by June 30, 2025.

**Professional Development Committee \_ () – No report**

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

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

**National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) – (Chiefs E. Thomas/Cathy) – No report**

**EMS Trauma Medical Review Committee (Dep. Chief Clough) – Submitted in writing for the minutes.**

Meeting opened at 0930

**1) Welcome/Membership**

Item 1. Neurosurgery position remains vacant as well as medical examiner position.

Item 2. Chair Position of the TMRC will become open as of June 15, 2025 when Dr. Eric Martin's term

expires. Interested voting members should contact Crystal Tuttle. \*\*\*Side Note to this: I have submitted a letter of interest to Chair this Committee.\*\*\*

**2) Approval of the minutes**

A motion was made (Clough/Marcotte) to approve the February 19, 2025 minutes as presented. All in favor, none opposed.

**3) BUREAU REPORTS**

a) May 3, 2025, is New Hampshire Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Provider recognition day.

b) National EMS week is May 18-24, 2025.

c) May 21, 2025, is EMS for Children Day.

d) Written testimony was submitted to the Senate and House for HB 183- Relative to Reporting Requirements for Emergency Medical Services Personnel.

e) Written testimony was sent to the Senate and House for SB 202- Relative to providing maternal depression screening for new mothers: increasing access to health care services for new mothers; enabling new parents to attend infant pediatric medical appointments; developing a plan for perinatal peer support certification.

f) Version 9.1 Mid-Cycle rollout

i) Incorporating the Commissioners ability, in consultation with the State Medical Director, to create emergency protocols. This had an April 1, 2025, implementation.

ii) Modifications to Protocol 8.1 Baby Safe Haven of the NH Patient Care Protocols to comply with the revised requirements of RSA 132-A and He-C 6429.

g) The Full time and part time compliance positions waiver request was approved.

i) Twenty-three active investigations.

#### **4) DISCUSSION ON LEGISLATION**

I. The CB had written letters to legislators in opposition to HB 183, HB 316, and HB 559. The MCB had written letters opposing HB 559, and HB 183.

II. Kyle Levesque stated you can find information on national bills concerning trauma etc. on the NAEMT website.

#### **5) SUBCOMMITTEE & TOPIC REPORTS**

##### ***Item 1: Trauma Registry Sub-committee- Walter Trachim***

- Discussion about Statewide registry- overhauling all the forms used to enter data to optimize what data is collected.
- Discussed reporting to the TMRC- what will be shared etc. 29,000 records collected so far.
- A discussion was held on what data should be shared.
  - Volumes, mechanism of injury, injury severity scores, interfacility transfers and ED length of stay data from institutions would be the focus.
- Data dictionary must be voted on June 18, 2025, meeting

##### ***Item 2. Coordinating Board Report- Joel Coelho***

- Discussed protocol updates
- Supported letter to oppose letters
- Accept mid cycle rollout of Version 9.1 of the NH EMS Protocols

##### ***Item 3. Medical Control Board Report- Brett Sweeney***

- Mid cycle protocols approved

##### ***Item 4. Injury Prevention Report- Jim Esdon***

- Nothing to report

##### ***Item 5. Hospital Designation Subcommittee- Eric Martin***

- Discussed designation subcommittee moving to an ad hoc committee and utilizing the 0800-0930 am meeting time to finalize the State Level 4 Designation for Hospitals (Trauma) process.

#### **6.) OLD BUSINESS**

- No old business to review.

## **7.) NEW BUSINESS**

- Angie Leduc – Manager of the Injury Prevention Center at Dartmouth Health gave a presentation about what the center does and upcoming events.
- Discussed RMOCCs (Regional Medical Operations Coordination Centers) for large scale combat operations (LSCOs). The Department of Defense wants Trauma Centers to create a plan to respond to this.

**A motion was made (Marcotte/Clough) to add RMOCCs to the TMRC Agenda for updates. All in favor, none opposed.**

## **8.) GOOD OF THE ORDER**

- Stop the Bleed Version 3.0 was released this winter. We should be teaching the newest version going forward.
- October 23, 2025 is the Concord Hospital Trauma Conference, which will be held at the SNHU Conference Center in Hooksett.

**Homeland Security and Emergency Management – (Director Buxton) – Submitted in writing for the minutes.**

### **Updates on Division Priorities:**

- Federal Funding
  - We continue to monitor activity surrounding the passing of Federal Budget Legislation.
- Public Assistance
  - We continue to work with FEMA on existing Disaster Relief efforts.
    - Thank you to everyone that has assisted staff with the COVID-19 closeout process. We are attempting to close the COVID-19 disaster by the end of June.
    - Please reach out to Mitigation/Recovery Staff if you are having difficulty working through the closeout process.
- Mitigation
  - We continue to work to support the following programs:
    - Hazard Mitigation Planning.
      - Plan review and approval remain on pause with the Federal Government. New guidance surrounding mitigation planning has been issued.
      - We continue to work with Region 1 on the impacts of the BRIC (Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities) program sunset.
- EMPG
  - If you have a potential EMPG project, please reach out to your Stakeholder Liaison for assistance.

- Federal Grant Programs
  - Currently, we do not have a timeline on next year's Federal grant platform.
  - We are coming to the close of the FFY 21 grant programs period of performance. Please make sure you are working with both our EMPG and Homeland Security Grants staffs on your closeout requirement.
- Active Shooter Incident Management
  - Working groups continue to meet regarding Incident Management initiatives for Law Enforcement.
  - We have an opportunity to bring C3 Pathways in for an incident management class in May. This will be a joint training for both Law Enforcement and Fire Service. Tentative dates will be May 21-23, in Pembroke at the ECTC facility. If you have interest, please make sure you are registering as there is limited seats available.
- REP
  - The FY 25 assessment process has started for NextEra Energy.
  - The Manchester Reception Center Drill has been completed.
  - We are also evaluating our current radio program within the REP program.

**Commission to study the Incidence of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in First Responders – (Chief Watkins)** – Report given above.

**Forests and Lands – (Chief Sherman)** – No report

**Board of Fire Control – (Chiefs Clark/)** – No report

**Building Code Review Board – (Chief Conley/Asst. Chief Pouliot)** – No report

**Manufactured Housing Installation Standards Board: (Chief Blanchette)** – No report

**Division of Emergency Services and Communications – (Director Doyle)**  
**Submitted in writing for the minutes.**

- Laconia Facility Update: Construction fully underway;
- Genasys Emergency notification platform ([NH Alerts](#)) is up and running, If you are interested in becoming a POC for your community to use the ENS for local messaging, please let me know. The statewide ENS system is offered to local communities at no cost;

- Community Events / school visits reminder – connect with our Public Outreach / Education Team for more info: Patrick Cavanaugh, 603-271-6911, [patrick.m.cavanaugh@desc.nh.gov](mailto:patrick.m.cavanaugh@desc.nh.gov) ;
- Participated in the NHEDA conference in Bartlett - very well attended. Many of the Division's employees were recognized as Supervisor of the Year; Peer Support Team of the Year; and, Trainers of the year;
- Presented an overview of E911's transfers to Rapid Response at the NHEDA conference in Bartlett on 4/9;
- 988 First Responder subcommittee work continues - "Cruiser Card" development is complete and will be rolled out to Windham, Exeter and MACC Base for 2-3 week trial;
- Working with Northern Borders Dispatch re: Radio system upgrade project (Licensing, coverage, Interoperability with Vermont and Canada) – support as SME's is ongoing;
- Social Media Updates:

In April, the Division of Emergency Services and Communications used its social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram, and X) to celebrate National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week, recognizing the dedication of our staff with messages of appreciation and behind-the-scenes content from our theme days and activities. We celebrated breaking ground on our new Laconia facility, spotlighted employee achievements – including Comfort Dog Winni earning her AKC Canine Good Citizen certification – and continued to educate the public on when and why to call 911. Several members of our team attended and presented at the NH Emergency Dispatcher's Association Annual Conference, reinforcing our commitment to professional development and public safety collaboration. Social media remains a vital tool for sharing information about the work we do and connecting with our audience.

- Media events:



- Any questions, comments, concerns, please reach out...

**E 911 Commission – (Chief Thomas) – No report**

**NH Drug Overdose Commission – (Chief Thomas) – No report**

**NH Information Analysis Center – (James Heinz-liaison) – No report**

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

- Chief Jones reported that they're actively planning the conference in October. IPS will help with marketing. There are several classes and seminars. They are presenting an Officer Development Program this year They're also talking to FCAM about partnering with them for a conference.
- The IAFC's FRI will be held in August in Orlando. Registration is now open. Voting for IAFC Secretary/Treasurer will begin May 15. New England has not endorsed either candidate.

**Old Business –**

- 2026 NHAFC Budget. The BOD approved the budget on May 7. It's posted on the Member Landing page of the website. A MOTION (Sitar/Buxton) to approve the 2026 budget, carried unanimously.
- Chief Thomas submitted the Audit Report. It will be shared with the membership.

### **New Business –**

- On May 7, the BOD voted unanimously to recommend that Chief David Emanuel of Durham be appointed to the Board of Fire Control to finish the term of Chief Scott Hunter, who recently retired.

### **Good and Welfare –**

- **The 2025 Golf Tournament will be held at Lochmere CC in Tilton on August 11.**
- LEO/PFF Career Development Committee – Chief Emanuel stated:
  - The committee is providing feedback to the commissioner to accept pass/fail courses for reimbursement and to extend the reimbursement window of opportunity for students taking classes.
- Meeting with Active Shooter Response Planning Group - Emanuel
  - Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 13, 2025 2:00 PM-4:00 PM at the NH IPOC
  - Group scheduled to review of the following: Update on Training Opportunities: for ASIM at multiple levels, an Administrative Rule change for annual UOF training for Police, and tentative update on “Phase Three” training.
- Chief Emanuel shared that the Seacoast Chief Fire Officer Mutual Aid District is hosting a national speaker workshop on May 29 from 0830-1600 hours. Leadership from the Ground Up Presented by Candice Ashby may be found at the link: <https://seacoastchiefs.com/event/upcoming-training-leadership-from-the-ground-up-presented-by-candice-ashby/>
- Chief Emanuel shared that the Seacoast Chief Fire Officer Mutual Aid District is hosting its annual golf tournament on Friday June 6, 2025 at the Pease Golf Course in Portsmouth, NH. Details and registration may be found at: <https://seacoastchiefs.com/golf-registration/>.
- Chief Blanchette expressed a bit of frustration at the speed at which the Visiting Committee seems to want to proceed in revising the curriculum. He also feels that some of the basic learning skills should be put back in. Discussion ensued.

No raffle was held.

The meeting was adjourned at 1824 hours.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chief Brent T. Lemire, ret.  
Executive Director, NHAFC

May 8, 2025