



## **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, June 9, 2022 – NH Fire Academy, Concord, NH

The meeting was called to order at 0915 hours by Chief Beattie.

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

Director Cutting as host, gave a welcome to all in attendance.

Introduction of members. (40 members plus 2 Advocates present)

**Special Guests:** n/a

**Minutes** of the May 12 meeting have been posted. A MOTION (Sitar/Clough) to accept carried unanimously.

**Financial Reports:** May reports have been posted. A MOTION (Sitar/Clough) to approve the April and May reports, carried unanimously.

**Communications:** n/a

**Applications for membership: Chief Randy Davis of Shelburne, NH and Chief Don Farquar of Keene, NH**

**President's Report: (Beattie) –**

- We were asked to appoint a member for a Line of Duty Death appeals case under a little know law that gives the NHAFC a representation.
- Marshal Toomey received the Construction Industry Ethics Award. It came with at \$1000 award to be given to the charity of choice and he donated \$500 to our Scholarship Fund.
- Chief Thomas brought up a letter received about a hearing for a rule change on Safe Scene 1100. They will not affect anyone currently.
- Notification has been sent from DES on foam pick-up. Chief Hunter stated that his department along with Goffstown and Franklin got rid of theirs.

**Executive Director's Report (Lemire) – n/r**

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Report (Best) – n/r**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Report (Emanuel) –**

- Legislative update - Adam Schmidt, Deadlines for filing to run for office is tomorrow.
- Don Bliss - UNH Alumni Award of Excellence for Outstanding Achievement last week
- Seacoast Chief's Golf Tournament on Friday June 3, 2022, Thank you Mike Sitar, Brian Rhodes, Steve Carrier, George Walker for joining us.
- IAFC SHS Protecting Mental Health of First Responders - View online
- I am seeking reelection to the IAFC Health, Safety, and Survival Section board of directors and asking for your vote. Bullying Awareness program

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

**Committee Reports**

**Scholarship Committee – (Dep. Toomey) – Deadline for submission is July 1, 2022.**

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

**Division Reports**

**Fire Marshal – (Fire Marshal Sean Toomey)**

**ADMINISTRATION:**

**Personnel:**

We currently have 8 full-time vacancies and 3 part-time vacancies. The following openings are those that we are actively recruiting for at this time:

Full-time Fire Investigator

Full-time State Building Inspector

Full-time Hazmat Coordinator

Part-time Education & Outreach Specialist

Part time State Building Inspector

Part-time Building Code Review Board Administrative Secretary

Congratulations to Marshal Toomey who will be the recipient of the Twenty-Sixth Annual New Hampshire Construction Industry Ethics Award on Wednesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Hotel Concord in Concord, NH.

**Legislation:**

HB 1681	Relative to the State Building & Fire Code Passed/Adopted in House & Senate Pending Governor's signature
SB 223	Relative to Requirements for Recovery Houses Signed by the Governor, effective July 19, 2022
SB 249	Prohibiting Planning and Zoning Ordinances That Prohibit Short-term Rentals
	House Referred to Interim Study 5/4
SB 398	Relative to Building Code and Fire Code Enforcement Passed/Adopted with amendment in Senate Pending Governor's signature
SB 443	Relative to Municipal Authority Regarding the State Building Code Passed/Adopted with amendment in Senate Pending Governor's signature

**BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS:**

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

- On May 17, 2022, investigators responded to 174 Tasker Hill Rd., Strafford for an intentionally set fire. The homeowner had a flat affect and would not respond to lawful commands then assaulted the police officer. He has a mental health history and was arrested and held overnight in jail. Upon release he was brought to the hospital for a psychological evaluation. The investigation is ongoing.
- On May 18, 2022, investigators responded to 73 White Birch Ln. in Farmington for an RV fire. The fire is undetermined at this time, with samples collected from the scene. Additional investigative follow-up is being conducted.
- On May 24, 2022, investigators responded to 193 Elm St., Keene for a porch fire that was intentionally set. Follow-up is ongoing in partnership with Keene PD on the case.

***Fatal Investigations:***

- On May 6, 2022, we received notification of a CO fatality that had occurred on May 5, 2022. The Medical Examiner's Office advised that there appeared to have been a suicide pact between a couple with the husband receiving fatal levels of CO and the wife surviving. Additional information is being collected.

- On May 29, 2022, investigators responded to 53 Cross Wind Ln, Rochester to assist with an untimely death. The male was found in his garage and it was determined that he died from CO poisoning. Additional possible CO sources were ruled out and the cause of the CO was motor vehicle related.

**Ignitable Liquid Detection Canine Teams:**

Our two IGL Canine Teams deployed for a case in Strafford and they attended three demonstrations. Both IGL Canine Teams were recertified in the month of May.

**Public Outreach:**

On May 26, 2022, a case study of the State v. John Gates case was presented at the St. Anselm training. Multiple FMO members also participated in a panel discussion regarding the case.

One youth firesetter intake occurred with the assessment scheduled for June.

**Court Proceedings:**

On May 19, 2022, Sean Kelly was indicted by grand jury for the Somersworth RV fire in July 2021.

On May 24, 2022, John Gates was found not guilty on all charges and was released.

Richard Vincent is being held on a probation violation based on evidence found during the investigation into the fatal fire in Manchester on 12/19/2021.

Richard Ellison was found guilty of second degree murder for the 2005 Concord Arson Homicide.

**Training:**

Two investigators attended the IHIA Basic Homicide Investigation course the week of May 16, 2022.

Investigators attended an annual training at St. Anselm College the week of May 23, 2022.

One investigator is currently enrolled in the Supervisory Academy course through BET. District Chief Anthony Booth completed the course during the month of May.

**BUREAU OF BUILDING SAFETY & CONSTRUCTION:**

**State Building Permit System:**

We processed 46 building permit applications in the month of May.

**Technical Assistance, Educational & Healthcare Reviews:**

We initiated 5 educational and 13 healthcare plan reviews, completed 123 inspections and 130 technical consults in the month of May.

**Variance Requests:**

We processed 1 variance request in the month of May.

**BUREAU OF OUTREACH & EDUCATION:**

**Hazardous Materials:**

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

Our Hazardous Materials Coordinator continues to attend the regional Haz Mat Team trainings to offer support and provide updates regarding statewide Haz Mat response. In May, he attended the quarterly CAMEO online training as well as the monthly PEAC training.

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. If you are interested, please reach out to Jim Stone at [james.h.stone@dos.nh.gov](mailto:james.h.stone@dos.nh.gov).

**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 June 22, 2022, we will be at the North Country Training Facility in Bethlehem to meet with the North Country Fire Chiefs. Please reach out to schedule.

**Incident Reporting:**

Any fire departments that have not yet submitted ALL of last year's NFIRS data (2021), please do so no later than June 28, 2022. NFIRS reporting is required by RSA:153 and NH Administrative Rule Saf-C 6000. As of April 15<sup>th</sup>, any outstanding 2021 data is past due.

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](mailto: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](mailto:NHESR@dos.nh.gov).

**Public Education:**

Preparations are underway for our annual 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Poster Contest. Stay tuned for more details!

As you may be aware, October 9-15, 2022 will mark 100 years of Fire Prevention Week. This year's theme is "Fire Won't Wait. Plan Your Escape," which draws attention to the fact that fire is faster and deadlier than ever, making the need for planning and practicing fire escape all the more critical. The [firepreventionweek.org](http://firepreventionweek.org) website and product catalogue will launch June 14<sup>th</sup>. A live Facebook event will also be available at [facebook.com/theNFPA](https://facebook.com/theNFPA) on June 14<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 p.m. ET to learn more about the theme and how you can celebrate.



**Community Outreach:**

On May 7, 2022, members of the FMO and Sparky participated in Sound the Alarm Laconia, in partnership with the American Red Cross. The event served Laconia and surrounding communities. FMO giveaway bags were provided for each residence.

On May 25, 2022, members of the FMO and Sparky participated in Safe Kids 301 at NH Motor Speedway. Safe Kids NH sponsors this headline event annually. Families arrive with their bikes to get their bikes and helmets checked before hitting the track. Sparky greeted the riders on the track for high fives and photo ops. Participants also had the opportunity to spin a wheel and answer fire safety questions for giveaways.

**Training:**

We delivered two Inspection Essentials: Part II classes in the month of May. The first was on May 11<sup>th</sup> at the North Country Training Facility in Bethlehem and the second was on May 25<sup>th</sup> at the Sunapee Fire Department. The Inspection Essentials: Part II class is a continuation of Part I, as well as exploring frequently asked questions and common violations encountered in NFPA 101. We also delivered two Places of Assembly and Tents classes in the month of May. The first was on May 5<sup>th</sup> at the Jaffrey Fire Department and the second was at Southwestern NH District Fire Mutual Aid in Keene on May 10<sup>th</sup>. This Places of Assembly and Tents class is designed to assist the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) conducting life safety inspections in places of assembly and tents.

We will be delivering five training opportunities in the month of June. We have two offerings of Inspection Essentials Part I, being held on June 9<sup>th</sup> at the Sunapee Fire Department from 1800-2030 hours and on June 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Jaffrey Fire Department from 1830-2130 hours. We have two Educational & Healthcare Occupancies classes, being held on June 15<sup>th</sup> from 1800-2030 hours at the North Country Training Facility in Bethlehem and June 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Sunapee Fire Department from 1800-2100 hours. This session is designed to assist the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) conducting life safety inspections in educational and healthcare occupancies. Addressed within this presentation will be the mandatory reporting requirements by the AHJ through the Department of Education. Lastly, we will be delivering a Fire Investigation for the First Responder class on June 22<sup>nd</sup> from 1800-2030 hours at the West Ossipee Fire Department. This session familiarizes attendees (police, fire and EMS) with the roles and responsibilities of first responders, how they relate to the basic principles of arson detection, the proper procedures for scene security, evidence preservation and documentation.

If you would like to register for any of these classes, please email [stacey.l.dubois@dos.nh.gov](mailto:stacey.l.dubois@dos.nh.gov).

Additional programs are in the works. Please reach out if you are interested in hosting a program or would like to suggest a future training topic.

## **Fire Standards/Training/EMS – (Director Cutting) (submitted in writing)**

### **ADMINISTRATION**

#### **Personnel**

- The part-time MIH Program Coordinator and IFT Program Coordinator positions have been advertised for applicants.
- Stephanie Corrente has been hired for one of the two open positions in the Education Technology section and begins on July 1<sup>st</sup>. We are in the interview process for the remaining position.

- Kimberley McCulloch has been hired as the Recruitment & Retention Coordinator and begins June 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Jay Lewis has been hired as the Curriculum Administrator and begins on July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Chris Dolloff has been appointed as the Program Coordinator for the Fire Officer programs.
- Liza Burrill has announced her retirement after 33+ years of service to the State and EMS community.
- Our Division has an overall vacancy rate of 15%.

### 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.

### Fire Standards and Training Commission / Curriculum

- The next Fire Standards and Training Commission meeting will be September 1<sup>st</sup> at 0930 in Classrooms 5/6 in the dormitory building at the main campus. The final Commission of 2022 will be November 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  - At the June 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting the Commission voted to change the Medical Release policy to allow for a Fire Chief to sign off, without additional documentation from a health care provider, that a student is capable of performing the essential job functions. They added an additional sign off by the student acknowledging that they are capable as well.

### Special Projects

- We have been registered as an approved training provider under the NH Bureau of Workforce Development.
  - This makes individuals eligible for financial assistance up to \$6500 for Firefighter I, II, CPAT and our EMR program. These funds may cover course costs, exams, licenses, tools and equipment.
- We finalized, and advertised, the training calendar for the fall 2022 and spring 2023 semesters. All course prerequisites were summarized and attached to the listing.



- 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. Final implementation is expected mid-August.

#### Legislative/Administrative Rules

- We are monitoring a number of bills in the legislature. A few that we want to highlight are:
  - SB 339, relative to Meetings of Boards and Commissions in the Department of Safety. – passed the Senate and was killed in the House.
  - SB 337, relative to Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Data sharing for the purposes of analysis. – passed the Senate and the House and was signed by the Governor on June 7<sup>th</sup>.
- The “Letter of Concern” option for EMS licensure action administrative rules were heard by JLCAR on May 20<sup>th</sup> and adopted as interim rules.

#### Outreach

- We are continuing our Leadership Roundtables with the Commissioner, Fire Marshal's Office and regional Fire Chief's with additional dates being planned.
  - We will hold a North Country Roundtable in June at the Burton Training facility.

#### Mental Health & Resiliency

- Dr. Nicole Sawyer, PsyD, will present her trauma resiliency and wellness program for emergency responders on June 16<sup>th</sup> at the Concord campus at 0900 and on June 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Burton Training Facility in Bethlehem at 1800. Registration can be found on our resource center website.
- We were not recipients of the American Rescue Plan Act grant through the Health Resources and Services Administration to address suicide, burnout and

behavioral health conditions - including substance abuse among public safety officials.

- The *2022 Mental Health Leadership Seminar* was held at the NH Fire and EMS Academy on June 8<sup>th</sup>.
  - The program was full at 160 with an extensive waitlist. The planning group will continue to work on developing additional educational opportunities.
- 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 nearing completion.
  - The Jaffrey class begins August 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Firefighter II
  - The Bethlehem class begins August 22<sup>nd</sup>.
  - The Plaistow class begins September 6<sup>th</sup>.
  - The Brookline class begins October 13<sup>th</sup>.
- ARFF
  - Certification and recertification courses are underway.
- Technical Rescue
  - A Trench Rescue program was held in Durham.
  - Trench Rescue will begin in Center Ossipee on August 1<sup>st</sup> and at the Burton facility this fall.
  - A Swift water Level I class is scheduled to begin in Bedford on June 7<sup>th</sup> and in Littleton this fall.
  - Swift water Level II will begin in Conway this fall.

- Confined Space Technician will be held in Durham beginning June 13<sup>th</sup>, in Center Ossipee on July 25<sup>th</sup> and at the Burton facility this fall.
- Rope Rescue Operations will be held in Bedford beginning June 20<sup>th</sup> and at the main campus in Concord on August 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Driver Operator
  - Classes were held in Sugar Hill and Bedford.
  - DO Pumping Apparatus is being held in Portsmouth.
  - All future Driver Operator All Vehicle programs will include the necessary content for eligibility for CDL licensing.
- The Seabrook Station Fire Brigade has completed five of the seven weeks of their annual training at the academy.
- The 2022 Recruit School began with an orientation on June 7<sup>th</sup> and will start beginning in August.
- For all current course listings you can go to <https://nhfa-ems.com/events/>

### Facilities

- We are evaluating a proposal to repair 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 awarded.
- Completion of the new aerial is still expected early this summer.

## **BUREAU OF CERTIFICATION AND SUPPORT**

### Courses/Programs

- Instructor I/II/III Programs
  - The evening offering of Instructor I at the Hanover Fire Department ended June 4<sup>th</sup>.
  - There will be an Instructor I at the Concord campus beginning on August 23<sup>rd</sup> and in Portsmouth October 4<sup>th</sup>.
  - The second Instructor II/III course began June 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Fire Officer I/II Programs

- The Fire Officer I class at the Concord campus began June 9<sup>th</sup>.
- The Campton class will begin October 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Fire Inspector Programs
  - The Fire Inspector I class in Portsmouth begins September 21<sup>st</sup>.
  - The Warrants and Citations course will be held December 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Fire Investigator
  - The next offering will begin August 25, 2022.
- National Fire Academy
  - Leadership in Supervision: Perspectives in Thinking will begin July 11<sup>th</sup>.
  - Leadership in Supervision: Framework to Success will begin July 14<sup>th</sup>.
  - Incident Safety Officer will begin August 17<sup>th</sup>
- 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 13 new instructors and currently 23 individuals in the mentoring process to become instructors.

### CPAT

- The last 2022 CPAT is planned for September 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>.
  - There will be tables set up for departments that want to meet with candidates after they complete testing.

### 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 July 21<sup>st</sup> in classrooms 5 & 6 in the dormitory building.
- The NH Trauma Medical Review Committee (TMRC) will meet at 0930 on August 17<sup>th</sup> in classroom 2 in the administration building.

### Operations

- The Spring EMR class is being held in Concord, Bethlehem and at Monadnock Community Hospital and began on May 4<sup>th</sup>.
- The next EMR program will begin on August 3<sup>rd</sup> and will be held in Concord, Brookline and Lancaster.
- 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.
- The process of licensing wheelchair vans for hire and out of state rotary wing ambulance licensing is ongoing.

### Clinical Systems

- The Public Health Incident has been extended until June 30, 2022 which includes the emergency protocols.

### 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 70 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](mailto:joseph.w.cartier@dos.nh.gov).

### Compliance

- There are currently fourteen 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

**Fire Standards and Training Commission – Chiefs Clark/Buxton – n/r**

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

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

Dr. Candice McDonald has accepted the Deputy CEO position and will start her new role with NVFC in July.



**Apply Now for \$10,000 CHEMTREC® HELP Award to Support Hazmat Incident Preparedness**

CHEMTREC® and the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) are teaming up for the fourth year to provide volunteer fire departments with the CHEMTREC® HELP (Hazmat Emergencies Local Preparedness) Award to enhance their hazardous materials response capabilities and improve responder safety.



The 2022 application period is now open until September 1. Two U.S. volunteer fire departments will each receive \$10,000 through the HELP Award this year. Departments must meet the following requirements to be eligible to apply:

- Be composed of more than 50% volunteers
- Serve a population of 25,000 or less
- Department's annual revenue must not exceed \$250,000

- Be located in the United States and legally organized under state law. Tribal entities servicing a tribe recognized by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) that are chartered pursuant to IRA Section 17 or organized by a tribal government pursuant to a tribal code or resolution are eligible to apply.
- Chief or individual applying on behalf of the department must be a member of the NVFC. Not a member? Learn about member benefits and join at: <https://link.edgepilot.com/s/beae0f9d/VoLnZb-ZW0SAUNvYngtChA?u=http://www.nvfc.org/join>
- Explain in the application essay what they would do with the award to increase their hazmat response and preparedness capabilities

View full criteria at <https://link.edgepilot.com/s/87612215/WwgyJ-XYGki2ABMfRoiCsg?u=http://www.chemtrec.com/helpaward>. Only one application per department will be accepted.

To date, nine departments have received a total of \$85,000 through the CHEMTREC® HELP Award to bolster their hazardous materials incident response capabilities and increase local readiness for hazmat events.

The deadline to apply for the 2022 HELP Award is September 1.



### **NVFC Mourns the Passing of Longtime Legislative Chief Dave Finger**

It is with great sadness that the NVFC says goodbye to chief of legislative and regulatory affairs [Dave Finger](#), who lost his battle with pancreatic cancer on June 3. Dave has been an integral part of the NVFC team since 2005 and will be greatly missed.

“Dave was a true asset to the NVFC and a friend to all who knew him,” said NVFC CEO Sarah Lee. “Whether working on legislation, answering difficult inquiries, advising the board, or any number of other tasks, he was a respected voice people listened to and learned from. He faced his cancer battle just like he did everything else in his life – with strength, dignity, and his signature humor. It is with the heaviest of hearts that we say goodbye to Dave, but his memory, legacy, and the impact of his work will live on.”

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

**Homeland Security and Emergency Management** – (Director Harper)

**COVID Updates:**

- ✚ Under 5 Vaccine is (likely) coming out this month
  - The Healthcare system will absorb most of that work

**Mitigation & Recovery:**

- ✚ **Hazard Mitigation** - Conducted 2 webinars explaining the new Hazard Mitigation Plan guidance criteria; summary of the webinar and Q&A posted on HSEM Resource Center.
- ✚ **Public Assistance** – The Team continues to work with communities on projects for the 8 open presidentially declared disasters.

**Training:**

- ✚ See attached for upcoming training classes as of June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**School Readiness Program and School Safety Preparedness Task Force**

- ✚ Meet with your Superintendent and Principals on regular basis
  - Plans – School and Community; Training; Drills/Exercises
- ✚ 912 assessments completed since program began (2004) in public, charter-public; we have recently (2022) started assessments with non-public schools.
  - 523 initial assessments
  - 323 second assessments
  - 66 third assessments
- ✚ 31 assessments *currently* scheduled through this fall
- ✚ School Trainings & Exercises:
  - 3 training(s)/exercise(s) are in the initial contact phase
  - 5 training(s)/exercise(s) are in the design/development phase
  - 2 training(s)/exercise(s) are in the evaluation phase
  - 1 training(s)/exercise(s) were cancelled by the school
  - 7 training(s)/exercise(s) have been completed in 2022
- ✚ Task Force meeting last month – 10 new initiatives that workgroups will be meeting to discuss whether they should be recommendations and how to proceed.

**Organizational updates:**

- ✚ Field Services has been rebranded to: Community Liaison and Radiological Preparedness
- ✚ Field Rep assignments changed as of May 20<sup>th</sup> as part of the HSEM reorganization
  - If you haven't heard from your F.Rep call me.
    - See map for new assignments
- ✚ Graded Seabrook Exercise – only 2 planning issues identified



- Over 500 players; 75 evaluators
- Thanks for all the work of the EPZ communities

**Other:**

- ✚ Monthly 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 1200 EMD/PC/FC conference call
  - Hopefully you find it informative; let me know of any topics you'd like us to focus on for future calls.
- ✚ 2022 Hurricane Season started June 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Good time to take a look at your Local Emergency Operations Plan and update as needed

**Legislative items:**

- [SB 325](#)- Relative to expanding the definition of “First Responder” to include members of Public Works and other associated disciplines.; Enrolled
- [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. No vote yet. In the Senate. Ought to pass with amendment.
- [SB 409](#)- This bill modifies the circumstances under which the governor may approve exceptional disaster relief loans. No vote yet. In the Senate. Ought to pass with amendment.
- [HB 275](#)- This bill revises the authority of the governor and general court to declare, renew, or terminate a state of emergency. Enrolled
- [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. No vote yet. In the House. Ought to Pass.

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

**Forests and Lands – (Chief Sherman) –**

- Retired Captain Doug Miner returned to the department in May. He is now our part-time Wildfire Prevention and Training Coordinator. We are very excited to have him back with us.
- May started with some extremely dry temperatures with some of our Remote Automated Weather Stations showing Relative Humidity levels below 10%. This led to quick drying of fuels and a very active period for fires. The Centennial Fire in Shelburne burned 46 acres and was started by a campfire. The Bemis Fire in Crawford Notch burned 106 acres and is still under investigation. Both fires were under unified command with the WMNF, Forests and Lands and local departments. Current rainfall and green up of fuels has reduced the fire danger.

- Online Fire Permits – All towns are encouraged to use the online system for all categories of fire permits. This system has been upgraded over the past six months and is an excellent resource for fire departments and people wishing to obtain a fire permit. To provide consistent access statewide, it is important that all towns transition to the state online fire permit system.
- We set up a new Remote Automated Weather Station (RAWS) in Jaffrey. This has been a joint project between us and the town of Jaffrey and will provide much needed weather information for the southwestern part of the state.
- We conducted an S-130 wildland firefighter training this month. We had 20 students go through the training which was held at our Bear Brook facility. We are planning to host 2 more of these this year, one at our Lancaster facility this fall and another one this summer at a location yet to be determined. This training is free to any firefighters and is 24 hours total.
- Our three newest rangers are all out of the Police Academy and in the field working their districts. We are in the hiring process to fill one of our vacancies. For the FY24/25 budget, the department is requesting funding for our 10<sup>th</sup> ranger position which is currently unfunded as well as an additional ranger position.

**Board of Fire Control – (Chiefs Clark/Hunter) – n/r**

**Building Code Review Board – (Marshal Lennon) –**

- The board is meeting June 22 to work on the 2022 Codes.

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

**Division of Emergency Services and Communications – (Director Doyle) – (submitted in writing)**

- Laconia Facility Update: A walk through at the existing and proposed future site was performed on May 19<sup>th</sup>. Land swap with Laconia was completed and we are now working with the Architectural design firm on further developing plans.
- On social media platforms, DESC released public service announcements on AED registration that are also featured on the Division's website. Posts also focused on heat related emergencies, hiking, and starting CPR for a sudden cardiac arrest;
- Attended the Cheshire County "Survivor's event" highlighting the work of 6 of our Telecommunicators while performing lifesaving instruction with other First Responders from the area;
- NASCAR Race planning continues – meetings with various stakeholders has taken place will continue with a focus on the ESF #2 function;

- School Safety Preparedness Taskforce meeting started up, “V2.0”;
- NH 9-8-8 planning sessions continue, preparing for more outreach meetings with Police and Fire Departments (LRMFA / Hudson / Southern Rockingham Cty.);
- Met with the Team from CRTC (Concord Regional Technical Center) regarding their program status and how their intern program worked out (1 student was interning with us for the semester);
- Presented at the Salem Rotary Club re: NH E9-1-1: What we do; How we do it; and what lies ahead;
- Met with the Emergency Mgmt. Team at Gregg Falls Dam to review their plans and the Division’s role in an emergency;
- Met with HSEM, Dir. Harper to discuss planning for a Cyber workshop that is Communications/Telecomm-specific and how it relates to outages affecting 9-1-1;
- Attending the NASNA (National Assoc. of State 9-1-1 Administrators) and NENA (National Emergency Number Association) conferences in Louisville next week;
- Reviewing staffing plans for the PSAPs during the summer to stay ahead of staffing challenges;
- Attended the “Public Safety Mental Health Mental Health and Wellness” seminar held at the Fire Academy;
- Meeting with DOS PIO, our Public Outreach Team and others to discuss messaging related to “Text-to-911” and how we can better message out it’s capabilities;
- E9-1-1 Commission meeting scheduled for June 17 at the Fire Academy , beginning at 1100 hrs.

**E-911 Commission – (Chief Thomas) – n/r**

**IAFC Director – (Chief Christopoulos) – n/r**

**New England Fire Chiefs – a Division of the IAFC – (Chief Jones) –**  
 New England 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference & Exposition, June 22<sup>nd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>  
 DCU Center Worcester.

All the booths are sold out.

Currently overall registrations are low especially for the Expo Floor, Hot Classes; 6 openings for Forcible Entry & 15 in the Machinery Rescue Class.

**Keynote Speaker** – Chief John Salka, Retired FDNY Battalion Chief

**Golf** - Wednesday June 22<sup>nd</sup>. As of right now we basically have 5 foursomes registered. I know it is still about 6 weeks away but I need a number for the course by June 15<sup>th</sup>. If you know anyone that is interested, please have them sign up.

**Lodging:**

As of 5/09 no rooms have been reserved at the two following hotels; Courtyard by Marriott Worcester, Hampton Inn & Suites Worcester and there are plenty of rooms left at the Host Hotel, Hilton Garden Inn.

**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.

The 2022 IAFC elections will begin on Wednesday, May 25. All members eligible to vote will receive an electronic ballot for the contested 2nd Vice President seat on the IAFC Board of Directors. Candidate information can be found on the [2022 IAFC elections webpage](#).

Elections will close on Monday, June 27. The official results will be announced during Fire Rescue International in San Antonio, TX August 24 -26.

The Board of Directors voted at the last meeting to indorse Chief Mike O'Brien for 2<sup>nd</sup> VP

Also, NH NED-IAFC Members at the last NHAFC Meeting in Laconia caucused and nominated Chief Robert Buxton for NH Director, to be voted on at the Annual Meeting in Worcester on June 24<sup>rd</sup> at 17:15 hrs.

**Old Business** – Chief Sitar is still accepting applications for Chief Fire Officer credentialing.

**New Business** –

## **Good and Welfare –**

- Golf Tournament is August 8, 2022
- Reminder of July 14 meeting in Rye, NH at the Atlantic Grill.
- Tom Greene – NH Fallen Firefighter Memorial is 17 years old and is looking worn, the Globe steps are shifting. The NH Fireman's Association has been maintaining the site and is currently fundraising for the restoration. The first phase of renovations fundraising goal is \$30K. Chris Wyman is overseeing the multiple project phases. Phase one will address stairs, patio service, benches, walkways around the flag poles, relocation of some of the memorial plaques, relandscaping some of the plantings. The granite bowl of the eternal flame is cracked and should be replaced. The retaining walls also need attention.

The meeting was adjourned at 1018 hours.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chief David Emanuel,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, NHAFC

June 23, 2022