



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

*Working Together to Make a Difference*

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### Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Directors – November 2, 2022

#### Virtual meeting

Called to order by Chief Best at 0832 hours

Present: Chiefs, Best, Emanuel, Watkins, Carrier, Hunter, Thomas, Sitar, Chamberlain, M. McQuillen, S. Buxton, Executive Director Lemire and lobbyist Adam Schmidt.

**Minutes of previous meeting:** The October meeting minutes have been distributed. A MOTION (Chamberlain/Sitar) to approve the minutes from the October meeting carried unanimously.

**Financial Reports:** October reports have been distributed. A MOTION (Sitar/S. Buxton) to approve them carried unanimously.

**Correspondence:** n/a

#### **Life Membership**

- On October 18, 2022, an email poll was taken of the Board of Directors on a MOTION (Sitar/Emanuel) to grant Chief Chris Christopoulos Life Membership in the NHAFC, carried unanimously. His card was presented at his retirement party on October 29 by Chief Best.

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

- Discussion on NHAFC committee vacancies.
  1. The PTSD Committee vacancy needs clarity. Adam will research.
  2. The FST Commission vacancy for career chief was discussed. Chief Chamberlain nominated Chief Don DeAngelis of Epping, seconded by Chief Watkins.
  3. The Building Code Review Board vacancy will be filled by Chief Matthew Conley of Amherst on a nomination from Chief Scott Hunter, seconded by Chief Michael Sitar, carried unanimously.
  4. The others will be handled next meeting.

5. The Sgt. At Arms position was discussed. Chief Scott Hunter of Bedford indicated his interest in filling the position until the Annual Meeting. A MOTION (Sitar/Emanuel) carried unanimously.
- Regular meeting to start with a summary of the Recruitment and Retention report.
  - He spoke with Chief Jones about the NEDIAFC NH Director position. Director Buxton currently fills that and can stay in until the next election.
  - After January 1, he'd like to sit with the board to discuss the strategic plan.

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

- Next board meeting will be Wednesday, December 7 at the Centennial Hotel.
- This month's meeting will be at the NHFA on the 10<sup>th</sup> and will feature a brief overview of the new Recruitment and Retention report.
- The December meeting will be held at the Café 532 in Jaffrey on the 8th.
- The January meeting will be virtual.
- Attending the North Country Public Safety Awards dinner on the 11<sup>th</sup>.
- The Primex Conference will be in Portsmouth this year and we have been asked to partner with them again.
- New contract with Grimblas Strategic Solutions. A MOTION (Hunter/Watkins) to authorize the President to sign the renewal of the contract for the organization, carried unanimously. Adam will monitor the call

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

- He notified the group of a PFFNH Conference call on November 16 at 1400 hours to deal with proposed retirement legislation. President Best will join the call along with Adam.
- Adam updated the group on the closing of the current legislative session.
- ED Lemire asked about the Legislative Breakfast. Adam will suggest a date after the organizational meetings.
- Chief Emanuel spoke of election security issues.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: (Watkins) - no report**

### **Sgt. At Arms Report () – n/r**

**New Business:** Chief Thomas spoke of a collaborative meeting last week. They are proposing additional sessions with the money left over. He needs the affirmation of the board to proceed with that and also to apply for next year's grant. A MOTION (Hunter/Chamberlain) to authorize the team to proceed with additional classes funded by this year's grant and also to proceed with applying for a grant for 2023 to provide additional hazardous materials training, carried unanimously.

Chief Hunter brought up the mutual aid situation in the Manchester area and especially recruitment and retention in the services. He discussed the problem with smaller municipalities being "feeder" communities. He will reach out to Justin to lay the groundwork for the meeting next week.

Chief Emanuel stated that the Homeland Security grant committee met last week and the process is ongoing.

**Old Business**

**NEDAFC – IAFC – (Buxton) – n/r**

**Good and Welfare:**

**Upcoming Events:** The December meeting will be at the Café 532 in Jaffrey on December 8.

**Meeting adjourned at 1008 hours.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

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

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