



NEW HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS, INC.

Working Together to Make a Difference

547 Charles Bancroft Hwy.

Litchfield, NH 03052

www.nhafc.org

Email: nhfirechiefs@gmail.com

Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Directors – December 7, 2022

Held at the Primex facility, Donovan St., Concord, NH

Called to order by Chief Best at 0837 hours

Present: Chiefs, Best, Emanuel, Hunter, Thomas, Sitar, Chamberlain, S. Buxton, McShane and Executive Director Lemire.

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

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

Correspondence: n/a

Life Membership: 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.)
- Discussion/History- ? Police- Narcan use, potentially looking at legislation to remove the need for Depts./Officers to be trained and licensed. Did we weigh in on this as NHAFC when this was first created
- Discussion- State monies for NH EMT training \$2.5m have been approved.
- Update/Status?- The FST Commission vacancy for career chief was discussed. Chief Don DeAngelis of Epping was nominated by the BOD; filling of this position will go through the Governor and Executive Council process.
- Update/Status?- The Building Code Review Board vacancy nomination by BOD for Chief Matthew Conley of Amherst to fill this position; the nomination goes to the Commissioner of Safety for appointment.
- After January 1st, it is the goal of the BOD to sit and discuss the NHAFC strategic plan to ensure it is up to date and determine if anything has fallen by the wayside and needs to be picked up again.

- Monthly meetings- Planning to help Brent with/Scheduling AM or PM/Location/Help members with planning of time when & where/some meetings occur in same location each year?/affect with Primex change in May?/Golf Tournament date?

Discussion ensued about the PROPOSED meeting schedules for both the board and the membership for 2023 as follows:

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?)

Report of the Executive Director: (Lemire)

- Next board meeting will be Wednesday, January 5 and it will be virtual.
- This month’s meeting will be held at the Café 532 in Jaffrey on the 8th.
- The January meeting will be virtual.
- The February meeting will be at Johnson’s in Northwood, NH.
- The Primex Conference will be in Portsmouth in 2023 and we have been asked to partner with them again. Dates will be May 15, 16 and 17. Pre-conference workshops will be on the 15th.
- We will be working with Adam for the appropriate date for a Legislative Breakfast.
- Refer to above schedule of meetings.

1st Vice President’s 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.
-
- **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 verse.
 - 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 \(nh.gov\)](#)
- 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>

2nd Vice President: (Watkins) - no report

Sgt. At Arms Report (Hunter) –

- He asked that we offer input to our reps to FST on rules changes. He encourages conversation at the board level to reach consensus on issues to share with our reps.

New Business:

- Life Scan is no longer going to be working in NH anymore. We will have to seek local vendors.

Old Business:

- Chief Thomas reported that the follow-up hazmat session has not been scheduled yet as the current grant money has not been received yet.
- He also mentioned that we will need an audit for the hazmat money.

NED AFC – IAFC – (Buxton) – n/r

Good and Welfare:

- Chief Emanuel reported on the sale of the Laconia property and that the Lakes Region dispatch center will be funded on site.

Upcoming Events:

Meeting adjourned at 1030 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

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

December 7, 2022