



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 – February 2, 2022

Virtual via “Go To Meeting”

Called to order by Chief Sitar at 0834 hours

Present: Chiefs Sitar, Beattie, Best, Rhodes, Thomas, Howard, Watkins, Carrier, Jones, Executive Director Lemire and our Government Relations specialist, Adam Schmidt.

Minutes of previous meeting: Motion (Best/Rhodes) to approve the minutes from the January 5 meeting carried unanimously.

Financial Reports: Chief Carrier has submitted the January balances. He is also working directly with the ad book vendor and Chief Best

Correspondence: A thank you note from the North Country Public Safety Foundation thanking us for our continued support.

President’s Report: (Sitar)

- He named a Nominating Committee for the upcoming Annual Meeting. They are Chief Jay Lyon of New London; Chief Rob Buxton of Hudson and Chief Michael McQuillen of Littleton.
- He and ED Lemire attended a meeting with the Southwestern chiefs in Keene with Commissioner Quinn, Director Cutting, Marshal Toomey and their staffs.
- They also attended a meeting with the North Country chiefs on that Friday. We received several suggestions on how to communicate better with our members.

Report of the Executive Director: (Lemire)

- The March meetings be virtual, and we will hope to return to in-person meetings for the Annual Meeting in April.
- I am working with Primex and the Mt. Washington Hotel on our cooperative May 12, 2022 meeting. The Primex room rate this year is \$199, which will be extended to our group also.
- The June meeting will be in Brookline, hosted by Chief Corey.

- I am also working with Nick at LRCC on a meeting, probably in the Fall. I hope that our Annual Meeting can be held in person at a centralized location if the virus issues subside.
- I have been working with Paul to finalize the production of the ad book. I've provided him with pictures, letters, history information and Justin has sent him an up to date NH list of fire chiefs, so it is now going to press.

1st Vice President's Report (Beattie)

- They are working on HB 1681 and getting an amendment in the bill to list the Fire Code as included.
- He reported on two other pieces of legislation that we're monitoring.
- Commissioner's Office will be handling the Recruitment and Retention committee and Kirk will sit as our representative.
- Chief Best commented on HB 1079. He wondered if we were supporting it or not. Discussion ensued and the consensus was to leave it alone.

2nd Vice President's Report (Emanuel) - n/r

Sgt. At Arms Report (Best) – n/r

Marshal Toomey – n/r

Adam Schmidt – gave the board an update on the bills we are following.

New Business:

- The Board discussed a stipend proposal for Treasurer. The position had one in the past. It will be added back in the budget this year.
- Tom Green's request for NHAFC support for HELPER Act, which makes it easier for first responders to buy homes. The consensus was to SUPPORT the bill.

Old Business:

- Two candidates have filed for the vacancy for the EMS Trauma and Medical Review Committee. They are Deputy Chief James Paquette of Hudson and Deputy Chief Jason Bean of Laconia. A MOTION (Jones/Best) to support the nomination of Jason Bean to represent the organization, carried unanimously.

NEDAFC – IAFC – (Jones) –

- They are meeting in Springfield next Thursday.
- He will be moving up to a VP position this year so we should be looking for someone to replace him. The IAFC members need to caucus to submit a name. This will happen at the April meeting.

Good and Welfare:

- Chief Beattie will be sitting on a committee for selecting a replacement for Fallon Reed's position at Emergency Management as she has been promoted.

- Chief Rhodes explained a new program that AMR is working with that hires people untrained and pays for their EMT classes and wages. They then require a one year work requirement. He suggested that they become affiliated with the NH Fire Academy so that we may utilize the same benefits.
- Chief Rhodes also thanked the members for their friendship and counsel over the years as he is retiring and this will be his last meeting.
- ED Lemire asked about hiring a firm for the audit. He has three suggested firms. The board asked him to speak to all three and suggest the best for our needs.

Upcoming Events: The monthly meeting will be held virtually at 0900 hours Thursday, February 10, 2022.

Meeting adjourned at 0935 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

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

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