



## **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 – March 9, 2022

#### Virtual via “Go To Meeting”

Called to order by Chief Sitar at 0834 hours

Present: Chiefs Sitar, Beattie, Best, Thomas, Howard, Watkins, Carrier, Jones, Toomey, Executive Director Lemire and our Government Relations specialist, Adam Schmidt. Nick Mercuri from LRCC also joined us.

**Minutes of previous meeting:** Motion (Best/Watkins) to approve the minutes from the February 10 meeting carried unanimously.

**Financial Reports:** January and February reports are posted. A MOTION (Thomas/Watkins) to approve them carried unanimously.

**Correspondence:** n/a

#### **President’s Report: (Sitar)**

- I have appointed the nominating committee to provide a slate of candidates for the election of officers and board of directors at next month’s meeting. Chiefs Jay Lyon, Mike McQuillan, and Rob Buxton.
- I attended a virtual Quarterly update meeting on 2/14/2022 with Commissioner Quinn, Director Harper, Director Cutting, Marshal Toomey, and the NHAFC Board of Directors.
- I attended a meeting of the Monadnock Area Chiefs on March 2, 2022, with Commissioner Quinn, Marshal Toomy, and Director Cutting. I reported on the mission of the NHAFCs. I also gave an update on some of the legislation we were following. The meeting was well attended.
- I will be attending CFSI in Washington this April with Vice President Beattie, Past President Jones, and ED Lamire.
- I have two applications for NHCFO. Awards to successful applications will be at April’s meeting.

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

- It is suggested that we alternate board meetings between live and virtual. The budget has money for only 6 live meetings. This way our colleagues from a distance can participate in at least half of the meetings. Agreed.
- 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.
- June 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.
- Thoughts on the July meeting being in Portsmouth or Rye area? Yes
- Thoughts on the August meeting being in the North Country? Yes
- Thoughts on a Candidates' Forum at the Institute of Politics? Yes

### **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President's Report (Beattie)**

- February 10, 2022: I participated on the interview panel for replacing Fallon Reed as the Chief of Mitigation and Recovery. Two were interviewed.
- February 28, 2022: I was a member of the interview panel for NHFA's Recruitment and Retention Coordinator position. We interviewed four, with one name being sent forward to the Director for consideration and/or additional interviews.
- Commissioner Flynn has activated Recruitment and Retention Work Group has its first meeting next Wednesday, March 16.
- He summarized the legislative bulletin and deferred to Adam. He spoke on HB 589 and HB 1033.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President's Report (Emanuel) - n/r**

#### **Sgt. At Arms Report (Best) – n/r**

**Marshal Toomey** – He will be meeting May 1 to push out details

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

**New Business:** Nick Mercuri spoke on the challenge of the fees that LRCC students have to pay to attend the NHFA for Fire I and II classes. They have spoken to the Commissioner and he just wanted the NHAFC Board to be aware of this. He answered questions and Chief Beattie will bring this up at the Recruitment and Retention meeting.

**Old Business:** A MOTION (Beattie/Thomas) to defer to the Nominating Committee to fill the vacancy on the Board due to Chief Rhodes' retirement carried unanimously.

**NED AFC – IAFC – (Jones)** – He spoke of the upcoming New England Conference in Worcester and shared details. A MOTION (Beattie/Best) to approve the ad for the NE Fire Chief's Ad book.

**Good and Welfare:** Chief Thomas spoke of the upcoming HazMat conference.

Marshal Toomey spoke of the issues surrounding Swift Water Training and the push to form a state-wide group. He shared statistics and sought to initiate a dialogue on this issue.

Chief Howard is retiring at the end of the month and he thanked everyone for their support and counsel. He gave an update on the Cheshire County ambulance program.

**Upcoming Events:** The monthly meeting will be held virtually at 1600 hours Thursday, March 10, 2022.

**Meeting adjourned at 0947 hours.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

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

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