



NEW HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS, INC.

Working Together to Make a Difference

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Meeting Minutes of the Board of Directors – August 5, 2026

Meeting held Virtually

The meeting was called to order by Chief LaRoche at 0833 hours.

Members present: Chiefs LaRoche, D. Chamberlain, Fraitzl, Wheatley, Carrier, Cotreau, Buxton, Toomey, J. Chamberlain, Chapman, Murray and ED Lemire. Adam Schmidt joined us also.

A special meeting of the board was held on July 22 to discuss the receiving of a multi-million dollar grant for the Academy to construct a new burn facility. They are asking that the NHAFC serve as the grant facilitator. Since the group did not have a quorum, we used the time as an informational session, hearing from Director Wholey and members of the team working on this project. Director Wholey joined the meeting and recapped the request for the NHAFC to serve as the financial conduit for the project.

Minutes of previous meetings: A MOTION (Fraitzl/Toomey) to approve the July regular meeting minutes carried unanimously.

Financial Reports: The July reports were presented. A MOTION (J. Chamberlain /Fraitzl) to approve carried unanimously.

Chief Carrier also spoke on restructuring our financial portfolio after a meeting with the accountant. He recommended the following:

Business Checking: Reduce to \$500 – a keep open amount – or close.

Business Savings: Reduce to \$500 – a keep open amount - or close.

HMEP Money Market: Rename to Haz Mat Conference MM.

Leave existing balance (\$14,734) as it is an in and out account for the conference.

NHAFC Main Checking: Reduce to \$60,000 – should cover annual business expenses.

Scholarship Money Market: Increase to \$49,000 – to take advantage of MM higher rates.

Existing Certificate: Leave at \$32,000 app. Remove auto-renew feature.

New Certificate: Open with \$100,000 with no auto-renew feature.

A MOTION (J. Chamberlain/Fraitzl to approve the recommendations, carried unanimously.

Correspondence:

- An email was received from Fatality Overdose Commission notifying us that Hank Thomas' term expires in September. It is a six year term.

Life Membership:

- Chief Fraitzl and ED Lemire attended Chief Walker's retirement reception in Peterborough and presented his Life Membership card.

Government Relations: (Schmidt)

- He stated that the legislature will convene next week to deal with vetos.
- He described efforts to push back on the advances made in ground ambulance rates. He shared a video sent by Chris Stawacz on the efforts.

Report of the President: (LaRoche) (No report)

Report of the Executive Director: (Lemire)

- Tomorrow, we will again be at the Town and Country Inn in Gorham/Shelburne. The Professional Development Committee has solicited Boston Dep. Fire Chief Steve Shaffter for a presentation at 3:30. Executive Councilor Liot Hill will also be joining us.
- The September 2 Board meeting will be at Primex at 0830 hours
- The September membership meeting will be on the 10th for breakfast at Lakes Region Community College.
- The October board and membership meetings will be virtual (Oct. 7 and 8 respectively)
- We have received eight scholarship applications so far. I would ask that a committee be appointed to help Marshal Toomey and Chief D. Chamberlain review them.
- The Professional Development Committee has asked that we honor our August speaker's wish that in lieu of payment, a donation be made to the "Last Call Foundation." I've checked and it is a non-profit and we are allowed to donate.

1st Vice President's Report (D. Chamberlain) – No report

2nd Vice President's Report – (Fraitzl) –

- He reiterated that he and ED Lemire attended Chief Walker's retirement reception.

Sgt. At Arms Report – (Wheatley) – No report

IAFC – NED – (Jones/S. Murray) –

- He mentioned that the conference plans are complete and that Chief James Chamberlain will be sworn in as Director for New Hampshire.
- He also mentioned that the conference attendance is waning and vendors are not supporting it as in the past. They will discuss the issue soon.

New Business –

- The 100 Club of NH is having their annual reception at the Manchester Country Club on Tuesday, September 1 from 1700 to 1900 hours. I've been communicating with Ms. Keller as for the past few years we have not received the invitation. In the past we have worn Class A uniforms to the event, which has a heavy Police presence.
- NHDOT is proposing another Roadway Fatality summit and they would like the board's input on it. Chief Fraitzl attended the last summit and feels that it is important that the fire service be represented.
- Goffstown Chief Selleck has asked the board to consider supporting a change to the HRSA definition of a rural community.

Old Business –

- A MOTION (J. Chamberlain/Buxton) to have the NHAFC serve as the fiscal agent for the NHFA grant was deferred to a point where the full board could vote via and email poll.

****SPECIAL NOTE: Subsequent to the board meeting, an email poll was taken to determine the outcome. The motion CARRIED with 6 votes to approve and 2 abstentions.**

Good and Welfare –

- Chief Murray stated that the widow of Capt. Bill Connor has been notified that his case was accepted by Worker's Compensation and they are moving forward with requesting the remaining death benefits.

Motion to adjourn carried at 0914 hours.

Respectfully submitted,
Brent T. Lemire, MPA
Executive Director

August 5, 2026

