



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 – January 4, 2023

Held virtually

Called to order by Chief Best at 0837 hours

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

Minutes of previous meeting: The December meeting minutes have been distributed. A MOTION (Thomas/Sitar) to approve the minutes carried unanimously.

Financial Reports: December reports have been distributed. A MOTION (Thomas/Sitar) to approve them carried unanimously.

Correspondence: n/a

Life Membership: n/a

President's Report (Best)

- He asked if the vacancies on committees have been filled. They have and paperwork is being processed.
- Senator Hassan in Portsmouth Friday at 10:00. They've invited the fire chiefs to participate.
- We will be meeting with Adam and reviewing bills that have been filed on Friday, January 6 at 1:00 pm.
- Monday, January 10 there will be another Mental Health seminar. We are sponsoring one of the coffee breaks.
- He announced that the panel he had been serving on for the Line of Duty Death application have approved the award. He will be following up on it.
- NH Association of Police Chiefs have asked the fire chiefs to participate in a study group for legislation concerning dispatchers and their responsibilities.
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Report of the Executive Director: (Lemire)

- Next board meeting will be Wednesday, February 1.
- This month's meeting will be held virtually on the 12th at 0830 hr.

- The February meeting will be at Johnson's in Northwood, NH. on the 9th.
- The March 9 meeting will be a breakfast meeting at the Academy
- We will be working with Adam for the appropriate date for a Legislative Breakfast. So far, March 23 looks to be the target date.
- I've contacted Chief Morrison in Plymouth for assistance in possibly having our Annual Meeting there.
- 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.
- All positions for committee members that we know of are filled or in the process. When the process is complete, I will update the chart and distribute it.
- As per our conversations prior, we are sponsoring the coffee break for the upcoming mental health seminar at the NHAFC.

1st Vice President's Report (Emanuel) –

- He affirmed that we are meeting Friday to review bills filed. Adam concurred and spoke of the committees being equally split (Democrat/Republican).

2nd Vice President: (Watkins) - no report

Sgt. At Arms Report (Hunter) –

New Business:

- Director Cutting asked Chief Best what the NH fire chiefs would be looking for in the future as far as training. Chief Hunter asked for more FF I and II classes. Chiefs S. Buxton and McQuillen concurred with him, especially the recruitment aspect. Chief McShane agreed and they all agree with hiring the right person. Director R. Buxton reminded everyone that it's a rule that within one year of hiring, they need to be FF II. Chief Thomas mentioned that there is a proposal to lengthen the time frame. Chief Hunter asked if there was an appetite for more CPAT opportunities throughout the year. Director Buxton explained the process that JLCAR uses for rule promulgation or changes. Chief McShane also asked for more support for the high school programs.
- Chief Thomas and Chief Best were speaking about getting an audit for the grant program. Chief Thomas suggested that we use surplus funds from the hazmat program to fund the cost. Chief Chamberlain suggested we do it anyway so that we can insure that the books are solid.

Old Business:

NEDAFC – IAFC – (Buxton) –

- Director Buxton spoke of the notice sent out by the IAFC concerning the funding of the US Fire Programs in 2024 and beyond. It failed to get into the budget at the end of last year and he will keep us informed.
- The New England chiefs are working on the conference. It will be in October at Mohegan Sun.

Good and Welfare:

- Chief McQuillen will be retiring from Littleton Fire and moving on to Berlin, MA.
- Chief Emanuel and Chief Sitar will be attending the Fire Officer Safety Conference in FL.

Upcoming Events:

Meeting adjourned at 0928 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

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

January 4, 2023