



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

Meeting Minutes of the Board of Directors – November 1, 2023

Virtual (Go To Meeting platform)

Called to order by Chief Emanuel at 0832 hours

Members present: Chiefs Emanuel, Watkins, Thomas, Chamberlain, Carrier, Buxton, McShane, Murray, Jones, Sitar and ED Lemire.

Minutes of previous meeting: Distributed and posted for meeting. A MOTION (Fraitzl/Thomas) to accept carried unanimously.

Financial Reports: Distributed via email. A MOTION (Thomas/Watkins) to approve October reports, carried unanimously.

Correspondence: n/a

Life Membership: n/a

1st Vice President's Report (Emanuel)

President's Report (Best) – n/a

Subcommittee of House Bill 2 Recruitment & Retention:

Emanuel and Best met with the HB2 R&R subcommittee at the NHFA. Discussions about qualifying tuitions, requests, reimbursements, grades, and measuring metrics of success.

CFSI 2024

On April 24-25, 2024, the Congressional Fire Services Institute (CFSI) will host the 34th Annual National Fire and Emergency Services Symposium and Dinner in Washington, DC.

Save the date and determine who should be attending. <https://www.cfsi.org/34th-annual-national-fire-and-emergency-services-symposium-and-dinner/>

NHMA Conference:

“Zap the Gap: How to Make Peace & Work Effectively in a Multigenerational World.” will be held Wednesday and Thursday, November 15-16th at the DoubleTree by Hilton Downtown Manchester Hotel, Manchester, NH.

The NHAFC presentation, **A Fire Chief's Perspective on Contemporary Leadership and Personnel Challenges**, is scheduled for **Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 2:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.** in the **Webster Room**.

Are there any contemporary issues that the NHAFC should be sharing with the NHMA?

Fire Department Safety Officer Association:

Emanuel suggested that members look at the FDSOA conference in January. <https://www.fdsoa.org/page-18155>

Seacoast Chief Fire Officer Mutual Aid District Training:

Billy Goldfeder will be speaking in Dover, NH on November 8, 2023. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/billy-goldfeder-fire-officer-and-fire-fighter-safety-seminar-tickets-729345922287>

National Firefighter Registry (NFR) for Cancer:

The Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE) Board of Directors recently voted unanimously to formalize their support for the [National Firefighter Registry \(NFR\) for Cancer](#). A copy of the letter of support can be found along with support letters from other fire and emergency service organizations on the [NFR website](#).

In 2018, Congress passed the Firefighter Cancer Registry Act, which directed the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) to develop a registry to study cancer among firefighters. The National Firefighter Registry for Cancer is the largest effort ever undertaken to understand and reduce risk of cancer among U.S. firefighters.

Firefighters can join the NFR through the secure [web portal](#). Participation is voluntary. Registration will take about 30 minutes. The NFR is a long-term project that will include voluntary, but important, follow-up questionnaires.

The NFR is open to all U.S. firefighters, not just those with a previous diagnosis of cancer. Having many types of firefighters join the NFR is crucial to examining relationships between firefighter activities and cancer. NIOSH encourages all firefighters to participate in the NFR, including:

- Active, former, and retired firefighters
- Career, paid-on-call, and volunteer firefighters
- Structural firefighters
- Wildland firefighters
- Industrial firefighters
- Military firefighters
- Instructors
- Fire investigators
- Other fire service members

A thorough list of [Frequently Asked Questions](#) and [Communications Materials](#) are available on the NFR website.

Report of the Executive Director: (Lemire)

- The November 9 meeting will be virtual.
- The December will be a luncheon meeting at the Fireside in Lebanon.
- Chiefs Best, Hunter, Watkins, Lemire and Carrier will be attending the North Country Public Safety Awards dinner on November 10.
- The January association meeting will be virtual.
- Proposal for six virtual meetings and six on-site meetings.
- Searching for a venue for the April Annual Meeting. Manchester site unavailable.

Government Relations – (Schmidt)

- He asked for input on the outcome of the ambulance survey. The proposal is to standardize the rate and eliminate balance billing. The rate is not listed. Chief Sitar

suggested that we get together with the committee to see how their implementation will work or what their final goal is. Adam spoke with Senator Prentiss over the weekend. He will be drafting something to send and will share it with the board before it goes.

2nd Vice President's Report (Watkins) –

- The PTSD Commission prepared their final report and will share it with us as soon as it's released.

Sgt. At Arms Report (Hunter) – no report

IAFC – NED – (Jones/S. Murray) –

Chief Murray reported that the Assn. will be meeting on November 30 to discuss the conference results and attendance. They have also reached out to the EMS group who had a concurrent conference at Foxwoods. They will speak of collaboration. Chief Jones was sworn in as 1st Vice President.

Chief Jones reported that the board met with EMS Pro already and they were not interested in collaborating. He'll keep us informed.

New Business: Chief Thomas asked if anyone has asked for reimbursement for EMT's passing classes. He can get no information on it.

Chief Emanuel stated that the Seacoast Chiefs are offering a forum at the Kittery center to discuss 3-state issues and suggestions.

Chief Buxton updated everyone on the Behavioral Health Seminar January 17 and 18, 2024 at the Academy. Several presenters will be coming in.

Old Business: Deputy Chief Craig Clough has volunteered to serve on the Trauma Medical Review Board representing the NHAFC. A MOTION (Watkins/Thomas) to appoint him carried unanimously.

Motion to adjourn carried at 0935 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Brent T. Lemire, MPA
Executive Director

November 1, 2023