



NEW HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS, INC.

Working Together to Make a Difference

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Minutes of a Virtual Meeting of the Board of Directors – June 2, 2021

Called to order by Chief Sitar at 0835 hours

Present: Chiefs Sitar, Beattie, Emanuel, Christopoulos, Best, Howard, Thomas, Toomey, Watkins, Jones, Rhodes and Executive Director Lemire.

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

Financial Reports: n/a

Correspondence: Letter of support sent to Governor and Council for nominees for State Fire Marshal and Director of Fire Standards, Training and EMS.

Letters were sent to LRCC professors Connell and Courtney on their retirement.

President's Report: (Sitar)

- Covid -19 virtual mtg held Monday 5/24. Chief Beattie led the call for the Chiefs.
- Participated in interviews for Fire Investigator for the Fire Marshal's Office.
- Additional fundraiser in the form of a golf tournament to be held at Lochmere CC in Tilton on August 9, 2021. Chief Carrier, Chief Beattie, Chief Christopoulos have agreed to be on the Committee for this event.

Report of the Executive Director: (Lemire)

- I still need help in soliciting vendors for Advocate Members. Any luck?
- I have received the information regarding casino fundraising and will be reviewing it. Any action depends on our approval for non-profit status.
- I would like to have an in-person BOD meeting August 4 here in Litchfield as in the past. I will invite past officers who missed out.
- The first in-person monthly meeting will be September 9 with the Vendor Showcase. I was made aware of a Primex event that conflicts all of a sudden. We sent letters of support to the Governor and Council on the Governor's appointments for Fire Marshal and Director of Fire Training and EMS.
- I served on the interview board for LRCC Instructor. Process is not complete as of yet.

1st Vice President's Report (Beattie)

- Overview of meeting with DOS on 5/24/21
 - HSEM: 144 vaccines at North Country event with Vermont
 - NHFA: Reminder that the minimum PPE protocol is still in effect
 - AG's Office: Complaint line is closed, but we still have access as needed for COVID issues
 - Commissioner Quinn thanked President Sitar for his remarks at the North Conway fire station dedication ceremony
- State budget **estimated** adoption date is June 24th.
- We are looking deeper into a bill that would not allow state agencies to ask for vaccination status, including for healthcare providers
 - How does this affect us? Including with NFPA 1582 physicals.
 - Are we "healthcare" or are first responder agencies exempt?
- He met with Executive Councilor Kenney on 6/1 as part of a "meet and greet" with prospective State Fire marshal Toomey. I passed along our support of him.

2nd Vice President's Report (Emanuel)

- No report

Sgt. At Arms Report (Best) –

- No report

Scholarship Committee (Toomey) –

- Applications have been sent out this week with a July 1 deadline.

New Business:

- Chief Allan Clark has requested that he be re-appointed to the NH Fire Standards and Training Commission. Chief Howard stated that his experience with him was less than stellar. Chief Sitar will speak with him. This was tabled until next meeting.

Old Business:

- Chief Thomas reported on a meeting of the state Overdose Committee. They are looking to mirror other states' committees and seeking some funding in this effort.
- Chief Rhodes asked about the status of firefighting foam. Has the state made any efforts to dispose of it? Appears to be a funding issue.
- Chief Sitar stated that two members have applied to represent forestry on the Board of Fire Control, Chief Mike McQuillen of Littleton and Chief Jay Lyon of New London.

IAFC – Chief Christopoulos urged members to sign up for FRI in Charlotte.

NEDAFC – IAFC – (Jones)

- Chief Jones stated that his term as representative to the NEAFC – IAFC is up. We will advertise as usual.

Good and Welfare: n/a

Upcoming Events: The monthly meeting will be held next Thursday, June 10 at 1600 hours.

Meeting adjourned at 0924 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

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