



NEW HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS, INC.

Working Together to Make a Difference

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Minutes of a Virtual Meeting of the NH Association of Fire Chiefs

Thursday, January 14, 2021 (Online)

The meeting was called to order at 0904 hours by Chief Jones.

After a salute to the flag, a moment of silence was requested for departed members.

Chief Ken Jones welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Members were introduced by the Executive Director.

NOTE: ALL VOTES AT THIS MEETING WERE TAKEN BY CONSENSUS.

Special Guests: Adam Schmidt, our lobbyist.

Minutes of the December 10 meeting have been posted. A MOTION (Christopoulos/Sitar) to accept carried unanimously.

Financial Reports: Report for December was presented and is posted. A MOTION: (Sitar/Beattie) to accept it carried unanimously.

Communications: n/a

Applications for membership: Garry McCarragher of FirstNet has been approved as an Advocate Member and Chief Dana Cullen, Jr. of Center Ossipee has been approved for Active membership.

Life Membership: n/a

President's Report: (Jones) –

- Covid -19 virtual meeting held this past Monday, further discussion pertaining to methamphetamines. Corey Clark stated that his office will be offering training
- Letter sent to Governor requesting First Responders be in 1A group.
- Email from Allen Clark requesting our position on vacancies - Assistant Commissioner & Fire Academy Director.

- Marshal Parisi is concerned with increasing positive first responder numbers and percentage of vaccines administered to first responders.
- Met with Commissioner Quinn Monday 1/11. They discussed the Asst. Comm. Vacancy and the upcoming vacancy at the Academy. They also discussed recruitment and retention of firefighters at all levels.

Executive Director's Report (Lemire) –

- The February regular monthly meeting will be on the 11th at 1600.
- The Vendor Showcase has been moved to September 9, 2021 at the Falls Event Center in Manchester. but the annual meeting will still occur in April on the 8th.
- The November weekend is still booked at the Red Jacket Mountain View in No. Conway for November 12-14, 2021.
- The Primex conference will be virtual this year. They will return to the Omni Mt. Washington in 2022.

1st Vice President Report (Sitar) –

- He encouraged all who are interested in Chief Officer Credentialing to please apply through the website and contact him with questions.

2nd Vice President Report (Beattie) –

- He introduced Adam Schmidt from our lobbying firm.
- He mentioned some of the bills being monitored, especially the bill on Balanced Billing for Ambulance Service. This bill will affect all transport ambulance agencies.

Sgt. At Arms (Emanuel) –

- He noted that this meeting reflects the strongest attendance yet on the new platform and welcomed all the new members. He appreciates that the Association is an excellent conduit of important information and is grateful for the opportunity of membership.

Committee Reports

Scholarship Committee – (Dep. Toomey) – n/r

Recruitment and Retention Committee – (Chief Beattie) – (no report)

Division Reports

Fire Marshal – (Marshal Parisi)

ADMINISTRATION: (Assistant Director Max Schultz)

We have been given good news in that we have been approved to hire several key positions that have remained vacant since the pandemic began. We appreciate your patience and understanding during this time of

personnel shortage. We will be actively recruiting to fill open positions. If you have any questions or are running into a problem, please do not hesitate to contact FM Parisi directly at (603) 931-9538.

Micro-website:

As we reported last month, we are currently building a COVID-19 specific micro-website for the FMO. The new site will have mobile device compatibility, which our main site lacks. It will have easy to use menus and dropdowns for first responder access to important COVID-19 related information through ESF-4. We are excited to bring this customer friendly informational tool to the fire service. We hope to have it up and running in the coming weeks as a final version has been approved and is close to being deployed.

Personnel:

We are excited to announce that we have been given the go ahead to post and fill several important positions within our office. All of the job postings can be found at the State of New Hampshire Human Resources website. [Human Resources | NH Dept. of Administrative Services](#)

SUPERVISOR VI (Job ID 19218)
(Section Chief of Inspectional Services & Modular Housing)
Position #43100
Labor Grade 27
\$55,555.50 - \$79,170.00

PROGRAM SPECIALIST III (Job ID 19215)
(Hazardous Materials Response/Pyrotechnic Coordinator)
Position #42564
Labor Grade 23
\$49,878.40 - \$70,345.60

#43421 Fire Investigator (Full time)
(Should be posted soon)

PART TIME
ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY (Job ID 19198)
(Building Code Review Board Secretary)
Position # TMPPT5893
Labor Grade 14
\$16.73 per hour

PART TIME
PROGRAM SPECIALIST IV (Job ID 19108)
(Modular Building Program Manager)
Position #TMPPT5888

Labor Grade 25
\$26.13 - \$31.01 per hour

2021 Legislation: We will be following at least a dozen bills, including the FMO being an issuing agency for POA permits, recovery residence language, the elimination of the voluntary fire suppression equipment certification program, and the adoption of the 2018 Uniform Fire Code and Life Safety Code which is being considered by the Board of Fire Control.

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS: (Deputy Keith Rodenhiser)

- *New/Active cases:* 21 calls for service in the month of December; our 5 investigators and 2 district chiefs are actively working 17 criminal cases.
- On December 6, 2020, investigators responded to 55 Clothespin Road in Lempster to assist the Lempster FD with a carbon monoxide incident. A juvenile female with carbon monoxide poisoning was discovered by emergency responders upon arrival. The cause of the carbon monoxide release appears to be from a propane water heater that vented into the juvenile's room. Fortunately, the juvenile female has recovered from her injuries.
- On December 13, 2020, an investigator responded to 708 Piper Hill Rd. in West Stewartstown to assist the Beecher Falls, VT Fire Department with a fire investigation. A fire occurred in a mobile home that was under demolition and had no utilities supplying it. There fire is currently under investigation and there are criminal indicators.
- On December 18, 2020, an investigator assisted the Plymouth PD with interpreting Google location data for an exigent concern where a subject had gone missing in a remote wooded area during poor winter weather conditions. The subject was located alive using this data and was brought to safety by Plymouth PD, NH State Police and the NH Fish & Game.
- *Fatal Fires:* Merrimack – On December 2, 2020, investigators responded to a fire at a single-family dwelling at 6 Harris Avenue where a deceased female subject was discovered by emergency responders. The cause of death was determined to be smoke inhalation. The cause of the fire is under investigation at this time.

Rochester – On December 5, 2020, investigators responded to a fire at a multi-family dwelling at 50 Harrisonville Road where a male with serious burn injuries was discovered by emergency responders. The victim was transported to Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston, MA where he later succumbed to his

injuries. The cause of the fire is under investigation at this time but does not appear to be criminal in nature.

Manchester – On December 5, 2020, investigators responded to a fire in a tent behind 168 Willow Street where a deceased male was discovered by emergency responders. The cause of death was determined to be smoke inhalation. The cause of the fire is under investigation at this time but does not appear to be criminal in nature.

- *Ignitable Liquid Detection Canine Teams:* Our two IGL Canine Teams were deployed seven times in the month of December.
- *Public Outreach:* Investigators are assisting with youth firesetter assessments in the communities of Hillsborough, Hanover and Nashua.
- *Training/Committees:* Members of the BOI attended an in-service training and refresher on “Stop the Bleed” and tourniquet use. Two investigators also attended a Reid Technique of Investigative Interviewing & Positive Persuasion training. Members of the BOI also attended the following trainings: NMVTIS LE Access Tool, Campus Emergencies, Documenting the Fire Scene & Preparing Your Expert Report, Biological Incident Awareness: Covid-19, NW3C Spotlight: Your Forensic Goldmine in iOS & macOS, UL FSRI Firefighter Safety Training Course on Photovoltaic Systems and CFI trainers.
- *ESF-4:* Five members of the BOI continue to fill shifts in the state’s Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) staffing the ESF-4 (Firefighting) desk.

On December 28, 2020, the BOI welcomed back Fire Investigator Stephen Dennis to the team. Investigator Dennis had been deployed overseas with the Air Force for the last seven months. He will be covering the BOI’s Region 4 which is western Merrimack County and parts of Cheshire and Sullivan Counties.

BUREAU OF BUILDING SAFETY & CONSTRUCTION: (Deputy Sean Toomey)

State Building Permit System: We processed 46 building permit applications in the month of December.

Technical Assistance, Educational & Healthcare Reviews: Our staff remains available for technical code assistance. We initiated 8 healthcare plan reviews and 1 educational plans review in the month of December.

Variance Requests: We processed 2 variance requests in the month of December.

State Fire Code Update: The evaluation of the substantial changes between the 2015 and 2018 editions of NFPA 1 and 101 continues. Our office is working with the Board of Fire Control and interested stakeholders to determine the impacts and determine and necessary amendments. Additional information is available on our website. We welcome input via fmo@dos.nh.gov

BUREAU OF PLANNING AND SUPPORT SERVICES: (Deputy Danielle Cole)

ESF-4

Deputy Danielle Cole has been continuing to oversee SEOC ESF-4 operations. This emergency support function is dedicated to supporting first responders in providing the most up to date unprotected exposure information, member testing location information, transportation of specimens, alternative lodging requests and inquiries of specimens at the Public Health Lab.

Since the beginning of the state of emergency, the ESF-4 (Firefighting) desk has:

- Answered 1,342 calls for assistance
- Assisted 121 first responders with alternative lodging accommodations
- Tracked 1,883 first responders through exposure/quarantine/testing status
- Documented 2,275 activities performed in WebEOC. These activities include, fulfilling requests for PPE from first responders, answering questions related to exposures, quarantine, housing, code related questions and more
- Continue to produce and distribute numerous first responder informational documents statewide with the most up to date information

The ESF-4 desk phone number is 223-3718 and is answered 24/7 during the State of Emergency. If you have members that need to be tested and you want first responder priority through the Public Health Lab, please be sure to use the PHL Requisition form and transport the specimen via your agency to the lab.

Hazardous Materials: Hazardous Materials coordination and coverage remains a priority despite the state of emergency. Personnel are ready to deploy if needed and may be contacted through the on-call FMO supervisor for consultation purposes.

If you would like to virtually attend a one-hour training on the newly released suspicious unknown package protocol, please reach out to our Hazardous Materials Coordinator Jim Stone at James.H.Stone@dos.nh.gov. If you are from a smaller department please try to partner with a neighboring community for this training.

Our part time Hazardous Materials Coordinator will be available in a response capacity to advise the North Country area chiefs should there be

an incident. In the event that an asset response is required in that area the FMO on-duty supervisor will contact an established team to respond. The FMO will cover the cost of the response.

The FMO is excited to announce the launch a portal web page for facilities to submit their EPCRA Tier II reports. This portal will streamline the process for facilities to submit their reports. This data will be entered in the PEAC-WMD software that is utilized by the regional Hazardous Materials Teams providing them with up-to-date chemical information for the reporting facilities.

This data can also be made available at no cost to local fire departments through the web based PEAC-Web software. Contact Hazardous Materials Coordinator Jim Stone at james.h.stone@dos.nh.gov for more information on the use of PEAC-WEB.

The 2020 Emergency Response Guidebooks are available, please contact us for the coordination of delivery.

NHDES-FMO AFFF Self-Inventory Survey

This survey was sent to all 234 municipalities via email. A total of 135 of the 234 municipalities (58%) responded to the survey. Of the respondents, 43 (32%) of the municipalities reported no AFFF at their fire stations. Of the remaining respondents, a total of 8,375 gallons of AFFF, either in storage or on apparatus, were identified that will require disposal.

The estimated cost to dispose of the reported 8,375 gallons of AFFF using available 2019 pricing from the SEP model and Norlite as a disposal facility could range between \$150,000 and \$250,000. As additional information is obtained and EPA completes its studies regarding appropriate disposal options for AFFF, the cost for disposal should be re-evaluated.

Five additional, non-municipal firefighting entities responded to the survey reporting AFFF in storage or on apparatus for an additional 6,421 gallons of AFFF in New Hampshire. The estimated cost to dispose of the additional 6,421 gallons of AFFF using available 2019 pricing could range between \$75,000 and \$125,000.

A conceptual framework for a takeback program has been developed, the details of which are available in the report dated 12/1/2020, which is available on our website.

At this time NHDES recommends that the legislature consider amending NH RSA 154:8-b to extend the date for instituting an AFFF takeback program two years (from July 2021 to July 2023), based on the current scientific and regulatory uncertainties, and the challenges in identifying appropriate disposal facilities for AFFF. This would allow for time

necessary for EPA and others to complete much needed on-going research and studies to determine if thermal destruction results in the complete destruction of PFAS, and if incineration facilities are capable of accepting the PFAS waste stream; or for the identification of other effective treatment technologies.

Once the disposal options are known, NHDES will be in a position to refine the estimated disposal costs and its estimated costs for instituting an AFFF takeback program.

For more information on this please refer to the report which will be posted on our website.

Public Education:

This month we were able to recognize two young people for their heroic actions taken during fires that occurred at their residences with the **State Fire Marshal's Award of Excellence in Fire & Life Safety**.

In Henniker 14 year old Adelaide was recognized for alerting her family to a fire in their home on July 30 2020, and then calling 911, they were all able to escape without injury. The award ceremony was December 4th and she was presented the award from Marshal Parisi and Henniker Chief Morse with her family present.

On December 18th in Colebrook, 6 year old Denali was recognized for waking up his parents when he smelled smoke in their apartment building during a fire on September 27, 2020. Marshal Parisi and Colebrook Chief Brett Brooks presented the award with Denali's family in attendance. WMUR also interviewed the family about the incident and subsequent brave actions of Denali.

Fireworks:

We are currently in the process of conducting an evaluation of our fireworks program to ensure that the current laws and rules, as well as our internal procedures and practices, are focused on serving the citizens of the State of NH, as well as the fireworks industry.

We continue to license fireworks operators, as well as conduct required inspections to all retail stores and as well as explosives product storage. We are available by phone, drop box, email and standard mail, at this time the building is not allowing public entry.

Our staff was up in the north country on New Year's Eve conducting display site inspections. Please reach out to us if there is a show that is coming to your community that you need guidance on or if you would like us to assist you with a display show inspection.

NFIRS:

The United States Fire Administration (USFA) underwent a major overhaul of the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) and the new eNFIRS data entry system went online at the end of October. Those of you that were using either the Data Entry Tool (DET) or the Data Entry Browser Interface (DEBI) should now be using the eNFIRS data entry system. While the data entry portion of this major upgrade has gone smoothly, the data validation functionality that the NHFMO uses is still not functioning properly. This has caused a delay in processing your monthly files and, unfortunately, means there will be a delay in sending your validation files back to you. Please keep sending in your monthly data as you normally do. The National Fire Data Center (NFDC) expects to have a fix soon and we ask for your continued patience.

NFIRS is mandated by RSA 153:11 and Saf-C 6000. We encourage all fire departments to strive for 100% participation in NFIRS and to submit their data every month by the 15th of the following month. If you are experiencing difficulty in meeting this requirement and need technical assistance, please contact the NH State Fire Marshal's Office at nhfirs@dos.nh.gov and we will provide free technical support.

Fire Standards/Training/EMS – (Asst. Director Phillips)

Logistics-

We are in the process of our second call for bids for our new aerial. This process will close Jan. 18. We have had vendors come forward with questions.

We are working with NH DOT Aeronautics division and FAA to complete the engineering phase of the ARFF fuel spill pit upgrades. DOT has completed a portion of the research and is moving forward.

We are looking at January for the vendor to complete the A Building burn room upgrades. This project is 85% Federally funded and should be ready for the start of our spring programs

We have taken delivery of our backpack electrostatic sprayer and have added this to our cleaning protocol for classrooms and training areas for our students and visitors.

Programs-

Our spring FF I day programs began last week and the daytime FF II program begins next week here in Concord. We also have a spring evening program of FF I starting in March on the Seacoast. We are planning spring FF II evening programs as well. The education and technology group are hard at work with developing new standard evolutions as well as new online training modules to complement the curriculums of these programs

Our evening Fire Instructor program is beginning next week and our Inspector program is starting shortly after. We are being vigilant with maintaining our Covid policies as well as cleaning protocols to keep our students and instructors safe.

We are also now working with departments and have re-established our promotional testing program. Reach out to Matt LaMothe if you need further information.

We are in our sixth week with the FROST Covid-19 testing program here on campus including the IPOC and have run about 400 tests. We will continue to test employees, now on a weekly basis, through the winter or until we run out of test kits. Our state-wide FROST program has started quite successfully with over 100 communities signed up to date. We worked with DHHS to allow for communities to now perform weekly testing.

Communications-

The 2020 annual Roster project (602.01) letters have gone out. There is a new process where the form can be easily accessed online by each department. Just Over half of the departments have responded so far. We are working with the commission to communicate to departments who have yet to comply.

Challenges-

We are currently still the host site for the Press Conferences for Governor Sununu, although these have been reduced to one per week. A few of our full-time staff continue to telework from home or are out on Covid leave with small children. The Dept. of Safety HR is encouraging employees to telework when appropriate; about 50% of our full-time staff will work at home on a part time basis. We will continue to assess the current data daily from NH DHHS, and determine our strategy for continuation of in-person programs. We DID Cancel the CIT program scheduled for this week due to the large number of students and community members involved in the class. This was a joint decision with NAMI NH as the instructors. We are working closely with the Commissioner's Office for direction as the pandemic ramps up this week/month/season.

Discussion ensued on the issue of pre-199 employees' physicals and reimbursement. Deputy McQuillen of Portsmouth offered his input on the wording of the legislation.

Chief Rhodes expressed his strong desire to have the Association shepherd this to fruition quickly.

Chief Robert Buxton MOVED (Buxton/Howard) that a letter be drafted to the Commissioner of Safety urging him to ensure that the rules associated with NFPA 1582 physicals for pre-1996 employees, be drafted as soon as possible and the Governor and Council award the physical administration contract to LifeScan, as the funding sunsets in August 2021.

EMS Bureau Report – Justin Romanello

Bureau Report

- **FROST** – Released 9 November 2020 – Over 120 units participating
- **New Rules** – Public Hearing 8 January 2021
 - Submitted to DoS Legal Unit
 - # of providers required to transport
 - Licensing as “Non-Affiliated”

- **Electrostatic Sprayers** – 2nd distribution of devices week of 14 December 2020
- **Vaccination Planning**
- **Complacency**

COVID-19 Summary

- **Emergency Protocols** – 4 Emergency Protocols Released
 - COVID-19 Vaccinations Version 1 - Released 23 December 2020
 - Personal Protective Equipment Version 2 - Released 23 December 2020
 - Version 1 - Released 27 July 2020
 - COVID-19 Version 4 – Released 23 December 2020
 - Version 3 – Released 27 July 2020
 - Version 2 – Released 17 April 2020
 - Version 1 – Released 17 March 2020
 - COVID-19 Testing Version 3 – Released 23 December 2020
 - Version 2 – Released 27 July 2020
 - Version 1 – Released 26 March 2020
 - COVID-19 Destination Determination Version 2 – Released 27 July 2020
 - Version 1 – Released 26 March 2020
 - COVID-19 Temporary MIH Version 1 – Released 17 April 2020
- **Emergency Rules**
 1. # of Providers Required for Patient Transport – Released 19 March 2020
 2. Expiration Extension of Currently Licensed EMS Providers – Released 19 March 2020 (Expired 19 September 2020)
- **Emergency Waivers**
 - Provisional Certification – Continued to 1 April 2021
 - Partial Background Checks – No longer accepting
- **Executive Orders**
 - Alternate Vehicle Use and Waiver of Required Equipment – Drafted NOT Issued

Clinical Systems

- **2020 NH Patient Care Protocols v.8.0 – Released 27 August 2020**
 - **In effect statewide 1 November 2020**
- **Trauma Program –**
 - **Site Visits – Extension for all programs 1-year**
 - **Trauma Coordinator – In a limited capacity, visiting hospitals around state**
- **MIH Program – Continued support of COVID and Non-COVID MIH programs**
- **Open Positions – 2 Part-Time**

- PIFT/Critical Care Program Coordinator – **Part-Time – ON HOLD**
- MIH Program Coordinator – **Part-Time – ON HOLD**

EMS Operations

- **Provider Renewals – LIN Letters sent out for recertification cycle.**
- Practical Exam Program – **Up and running as of 13 July 2020**
- Ambulance Inspections Program – **Up and running as of 13 July 2020**
- EMS Training and I/C Program – **Exploring options for future support**
- Open Positions – 2 Full-Time and multiple Part-Time
 - Licensing Coordinator – **Full-Time – ON HOLD**
 - Ambulance Inspector – **Part-Time – ON HOLD**
 - NREMT Remote Testing Coordinator – **Part-Time – ON HOLD**

Data Systems

- Respond NH – User Management System
 - Moving along, on schedule.
 - Services - Entered
 - Vehicles – Entered
 - Personnel – Entered
 - System will be operational in the coming weeks, internally.
- Open Positions – 2 Full-Time
 - Records Management Coordinator – **Full-Time – Internal Posting**
 - Records Management Coordinator – **Full-Time – Internal Posting**

EMS Training

- Continuing Education – **Exploring options for future programs**
- EMR Programs – **Exploring options for future programs**
- Simulation Program – **Up and running as of July 2020**
- Open Positions – Multiple Part Time
 - Staff Instructor – Ongoing Hiring – **ON HOLD**

Special Projects

- Educational Training Agencies – **Sub-Committee meeting on 2 December, 2020**

NH Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Coord. Board – (Chief Allard)

n/r

National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) – (Chief Corey) – n/r

Homeland Security and Emergency Management – (Director Harper)

- **State EOC continues to be activated for response efforts to COVID-19. Activities include:**

- Vaccine Distribution and Immunization is the priority.
 - Governor announced NHs Vaccination Plan w 3 Phases last week.
 - Registration via VAMs (CDC System) has been challenging for folks trying to sign up for 2nd dose; DHHS made some changes to enhance the system and it was back up yesterday.
 - Governor will announce changes to Phase IB today at 3pm.
- COVID Presidential Disaster Declaration received April 3rd.
 - HSEM staff continue to work with communities on FEMA reimbursements; reimbursements being made on regular basis.
- Procurement of PPE continues to be a priority for the State to ensure we can meet the demand.

- **Non-COVID related activities:**

- Emergency Performance Grant Program - Supplemental (EMPG-S) remaining balance as of Jan 13th is \$5,200.13
 - The supplemental funds are focused towards Planning and Equipment projects related to the prevention of, preparation for, and response to the COVID-19 public health emergency in the State of NH.
 - Application Link via: https://prd.blogs.nh.gov/dos/hsem/?page_id=8866
- HMEP FFY 2021 – Year 3 funding is: \$151,053; with some leftover funding from Years 1 and 2 the total amount for Year 3 will be: \$241,092.61.
- Homeland Security Grant Committee met January 5th. The application process is posted on DOS-Grants Management Unit website. Applications are due on January 28, 2021 to GMU.
 - Funding allocations:
 - SHSP-Local \$2,572,500
 - LE-Locals \$857,500
 - Total to NH \$3,430,000
 - Carve outs made as in previous years (ie., HazMat, Swiftwater, Warm Zone, LE, etc.)
 - SHSP provides funds to support the implementation of the National Preparedness System (NPS) to address planning, organization, equipment, training, and exercise needs to prevent, prepare for, protect against, and respond to acts of terrorism. SHSP funding can be used to enhance preparedness for other catastrophic events, e.g. hurricanes and wildfires, as long as such use of the funds has a nexus to preventing, preparing for, protecting against, and responding to terrorism, consistent with 6 U.S.C. §

609. SHSP also provides funding to implement initiatives based on capability targets and gaps identified during the Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) process and assessed in the Stakeholder Preparedness Review (SPR).

- Exercise and Training funds are not being spent as allocated due to COVID; will reduce this years allocation and catch up on spending previous funding allocations.

- **As always let me know if you need anything, my cell is 419-9179.**

Chief Buxton shared that in the grant for EMS in Warm Zone Training there is money for training in there. It sunsets in August and he doesn't want opportunities to be lost.

EMS Trauma Medical Review Board – (Chief Beaudoin) –

The committee met via Teleconference on Dec. 16, 2020

- The TEMSIS Data Sub-committee is working on updating the data dictionary within TEMSIS to better match the National Trauma Data Standards
- The Pre-Hospital Sub-Committee is working on data collection for field triage and transport decisions of trauma patients
- The Hospital Designation Sub-committee will looking to complete reviews that were not finished in 2020 and make a schedule for the 2021 reviews

The next meeting will be February 17, 2021

Forests and Lands – (Chief Sherman) – no report

Board of Fire Control – (Chief Clark) – no report

Building Code Review Board – (Marshal Lennon) –

A meeting was held on 1/8/2021 virtually. The previous work that the subcommittee has done on updating the ICC codes to the 2018 edition has been carried over to this session and will be brought forward on a new bill. We don't anticipate any issues as this same bill was approved last year but vetoed by the governor due to it being combined with other bills. The bill number for the ICC changes is HB 72.

The Board had a discussion about sprinklers in residential occupancies above commercial occupancies specific to the North Country. A letter was sent asking the board to consider future changes to the code that would allow relief from the sprinkler requirements. No action was taken on the letter by the board at this time.

An amendment to the NEC-17 (NFPA 70) relating to grounding was approved by the board. This amendment does not change the cost of projects and does not decrease safety.

Manufactured Housing Installation Standards Board: (Chief)

- No report

Division of Emergency Services and Communications – (Director Doyle) –

- HAPPY NEW YEAR & THANK YOU ALL For your work and patience as we work through this pandemic, we at the Division certainly appreciate all you and your Teams do;
- Monitoring call stats – total call volume was up by 2% for the year;
- The next E9-1-1 Commission meeting was held on Friday the 11th at 1100 hours, minutes from the meeting are available on our website;
- Mutualink roll-out completed phase 1 of the roll-out. Over 113 sites were installed (Police/Fire/Colleges/Hospitals/SEOC), including 16 portable laptop units for the ACS/Vaccine sites. MOA's being received back now and Training to begin this month;
- Assisting with HSEM to provide communications support – portable radios at vaccination sites and other communications support for NHNG and staff;
- Working with our NexGen Call Delivery Network vendor to start planning for upgrades to our system in late winter, as well as a refresh of our CPE;
- I've met with NH-NAMI, Headrest and DHHS to coordinate grant planning for the 9-8-8 Suicide hotline rollout scheduled for July 2022. Application was submitted last week for funding;
- New Trainees about ready to go on their own by the end of the month – accepting applications for Telecommunicators for our new class which is scheduled to start in February;
- HSGP Committee met to discuss upcoming Grant allocations and application guidelines for the upcoming year, due by Feb. 8th @\$348K available for non-LE projects;

E-911 Commission – (Chief Thomas) –

- He was unable to connect at the previous meeting. He will have further information in March.

IAFC Director – (Chief Christopoulos) –

- Today is Day #2 of the VCOS conference.
- They are reviewing the IAFC Master Plan.

- The billing system is sending our invoices without the Division dues and they are working on a fix.

New England Fire Chiefs – a Division of the IAFC – (Chief Jones)

- Meeting scheduled for January 20, 2021.

Old Business –

New Business –

- Chief Jones will be appointing Auditing and Nominating Committees soon.

Good and Welfare –

The meeting was adjourned at 1046 hours.

Respectfully submitted,
Chief Brent T. Lemire, Ret.
Executive Director/Secretary, NHAFC

January 14, 2021