



NEW HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS, INC.

Working Together to Make a Difference

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Minutes of a Meeting of the NH Association of Fire Chiefs

Thursday, August 8, 2024 – Town and Country Inn – Shelburne/Gorham, NH

Following a seminar entitled “How to Promote Effective Community Risk Reduction” presented by Merrimack Fire Marshal Jason Smedick, the meeting was called to order by Chief Emanuel at 1839 hours.

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

Welcome from Host: Asst. Chief Charles Nesbitt (Shelburne) and Chief Phil Cloutier (Gorham) welcomed everyone to the meeting.

INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS. Members were asked to introduce themselves and state where they were from.

Special Guests: Retired Chief Paul Fortier of Berlin was recognized.

Minutes: A MOTION (Sitar/Murray) to approve the minutes of the July meeting, carried unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report: A MOTION (Fraitzl/Jones) to approve the financial reports from July, carried unanimously.

Communications: n/a

Applications for membership: Chief Eric Lambert of the Allenstown Fire Department has been approved for membership.

Life Membership: n/a

President’s Report: (Emanuel) –

He thanked Scott Cathy and the professional development team for scheduling this evening's training with Jason Smedick on Community Risk Reduction

He thanked Steve Carrier and the golf tournament team for their work on the fund raiser

He provided a brief update on the 2024 NH EV and Battery Study Council. Members were broken into task groups to accomplish the mission of the council.

Data- (NHFMO)

Public safety response/costs and admin of training (NHAFC & NHAPC to co-lead)

Built environment & state building codes - NHFMO

Environment (NHDES)

Transportation (NH DOT)

Proposed meeting dates for Council:

August 21, 2024

September 10, 2024

October 8, 2024

January 14, 2025

Council goal is to meet every other month for 2025.

Submit materials for final report November 1, 2025

NHAFC members interested in participating in any of the workgroups should email Chief Emanuel.

He updated the group on the 2024 U.S. Fire Administrator's Summit on Fire Prevention and Control at the National Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, Maryland on October 8, 2024.

<https://www.usfa.fema.gov/about/usfa-events/2024-10-08-usfa-summit/>

Report of the Executive Director: (Lemire)

- He thanked the North Country Chiefs for their great turnout for the seminar and meeting.
- August 12 will be the Golf Tournament at Lochmere in Tilton.
- September BOD – it was decided to meet at 0800 hours on Thursday, September 12 virtually.
- September 12 monthly meeting will be virtual at 0900 hours.
- October 2 BOD meeting will be at Primex and the October 10 meeting will be at the NHFA for breakfast.

- **SAVE THE DATES:** November 15-17 for Professional Enhancement Weekend at Waterville Valley. Chief Lemire will be getting packets of information out to the membership in September.
- He attended the groundbreaking ceremony on Tuesday for the expansion/renovation of the Burton Academy in Bethlehem.
- Our application for 501 c3 has been submitted to the IRS. I received a package back with several questions and a paragraph we had to insert into our Incorporation package at the state. I've replied and submitted the change and sent the package back via FedEx yesterday to meet the August 15 deadline.
- He notified the NVFC of the two new representatives. (Chiefs Thomas and Cathy)
- The Commissioner has appointed Asst. Chief Pouliot (Nashua) to the Building Code Review Board.
- Please note the email sent out yesterday that advises Chiefs on how to handle provisions of the recently enacted HB 1352 on PFAS chemicals in turnout gear.
- Ad book proceeds to date: Total: \$29,200; Vendor: \$20,440; Assn: \$8,760.

1st Vice President Report (Watkins) – No report

Government Relations – (Schmidt) –No report

2nd Vice President Report (Hunter) – No report

Sgt. At Arms (Chamberlain) – No report

Committee Reports

Scholarship Committee – (Marshal Toomey) – Four applications for scholarships have been received and they all met the qualifications and will be awarded scholarships.

Division Reports

Fire Marshal (Marshal Toomey)

ADMINISTRATION:

Personnel:

We currently have 1 full-time and 1 part-time vacancy that we are actively recruiting for:

Full-time Hazardous Materials Coordinator

Part-time Accreditation Manager

Legislation:

The following bills are the key bills that we are currently monitoring:

HB 1059 Relative to the state building code
Status: Signed by Governor, effective 7/1/2024
HB 1065 Relative to fire sprinkler requirements in residential buildings
Status: Signed by Governor, effective 10/1/2024
HB 1352 Relative to firefighting personal protective equipment
Status: Signed by Governor, effective 10/1/2024
HB 1386 Relative to prohibiting the disposal of lithium-ion batteries in
solid waste
landfill facilities, composting facilities, or incinerators
Status: Amended, passed & waiting on Governor's signature
HB 1387 Relative to revisions to the state building code
Status: Signed by Governor, effective 9/1/2024

Board of Fire Control:

The next Board of Fire Control meeting is scheduled for September 18, 2024. The Board will be reviewing fire protection requirements for summer camp program bunkhouses.

Foam Take-back Program:

The collection of foam will take place in August 2024. It is critical to take part in this program to properly dispose of PFAS containing foam. This will be a single opportunity under this program. Please reach out with any questions. This program is being led by NH Department of Environmental Services.

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS:

In the month of July, we received 16 incident notifications resulting in 6 scene responses. The Bureau of Investigations currently has 12 open arson or suspected arson investigations.

New cases (synopsis of some of our cases are listed below):

- On July 9, an investigator assisted the Lebanon Fire Department with the investigation of a structure fire. The cause of this fire was accidental.
- On July 12, an investigator assisted the Farmington Fire Department in investigating a structure fire suspected to have been caused by an electrical issue in the bedroom.
- On July 18, investigators responded to Marlow for a structure fire. The investigation is ongoing but appears to be accidental.
- On July 28, investigators assisted the Andover Fire Department in investigating a camper and motor vehicle fire. The cause is undetermined at this time but not suspected to be arson.

Fatal Fire/CO Incidents:

- On July 8, investigators and an IGL K9 team assisted the Keene Fire Department in investigating a cabin fire that resulted in serious bodily injury to an occupant. The occupant ultimately passed away from her injuries on August 1. This investigation is ongoing, but the cause of the fire appears to have been accidental.
- On July 12, the BOI learned of a motor vehicle fatality and fire in Conway and attended the autopsy of the victim. The death was determined to be a result of the crash, not the resulting fire.
- On July 14, investigators responded to Hampton Falls for a motor vehicle crash and fire that resulted in a fatality. This death was also determined to be a result of the crash, not the fire.

Youth Firesetter:

- There are 4 ongoing youth firesetter assessments.

BUREAU OF BUILDING SAFETY & CONSTRUCTION:

SB 599 relative to the State Fire Code was signed into law by Governor Sununu. The 2021 edition of NFPA 1 and NFPA 101 will be effective August 13, 2024.

State Building Permit System:

We processed the following permits in the month of July:

- Building: 28
- Electrical: 18
- Plumbing: 3
- Mechanical Fuel Gas: 3
- Mechanical Non-Fuel Gas: 2
- Fire Protection: 8
- Fire Alarm: 2

Technical Assistance, Educational & Healthcare Reviews:

We initiated 22 educational and 4 healthcare plan reviews, completed 255 inspections and 125 technical consults in the month of July.

Variance Requests:

We processed 4 variance requests in the month of July.

Fireworks Safety and Enforcement Program

During July, we had inspectors assisting local officials, spot inspecting display firework sites and consumer firework retail stores. During the 4th of July week, approximately 60 inspections were conducted. We are happy to report that there were no firework injuries reported to our office during this busy time of the year.

The Fireworks Safety and Enforcement Program has conducted the following in the month of July:

- Proximate Licenses Issued: 0
- Display Certificate of Competency Issued: 0
- Consumer Fireworks Retail Store Licenses Issued: 1
- Explosive Magazine Inspections: 0
- Proximate Audience Inspections: 1
- Technical Assistance: 1

Modular Building Program

The Modular Building Program has conducted the following in the month of July:

- Inspections: 19
- Audits of Manufacturers: 0
- Audits of Educational Facilities: 0
- Labels Issued to Manufacturers: 165
- Units Shipped to New Hampshire: 32

Tramway and Amusement Ride Safety

The Tramway and Amusement Ride Safety section conducted the following in the month of July:

- Amusement Registrations: 8
- Amusement Inspections: 40
- Amusement Incidents: 0
- Tramway Registrations: 1
- Tramway Inspections: 80
- Tramway Incidents: 0

BUREAU OF OUTREACH & EDUCATION:

Hazardous Materials:

Hazardous Materials response, coordination and consultation is available through the on-call SFMO supervisor.

Our Hazardous Materials Coordinator is available for PEAC Software training for fire departments. PEAC is used for documentation of Tier II facilities and chemical storage.

In the month of July, our Hazardous Materials Coordinator attended the two-day NVFC Hazardous Materials Instructor Training, the CBRN Responder Training webinar and the monthly PEAC training. He provided a PEAC WEB training at the Littleton Fire Department and continues to distribute the 2024 Emergency Response Guidebooks. If you are interested in acquiring some for your department, please reach out to us.

Electric Vehicles and Lithium-Ion Batteries

A council to study the impacts of electric vehicles, e-mobility devices, and the associated lithium-ion batteries hazards for first responder response, the environment, building and fire codes, life safety, and property protection has been established and their first meeting was held on July 17, 2024. Their next meeting is scheduled for August 21, 2024.

Incident Reporting:

Your commitment to ensuring we have great data to accurately show the fire problem in NH is greatly appreciated! Please remember to report any EV or lithium-ion battery fires to us.

Please reach out to our NHFIRS team for any incident reporting questions at nhfirs@dos.nh.gov

We continue to monitor the development of the U.S. Fire Administration's (USFA) new fire information and analytics platform, known as the National Emergency Response Information System (NERIS), for the American fire and emergency services.

Find more information and resources here: [National Emergency Response Information System \(NERIS\) \(fema.gov\)](https://www.fema.gov/national-emergency-response-information-system-neris)

Outreach Events:

Members of the SFMO were very busy in the month of July! We interacted with just over 1,000 people at the following events: Grafton Independence Day Celebration, Hudson Touch-A-Truck, T.L. Storer, Barnstead Library, Stratham Summerfest, Central NH Boys & Girls Club and Concord's Friends-A-Palooza.

There were four K9 demonstrations this month.



Please consider us as you plan your next community event! Send your request to us at fmopubliceducation@dos.nh.gov.

[Fire Prevention Week: October 6-12, 2024](#)



The theme for this year has been announced! This year's Fire Prevention Week (FPW™) campaign, "Smoke alarms: Make them work for you!™" strives to educate everyone about the importance of having working smoke alarms in the home.

[Interested in having the SFMO join a FPW event in your community? Please reach out to us as early as possible so we can make every effort to attend your event. Want to know what resources we have available to supplement your event? Check out what is available to loan here: Equipment Loan](#)

[The SFMO's FPW Chalk Art Contest is BACK!!](#)

[We are again running a chalk art contest for local fire departments to participate in during FPW, October 6-12, 2024. During this week, we invite departments to create a chalk art piece that conveys an important message centered around this year's FPW theme, Smoke alarms: Make them work for you!™ We ask that each department post a picture of their finished chalk art piece on Facebook and tag the NH State Fire Marshal's Office. Images will be shared and voted on by our Facebook followers the week of October 14-20, 2024. The winning department will be announced on October 21, 2024. We hope you will join us in spreading the importance of having working smoke alarms in homes and we can't wait to see what you create!](#)

Fire Prevention Week

October 6-12, 2024



The NH State Fire Marshal's Office is running a chalk art contest for all local fire departments to participate in. We hope the contest will grab the community's attention and get them talking about the importance of working smoke alarms in their homes.

Please join us for some FPW 2024 fun!

We invite departments to create a chalk art piece that conveys an important message centered around this year's FPW theme, "Smoke Alarms - Make Them Work For You." We ask that each department post a picture of their finished chalk art piece on Facebook and tag the NH Fire Marshal's Office (NHFM) throughout the week of FPW, October 6-12.

On the last day of FPW, the FMO will grab copies of the shared images to create a gallery displaying all participating fire departments' chalk art pieces. On October 14, we will share all the departments' pictures in a single post, asking our followers to vote on their favorite departments' challenge execution. Voting will run the week of October 14-20. The winning department will be announced on October 21.

Good luck to all participating fire departments.

*Helpful Hint & Word of Advice:
"Perfect/professional-level" artwork doesn't always win. Creativity and execution of an effective message usually are the winning combination!*

The FMO ran this contest in 2023 on a small scale trial run and it was met with great success! Please see examples below of the departments' artistic creativity centered around last year's FPW theme, "Cooking Safety Starts With YOU! Pay attention to fire prevention."



Public Education:

Are you familiar with the USFA's Fire and Life Safety Communicators Initiative? This initiative is a collaboration among the fire and emergency medical services to speak with "one voice" on fire and life safety. They believe in working together to present consistent messages. The theme for the month of August is "Campus Fire Safety." Did you know that approximately 25% of all campus fire fatalities follow a party? For most students, the last fire safety training they received was in grade school, but with new independence comes new responsibilities. It is

important that both off-campus and on-campus students know their fire risks and prevention actions that could save their lives.

There are several specific causes for fires in on- and off-campus college housing, including cooking, candles, smoking and overloaded power strips.

Campus Fire Safety Video:

<https://youtu.be/yMQQhMztyuw?si=Y6WlMEE2QNxmQ-6x>

(Off-Campus Housing) Specific Video:

<https://youtu.be/6XF21V5YpZk?si=QKP707pZbaMcaEw>

Campus Fire Safety Messaging & Handouts: [Fire Safety for College Students \(fema.gov\)](#)

For more information on this initiative, or to find outreach materials on the monthly topics, please visit:

[Fire and Life Safety Communicators Initiative \(fema.gov\)](#)

Training Opportunities:

NFPA 1 & 101: 2021 Edition Updates

This seminar will provide attendees with an overview of the changes, updates, removals and additions to NFPA 1 and NFPA 101 from the 2018 to 2021 editions of the codes. The 2021 editions of NFPA 1 and 101 will be effective August 13, 2024.

Wednesday, August 7, 2024

1:00PM-4:00PM OR 6:00PM to 9:00PM

NH Fire Academy Auditorium, Concord

Registration Link: <https://forms.office.com/g/BSXjQRb7mK>

Tuesday, August 13, 2024

1:00PM-4:00PM OR 6:00PM to 9:00PM

Raymond S. Burton Training Facility, Bethlehem

Registration Link: <https://forms.office.com/g/BSXjQRb7mK>

We are working on topics for the fall to include the 2024 Emergency Response Guidebook, air monitoring, inspections of multi-family dwellings and NHFIRS Incident Coding. Please reach out to Deputy Stacey Dubois at stacey.l.dubois@dos.nh.gov if you are interested in hosting one of these sessions, or a future session, or would like to suggest a future training topic.

Fire Standards/Training/EMS – (Director Cutting) (Report submitted in writing for the minutes)

ADMINISTRATION

Personnel

- We have one vacancy for Program Specialist III (Education Technologist) of the Educational Technology section.
- We have two vacancies for full-time Fire Training Instructor positions.
- We have made a conditional offer to a candidate for the Emergency Services Records Management Coordinator position.
- Anthony Burns has been hired as the Fire Service Instructor Supervisor (Captain) in the Bureau of Certification and Support.
- We have one vacancy for a Specialty Services Specialist (Mobile Integrated Healthcare).
- We have one vacancy for our part-time Communications Specialist.
- We have one vacancy for our part-time Program Coordinator position for Fire Officer.
- We have one vacancy for our part-time Program Coordinator for EMS Simulation.
- We have one vacancy for our part-time Program Coordinator for EMS Education Assessment Coordinator.
- We have one vacancy for our part-time EMS Vehicle Inspector Coordinator.
- We have vacancies for EMS Vehicle Inspectors.

Grants

- The Raymond S. Burton Fire and EMS Training Facility infrastructure project continues to move forward.
 - The Phase II portion of the project is out to bid.
 - We held a groundbreaking ceremony on August 6th at 0930 at the Burton facility as phase I begins this month.
- Our 2023 AFG grant submission is pending.
- The NH EMT Training Program remains active with grant funding for training new and existing EMS providers. Contact our Division or NH Employment Security for details and question.
 - Funding is expected to be available through the end of 2024.

Special Projects

- With the passage of SB 352 we have begun working with the committee as outlined in the law to develop an early detection cancer screening pilot program. The committee has 90 days to develop a plan to be presented to the Commissioner of Safety and Governor. We are also working to develop the RFP for this program.
- We are working with the NH Department of Insurance on the Ground Ambulance Cost Reporting Program and Study as part of the recently passed SB 407.

- With the passage of SB 430 we are working with the Fire Marshal (Chair) as part of the council to study the impacts of electric vehicles, e-mobility devices and the associated lithium-ion batteries on first responder response, the environment, building and fire codes, life safety and property protection.
- We have partnered with the Maine and Vermont Fire Training Academies on a federal grant to develop an EV training curriculum, fund EV training and a train the trainer program throughout all three states. The full application for the grant was submitted on April 30th for a three-year project, \$420,000 for each state specifically for delivery of EV training.
 - We anticipate a response to this grant request this month.
- We continue to work on our website transition and improvements with NH DoIT. Much of this work is being done offline in preparation of a full transition to the new state web platform.

Legislative/Administrative Rules

- The Fire Standards and Training Commission amended Fire rules relative to the Recruitment and Retention report and its recommendations have been submitted to the Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules (JLCAR).
 - The Commission will be holding a public hearing on September 5, 2024 at 9:30am on the changes to the Fire administrative rules. Public comment will be taken during the public hearing as well as written comments which can be submitted to Rules@dos.nh.gov anytime between now and Thursday, September 5, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. or end of public hearing, whichever is later.
 - Rules can be found at: [Proposed Fire Rules](#)
 - Public Hearing Location: Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy Dormitory, 90 Smokey Bear Blvd. Concord, NH
- The proposed Trauma Rules are working through the internal legal process.
- An EMS discipline related administrative rule proposal has been drafted and is working through the internal legal process. This proposed change is supported by the EMS Coordinating Board and would allow for deceased providers names to be removed the public listing.

Outreach

- We are continuing our Leadership Roundtables with the Commissioner, Fire Marshal's Office, HSEM and Emergency Services and Communications with regional Fire Chief's and EMD's.
- Staff members continue to attend various stakeholder and mutual aid group meetings and make department visits.

- We continue to work with the State Fireman's Association leadership to plan for the annual FF Memorial in September.

Mental Health & Resiliency

- "Unlocking the power of sleep for first responder health and wellness" was held at the Richard Flynn campus - Concord on July 9th
 - Presented by: Batt. Chief Dena Ali- Raleigh, NC and Capt. Brandon Dreiman- Indianapolis, IN
 - This program was recorded and will be available on our online learning platform.
- We are working with our Mental Health Seminar planning group on the 2025 seminar which is planned for January 7-8, 2025 at the Richard Flynn campus in Concord.
- We continue our work in partnership with the Police Academy to develop a more comprehensive program for PTSD training utilizing experts from this field in development of the curriculum and delivery.
 - The RFP for a mental health professional has closed and an evaluation of proposals is underway.

Fire Standards and Training Commission

- The next Fire Standards and Training Commission meeting will be September 5th at 0930 in Classrooms 5/6 in the dormitory building at the Richard Flynn Fire Academy in Concord.
- Fire Department Notification of Employment (Fire 601.01)
 - All full-time hires, to include lateral transfers, are required to have a Form A submitted within 15 days of employment. The form can be located at: <https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/documents/forma2017updated.pdf>
- Requests, Determination and Duration of Waivers (Fire 704)
 - These rules outline the procedure for request a waiver of training standards for full-time career fire service personnel, how the determination is made to grant or deny a waiver, and the duration of a waiver if granted, which is only valid while the employee granted a waiver is employed in that position.

CURRICULUM

- The new NFPA 470 Hazmat Awareness and Operations curricula will be presented to the Fire Standards and Training Commission at the beginning September. If approved, they will then go to public comment for 60 days.

- The NFPA 1030 Fire Inspector and First Responder Inspector curricula are under development with the second visiting committee meeting in early August. Development is planned to continue into the fall.
- The 2024 Practice Analysis of the New Hampshire Fire Service continues. If your department has not yet completed the survey, please do so as soon as possible. This survey will inform the upcoming curriculum update for Firefighter I and II programs. Departments that complete the survey will influence how firefighters are prepared in future programs.
- Electronic testing will be rolled out during the August monthly testing. Candidates will use electronic tablets to take their certification exams. The exam questions are randomly selected from the same certification question banks as the previous paper exams. This means that while every candidate will be tested on the same material, they will all get different questions on the same topics. This improves exam validity, reliability, and security.
- Test bank validations continue for Fire Investigator and Fire and Emergency Services Instructor programs.

BUREAU OF FIRE TRAINING

Courses/Programs

- Firefighter I
 - Sunapee – August 13th (FF I & II)
 - Madison – August 12th
 - LRCC Fall class – August 26th (FF I & II)
 - Fall Recruit School – September 16th
- Firefighter II
 - Richard Flynn campus – Concord, September 8th
 - Ray Burton campus – Sept. 10th
- Technical Rescue
- Driver Operator
- Hazardous Materials
- IAFF Fireground Survival
 - A train-the-trainer is begins August 5th.
- Airport Rescue Firefighting
 - Richard Flynn campus – Concord September 29, 2025
- Facilities and Prop Usage
 - We hosted the 2024 Camp Fully Involved cadets and their leadership team in July.
 - Hampton utilized the drill yard in July.
 - Ongoing maintenance and repairs continue on drill yard hydrants and work continues on the wall breach prop and interior doors in the “J” building.

- Construction on the Water Mapping prop was completed for the class in July.
- Repairs and updates were completed on the fire ground safety and survival props.
- A drag sled for the Burton Facility was constructed. This prop is used in the delivery of the Health & Wellness program and will eliminate the need for transporting the sleds we have from the Concord Campus.
- In July 11 we hosted a tour for WinnAero's Aerospace Career Education (ACE) Academy from Laconia. 12 students toured the ARFF Facility. Using the SAFT and the Spill Pit Trainers, we conducted suppression demonstrations with handlines and Red 5.
- "On My Time" Program
 - To date over 2,000 students have completed individual online modules.
 - The first certification has been issued to a student under this program.
 - We continue to offer support and guidance to many departments participating in this program.
- Special Programs
 - We partnered with the International Society of Fire Instructors to bring their *Water Mapping* program to the Fire Academy. We constructed the prop, offered a train-the-trainer program for 20 students and then a student offering of the class with 45 students attending.
 - Each FEMA Region (10) was awarded the grant and we received it for Region I.
 - Additional deliveries of this course are being planned.

Testing

- Monthly Testing was completed this month for the NFPA 1001, 1002 and 1003 testing processes which includes administering the written and practical exams.
 - Next test at the Richard Flynn campus in Concord is September 10th and at The Ray Burton campus September 12th.

Apparatus/Equipment

- The new E-One ARFF truck was delivered.
- Operator training for Ladder One was held July 12th and twelve of our Staff were chosen to participate. More training on this apparatus to follow.
- Two new fleet vehicles were delivered and placed in service.
- We received 50 gently used portable radios from Communications and we are getting those radios set up for student usage.
- Multi gas meters were purchased and placed in service for the Hazardous Materials programs.

BUREAU OF CERTIFICATION AND SUPPORT

Courses/Programs

- Instructor I/II/III Programs
 - Instructor I – Rye September 11th
 - Instructor I – Richard Flynn campus - Concord, October 15th
 - Instructor I – Manchester – January 16th
 - Instructor I – North Woodstock – March 29th
 - Instructor I – Richard Flynn campus – Concord – May 7th
 - Instructor II – Virtual October 21st
 - Instructor II - Virtual February 24th
 - Instructor III – Virtual March 4th
- Instructor Professional Development
 - Measure the Measurement: Test Item Evaluation – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, September 19th and Virtual September 24th
 - Designing Simulation Based Education – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, November 14th and Virtual November 19th
- Fire Officer I/II Programs
 - Fire Officer I – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, September 3rd
 - Fire Officer I – Richard Flynn campus - Concord, December 4th
 - Fire Officer II – Virtual October 15th
- Fire Inspector Programs
 - Fire Inspector I – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, September 12th
 - Fire Inspector II – Manchester March 28th
- Fire Investigator - Richard Flynn campus – Concord, August 22nd
- Warrants and Citations – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, November 13th
- National Fire Academy
 - Exercising Leadership to Facilitate Adaptive Change – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, October 21st
 - Youth Firesetter Intervention Specialist – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, November 14th
 - Decision Making for Initial Company Operations – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, March 10, 2025
 - Incident Safety Officer – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, April 7, 2025
- Your Workplace has Changed: Fire Dynamics for Structural Firefighting
 - New Hampton – October 21st and 22nd from 1800-2200

Recruitment and Retention

- Upcoming Recruitment and Retention events:

- Finances for First Responders – Richard Flynn campus – Concord August 14th
- Retention Strategies Across Generations – Ray Burton campus – September 26th
- The *Law Enforcement Officers, Professional Firefighters and Emergency Medical Technicians Career Development, Recruitment and Retention Program* established in New Hampshire RSA 188-F:70 remains active and available.
 - Details can be found on our website under the Recruitment and Retention link from the homepage.
- The April edition of the Recruitment and Retention Newsletter is available at <https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/RecruitmentandRetention.html>

Education Technology

- The Fire Fighter I Communications module is being updated, the Obstetrics Prenatal Assessment is under review by SME's, the updated CPAT online module is near completion, work is being done to produce the sleep seminar online program, the Pediatric Ambulance Restraint module has been taken offline while it is being updated and initial plans are underway to update the High Performance CPR program.
- We captured photo and video content at the Burton groundbreaking ceremony as part of tracking the overall site improvements.
- The instructor continuing education offerings are being evaluated for revised versions to replace outdated ones.
- We are working with vendors on an evaluation of our existing classroom technology in preparation for upgrades.

Instructors

- We are nearing completion of a comprehensive on-boarding and preceptor program for all new instructors to better integrate them into the Division ensuring their success and improving the overall student experience.
- The Division is always looking for highly motivated team members to become instructors. If you are interested in becoming an instructor, please contact Assistant Director Jeffrey Phillips at Jeffrey.r.phillips@dos.nh.gov or 603-223-4213

CPAT

- There are (6) CPAT dates in 2024. We have restructured the schedule of these exams to better span the entire year to make this test more aligned with department hiring needs.

- Remaining 2024 exams are:
 - August 12th at Richard Flynn campus, Concord (retest August 13th)
 - October 21st at Richard Flynn campus, Concord (retest October 22nd)
 - November 18th at Richard Flynn campus, Concord (retest November 19th)
- 2024 CPAT
 - Department member assistance is needed for CPAT on testing days. Please confirm available personnel to assist with Bureau PC Nick Poulin at Nicholas.a.poulin@dos.nh.gov prior to the test date to assist in planning.

BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Boards and Commissions

- The NH Medical Control Board meeting will meet at 0930 on September 19th.
- The NH Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Coordinating Board meeting will meet on September 19th at 1300.
- The NH Trauma Medical Review Committee (TMRC) will meet at 0930 on August 21st.
- The Privacy Committee will meet August 28th at 1300.

Operations

- With final adoption of the Educational Training Agency ruleset as of April 30, 2024, the Administrative Packet for application can be found at on the Division website and Resource Center.
 - Five agencies have completed the process and four others are in process.
- As of June 3, 2024 there are 5,708 licensed providers with 5,202 of them with an affiliation.
- There is a more streamlined workflow process for psychomotor exams and the Division will be taking over ALS exams until the complete ETA transition and schedule both BLS and ALS exams until May 2025. Current IC's will be able to apply for, and be approved for, portfolio-based testing until the transition is complete.
- The EMS Simulation Training Program is active with ongoing open enrollment courses in 2024.

Courses/Programs

- Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)
 - The Fall class begins September 21st in Keene, Bartlett and Concord.
- EMS Continuing Education and Simulation Education

- *Medical Neurological Emergencies* – Richard Flynn campus - Ray Burton campus - Bethlehem August 14th
- *Frequently Forgotten but Definitely Damaging: Over-the-Counter Overdose* – Richard Flynn campus - Concord Sept. 4th and Virtual Sept. 19th
- *Cardiology Pediatric Cardiac Arrest* – Richard Flynn campus - Concord September 18th and Ray Burton campus - Bethlehem October 16th
- *Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS)* – Ray Burton campus - Bethlehem September 21st
- *SIRS, Sepsis, Shock and Death: Recognition and Intervention for Systemic Infection* – Richard Flynn campus - Concord October 2nd and Virtual October 17th
- *EMS Grand Rounds: Altered Mental Status* – Richard Flynn campus - Concord October 3rd
- *NFA FO146 Supervising Emergency Medical Services* – Richard Flynn campus - Concord October 7th
- *Pre-Hospital and Interfacility Transport Stroke Care* – Richard Flynn campus - Concord November 6th and Virtual November 21st
- *Cognitive Bias in EMS* – Richard Flynn campus - Concord December 4th and Virtual December 19th
- *Obstetrics Childbirth* – Richard Flynn campus - Concord November 13th and Ray Burton campus - Bethlehem December 11th
- *Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS)* – Richard Flynn campus - Concord March 21st
- *NFA FO146 Supervising Emergency Medical Services* – Ray Burton campus - Bethlehem April 26th
- EMS in the Warm Zone Awareness, Operations and Rescue Task Force Concepts
 - The Awareness and Operations courses are available free to students on our online training platform.
 - The RTF Concepts class is a half-day in-person training that is also available. Grant funding opportunities are available for those that have not done so already.
 - If anyone is looking for this program, please contact Shawn Croteau at Shawn.A.Croteau@DOS.NH.GOV

Clinical Systems

- The EMS Protocols Ver. 9.0 were released on March 28th, effective statewide on June 1st.
- The Trauma Medical Review Committee has voted to approve the latest version of the Trauma Plan.

- We continue our outreach and support to agencies for inter-facility transfers and mobile integrated health programs.

Data Management

- At this year's ImageTrend Annual meeting the Division was awarded their Hooley Award. ImageTrend created Hooley awards to recognize their clients for their contribution of innovation and excellence in the ImageTrend community, as well as in the communities they serve. There are three categories: Innovation, Service, and New Frontier. New Hampshire won in the Service category this year. The Service Award considers how data is being used to further the safety of their community goals and acknowledges that data is boundless and can be used in any number of ways for the benefit of society.
- We continue to work on implementation of the Mobile Integrated Healthcare and Continuum software.
- NFIRS/Respond NH
 - If you would like to start using the New Hampshire Emergency Services Reporting System (NHESR), please fill out the form available at <https://nhfa-ems.com/nhesronboard/>.
 - Fire User Group meetings occur remotely on the second Wednesday at 1300 hours each month.
 - Our Fire Reporting Coordinator position is currently vacant due to a promotion and user groups will be temporarily cancelled until the position is filled.
 - EMS User Group meetings occur remotely on the fourth Wednesday at 0930 hours each month.
 - Coordination continues with the Fire Marshal's Office for further education and guidance for reporting.
 - Anyone interested in the system can contact nhesr@dos.nh.gov by email, submit a ticket at <https://nhfa-ems.com/support/>, or call 603-223-4200 and ask for a member of the data team to reach us.
- RespondNH
 - The Division continues to expand the capabilities of the RespondNH system. As we are able to utilize this system and analyze more data it is important to have department roster information updated and current. Each department has the full capability to manage their own roster by adding new staff and removing those that may have left. Departments are able to do this at any time. For State level reporting information please fill out your roster information to include their status (career, call, or volunteer) as well as the duties they provide such as EMS care and/or fire suppression.

- New Hampshire Emergency Services Reporting (NHESR)
 - 24,008 EMS incidents were entered into the system for July bringing the total for 2024 to 152,373.

Compliance

- There are currently over 48 active investigations and ongoing cases.

Preparedness and Special Projects

- Outreach continues on both AED and CPR programs.

Professional Development Committee _ (Director Cutting) –

- Chief Cathy explained that the seminar was in response to a survey conducted by them and he hoped the Chiefs derived benefit.

Fire Standards and Training Commission – (Chiefs Clark/DeAngelis) – No report

NH Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Coord. Board – (Dep. Chief Paquette) – No report

National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) – (Chiefs E. Thomas/Cathy) –

The Board of Directors, at their meeting on July 10, 2024 selected Chief Erik Thomas of Atkinson as the new representative to the NVFC and Chief Scott Cathy of New Hampton as Alternate. NVFC has been notified

EMS Trauma Medical Review Committee (Dep. Chief Clough) – No report

Homeland Security and Emergency Management – (Director Buxton) – No report.

Commission to study the Incidence of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in First Responders – (Chief Watkins) – No report

Forests and Lands – (Chief Sherman) – No report

Board of Fire Control – (Chiefs Clark/Hunter) – No report

Building Code Review Board – (Chief Conley/Asst. Chief Pouliot) – No report

- Marshal Lennon has submitted his resignation due to his retirement. Nashua Asst. Chief Adam Pouliot has been appointed to replace him.

Manufactured Housing Installation Standards Board: (Chief Blanchette) –

- He mentioned the long meeting with legal that surveyed the boards rules.

Division of Emergency Services and Communications – (Director Doyle)

- Laconia Facility Update: Design concept is finalized, presented to Laconia Planning Board, RFP has been posted on the DAS website;
- Community Events reminder – connect with our Public Outreach / Education Team for more info: Patrick Cavanaugh, 603-271-6911, patrick.m.cavanaugh@desc.nh.gov ;
- PSAP Comfort Dog is in training with her Handler, “Winni” is expected to be full time at the completion of her training this fall;
- Halias Symposium date – 8/15/2025 (Panel discussion with DHHS, 988, Team members “Geographic Challenges”);
- Behavioral Health Crisis Systems study committee meets Friday the 9th at 1000;
- Strategic Plan for the Division is complete – copies will be distributed with the Chiefs shortly;
- Planning on a Communications Cybersecurity workshop with the Telecomms on September 17th with CISA – more to follow;
- Follow up re: CrowdStrike outage on the 19th...gathering data on calls answered, queued, etc. for the Commission report in September;
- July 22nd, joined Chief Knutsen in Plaistow for a survivor reunification ceremony with Plaistow first responders;
- Participated in Water Safety Day in Hampton with the Beach Lifeguards on 7/25, Friends-a-palooza in Concord, and in Goffstown and Lincoln/Woodstock on August 6th for National Night Out;
- Working with RRAP / 988 on a Training oppt’y (ED room / First Responder processes);;
- KPI’s (YTD through June 2024):
 - 99.67% of all calls answered w/i 15 seconds (exceeding NENA standard of 90% w/i 15 seconds)
 - Avg. Police/fire Transfer time = 48.30 seconds (exceeding NFPA Std. of 60 Sec.)
 - Avg. EMD Transfer time = 129 seconds – stable relative to last year.
 - Running @ 20.5% below last year’s call volume

- 422 Transfers to 988 / RRAP (since July 2022 - reflects @ 55% drop compared to last year's YTD);

- Any questions, comments, concerns, please reach out...

E 911 Commission – (Chief Thomas) – No report

NH Drug Overdose Commission – (Chief Thomas) – No report

NH Information Analysis Center – (James Heinz-liaison) –

1. The NHIAC wants to remind and strongly encourage each member to transition into a dot-gov domain and establish an official government email address. If you need assistance, please contact your liaison, James Heinz, james.b.heinz@dos.nh.gov

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

NED-IAFC Conf/Expo

The annual Conference/Expo is scheduled for October 16th – 18th, 2024 at Mohegan Sun in Uncasville, CT. Currently scheduling Professional Development, expo spaces, program layout and most importantly working on a new registration format. Chief Jones will be sworn in as New England President at this meeting.

He also mentioned that several Chiefs would be attending FRI in Dallas next week.

Old Business -

New Business –

Good and Welfare –

- Congratulations Frank Fraitzl on his \$9M grant to build a new fire station in New Boston
- Chief Steve Buxton is representing the NHAFC on the State's Cancer Screening project and will be meeting with the committee in September.
- Thank you, Charlie and Phil, for hosting tonight's program and dinner.

Chief Carrier spoke of the upcoming Golf Tournament.

The raffle was held. \$310 was collected. \$150 was given in prizes, \$160 was transferred to the Treasurer. Counted by Chiefs LaRoche and Carrier.

The meeting was adjourned at 1942 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,
Chief Brent T. Lemire, ret.
Executive Director, NHAFC

August 8, 2024