

# 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

NH Fire Academy - Thursday, October 9, 2025

Following a seminar on Succession Planning, presented by Chief Tony Stowers, the meeting was called to order at 1025 hours by Chief LaRoche.

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

**Welcome from Host:** Director Wholey welcomed all to the Academy.

**INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS.** Members were asked to introduce themselves.

**Special Guests:** Commissioner Quinn joined us for a few minutes. Nick Brown from Congresswomen Goodlander's office shared her greetings. Steve Pecora from Governor Ayotte's office also expressed greetings from the Governor.

**Minutes:** A MOTION (Fraitzl/Cathy) to approve the minutes of the September meeting carried unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** A MOTION (Tremblay/Sitar) to approve the September reports carried unanimously.

Communications: n/a

**Applications for membership:** Chief George Kramlinger of Hampstead, NH has been approved for membership.

**Life Membership:** Asst. Chief Randall Trull of Durham was granted Life Membership by the Board of Directors.

President's Report: (Watkins) - n/a

### **Report of the Executive Director: (Lemire)**

- The November 13 meeting will be virtual.
- The December 11 meeting will be a dinner meeting at the Nashua Country Club.

- The January 8, 2026 meeting will be virtual.
- The February 12 meeting will be at the NHFA for breakfast and seminar.
- Commissioner Quinn received a commendation from Governor Ayotte at the last G & C meeting for his 40 years of service to NH.
- Ad book proceeds to date: Total: \$23,565.50; Vendor: \$16,495.50; Assn: \$7,069.50.

## 1st Vice President Report (LaRoche) -

At the last BOD Meeting a letter to the Federal delegation was discussed regarding apparatus build wait times, and the BOD approved cosigning the letter on behalf of the Association.

- The contract with Grimblas Associates, our legislative lobbyists, was renewed and signed.
- Chief Buxton, from Nashua, shared information regarding the recent shooting at the Country Club in Nashua. This was forwarded to the Professional Development Committee as a potential seminar topic, possibly for the February meeting.

## Professional Development Committee - (Chief LaRoche/Director Wholey)

• Director Wholey spoke of the meeting held with the Committee and Chief LaRoche to determine the seminars for the ensuing year.

## Government Relations - (Schmidt) -

- **Veto Day** In this week's House calendar, the Speaker requested that members save **Wednesday**, **December 17**, **2025** for Veto Day. The House will consider the 11 House bills Governor Ayotte vetoed during the session. The Senate calendar indicates that the Senate will hold their Veto session on **Thursday**, **October 23**, **2025**. Governor Ayotte vetoed only 1 Senate bill. It was SB 213 which focused on electioneering by governmental employees. Several NHAFC members were concerned with the language. We will let you know if we hear more about the Senate veto session.
- **Legislative Calendar** We have included an updated legislative calendar. We will be at the House Executive Departments and Administration work session next Wednesday and will provide an update on the bills relative to codes. Also, on 10/8, the House Commerce committee plans to work on HB 725. At a prior work session, Chairman John Hunt indicated that he may want to alter the underlying bill to address issues in Cheshire County specific to the reimbursement for treat/no transport.

• **Newsclip** – After the legislative calendar, we have included an op-ed from State Senator Dan Innis. He is withdrawing from the Republican primary for US Senate and endorsing former Senator John E. Sununu.

### Wednesday, October 1, 2025

HOUSE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION full committee work

10:00 session on <a href="HB 244">HB 244</a> - Updating and Recodifying The Municipal Enforcement Of The

AM Building and Fire Code; <a href="SB 94">SB 94</a> - Prohibiting Municipal Amendments to The State Building Code in GP 231

### Thursday, October 2, 2025

HOUSE FINANCE DIVISION I work session on <a href="#">HB 164</a> - Relative to Local Records 1:00 Retention; <a href="#">HB 197</a> - Relative to Payment By The State Of A Portion Of Retirement PM System Contributions Of Political Subdivision Employers; <a href="#">HB 216</a> - Relative to Workers' Compensation and Creditable Service Towards Retirement in GP 230

#### Wednesday, October 8, 2025

11:00 HOUSE COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS full committee work session on <u>HB</u> AM **725** - Relative to Ground Ambulance Services in GP 229

1:20 HOUSE LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION full committee work session on <u>HB 314</u> - PM Prohibiting The Use Of Federal, State, or Local Funds For Lobbying Activities in GP 234

### Friday, October 10, 2025

10:00 AM COMMISSION TO STUDY THE INCIDENCE OF POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER IN FIRST RESPONDERS - NH Fire Academy 98 Smokey Bear Blvd., Classroom 1 Concord, NH

### Wednesday, October 22, 2025

HOUSE LABOR, INDUSTRIAL AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES full committee work 10:00 session on <a href="HB 303">HB 303</a> - Relative to Requiring The Department Of Labor Review and Adopt Workers' Occupational Safety Requirements That Are Similar to Osha Standards in GP 154

### Wednesday, November 12, 2025

10:00 HOUSE JUDICIARY executive session on <u>HB 313</u> - Relative to Non-public Sessions At AM Public Meetings Where Discussion In Public Would Likely Affect A Person's Reputation.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Report (D. Chamberlain) -

• (See below)

## Sgt. At Arms (Fraitzl) –

• He spoke on the letter being sent to Congress on the delays in fire apparatus construction and the specter of monopolies. He also summarized the hearing held before congress with the manufacturers.

## **Committee Reports**

## Scholarship Committee – (Chief D. Chamberlain/Marshal Toomey)

• Chief Chamberlain reported that he and ED Lemire would be working with Marshal Toomey on revisions to the scholarships.

## **Division Reports**

Fire Marshal: (Marshal Toomey)

### **ADMINISTRATION:**

### Personnel:

We continue to be under a hiring freeze statewide. We currently have 12 open positions. We have been approved to proceed with a hiring process for two full-time Fire Protection Specialists.

Investigator Marianne Heinrich is attending the Certified Fire Investigator and Firefighter I & II programs through the NH Fire Academy.

District Chief Emily Crosby is attending the Certified Public Manager program.

Deputy Phil Biron is attending the Certified Fire Investigator program through the NH Fire Academy.

# **Legislation:**

We are currently collaborating with the Commissioner's office and our stakeholders on potential legislation for the upcoming session. Over 1,000 Legislative Service Requests have been filed for the 2026 session. Once we have additional information on the language, we will compile a list of bills to watch.

## State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)

With the retirement of Chief Donald DeAngelis, the State Emergency Response Commission is seeking a member from the NH Association of Fire Chiefs. Please contact Assistant Director Brian Allard with any questions brian.h.allard@dos.nh.gov.

## **Board of Fire Control:**

The Board of Fire Control will hold a public hearing on November 5<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm to address potential code amendments for the 2024 editions of NFPA 1 and NFPA 101.

### **BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS:**

In September, we received 21 incident notifications resulting in 8 scene responses. The Bureau of Investigations currently has 8 open arson or suspected arson investigations.

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

- On September 4, 2025, investigators responded to a structure fire in Campton, where one occupant sustained injuries. The cause of the fire is still under investigation; however, no criminal indicators have been identified to date.
- On September 7, 2025, an investigator responded to Henniker to assist the Henniker FD with a subject who had accidentally burned himself while working on his vehicle's fuel tank. Initially, the injuries appeared to be serious but were later downgraded and the subject was released from the hospital that night.
- On September 7, 2025, investigators and a K9 team responded to Milton to assist with an investigation into the origin and cause of a structure fire. It appears the cause of the fire was accidental in nature and was attributed to a remote-controlled car that was plugged in and charging.
- On September 12, 2025, investigators received a report from Manchester FD regarding a building fire where occupants sustained injuries. Investigators collaborated with the Manchester Fire Marshal's Office during this investigation. The patients' statuses will be monitored, and the origin and cause of the fire will be investigated by the Manchester Fire Marshal's Office.
- On September 20, 2025, investigators responded to Wilmot to assist with the investigation into the origin and cause of a garage fire. Upon completing the investigation, the investigators determined that the fire was accidental in nature.
- On September 25, 2025, investigators responded to Warren to assist in the
  investigation of the origin and cause of a motor vehicle fire. Investigators
  worked with the New Hampshire State Police to investigate the fire, as it
  was believed to be intentionally set. This investigation is ongoing and
  remains active.

### Fatal Fire/CO Incidents:

• On September 10, 2025, investigators were notified of a past tense carbon monoxide toxicity fatality by the NH State Medical Examiner's Office of a 37-year-old male. Investigators completed the required follow-up, working with the Chichester Police Department to identify the source of the carbon monoxide exposure. At the conclusion of the investigation, investigators determined that the carbon monoxide source originated from a motor vehicle. The NHSFMO worked in conjunction with the Chichester Police Department and the New Hampshire State Medical Examiner's Office for this investigation.

 On September 28, 2025, an investigator responded to a suspected carbon monoxide fatality in Woodstock. Investigators identified the deceased as a 67-year-old male. The cause of the exposure was self-induced and ruled to have been suicide. The NHSFMO worked in conjunction with the New Hampshire State Police, the US Forest Service, the Woodstock Police and Fire Departments, the Vermont State Police, and the New Hampshire Medical Examiner's Office.

### **Arrests/Court:**

- Investigator Dennis presented a case to a grand jury regarding a November 2024 explosion in a Plaistow apartment building linked to a small-scale Butane Honey Oil (BHO) drug operation. The suspect was identified as Derek J. Blanchette, 40, a resident of Plaistow, who was arrested in February 2025. This was the second and final appearance before the grand jury, which returned a "true bill indictment." The case will now proceed to trial on additional charges related to the investigation into the explosion. FMO worked closely with Plaistow Police and Fire throughout this case.
- Investigator Dennis presented a case to the grand jury regarding a May 2025 fire, which investigators determined to be arson. The suspect was identified as Clay G. Eckian, 32, a resident of Newton, who was arrested in May 2025. The grand jury returned a "true bill indictment." The case will now proceed to trial on the charge of arson. FMO worked closely with Newton Police and Fire throughout this case.

### **Youth Firesetter:**

• Two youth firesetter referrals were received in the month of September.

### **BUREAU OF BUILDING SAFETY & CONSTRUCTION:**

## **Barricading Devices in Educational Facilities**

With the school year now underway, fire and life safety inspections are actively being conducted across New Hampshire's educational facilities. During these inspections, local and state officials continue to encounter barricading devices installed on classroom doors.

It is important to note that most of these devices do not comply with the current state fire code. Specifically, NFPA 101: Life Safety Code (2021 Edition), Section 15.2.2.2.4.1 (4) requires that:

"The releasing mechanism for unlocking and unlatching shall be located at a height not less than 34 inches and not exceeding 48 inches above the finished floor."

Barricading devices that do not meet this requirement must obtain a variance from the state fire code in order to be permitted within an educational occupancy.

We ask all inspectors to ensure that any such devices currently in use have an approved variance on file. If not, please direct the school to submit a variance request through our office.

For questions or assistance with the variance process, please contact us directly.

## **State Building Permit System:**

We processed a total of 71 permits in September:

Building: 29
Electrical: 14
Plumbing: 6
Fuel Gas: 7
Mechanical: 3
Fire Protection: 5
Fire Alarm: 7

### Technical Assistance, Educational & Healthcare Reviews:

We initiated 3 educational and 5 healthcare plan reviews, completed 414 inspections and 230 technical consults in the month of September.

# **Variance Requests:**

We processed 1 variance request in the month of September.

# Fireworks Safety and Enforcement Program

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

- Proximate Licenses Issued: 5
- Display Certificate of Competency Issued: o
- Consumer Fireworks Retail Store Licenses Issued: 1
- Explosive Magazine Inspections: o
- Proximate Audience Inspections: 6
- Technical Assistance: 4

# **Modular Building Program**

The Modular Building Program conducted the following in the month of September:

- Inspections: 13
- Audits of Manufacturers: o

- Audits of Educational Facilities: o
- Labels Issued to Manufacturers: 223
- Units Shipped to New Hampshire: 26

### Tramway and Amusement Ride Safety

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

- Amusement Registrations: 34
- Amusement Inspections: 87
- Amusement Incidents: o
- Tramway Registrations: 1
- Tramway Inspections: 4
- Tramway Incidents: 1

### **BUREAU OF OUTREACH & EDUCATION:**

### **Hazardous Materials:**

In the month of September, the hazardous materials section attended the Hazmat Collaborative meeting. There were no incident responses or consultations. You can contact us at: hazmat@dos.nh.gov.

## **Incident Reporting:**

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. New Hampshire is onboarding during the first week in October 2025. Remember using NERIS is a two-step process. Onboarding is the first step and that just registers your department and two primary contacts with the NERIS system. Entering data will come later. All fire departments will receive an e-mail from Underwriter's Laboratory, Fire Safety Research Institute, NERIS Office with the onboarding instructions.

As we have mentioned before, NFIRS, as we know it, will be going away for good on December 31, 2025. Please make sure that you have a plan for the transition to NERIS. If you are an e-NFIRS user, you should switch to the Image Trend Elite software now. Please contact the data analysis section at <a href="mailto:nhfirs@dos.nh.gov">nhfirs@dos.nh.gov</a> to get started. If you have a third-party vendor software package, please contact your vendor and work with them to switch your data collection method over from NFIRS to NERIS sometime between October and December.

Data reporting will not occur in both systems simultaneously. Once you switch over from NFIRS to NERIS, you will not be required to continue reporting in NFIRS. Our

goal is to eliminate the chance of gaps in data for the state. Please set your department up for success by preparing for NERIS now.

### **Key NERIS Resources:**

- User References
- NERIS Onboarding Checklist and Guide
- Visit our website for more NERIS support and updates.
- NHFIRS Incident Reporting Newsletter (quarterly)

With NFIRS sunsetting, fire departments must be sure that they are able to maintain a system of record locally. For specifics on what is needed, please read NH RSA 33-A.

We would like to remind all fire departments that if you experience a fatal fire with civilian injuries in your community, you will need to complete the Civilian Casualty module for your incident report in addition to calling our office for investigative assistance.

Please reach out to our NHFIRS team for any incident reporting questions at <a href="mailto:nhfirs@dos.nh.gov">nhfirs@dos.nh.gov</a> and have your NFIRS/NERIS contact person sign-up for the NHFIRS Newsletter by sending an email to <a href="mailto:FMO@dos.nh.gov">FMO@dos.nh.gov</a>.

### **Community Risk Reduction (CRR):**

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, we co-hosted a **Steps to Safety™ Training** that focused on reducing fall and fire risks among older adults. Over 75 professionals from fire, EMS, healthcare, housing, and community organizations gathered in Concord for the event. Twenty-six fire departments were represented from eight counties in the state, with partners from Vermont. This event happened with support from the NH Fall Risk Reduction Taskforce, Elliot Health System, and NFPA. Attendees explored 16 key safety messages—eight for fire prevention and eight for fall prevention—and connected with valuable partner resources and collaborative opportunities.

Free training opportunity - The 10th Annual Carbon Monoxide Safety Summit is in Concord, NH on Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup>. This event is geared towards fire & emergency services, public health, policy, and advocacy. It is a unique opportunity to learn, connect, and collaborate. Registration and lunch are provided, thanks to our generous sponsors. Space is limited, so register today!

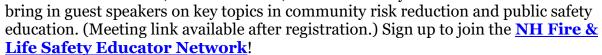
### **Outreach Events:**

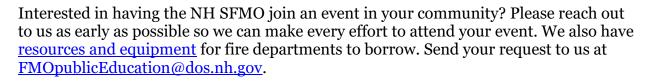
This September, the New Hampshire State Fire Marshal's Office participated in nine public outreach events and attended professional development training at the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Fire & Life Safety Education Conference in Mansfield, MA. At Hudson Fire Department's Open House, we teamed up with the department to engage families about the importance of storing, charging, and recycling lithium-ion batteries appropriately. Hudson Fire also conducted a burn demo using our Side-by-Side Burn Trailer to

highlight the importance of home sprinkler systems. We shared fire safety messages in Pittsfield, Manchester, and at Keene State's Campus Night Out.

At the NH Construction Career Days in New Boston on September 25-26, middle and high school students explored the history behind building codes and standards through interactive activities. They acted as building inspectors in our Building Codes Escape Room. Working together, students identified key aspects that help keep community areas fire and life safe such as ensuring all areas had working smoke alarms, up to date fire extinguishers, and ensuring GFCI outlets were installed in the appropriate rooms.

We also launched a new network for fire & life safety educators. We have monthly virtual calls to discuss topics from our communities, share resources, and occasionally





## **Public Education:**

## **Charge into Fire Safety!**

This year's Fire Prevention Week™ (FPW™) campaign, October 5-11, "Charge into Fire Safety™: Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home," works to educate everyone about using these batteries safely. The campaign stresses how important it is to <u>BUY</u>, <u>CHARGE</u>, and <u>RECYCLE</u> safely when it comes to lithium-ion batteries.





**Buy only listed products.** When buying a product that uses a lithium-ion battery, look for a safety certification mark such as UL, ETL, or CSA. This means it meets important safety standards.

**Charge devices safely.** Always use the cords that came with the product to charge. Follow the instructions from the manufacturer. Buy new chargers from the manufacturer or one that the manufacturer has approved. Charge your device on a hard surface. Don't overcharge your device. Unplug it or remove the battery when it's fully charged.

**Recycle batteries responsibly.** Don't throw lithium-ion batteries in the trash or regular recycling bins because they could start a fire. Recycle your device or battery at a safe battery recycling location. Visit <u>call2recycle.org</u> to find a recycling spot near you. NH RSA 14-:M-27 prohibits disposal in landfills.

Find resources for in-person activities and social media content at: https://www.nfpa.org/events/fire-prevention-week

# Join our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Fire Prevention Week Chalk Art Contest!

**WHO:** New Hampshire Fire Departments

**WHAT:** Create chalk art with messaging around the 2025 FPW theme, *Charge into Fire Safety*.

**WHEN:** Post your image to Facebook during Fire Prevention Week (October 5-11) and tag us: <u>@NHSFMO</u>.

This is an opportunity to share safety messages in your community. Voters enjoy fun, original chalk art at your fire station! On Monday, October 13, we will share all the images in a single post, which will be open to public voting from 10/13 - 10/19. The winning fire department will be announced on 10/20.

# **Training Opportunities:**

The FMO can present training courses to law enforcement officers, fire service professionals and building inspectors. These training courses are typically two to three-hour in length. If you are interested in hosting a future session, or would like to suggest a future training topic, please reach out to us at <a href="mailto:FMOpublicEducation@dos.nh.gov">FMOpublicEducation@dos.nh.gov</a>.

### Topics include:

- Application of the NH State Fire Code: A Scenario Based Training
- NFPA 1 and 101 2021 Edition Updates
- Inspections of Multi-Family Dwellings
- Tent Inspections
- Commercial Cooking and Food Trucks
- Solar Installations for One- and Two-family Homes
- Display Fireworks Inspection Essentials

- Heating and Fuel Gas Appliance Inspections
- The Basics of LP Installations for One- and Two-family Homes
- Fire Investigation for First Responders
- Collection of Witness Data in Fire Investigation
- Fire Investigation Case Studies
- Air Monitoring
- PEAC Software
- An Overview of the 2024 Emergency Response Guidebook

## <u>Fire Standards/Training/EMS</u> – (Director Wholey)

### **Administration**

#### Personnel

- ➤ We continue to work within the hiring process under Governor Ayotte's Executive Order. While we have not had a waiver denied, we have to work within the strategic mission of the Department of Safety.
- ➤ Instructor Kyle Williams has been promoted to Captain, effective October 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- ➤ We are in the process of finalizing the direction for the second open Captain position.
- ➤ We are interviewing for a full-time EMS Compliance Coordinator.
- ➤ We are interviewing for part-time Staff Instructors.
- ➤ We are interviewing for part-time Support O<sub>51</sub> personnel.
- ➤ We are interviewing for a part-time Promotional Testing Program Coordinator
- ➤ We continue to seek applicants for a part-time Fleet Mechanic for Heavy Equipment waiver approved.
- ➤ We have one vacancy for a full-time Program Specialist III (Education Technologist) waiver approved.
- ➤ We have two vacancies for our full-time Fire Training Instructor.
- ➤ We have one vacancy for our part-time EMS Ambulance Inspection Coordinator.
- ➤ We have vacancies for EMS Exam Coordinators.
- > We have vacancies for EMS Vehicle Inspectors.

#### **Grants**

- ➤ We have received notification of the grant award for the 2024 National Fire Academy grant.
- ➤ We submitted our application for the 2025 National Fire Academy training grant.

➤ Bureau Personnel are in the process of gathering quotes for potential equipment purchases through the FEMA Grants.

# **Special Projects**

- ➤ The Division is currently working through the contract process for the early detection cancer screening pilot program which will then be submitted to the Governor and Executive Council for consideration.
  - We are developing a website dedicated to this program where eligible individuals can find information about the program.
- ➤ The Raymond S. Burton Fire and EMS Training Facility infrastructure project continues to move forward with completion of the project expected on or before November 2025.
  - Phase II which includes the heated garage and classroom building upgrades is ongoing.
    - Work continues on the interior work for the classroom and garage buildings.
    - Classes and prop usages are being limited for this campus until construction is completed. All other classes will be moved to other facilities in the area.
- ➤ 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.
  - Emergency Service Dispatchers are also eligible for the program.
  - Details can be found at: <a href="https://www.ccsnh.edu/law-enforcement-officers-professional-firefighters-and-emergency-medical-technicians-career-development-recruitment-and-retention-program/">https://www.ccsnh.edu/law-enforcement-officers-professional-firefighters-and-emergency-medical-technicians-career-development-recruitment-and-retention-program/</a>

# **National Fire Academy**

- Hosted
  - Decision Making for Initial Company Operations Richard Flynn
     Campus, Concord October 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - Supervising Emergency Medical Services Cheshire Medical Center, Keene
     October 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>
- > Upcoming
  - Command and Control of Incident Operations Portsmouth Fire
     Department Station 2, Portsmouth November 3 8

# Legislative/Administrative Rules

- ➤ The 2026 Legislative Session is set to begin with over 1,073 Legislative Service Requests filed for the upcoming session. The Division is working with DOS Leadership to review and strategize for possible fire and EMS service impacts.
- ➤ The proposed Trauma Rules are working through the internal DOS process.
- Administrative Rules to make the full transition to ETA's and sunset the former process have been developed and are working through the internal DOS process for submission to JLCAR.

### Outreach

> Staff members continue to attend various stakeholder and mutual aid group meetings and make department visits.

## **Mental Health & Resiliency**

- Group Crisis Intervention & Assisting Individuals in Crisis Richard Flynn Campus, Concord – October 1st
- Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training Moultonborough Fire & Rescue
   Department, Moultonborough November 3 7
- > 2026 Mental Health & Wellness Seminar: Leadership and Resiliency for the Future Richard Flynn Campus, Concord January 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026
- ➤ We continue our work in partnership with Police Standards and Training, Department of Corrections, and the Commissioner's Office to develop a more comprehensive program for PTSD training utilizing experts from this field in development of the curriculum and delivery.

### **Curriculum**

# Firefighter

- ➤ The visiting committee met on September 17<sup>th</sup> to review the Ladders, Search & Rescue, and Ventilation modules of FFI.
- ➤ The next meeting will be on October 15<sup>th</sup> to review the Hose & Streams, Forestry, and Water Supply modules.

# **Fire Inspector**

- ➤ The FSTC has given preliminary approval for both the First Responder Inspector and Fire Inspector curricula. The 60-day public comment period is open until Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Two public hearings are scheduled for Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 3 PM and 5 PM at the Concord Fire Academy.
- > Test bank item validation is underway for the Fire Inspector test bank.

# **Driver-Operator**

- ➤ The Driver/Operator Visiting Committee met for their orientation on September 10<sup>th</sup>. They will meet monthly on the second Wednesday of each month.
- ➤ The next meeting will be on October 8<sup>th</sup> to review the testing specifications for the Driver/Operator All Vehicles program.

## **Future Program Development**

- ➤ Interfacility Transfer (Bureau of EMS). Captain Robblee and Rachel Larry are overseeing an EMS Visiting Committee to revise the IFT and PIFT training programs. The development committee for this program was chosen and has begun collecting data for a training needs assessment.
- > EMS in the Warm Zone (Bureau of EMS). Captain Cartier and Maria Varanka are overseeing an update to the Awareness, Operations, and RTF Concepts levels of EMS in the Warm Zone program. This update seeks to align the program with the newest versions of NFPA 3000 and the Committee on Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (C-TECC) guidelines for First Responders with a Duty to Act.
- ➤ Fire Officer (I, II, & III). The new NFPA standards for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications (NFPA 1020) were released at the beginning of the year. This month, Captain Burns and Program Coordinator Meyer will begin work in preparation for a visiting committee later this year.
- ➤ Fire and Emergency Services Instructor (I, II, & III). The new NFPA standards for Instructor professional qualifications (NFPA 1020) were released at the beginning of the year. This month, Chief Bibeau and Program Coordinator Field will begin work in preparation for a visiting committee early next year.

### Accreditation

- ➤ The Pro Board re-accreditation site visit has concluded with the recommendation that the Division be accredited for another five years. The Division will appear before the Commission of Accreditation at the Pro Board Conference in Orlando in January 2026.
- ➤ The site visit team spent two days reviewing the Division's policies, testing instruments, and training facilities. The team remarked on several of the initiatives we've been working on related to lesson planning and test item analysis. They recommended that we continue what we're doing to improve the validity and reliability of our tests. Bureau of Firefighter Training

# Courses/Programs

- > Firefighter I & II
  - Lakes Region Community College (FF I & II) August 1 October 24

- Rumney (FF I) August 19 November 22
- Moultonborough (FF II) August 26 October 25
- Stratham (FF I & II) September 3 December 20

### > Technical Rescue

- Trench Rescue Technician Concord October 6 October 27
- Confined Space Technician Concord December 15 December 18

## > Driver Operator

- Conway October 7<sup>th</sup>
- All inquiries for these programs should be directed to <u>driveroperator@dos.nh.gov</u>
- Hazardous Materials
  - IAFF Technician Concord October 20 October 31
  - Hazardous Materials Awareness is available:
     <a href="https://www.nhfaemslearning.org/login/index.php">https://www.nhfaemslearning.org/login/index.php</a>
- ➤ Module Deliveries
- ➤ Airport Rescue Firefighting
  - Fall Live Fire Recertifications will run through mid-November:
     <a href="https://www.fstems.dos.nh.gov/training-education/aircraft-rescue-firefighter-program">https://www.fstems.dos.nh.gov/training-education/aircraft-rescue-firefighter-program</a>
  - Concord September 29 October 15
- "On My Time" Program
  - We continue to offer support and guidance to many departments participating in this program.
- ➤ Electric Vehicle Training Resources
  - US Department of Energy, Alternate Fuels Data Center, EV Safety Training Resources for First and Second Responders: <a href="https://afdc.energy.gov/vehicles/electric-responders">https://afdc.energy.gov/vehicles/electric-responders</a>
  - NFPA training for Alternative Fuel Vehicles: <a href="https://www.nfpa.org/for-professionals/training-for-me/buy-alternative-fuel-vehicles-training">https://www.nfpa.org/for-professionals/training-for-me/buy-alternative-fuel-vehicles-training</a>
  - NFPA FIRST Training Application: <a href="https://info.vectorsolutions.com/vs-fr-nfpa-new-energy-systems-fire-simulator-training">https://info.vectorsolutions.com/vs-fr-nfpa-new-energy-systems-fire-simulator-training</a>
  - Distributed Energy Resources (DER) Field Familiarization Guide: https://derstfg.org/

## **Testing**

- Monthly Testing was completed in September for the NFPA 1001, 1002 and 1003 testing processes, which includes administering the written and practical exams.
  - Monthly testing is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month, with Firefighter I physical exams on the following Saturday. Burton campus monthly testing is only in March, June, September and December on the Wednesday after the Flynn campus exam date. Submissions must be entered by the last day of the month prior to the month you wish to test.
- ➤ The Bureau has been training with the Bureau of Certification and Support regarding the new written exam testing that is now done with iPads.

## Apparatus/Equipment

- ➤ We are scheduling dates for all our apparatuses to complete the State Inspections in October.
- ➤ All apparatus and Fleet Vehicles are in service.

## **Facilities, Prop Usage and Projects**

- ➤ Joint Base Cad Cod MA Air National Guard did live fire training in the "A" Building on September 10<sup>th</sup>.
- ➤ The Extinguisher Prop traveled to the New Hampton Fire Department on September 15<sup>th</sup>.
- ➤ The Derry Fire Department used the "B" Building on September 18<sup>th</sup> for Hose & Streams evolutions.
- ➤ The Concord Fire Department was on Campus on September 29<sup>th</sup> to use the Basement Window and Floor Prop.
- ➤ IPS performed air sampling in August on the Concord Campus Air Trailers. We received the successful certification results on September 9<sup>th</sup>.
- > Clean up continues on the South end of the Drillyard, with props that we no longer use being removed during the month of September.
- ➤ We are working with our Maintenance Staff to repair lighting in and around the "B" Building and the Northwest side of the Drillyard.
- ➤ Kirilla was at the ARFF Site on September 17<sup>th</sup> to inspect and correct a problem with that prop.
- ➤ Crash Five was featured at the Wings and Wheels event at Concord Airport on September 28<sup>th</sup>.
- ➤ Fire Extinguisher training with Division of Motor Vehicles staff has been set for October 13<sup>th</sup>.

➤ Parts have been ordered for the repair of two hydrants that have been out of service.

## Bureau of Certification and Support

# **Courses/Programs**

- ➤ Instructor I/II/III Programs
  - *Instructor I* Warner Fire, Warner November 5 December 17
  - Instructor II Virtual October 6 November 12
- > Instructor Professional Development
  - Lesson Plan Problems of Practice Workshop
    - Virtual November 18th
    - Richard Flynn Campus, Concord November 20<sup>th</sup>
- ➤ Fire Officer I/II Programs
  - Fire Officer I Richard Flynn Campus, Concord September 8 October
     27
  - Fire Officer I Milford Fire Department, Milford October 4 November
     29
  - Fire Officer II Virtual, November 18 January 27
- ➤ Fire Inspector Programs
  - Fire Inspector I New Hampton Fire Department, New Hampton –
     September 25 November 18
- Fire Investigator Richard Flynn Campus, Concord August 21 November 6
- ➤ National Fire Academy
  - Hosted
    - Decision Making for Initial Company Operations Richard Flynn Campus, Concord – October 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>
    - Supervising Emergency Medical Services Cheshire Medical Center,
       Keene October 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - Upcoming
    - Command and Control of Incident Operations Portsmouth Fire Department Station 2, Portsmouth – November 3 - 8

# **Education Technology**

Progress continues on Firefighter I modules:

- Video content shoots and SME reviews of several have been scheduled or are in the postproduction phase, including Orientation/History, Fire Behavior and PPE/SCBA.
- Building Construction and Ropes and Knots are in early production.
- Hazardous Materials Awareness is under review.
- ➤ EMS in the Warm Zone program is progressing and nearly ready for SME review.
- ➤ The WordPress based Resource Center is functioning with limited ability to adjust certain components.
  - The Drupal-based State website is up and running.
  - Course catalog migration is on hold.
- Classrooms 5/6/7 are in limited service. New cabling and a media switch purchase are being considered.

### **Instructors**

- ➤ New State Fire Instructor applications are available on RespondNH.
- ➤ The Fire Training Captains have been actively training and endorsing Instructors and Program Assistants in numerous classes and prop operations.
  - Many instructors are working through their endorsement process for the new tablet-based Questionmark testing platform.

### **CPAT**

- ➤ There are two CPAT exam dates remaining in 2025:
  - October 27<sup>th</sup> Nashua NH National Guard Recruiting Office
  - November 24<sup>th</sup> Nashua NH National Guard Recruiting Office
- > CPAT stats, YTD: 345 tests administered, 234 tests passed (67.8%)
- Staff are beginning to develop electronic scoring of CPAT exams using RespondNH.
- ➤ On-site ALS has been added to each testing location and will be part of the program moving forward. Thank you to Laconia FD for assisting in September, and AMR for assisting in Nashua in October and November.
- ➤ Department member assistance is needed for CPAT on testing days. Please confirm available personnel to assist with 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 Trauma Medical Review Committee will meet on October 15<sup>th</sup> at 0930.
- ➤ The Privacy Committee will meet on October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1300.
- ➤ The Medical Control Board will meet on November 20<sup>th</sup> at 0930.
- ➤ The Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Coordinating Board will meet on November 20<sup>th</sup> at 1300.

## **Operations**

- ➤ New annual training for information security regarding criminal record checks has been rolled out to applicable staff with CRU portal access.
- Ongoing communication with NREMT regarding challenges with the website update
  - Licensing has not been interrupted. However, verifications of education and psychomotor completion have been delayed due to errors on the NREMT website. NREMT fixes are ongoing but no clear time to resolution.
- ➤ With final adoption of the Educational Training Agency (ETA) ruleset as of April 30, 2024, the Administrative Packet for application can be found on the Division website and Resource Center.
  - There are currently 16 licensed ETAs with 8 more in the process of being licensed.
- ➤ There are currently 313 licensed EMS Units and 6,240 EMS Providers.
- > 17 ground ambulance inspections were conducted in September.
- ➤ Background checks are currently averaging approximately 3 days for new applicants for licensure.
- The EMS Simulation Training Program held 7 programs in September.
- > EMS Psychomotor Exams
  - No exams were held in September, and none are scheduled for October.
- ➤ With the passage of HB2, wheelchair van inspections are not the purview of the Division. This responsibility has been moved to the Department of Health and Human Services.

# **Courses/Programs**

➤ Emergency Medical Responder (EMR): Fall 2025 course in Wentworth is running September 6 - November 1. The Winter 2026 course in Newbury (January 3 – February 28) is open for registration.

- ➤ EMS Continuing Education and Simulation Education
  - Toppled Tots: A Pediatric Trauma Primer Concord, October 1<sup>st</sup>, and Virtual, October 16<sup>th</sup>
  - Evidence Based Medicine & NH EMS Protocols Virtual, October 6<sup>th</sup>
  - Adult and Pediatric Accidental Intoxicant Exposure (Simulation) Littleton,
     October 11<sup>th</sup>
  - Prehospital Obstetric and Neonatal Care (Simulation) Colebrook, October
     16<sup>th</sup>
  - Palliative Care and Hospice for the EMS Provider Virtual, October 28th
  - We're All In this Together: EMS & Law Enforcement Field Operations –
     Concord, November 5<sup>th</sup>, and Virtual, November 20<sup>th</sup>
  - Pediatric and Adult Respiratory Emergencies (Simulation) Concord,
     November 12<sup>th</sup>
  - Prehospital Obstetric and Neonatal Care (Simulation) Glen, November 15<sup>th</sup>
  - Manmade Disasters: Planning, Response and Recovery Concord, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Virtual, December 18<sup>th</sup>
  - Pediatric and Adult Respiratory Emergencies (Simulation) Littleton,
     December 13<sup>th</sup>
- ➤ EMS in the Warm Zone Awareness, Operations and Rescue Task Force Concepts
  - The Awareness and Operations courses are available free to students through our online training platform: <a href="https://www.nhfaemslearning.org/login/index.php">https://www.nhfaemslearning.org/login/index.php</a>
  - The RTF Concepts class is a half-day in-person training that is also available. Grant funding opportunities are available.
    - Rescue Task Force Concepts Richard M. Flynn Training Facility, Concord –January 7
  - If anyone is looking for this program, please contact Shawn Croteau at Shawn.A.Croteau@dos.nh.gov

# **Clinical Systems**

- EMS Protocols Version 9.3 Mid-Cycle Rollout has modifications to protocol 1.4 from 60 days to 90 days and non-substantive changes to multiple protocols. The public comment period ended on September 15<sup>th</sup>.
- ➤ EMS Protocols Version 10.0 development has been postponed, pending the 9.3 adoption.

## **Data Management**

### > NHESR

- 114 fire departments are utilizing the system for incident reporting. If you would like to start using the New Hampshire Emergency Services Reporting System (NHESR), please fill out the form available at <a href="https://nhfa-ems.com/nhesronboard/">https://nhfa-ems.com/nhesronboard/</a>.
- Anyone interested in the system can contact <a href="mailto:nhesr@dos.nh.gov">nhesr@dos.nh.gov</a> by email, submit a ticket at <a href="https://nhfa-ems.com/support/">https://nhfa-ems.com/support/</a>, 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 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 and may be done at any time. For State level reporting information, fill out your roster information to include their status (career, call, or volunteer) and the duties they provide, such as EMS care and/or fire suppression.
- ➤ EMS Instructor Initial/Reinstatement and Instructor Renewal applications are available online for licensing.
- ➤ The monthly EMS and Fire Reporting Users groups have restarted.
- ➤ We are working with EMS agencies using 3rd party ePCR software to improve their reporting completeness and overall data quality.

# Compliance

- There are currently 6 active investigations and ongoing cases.
- > All compliance related inquiries should be directed to Bureau Chief Romanello.
- ➤ The Division has transitioned to a new public look-up page in RespondNH. This will allow anyone to search an individual and find out if they have any license sanctions against them.

# **Preparedness and Special Projects**

- > Staff conducted 4 outreach events for AED consultations and preparedness last month.
- > Staff continue to support MIH and IFT programs and outreach. There are 15 current MIH programs in the state.
  - All MIH programs are integrated with the ImageTrend CP Module.

Laconia Fire has proposed a program known as the Community Paramedicine Program by the Partnership for Public Health, Inc. to enhance healthcare delivery and accessibility in Laconia, NH, and surrounding towns. The program is designed to reduce unnecessary hospital admissions and emergency department visits.

\*\* The Mental Health seminar will be held January 13 and 14, 2026.

Fire Standards and Training Commission – (Chiefs Clark/Miller) – No report Homeland Security and Emergency Management – (Director Buxton) – No report.

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

(Report submitted by Director Doyle)

- Laconia facility update: Construction fully underway foundation slabs are in,
   Steel framing is up, non-critical building has been framed in progress continues;
- Genasys Emergency notification platform (NH Alerts) is up and running, If you
  are interested in becoming a POC for your community to use the ENS for local
  messasging, please let me know. The statewwide ENS system is offfered to local
  communities at no cost;
- Community Events / school visits reminder connect with our Public Outreach /
  Education Team for more info: Patrick Cavanaugh (603-271-6911),
   patrick.m.cavanaugh@desc.nh.gov;
- Piscataqua River High-Level Bridge discussion continues meeting follow up this morning at 1100 (virtual), comms-specific discussion re: Interop channel access and ICS 217 planning;
- SECC Meeting scheduled for 10/17 EAS updates / equipment & software uupgrades / NH EAS plan review & submission to the FCC;
- Director attended the Easter Seals Veteran's campus opening ceremony Franklin on 9/18;
- ACEPS Meeting last week discussed upcoming concerns re: Cybersecurity /
  Drought / ASHER Training / Critical Infrastructure and Interoperability / school
  mapping;

- Dirtector attended the Fireman's memorial on 9/27;
- Met with the Beach Patrol / Parks Division / HSEM re: Future Emergency response needs;
- E911 Commission meeting on 9/12, discussion centered around waivers for vacant positions and communication with the Gov's office – all approved.
   Recruiting next class of TC's now;
- Radio Communications currently deploying NHICNET Radio equipment at 48 sites and will continue into the fall, winter and spring of 2026;
- Communications support from DESC Radio Communications for the "Thunder Over
- REMINDER of the Tuition reimbursement program which was extended to Dispatchers and Telecommunicators. Beginning with the Fall 2025 semester, public safety telecommunicators and dispatchers will be eligible to participate in the CCSNH Career Development, Recruitment, and Retention Program. This program supports first responders by providing reimbursement for tuition and required fees. For more information, see <a href="https://www.ccsnh.edu/law-enforcement-officers-professional-firefighters-and-emergency-medical-technicians-career-development-recruitment-and-retention-program">https://www.ccsnh.edu/law-enforcement-officers-professional-firefighters-and-emergency-medical-technicians-career-development-recruitment-and-retention-program</a> Please pass this information along to your Dispatchers;

# • Social Media / Public Education Updates:

In September, the Division used its social media channels (Facebook, Instagram, and X) to showcase the work of our 911 telecommunicators, including recognition posts that highlighted their calm and professionalism during emergency calls. We celebrated an impressive answer rate, with 99.7% of all 911 calls answered within the first 10 seconds.

We also spotlighted the work of our Radio Communications

Maintenance Section and continued to inform our audience about

important 911 capabilities such as Text-to-911, the 911 CARES program, and tools like what3words that help callers share their precise location when a street address isn't available. We highlighted several public outreach events throughout the month, and our Unique Road Name series continued to see strong engagement while providing insight into the behind-the-scenes work that supports New Hampshire's 911 system.

### Media events:



- Interoperability Roundtable discussion in Strafford County on October 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 P.M. at the Strafford County Sherrif's Office. RSVP or questions can be sent to Asst. Director Tim Scott at <a href="mailto:timothy.c.scott@desc.nh.gov">timothy.c.scott@desc.nh.gov</a>
- Any questions, comments, concerns, please reach out...

# E 911 Commission – (Chief Thomas) –

Surcharge receipts for wired and wireless lines on average \$1.3M/month (estimated monthly average of 1.7M lines)

Surcharge receipts for VoIP lines averaged \$233K/month (estimated monthly average of 311K lines)

Surcharge receipts for Prepaids are averaging \$129k/month (estimated monthly average of 177k transactions)

Projecting surcharge receipts for FY26, we expect to collect a total of \$20.1M in surcharge revenues, which accounts for the recent fee increase that took into effect May 1, 2025.

911 has 9 TC1 vacancies and 3 TC11 vacancies. Do not have waivers in place to advertise for the positions. Mandatory OT is still in place. Management and training department is stepping up to fill in the gaps. Once the waivers are in place the hiring process starts then it takes 8 to 10 months for training.

292,000 calls through August. 1200-1300 calls per day this summer which is an increase from last year.

Mapping Database has 1240 NH 911 C.A.R.E.S. signed up.

Continue HVAC, generator and propane upgrades a three remote communication sites (Warner Hill, Pack Monadnock and Holden Hill)

911 Radio Communications were involved in three emergency calls: Fish & Game search and rescue in Chesterfield, NHSP Swat call in Francestown, and NHSP Swat call in Unity.

First Net is planning infrastructure development on Hall Stream Rd, the POE/CBP station in Pittsburg and at Mount Sunapee.

Laconia Facility is taking shape, all is on schedule.

### Forests and Lands – (Chief Sherman) –

We have hired Adam Sperlonga as the District 14 Forest Ranger – Grafton County Area. Our vacant district in Rockingham County will remain unfilled for the next 2 years due to budget reductions.

### BUDGET - FY26/FY27

This was a very difficult budget this time around and has presented many challenges. The Forest Protection Bureau has lost one forest ranger position as a result of budget reductions. The next biennium will present further budget challenges as we absorb regular cost increases with a reduced budget. The department is also required to reduce the budget by an additional \$300,000. At this time, we do not expect this to impact the Bureau since we have already kept a position unfilled.

### VFA GRANT FUNDS

We continue to offer VFA Grant Funds to fire departments. To better serve

communities and allow time for processing, we have a new timeline for the Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) grants to fire suppression organizations in communities of less than 10,000 in population. Due to some changes in the state process for approving and processing pass-through grants to your communities, we are adjusting the timeline to allow for a more streamlined approach.

The Division of Forests and Lands (F&L) will have funding available from the United States Forest Service for the 2026 VFA Grant Program. We anticipate keeping the award amount for the 50/50 grant at up to \$2,000 (grant funds) per community. Reminder - the new timeline is as follows:

VFA Grants to Communities - Timeline	
11/1/24	Pre-Applications to be mailed out to Communities
2/1/25	Pre-Applications due back to F&L. Must include community UEID number to receive federal funds
2/14/25	Around this date, the VFA Committee will meet to award grant funds
3/1/25	By this date, F&L will send the approval packet to the community with G1 contract to be signed
4/15/25	Grant packet and G1 due back to F&L from the community. F&L processing and approval of completed packets will be completed as packets are received from the community
12/31/2 5	Deadline for the community to have the project completed and to have all close out paperwork submitted to F&L. F&L will process reimbursements as completed close out packets are received and approved.

## INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS

We have ordered a Forest Ranger vehicle and a new UTV with these funds. We recently purchased sprinklers and created 10 sprinkler kits which can be set up during prescribed fire as well as wildfire suppression in the WUI. We have also purchased 10 deployable road signs which say "Fire Activity Ahead", which can be deployed at incidents. We will continue to purchase additional fire suppression equipment with these funds.

### **FIRE SEASON**

This year has been very busy due to the drought conditions and the need to put on a statewide outdoor fire prohibition. Please refer to the separate Fall Fire Season Update for detailed information.

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

- U) **Uniforms**: The NHIAC suggests that firefighters/EMS providers be conscious of their duty uniforms. There have been instances of uniforms stolen/obtained and used for surveillance purposes, as well as probing or breaching.
- (U) **Bio & Chemical attacks**: The NHIAC is aware of a recent uptick in attacks using biological and/or chemical weapons worldwide, including mercury and recently a muriatic acid splashing attack in Oregon. We encourage you to refresh your contacts with your Haz-Mat team as well as the NH CST Team.
- (U) **Violence Towards Firefighters/ Police:** The NHIAC is aware of an attack on Sheriffs in California using Molotov cocktails. The NHIAC recently passed through an alert from the Maryland Fusion Center regarding arson being used to target and attack responding firefighters. If you did not receive it, please contact your fusion center liaison Jim Heinz at <a href="mailto:James.B.Heinz@dos.nh.gov">James.B.Heinz@dos.nh.gov</a>
- (U) **Dams:** The NHIAC is aware of several cyberattacks on dams worldwide. If there is a dam in your AOR, please reach out to those who control it.
- (U) **Operation Flashpoint:** A memo has been sent out in a few editions of the NHIAC monthly Fire/EMS Bulletin regarding Operation Flashpoint. The awareness campaign was developed in partnership by FBI and DHS. See this link to review the program overview and objectives Operation Flashpoint Program | CISA. Members of the NHIAC continue to be out in NH communities working with businesses on bomb making materials awareness. As we all know, some of the materials used in the Boston Marathon bombing were purchased locally. An educational and informational program has been developed and is being presented which includes visual aids and informational sessions by members of the NHIAC.
- (U) **Water & Wastewater Sectors:** The NHIAC recommends that you work to protect your AOR's water and wastewater systems. There was recently an arson at a Kansas City wastewater treatment facility. The Overwatch Foundation is a valuable cybersecurity resource for this. www.overwatch.org
- (U) **Large Public Gatherings:** The NHIAC reminds you that large gatherings remain a vulnerable target for attacks, including vehicle ramming, particularly with the upcoming holiday season.
- (U) **UAS/Drone Activity:** The NHIAC is interested in drone activity conflicting with Fire/EMS operations. Please report any incidents of drones flying or hovering around your emergency operations or fire stations to Law Enforcement, particularly in reconnaissance type of behavior. Please also inform your Fire Service Intelligence Liaison Jim Heinz at <a href="mailto:James.B.Heinz@dos.nh.gov">James.B.Heinz@dos.nh.gov</a>. Please see the following link for more information. <a href="mailto:Drone Response Playbook For Public Safety">Drone Response Playbook For Public Safety</a>
- (U) **Cyber Security:** If you have not yet moved over to a "**.gov**" domain, it is important to do so. The NHIAC can be used to assist in getting resources. Please contact Intelligence Liaison Officer Jim Heinz at <u>James.B.Heinz@dos.nh.gov</u> or you can contact the Overwatch Foundation directly at <u>www.overwatch.org</u>
- (U) The NHIAC is an integrated, all crimes/all hazards information sharing network that analyzes and disseminates information to engaged stakeholders from a variety of sources. If you

are interested in receiving items from the NHIAC, contact ILO Jim Heinz at James.B.Heinz@dos.nh.gov for an Information Sharing Agreement (ISA).

Commission to study the Incidence of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in

First Responders – (Chief Watkins) – No report

## Board of Fire Control - (Chiefs Clark/Emanuel) -

• Chief Emanuel reported that they met on September 16 and they were briefed on the legislative front; had a conversation about code and rule changes, lithium battery council and the Statewide Mobilization Plan. Next meeting will be a public hearing on coded adoption on November 5, 2025.

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

National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) – (Chiefs E. Thomas/Cathy) – No report

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

## Building Code Review Board - (Asst. Chief Pouliot/Chief Reinert) -

- The Board received an appeal from a resident of the City of Lebanon. The Board voted to reject the appeal filing based upon it does not address the required statutory basis.
- Continued with the review work of the State Amendments to the 2024 Codes.
  - A committee of the Board presented an amendment for a consolidated Chapter 1 for all of the IBC Codes (this alleviates repetition). Motion was made in favor of the amendment and approved.
  - o IBC amendment regarding exemption of sprinklers in summer camp cabins. This is a legislative mandate per SB95.
  - o IRC amendment regarding the definition of a "Recovery House". Not defined in the IRC, reference State of NH Statutory Definition.
  - o Discussion with both IMC and IPC Codes regarding safe hot water temp.
- Reviewed the status of several bills going through the State Legislature.
- Next meeting is Friday October 10th

Manufactured Housing Installation Standards Board: (Chief Blanchette) – No report

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

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

• He reported that they are concerned about low registration this year for the conference. The competing conference has had an impact on the attendance. .

- The division has been awarded a SAFER grant for recruitment/retention, PPE, etc. Departments must meet eligibility requirements (ie belong to the NEDIAFC).
- IAFC apparel can be ordered off the website.
- He will be running for the open International Director position.

### Old Business -

 Chief Sitar presented NH Certified Fire Officer certificates to Asst. Chief Kennet Colby, Dep. Chief Michael Galipeau both of Salem and Chief Joseph Gurarnara of Merrimack.

### **New Business -**

- Marshal Toomey stated that they have received several questions on fireworks. They are leaving up to the local jurisdictions.
- Their office is moving to 33 Hazen Drive after the first of the year.

### Good and Welfare -

- Nick Brown mentioned to all that if they have any issues regarding grants or the government shutdown to please contact their offices.
- Chief Emanuel shared a bagful of cards of thanks written by UNH students to first responders and asked members to help themselves.

The raffle netted \$350. There was \$175 given in prizes (counted by Chiefs Fraitzl, LaRoche and D. Chamberlain).

The meeting was adjourned at 1110 hrs.

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

October 9, 2025