



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, October 13, 2022 – NH Institute of Politics at St. Anselm's College, Manchester

The meeting was called to order at 1827 hours by Chief Best.

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

Goffstown Chief Shawn Murray welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Introduction of members.

Special Guests: n/a

Minutes of the September 8 meeting have been posted. A MOTION (Christopoulos/Sitar) to accept carried unanimously.

Financial Reports: September reports have been received and posted. A MOTION (Thomas/Sitar) to accept them carried unanimously.

Communications: n/a

Applications for membership: Bat. Chief Craig Lemire of Salem and Dep. Chief John Ignatowicz of Pelham were approved as new members.

Life Memberships: n/a

President's Report: (Best) –

- He thanked all present for attending the Candidates' Forum earlier and thanked the candidates who attended. Special thanks were also given to the Institute of Politics at St. Anselm's for welcoming us to their facility.
- Discussion on succession of NHAFC Board positions. He described the informal meeting he had with the officers where the By-laws were discussed and the proposal. A MOTION (Sitar/Thomas) to move all of the officers up and to fill the

vacant Sgt. at Arms position, carried unanimously. The board will fill the Sgt. at Arms at the next meeting.

- Discussion on NHAFC committee vacancies. For the Governor's PTSD committee. Chief Sitar nominated Dep. Chief William Atkinson (seconded by Chief Emanuel) to the committee. The board concurred unanimously.
- Chief Emanuel will be running the meeting on the 13th. We will be working on questions for the candidates.
- There is an intention to hold another Behavioral Health Seminar at the Academy. The working group will meet soon and he will be attending.
- The board will be advertising several vacancies for committees/boards and will be actively seeking volunteers.

Executive Director's Report (Lemire) –

- Next board meeting will be Wednesday, November 2 and will be virtual.
- This month's meeting will be at the NHIOP on the 13th and will feature a Candidate's Forum.
- The November meeting will be a breakfast meeting at the NHFA on the 10th.
- In December, we will be in Jaffrey at Café 532 for a dinner meeting on the 8th.
- Senator Hassan will be holding a virtual meeting with our board on Monday, October 31 at 0900. Members will be welcome to join in.

1st Vice President Report (Emanuel) – Legislative Report

STATE GENERAL ELECTION

- The State of NH General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 8.

VETO DAY Results.

- The House and Senate met on Thursday, September 15 for Veto Day. All 8 of the vetoes issued by Governor Sununu were sustained. Rules were suspended and legislation was passed to help address costs associated with home heating and electricity.

HOUSE

- Starting on September 6, House members seeking re-election could begin to file bills for the 2023 session. The filing period ran through September 16. A separate filing period for 2023 legislation will be held from November 9-November 22. This is for all newly elected (or re-elected) House members. To date, there have been minimal bills filed that appear to be of interest to NHAFC. We expect more in November.
- On Wednesday, September 21, the House Executive Departments and Administration Committee held a full committee work session on "Group II Retirement". At the meeting, staff from the NH Retirement System presented details regarding their efforts to implement [SB 363](#) – relative to service credit for certain group retirement eligibility. Staff explained that explained the intent of SB 363 was to provide group 2 members, who had not reached 10 years of service by 1/1/12, the opportunity to purchase up to 4 full years (no partial years allowed) of service. The cost of the purchase would be based on the "full actuarial

costs”. Details were provided regarding what the term full actuarial cost included. Staff argued that their implementation of the bill followed the language in the law, as passed. Several House members expressed their disappointment in the high costs associated with purchasing years. The Committee did not take any action. The Chair suggested to committee members that if they did not believe the language in the law was fair to Group II members, they should consider introducing legislation in 2023.

- Any bill sent to “interim study” in the House must be reported out by Friday, October 28. As a reminder, interim study occurs after the House or Senate vote in favor of sending a bill to study. At that point, the bill does not pass but the committee which heard the bill can continue to review the bill in the summer/fall. At the end of their review, the committee will make a non-binding recommendation regarding whether similar legislation should be re-introduced in 2023.

SENATE

- The Senate does not use as rigid a structure for interim study process as the House.
- Further, 8 of the 24 Senators are not seeking re-election. In addition, those that are running for re-election, or higher office, may not have the time necessary during the fall campaign season for deeper dives into interim study bills.
- To date, the Senate has not set filing deadlines for 2023 legislation.

2nd Vice President Report (Watkins) – No report

Sgt. At Arms () – No report

Committee Reports

Scholarship Committee – (Marshal Toomey) – n/r

Division Reports

Fire Marshal – (Marshal Toomey)

ADMINISTRATION:

Personnel:

We currently have 7 full-time vacancies and 2 part-time vacancies. The following openings are those that we are actively recruiting for at this time:

Full-time Fire Investigator (2 positions)- background in process

Full-time State Building Inspector- background in progress

Full-time Hazmat Coordinator

Part time State Building Inspector

Part-time Building Code Review Board Administrative Secretary

Kyla Ludwig joined our staff as a part-time Education & Outreach Specialist.

School Safety:

A reminder that annual school inspections are required pursuant to RSA 153:14. These inspections are required while school is in session. Fire Chiefs shall submit a written report to the State Fire Marshal no later than December 15th.

The Fire Marshal's Office is working with several partners on school safety practices. All of the school safety documents have been updated to the 2018 editions of the State Fire Code. Many school safety resources are available on the following website:

[NH School Safety Resources https://schoolsafetyresources.nh.gov/](https://schoolsafetyresources.nh.gov/)

State Fire Code:

Governor Sununu signed HB 1681 into law on July 1, 2022 which updates the state building and fire codes. This bill is effective immediately. There is a six month grace period for building permits to allow projects in queue to follow the 2015 or 2018 code. This means the State Fire Code as defined in RSA 153 will be the 2018 editions of NFPA 1 and NFPA 101 with amendments. The amendments are reflected in Saf-FMO 300. Please reach out with any challenges with the 2018 codes. Please save the date for code update classes at the Fire Academy in Concord on November 15th and the Burton Fire Training Facility in Bethlehem on November 16th. Each day will include an afternoon and evening session.

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS:

In the month of September, we received sixteen incident notifications resulting in eleven responses. We continue to investigate seven open arson cases from previous months and added three new arson cases in September. The Bureau of Investigations currently has ten active arson or suspected arson investigations.

New/Active cases (synopsis of our cases are listed below):

- On September 3, 2022, investigators responded to Berlin to investigate a structure fire at 231 Madison Avenue. This investigation is ongoing.
- On September 4, 2022, investigators assisted with an investigation of a multi-vehicle crash and fire in Rollinsford that resulted in four fatalities later determined to be due to the crash, not fire.
- On September 6, 2022, an IGL K9 team assisted the Portsmouth Police and Fire Departments with a motor vehicle fire investigation. They collected evidence samples and submitted them to the NHSP Forensic Laboratory. The investigation is ongoing and laboratory results are pending at this time.
- On September 11, 2022, investigators responded to 238 South Barnstead Road in Barnstead for an outside fire involving a trailer. The cause of the fire appeared to be related to the storage of electric vehicle batteries.

- On September 14, 2022, investigators responded to 1 Hale Spring Rd., Plaistow, to assist with a fire investigation. They determined that this fire was caused by accident.
- On September 14, 2022, investigators responded to 916 Old Route 25 in Rumney for a structure fire. This fire destroyed the house, preventing the identification of an area or areas of origin. The cause is undetermined.
- On September 18, 2022, investigators responded to 33 Dove Road in Newport for a structure fire at a vacant house. The cause is undetermined at this time and investigation is ongoing.
- On September 19, 2022, investigators responded to 758 Forest Road in Greenfield to investigate a structure fire. This cause is undetermined but not believed to be arson.
- On September 21, 2022, a fire occurred at 536 Warwick Rd, Winchester, believed to be from an electrical issue and the FMO did not investigate it. Private fire investigators notified the FMO that they determined it was not electrically-caused and there were multiple areas of fire origin in the building. An FMO Investigator conducted a scene examination on September 27, 2022, and determined that the fire cause was incendiary. The investigation is currently ongoing.
- On September 23, 2022, investigators responded to 24 Mechanic St., Farmington for an abandoned building fire. They determined that the cause classification of the fire was incendiary. The investigation is ongoing.
- On September 28, 2022, an investigator responded to 4761 Dartmouth College Hwy., in Haverhill to investigate a structure fire. They determined that the fire was unintentionally caused by juveniles. A youth firesetter assessment has been scheduled.

Fatal Fire:

On September 28, 2022, a fatal fire occurred at 1 Skyline Ave., in Hooksett. The cause of the fire is under investigation, but believed to be electrical. The cause of death for the 81-year-old female was smoke inhalation and the manner was accidental.

Ignitable Liquid Detection Canine Teams:

Our two IGL Canine Teams were deployed five times in the month of September and conducted eight demonstrations.

Public Outreach:

- On September 12, 2022, investigators taught the fire marshal block of instruction to the 190th Police Recruit Academy at PSTC.
- On September 22, 2022, an FMO Investigator presented “Catching a Serial Arsonist” a case study, in Jaffrey for approximately 15 attendees.

- Investigators taught “Fire Investigation for First Responders” in Canterbury on September 26, 2022.
- An investigator presented “Arson 101 for Prosecuting Attorneys” on September 26, 2022.
- An investigator attended the Plymouth State College criminal justice job fair on September 27, 2022.
- Two youth firesetter assessments were scheduled during the month of September.
- An investigator assisted with FT recruit firearms instructor training at the PSTC for a day.

Court Proceedings:

On September 15, 2022, Andrew Hale was indicted for arson by a grand jury.

BUREAU OF BUILDING SAFETY & CONSTRUCTION:

State Building Permit System:

We processed 17 building permit applications in the month of September.

Technical Assistance, Educational & Healthcare Reviews:

We initiated 10 educational and 1 healthcare plan reviews, completed 116 inspections and 131 technical consults in the month of September.

Variance Requests:

We processed 2 variance requests in the month of September.

BUREAU OF OUTREACH & EDUCATION:

Hazardous Materials:

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

Our Hazardous Materials Coordinator participated in the NH DES Piscataqua River Spill Response exercise. This was a multi-state, multi-jurisdictional exercise involving several local, state and federal agencies. He also attended a Rail Car Incident Response for Crude, Ethanol & Flammable Liquids training.

Our Hazardous Materials Coordinator worked with the Regional Haz Mat Teams to coordinate the upgrade of their Air Monitoring Software. He also assisted with the Hazardous Materials Response Teams Conference, which provided two days of training on various topics including Battery Emergencies, Haz Mat Rapid Intervention Teams, PEAC Software and Emerging Threats in Hazardous Materials.

Swiftwater Rescue Working Group:

Further discussions and work is ongoing to evaluate the swiftwater problem and funding sources. A grant funding opportunity was released to the swiftwater teams in the month of July.

Regional Outreach/Chief's Roundtables:

We continue to partner with Director Cutting and staff and the NHAFC to conduct regional outreach/Chief's Roundtables.

Incident Reporting:

If you don't have an account already to securely transfer and receive files with the NHFMO, please register for free today!

We continue to work with the team at the Fire Academy as departments implement the NHESR program, available free of charge, for incident reporting. If you are interested in giving a presentation on the program or would like to request one, please email NHESR@dos.nh.gov.

If you have questions or you are having difficulties, please reach out to the NHFIRS data team using the following email: NHFIRS@dos.nh.gov.

Public Education:

Fire Prevention Week is here! Running October 9-15, 2022, this year's theme is "Fire Won't Wait. Plan Your Escape," which draws attention to the fact that fire is faster and deadlier than ever, making the need for planning and practicing fire escape all the more critical. The public education team would like to thank all of the departments and organizations that asked us to join them in their upcoming FPW community events. We will be participating in over twenty events throughout the state.

If you have an event this month that you would like us to promote via social media, please don't hesitate to email it to us and we will be happy to spread the word through our channels.



We are honored that Governor Sununu signed New Hampshire's 2022 Fire Prevention Week proclamation, which we have attached below.



We are running a month-long contest related to fire prevention, beginning October 10, 2022. “Chalk It Up to Fire Safety,” encourages people to make chalk drawings about three fire safety themes: Smoke Alarms Save Lives; Fire Won’t Wait – Plan Your Escape; and Stay Away From Things That Are Hot. Please check out our Facebook and Twitter for more information and help us spread the word in your communities. #nhfmo



Thank you for all you do to keep your communities safe!

Community Outreach:

On September 22, 2022, one of our Public Education Specialists presented on classroom fire prevention outreach strategies at the Massachusetts Fire & Life Safety Conference in Southbridge, MA.

Also on September 22, 2022, members of the FMO and Sparky attended Keene State College’s Campus Night Out. The event was well attended and we were able to provide campus and cooking fire safety information to many students throughout the evening.

On September 23, 2022, Fire Marshal Toomey and members of the FMO attended NH Day at the Big E! in Springfield, MA with our side by side sprinkler demonstration trailer. The demonstration allowed fair goers to observe the benefits of home fire sprinklers firsthand. We collaborated with the VT State Fire Marshal’s Office for this presentation.

Training Opportunities:

In the month of September, we delivered one *A Practical Guide to Field Inspections (Educational & Healthcare)* class at the Southwestern NH District Fire Mutual Aid in Keene on September 15, 2022.

On October 12, 2022, we will be offering an *Inspection Essentials: Part I* class at the Wilton Fire Department from 6:30-9:00PM. This session is designed to assist the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) with an understanding of where your authority comes from, the essentials of constructing an inspection report and exploring frequently asked questions and common violations encountered in NFPA 1.

On October 19, 2022, we will be offering a *Display Fireworks Emergency Response Training* class. Participants will begin at the NHFA at 8:00AM for the classroom portion and then move to a site in Loudon for the practical exercises. We have partnered with industry professionals to bring a hands on training with topics such as assembling a display, equipment inspections, product handling/loading, product malfunctions, etc. The class will be limited to 65 students.

If you would like to register for these classes, please email stacey.l.dubois@dos.nh.gov. Additional programs are in the works. Please reach out if you are interested in hosting a program or would like to suggest a future training topic.

We are pleased to share an additional educational opportunity with you, as the Northeast Carbon Monoxide Alliance gears up for its 7th annual Fire Safety and Carbon Monoxide Summit, taking place on October 27, 2022. The topic is timely, falling directly after Fire Prevention Week and as the home heating season approaches. New Hampshire fire departments respond to an average of nearly 2,500 carbon monoxide calls per year across the state. Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/7th-annual-carbon-monoxide-awareness-fire-safety-summit-tickets-399516072327>

Fire Standards/Training/EMS – (Director Cutting) **ADMINISTRATION**

Personnel

- An offer has been made for one of our two full-time Program Assistant I positions.

We are conducting interviews
for the second position.

- An offer has been made for our part-time Informational Representative II position.
- An offer has been made for our full-time EMS Training Coordinator position.

Offers have been made for our part-time Program Coordinator position for EMS in the Warm Zone and the EMS

Simulation position.

Two full-time Fire Service Instructor Supervisor (Captain) positions have been posted externally with closing dates in October.

Our Curriculum Administrator has left the position to assume a role back in public education. The position has been posted externally for new candidates.

A full-time position for an Administrative Supervisor is also open and being advertised for candidates.

Nathan Bisbee has been hired for our full-time Program Specialist III position in the Educational Technology section.

Diane Bunnell has announced her retirement after 32 years working within the Bureau of EMS. We are grateful for her commitment and hard work, and wish her the best in retirement.

Matt Robblee recently completed his Board Certification as a Community Paramedic by the International Board of Speciality Certification (IBSC). This is a major accomplishment for Matt that he has been working towards for three (3) years. IBSC certification recognizes providers for their expanded and specialized knowledge in a distinct discipline.

Bill Wood has been notified by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) that in 2023 he will be recognized as not only being certified by the NREMT for 50 years, but also being the first person to have 50 years of consecutive certification.

Grants

We have received notification that our 2021 AFG grant was approved. This grant will fund additional structural PPE, wildland PPE, SCBA's, air monitoring equipment and search and rescue mannequins.

We continue to work with the architectural firm on the design process for the Raymond S. Burton Fire and EMS Training Facility project.

- We held an open hearing at the Burton facility on October 6th to share the plans and gather input from area Chiefs.

- Our estimated timeline to begin construction is the spring of 2023 and represents approximately 2.5 million dollars of investments into infrastructure and equipment at this facility.

Fire Standards and Training Commission / Curriculum

The next Fire Standards and Training Commission meeting will be November 10th at 1030 in Classrooms 5/6 in the dormitory building at the main campus. *Please note the date and time change. The full schedule for 2023 will be voted on at the November meeting.

- The Visiting Committee's for the development of a Fire Officer III & IV program and the Technical Rescue Program – Rope Operations and Technician continue their work.

Fire 602 requires that each fire department supply the Commission with a current roster of all fire service personnel by December 31st of each calendar year. This can be accomplished using RespondNH.

Special Projects

We are planning to upgrade the current Online Learning Academy to a new platform. This upgrade is scheduled for January 1, 2023

Legislative/Administrative Rules

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.

SB 357 – Our current online program, Stress in Emergency Services, meets the requirements of the legislation.

The legislative intent was to have individuals complete the training online rather than requiring them to attend in person training. Departments may also utilize a state fire instructor or a licensed EMS Instructor Coordinator to facilitate the online training in a classroom who will then file all the paperwork with the Division. Upon completion of the course paperwork we would issue certificates to those that attended. Under the law, departments are not able to deliver this training without a state fire instructor or licensed EMS instructor coordinator and receive state credit for the training. The Division does not have the resources to facilitate the in-person option although we can provide names and contact information of state instructors/IC's to the departments.

Outreach

We are continuing our Leadership Roundtables with the Commissioner, Fire Marshal's Office and regional Fire Chiefs with additional dates being planned this fall.

Mental Health & Resiliency

We are in the preliminary planning stage to offer the 2022 Mental Health Leadership Seminar that was held at the NH Fire and EMS Academy on June 8 th again this fall/winter due to the high demand and an extensive waitlist we had.

- The planning group is also working towards "Part 2" in the spring that will include additional topics and breakout sessions based on the feedback we received in the seminar survey.

Other Training Opportunities

- Friday, November 4, 08:00-4:30 NHFA- Concord, Healing through Trauma Symposium. Full day of presentations by responders with lived experience dealing with trauma, addiction, post-traumatic stress and healing. No charge, Co-sponsored with First Responder Coaching

BUREAU OF FIRE TRAINING

Courses/Programs

The 2022 Recruit School held its graduation on October 5 th .

Firefighter I

- The Jaffrey class is ongoing.
- The Lakes Region Community college Firefighter I and II class is ongoing.

Firefighter II

- The Bethlehem class is ongoing.
- The Plaistow class is ongoing.
- The Henniker class begins October 12 th .

Technical Rescue

- Swift water Level I scheduled to begin in Littleton this fall was rescheduled due to low water levels.
- Swift water Level II will begin in Conway on October 28 th .
- Rope Rescue Operations being held in Durham is ongoing with a class scheduled for the lakes region October 17 th .
- Ice Rescue Technician will begin in Center Harbor January 21, 2023.

Driver Operator

- Driver Operator Pumps class in Chichester ended Oct. 9 th .
- Driver Operator All Vehicle will be held in Goffstown beginning October 5 th , in Lyme beginning October 20 th and in Northwood beginning November 2 nd .
- All Driver Operator All Vehicle programs will include the necessary content for eligibility for CDL

licensing.

We have confirmed that this will also allow individuals that live in Vermont, Massachusetts or Maine the ability to test for their CDL as well.

Facilities and Prop Usage

- Bedford and Pembroke FD's utilized the main campus in Concord to conduct training.

- Numerous departments utilized the SCBA and Forcible Entry props.

- We hosted the Propane Gas Association of New Hampshire again this year for their annual training.

- We will be hosting Seabrook Station fire brigade members who will be conducting annual training at the main campus in Concord over the next weeks.

Online Training Courses

- "Fire Mobilization" is a free 1 hour program that supports the NH Federation of Mutual Aid "Fire (& EMS) Mobilization Plan"

- "Fire Service Communications" is a free 1 hour program.

All of the curricula for programs may be found at <https://nhfa-ems.com/curricula/> .

Departments have asked for

this information so it can be used in the delivery of local training drills and evolutions.

For all current course listings you can go to <https://nhfa-ems.com/scheduled-courses/>

To RSVP a dorm room you can go to the links at <https://nhfa-ems.com/academy-resource-request/> and

<https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/documents/dormpayment.pdf>

- There are no fees for New Hampshire emergency service personnel. For emergency service

personnel from another state or non-emergency service personnel the fee is \$40 per person, per

night.

Facilities

We continue to work with NH Public Works on getting the design and engineering complete to repair the roadway washout on the south side of the drill yard at the Concord campus. An engineering firm has been hired to design the reconstruction.

Apparatus/Equipment

The new ARFF truck is in production at E-One in Ocala, Fl. and delivery is expected in February 2023.

The new Engine bid has been awarded to Rosenbauer. At this time it appears the chassis will be available in early 2023 with an anticipated timeframe for completion later that fall.

We are in the preliminary stages of developing specifications for an engine that will be assigned to the Burton facility.

BUREAU OF CERTIFICATION AND SUPPORT

Courses/Programs

Instructor I/II/III Programs

- Instructor I in Portsmouth began October 4 th .

Fire Officer I/II Programs

- The Campton Fire Officer I class will begin October 27 th .

- Fire Officer II is being held virtually and began on September 29 th .

- Fire Officer I will begin in Epping January 21, 2023.

Fire Inspector Programs

- The Fire Inspector I class in Portsmouth began September 21 st .

- The Warrants and Citations course will be held December 8 th & 9 th .

- Fire Inspector I will begin in Concord January 10 th , 2023.

Fire Investigator

- The 2022 offering is ongoing and ends late October.

National Fire Academy

- Crew Resource Management and High Reliability Organization will begin on Concord on October 5 th and virtually on October 20 th .

- Leadership in Supervision: Framework to Success will begin in Concord October 25 th .

- Fire Service Safety Culture: Protecting Firefighters from Firefighters will be held in Concord November 5 th and 6 th .

- Strategy and Tactics for Initial Company Operations will begin Concord February 11, 2023.

Incident Command

- ICS 300 and 400 are in person courses that are offered at no cost to students and funded through grants.

These are delivered in conjunction with Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

ICS 300 began in Portsmouth on September 26 th and in will be held Concord beginning January 31, 2023.

We have developed a new 6 hour non-certification program titled “Your Workplace has Changed: Fire Dynamics for Structural Firefighting”.

- The second class will be held at the Concord campus on November 9 th .

“Kitchen Table Conversations”

- We continue to produce podcasts on a wide range of fire and EMS topics with a diverse group of special guests. These can be found at <https://nhfa-ems.com/kitchen-table-conversations/>

For all current course listings you can go to <https://nhfa-ems.com/scheduled-courses/>

To RSVP a dorm room you can go to the links at <https://nhfa-ems.com/academy-resource-request/> and

<https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/documents/dormpayment.pdf>

- There are no fees for New Hampshire emergency service personnel. For emergency service personnel from another state or non-emergency service personnel the fee is \$40 per person, per night.

Instructors

We continue to work the Instructor Recruitment Plan and analyzing the onboarding process.

- We are reaching out to all instructors that have not taught in the last 24 months to determine their future plans teaching here at the academy and assist them with becoming current if they choose to.

CPAT

The last 2022 CPAT was held September 19th & 20th.

- The list will be distributed soon with 470 names; 433 males, 36 females (282 under 30 years old, 153 - 30-39, 29 - 40-49 and 5 over 50).

Testing

We continue to work with the Department of Information and Technology to finalize the RFP for new testing software for the Division. When complete this will enable us to begin computer based testing and eliminate the paper method.

BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Boards and Commissions

The NH Medical Control Board and the NH Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Coordinating Board

meetings will take place at 0900 and 1300, respectively, on November 17th in classrooms 5 & 6 in the dormitory building.

The NH Trauma Medical Review Committee (TMRC) will meet at 0930 on October 19th in classroom 2 in the administration building.

Operations

Administrative rules for Educational Training Agencies have been drafted and are under review by the

Department of Safety legal unit.

The process of licensing wheelchair vans for hire and out of state rotary wing ambulance licensing is ongoing and we continue to make progress.

Courses/Programs

The EMR program that began on August 3rd is complete with a 100% pass rate.

The Fall 2022 Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) course began October 12th and is being held in Stratham,

Walpole and Pittsburg.

Beginning in the spring of 2023 there will be a New Hampshire based Paramedic to RN program approved by the

Board of Nursing. This program will allow interested parties to enter at the second year of the Associate of

Nursing program through prerequisite requirements and acknowledgement of the paramedics experience and pre-

existing education. A more formal announcement will be made that discusses requirements and application

deadlines.

EMS in the Warm Zone 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.

Our EMS Education Coordinator continues the monthly continuing education courses at the Concord campus and

regionally around the State.

- For all current course listings you can go to <https://nhfa-ems.com/scheduled-courses/>
- To RSVP a dorm room you can go to the links at <https://nhfa-ems.com/academy-resource-request/> and <https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/documents/dormpayment.pdf>
- There are no fees for New Hampshire emergency service personnel. For emergency service personnel from another state or non-emergency service personnel the fee is \$40 per person, per night.

Clinical Systems

The Public Health Incident declared by Commissioner Shibinette of NH Department of Health and Human

Services has been extended to December 31, 2022. The extension of the Public Health Incident allows for the continuation of all Emergency Protocols and any modifications to ambulance staffing requirements. These include:

- Emergency Protocol - COVID-19 – Updated to Version 7 with changes
- Emergency Protocol - COVID-19 Testing
- Emergency Protocol - COVID-19 Immunization
- Emergency Protocol - Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – Updated to Version 4 with changes
- Emergency Protocol - COVID-19 Temporary Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH)
- Emergency Protocol - COVID-19 Destination Determination – Discontinued
- Staffing modifications under Saf-C 5902.06 (m), as it relates to a public health or safety incident declared

in writing to the governor by the commissioner of the department of safety or the commissioner of the department of health and human services.

We are continually reviewing these Emergency Protocols for their effectiveness on the delivery

of patient care as well as their necessity in day to day operations within this evolving environment.

Data Management

NFIRS/Respond NH

- Work continues on the New Hampshire Emergency Services Reporting System (NHESR), which is an extension of the TEMSIS system. If you would like to start using the system, please fill out the form

available at <https://nhfa-ems.com/nhesronboard/>.

- There are currently 88 departments that have completed the onboarding process for this software.

- Coordination continues with the Fire Marshal's Office for further education and guidance for reporting.

- Anyone interested in the system can contact Joseph Cartier at 603-223-3403 or joseph.w.cartier@dos.nh.gov.

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.

- We have had inquiries asking what NELP stands for in RespondNH. We emailed all department and unit

leaders a clarifying explanation.

A NELP-XXXXXXX (NELP followed by six digits) is a system-generated unique identifier required for data administration and bulk data import. NELP stands for "Never EMS Licensed Provider." All users in RespondNH are required to have a "Primary Certification ID." NELPs or EMS Provider numbers serve this function in RespondNH whether they are currently EMS certified, expired, or never licensed. NELPs and 5-digit EMS provider numbers can appear in TEMSIS Elite/NHESR Fire, and EMS run forms. Personnel with a NELP are not provided with license cards, license levels, issue/expiration dates, or emails with license details because they are not licensed to practice EMS. When a provider is licensed at an EMS level, their NELP-XXXXXXX becomes a 5-digit provider license number. At that time, they are informed of their license level, status change, issue/expiration date, and provided with an email with their EMS Provider License Card. If a provider's license lapses, they will maintain their unique 5-digit license number identifier and keep that license number if they ever reinstate their license.

TEMSIS

- The NH Patient Care Reporting System continues to collect over twenty thousand individual reports each month with an average of twenty-three thousand per month from May through August.

Compliance

There are currently fifteen active investigations and seven preliminary cases.

Preparedness and Special Projects

□ Our Division has a Preparedness and Special Projects Coordinator who is available to assist communities with planning efforts for multiple and mass casualty incidents.

Fire Standards and Training Commission – Chiefs Clark/Buxton – n/r

NH Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Coord. Board – (Dep. Chief Bean) – n/r

National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) – (Chief Corey) –

He will be meeting with Chief Sherman from DNCR, for the VFA grant applications review. This will take place on October 17, at Bear Brook.

Josh wine is still donating to NVFC and Chief's Association. We would like you to try a bottle of Josh wine to help NVFC and the Chief's Association. For each bottle of wine sold, each organization get \$1.00, with the NHAFC receiving up to \$8,600.00. Thank you for your help!

Advisory Council on Emergency Preparedness and Security – (Chief Christopoulos) – n/r

Homeland Security and Emergency Management – (Dir. Buxton)

As with the start to any new position, the first 30 days has been invested in learning the organization, understanding new programs, and process. Over the next 30 days, I will be spending time starting to meet with external partners. With this said, I look forward to pulling together regional meetings with our local partners to make sure we are aligned with your expectations. October 20, 2022 at 12:00 Noon will be our next Local EMD call. As a reminder, this call will include a review from the National Weather Service, NH DOT and EOC review for our winter months, as we quickly inch towards our extreme weather season.

Below you will find a brief list of events that have taken place over the last month:

- We are actively working to address staffing shortages within HSEM. A working group has been established to work specifically on our recruitment and retention program.
- We did have a partial EOC activation for the State Primary election. This was part of a planning process for the General Election in November.
- Mitigation staff is working on a Corrective Action Plan to respond to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region I audit of NH's Local Hazard Mitigation Plan review process under FEMA's Program Administration by States (PAS).
- First round of Security Action for Education (SAFE) grant awards approved at G&C on 9/7 and at Fiscal Committee 9/9.
- School Emergency Operations Plan (SEOP) portal opened 9/1.
- Email was sent out to all schools/plan to communicate weekly via the NH Department of Education (NHED) Friday Forum until at least 10/14.

- Upcoming deadline submission of December 31, 2022 for 100% Federal reimbursement for COVID; since August 29, just over \$12 million in awards have gone out to applicants.
- Release of Seabrook Station Inadvertent Siren Activation Report 9/22/22.
- School Safety Preparedness Task Force Meeting held 9/20/22; discussion included overview of Task Force 1.0 and initiatives from Task Force 2.0.
- Meeting held with NH State Police to review REP related procedures.
- Team members participated in the Day of Caring at Bear-Paw Regional Greenways.
- Completed transfer of radiological monitoring equipment from Massachusetts.

If you should have any questions, please feel free to reach out (603) 688-5570.

EMS Trauma Medical Review Board – (Chief Beaudoin) – n/r

Forests and Lands – (Chief Sherman) – No report

Board of Fire Control – (Chiefs Clark/Hunter) –

- Chief Hunter described the meeting held September 21. There was a discussion on the Recruitment and Retention report just released, and the established a committee to study changes in anticipation of the next code cycle for NFPA 101 and 1.

Building Code Review Board – (Marshal Lennon) – n/r

Manufactured Housing Installation Standards Board: (Chief) - n/r

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

- Laconia Facility Update: Met with Chiefs from LRMFA to give all an update as to where we are in the process;
- Internal COOP Plan is being completed – providing for more options in the event of a 9-1-1 call delivery failure at the PSAP(s);
- On social media platforms, DESC again released public service announcements on TEXT TO 9-1-1 in New Hampshire; made posts regarding employees of the month; Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness; Mental Health; the importance of AEDs, and posts about public engagements with Keene State College and Plymouth State University;
- For September, DESC will be focusing on ‘suicide awareness’ month;
- September 9, 2022 - Enhanced 9-1-1 Commission Meeting;
- September 12 through September 14, 2022 – DESC representatives attended the North East Regional Interop Workshop in Washington, DC.;

- September 22, 2022 - Participated in the School Safety Preparedness Task Force meeting;
- September 22, 2022 – Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee Working Groups meeting;
- September 22, 2022 – Keene State College Campus Safety Night-Out event;
- September 23, 2022 – Franklin Fire Department Chiefs Breakfast & Meeting;
- September 27, 2022 – Division Representatives attended the Plymouth State University “Dept of Safety Day”;
- September 30, 2022 – Attended the Hillsborough County Chiefs of Police Meeting
- September 30, 2022 – Attended the NASNA National 9-1-1 Director’s “catch-up” meeting;
- October 6, 2022 – 988 Coalition monthly meeting;
- October 11, 2022 - Attended the NHACOP meeting at Police Standards.

E-911 Commission – (Chief Thomas) –

- Installing new PCAP work stations.
- Summer 2022 has had less calls than summer 2021.
- Continue the training for three new operators.
- Operators will be sending a Text to 9-1-1 cell phone hang-ups.
- Supervisors are covering 4 shifts per month to cover the work stations.
- Five new laptops are on line if a work station goes down or if the call volume warrants additional work stations.
- Working on AED wall cases that will notify E-9-1-1 if AED is removed and operators can call back.
- Working with CSI to send out call information to all agencies using CSI.
- E-9-1-1 is still updating school floor plans. Also checking cell phone of all vendors for signal strength in the schools.
- Mapping Department is still working on trail systems throughout the State.
- The North and South Simulcast systems have been completed.
- First Net: Band 14 capabilities are in 180 of 240 communities.
- Oakpoint has completed the final plans for the proposed Laconia Facility.
- Work is being done on the false alarm at the Seabrook Power Station. Possibly there will be a new system in the future.
- A campaign has begun “Call if you can-Text if you can’t”

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IAFC Director – (Chief Christopoulos) – the board will be meeting next week.

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

Old Business

New Business –

Good and Welfare –

- Chief Sitar stated that the apps for credentialing have closed for this term and will reopen in the spring.
- Dave Witham described the upcoming May Primex meeting that will be in Portsmouth. He also described the renovations to the Primex building that have transformed meeting space to larger accommodations.

Raffle – n/a

The meeting was adjourned at 1907 hrs.

Chief Brent T. Lemire, Ret.
Executive Director, NHAFC

October 13, 2022