

NEW HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS, INC.

Working Together to Make a Difference

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

Thursday, December 10, 2020 (Online)

The meeting was called to order at 1604 hours by Chief Jones.

After a salute to the flag, a moment of silence was requested for departed members including NH House Speaker Richard Hinch.

Chief Ken Jones welcomed everyone to the meeting. He notified everyone that he has contracted COVID-19.

Members were introduced by the Executive Director.

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

Special Guests: n/a

Minutes of the November 12 meeting have been posted. A MOTION (Pendergast/Rhodes) to accept carried unanimously.

Financial Reports: Reports from September through November were presented. A MOTION: (Lyon/Buxton) to accept them carried unanimously.

Communications: n/a

Applications for membership: Robert Lussier, Asst. Director of Emergency Services and Communications; Chief Kevin Lang of New Hampton and Chief Jeff Currier of Bartlett have been approved for membership.

Life Membership: n/a

President's Report: (Jones) –

> The board has filled the open position on the board with Chief James Watkins of Berlin.

- ➤ Email from Fire Standards & Training Commission seeking individuals to, participate in a visiting Comm. to evaluate the current prerequisites for all FF III Programs. Chief Clark & Buxton sit on the commission.
- ➤ Pam Urban-Morin EMPG Grants, has requested the same panel has last year for grant review, Chief Buxton to reside in that position.
- ➤ Contact Ty Gagne & Margaret Byrnes for comments pertaining to First Responders refusing the upcoming vaccine.
 - o Ty Gagne (Primex) They would not touch this
 - o Margaret (NHMA) Really didn't have advice on refusing the vaccine, but sure someone will sue someone at some point down the road.
 - o In discussion, I advised her that Chief Beattie requires Hepatitis-B for hire, she admits this could become a requirement for new hires but would be a struggle for current employees.
- > Conversation w/ Marshal Parisi
 - We have highest number of quarantined First Responders − 197, Fire & Police. Possible lack of discipline, lack of and enforcement of policy.
 - o Primex Document Minimize Your Risk, we need to be supportive, we need to get the message out
 - o Possible vaccine administered late December
- ➤ Letters to Governor were sent requesting that First Responders be placed in the first tier of vaccine recipients and to DHHS requesting that FROST testing be available more frequently.
- ➤ Our fundraiser has grossed \$7,755 to the association (as of June, 2020).

Executive Director's Report (Lemire) -

- The January regular monthly meeting will be on the 14th at 0900
- We have decided to move Vendor Showcase to September 9 but keep annual meeting in April. It will be held again at the Falls Event Center in Manchester.
- November weekend still booked at the Red Jacket Mountain View in No. Conway.
- Not sure about the Primex conference yet

1st Vice President Report (Sitar) – n/r

2nd Vice President Report (Beattie) –

- Chief Jones and I met with Adam Schmidt and Jodi Grimbilas on Monday 12/7 to continue our discussions on the upcoming legislative session
 - O These are still by title only. We will follow up in approximately 1 month and begin to break down the proposed legislation with full text
 - o Senate can file bills until 12/15
 - We are beginning to see a reintroduction of bills that were lost in the omnibus bills that went forward last year, hopefully they will be standalone bills this year

- We will be working with the Fire Marsha's Office to discuss some of the legislation that involves him
 - State Building and Fire Codes
 - Recovery Housing
- Some of the titles of interest
 - Health Officer authorities/powers
 - o Death Benefits for First Responders (suicide)
 - o Billing for Ambulance Services
 - o Designating communications personnel as first responders
- A lot of legislation regarding the Governor's orders, State of Emergency, and Right to Know
- We will continue to report back as we know more
- As always, if there is legislation you would like us to look deeper into, we certainly can

Sgt. At Arms (Emanuel) – n/r

Committee Reports

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

Division Reports

Fire Marshal – (Marshal Parisi)

ADMINISTRATION: (Assistant Director Max Schultz)

The FMO is working hard to maintain our customer satisfaction while operating at a 25% reduction in force due to a decrease in revenue in our state. We have shifted resources into the Building Safety and Construction Bureau where 50% of the vacancies exist. We will do our best to answer municipal inquiries as they come in, but please understand that they may be delayed. We appreciate your patience and understanding. If you have any questions or are running into a problem, please do not hesitate to contact FM Parisi directly at (603) 931-9538.

Micro-website:

We are currently building a COVID-19 specific micro-website for the FMO. The new site will have mobile device compatibility, which our main site lacks. It will have easy to use menus and dropdowns for first responder access to important COVID-19 related information through ESF-4. We are excited to bring this customer friendly informational tool

to the fire service. We hope to have it up and running in the coming weeks.

Personnel:

The Governor's office authorized two part-time positions to be filled; an inspector position and a modular building program specialist.

We are pleased to welcome Jessica Plante as a Fire Protection Specialist working in the Bureau of Building Safety & Construction. Jessica brings 15 years of fire service experience to the office with the past 5 years working in fire prevention. Jessica has certifications as a fire inspector and plans examiner.

The modular position is still open and below is the link to the modular position.

Part time position posted until 12/31/20

PROGRAM SPECIALIST IV - TMPPT5888 (MODULAR BUILDING PROGRAM MANAGER) (JOB ID: 18611) PART TIME

https://www.indeed.com/rc/clk?jk=9436f227382e56fb&fccid=933636 124ef375c8 &vjs=3

2021 Legislation: The FMO legislative requests have been forwarded to the Commissioner's office for review. These include legislation that was not adopted from the 2020 session including the FMO as an issuing agency for POA permits, recovery residence language, the elimination of the voluntary fire suppression equipment certification program, and the adoption of the 2018 Uniform Fire Code and Life Safety Code which is being considered by the Board of Fire Control.

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS: (Deputy Keith Rodenhiser)

- <u>New/Active cases:</u> 16 calls for service in the month of November; our 5 investigators and 2 district chiefs are actively working 19 criminal cases.
 - On 11/09/20, investigators responded to 41 Ryan Rd. in Henniker to assist the Henniker FD and PD with a fatal mobile home fire.
 Two people perished in the fire; an adult female and a juvenile under the age of 5. The fire investigation is still ongoing but it appears that the fire may have been started by a candle.
 - On 11/09/20 and 11/11/20, investigators responded to Candia to assist the Candia PD with interpretations to the RSAs pertaining to crimes involving fire. The investigators also assisted with the collection of fire and ignitable liquid evidence for an investigation

CPD was conducting.

- <u>Court Action:</u> Richard Mallett, Jr. of Woodsville and Philip Poirier of Corinth, VT were indicted on the charges of Negligent Homicide and Reckless Conduct and Adam Vigent of North Haverhill was indicted on the charge of Reckless Conduct. These charges stem from a January 2019 double CO fatality in Lyman. Arraignments will be held on December 14, 2020.
- *Ignitable Liquid Detection Canine Teams:* Our two IGL Canine Teams were deployed three times in the month of November. Teams also provided demonstrations for multiple agencies at the Grantham Fire Department and the West Ossipee Fire Department. An additional demonstration was given to the Con-Val High School Firefighter 1 class.
- <u>Public Outreach:</u> Investigators are assisting with youth firesetter assessments in the communities of Hillsborough, Hanover and Farmington.
- <u>Training/Committees:</u> BOI members attended a virtual training on 2021 NFPA 921 Chapter 4 & 5 Basic Methodology and Fire Science which was presented by the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI). This was the last class in a monthly training series that started in May and touched upon various aspects of fire investigations to include: NFPA 921 updates, fire patterns, safety, cause determination/classification, physical evidence/K9 handler teams and basic methodology/basic fire science.

Members of the BOI also attended the following trainings: Documenting the Fire Scene & Preparing Your Expert Report, Surviving the Unthinkable, Identifying Damage to Electrical Conductors and multiple CFI Trainers.

One of the district chiefs attended the Child Fatality Review Committee. A member of

the BOI has been involved in this committee for many years. It is a legislatively

mandated committee. The objectives of the CFRC are:

- Describe trends and patterns of child deaths in New Hampshire, including sudden
 - unexpected infant deaths (SUID) and sudden death in the young (SDY).
- Identify and investigate the prevalence of risks and protective factors among the populations of deceased children.
- Evaluate the service and system responses for children and families and to offer

recommendations for improvement of these services.

- Improve the quality and comprehensiveness of child fatality data by enhancing and integrating information obtained from autopsies, death scene investigations, death certificates, police reports, medical records, and other relevant sources.
- Enable state agencies, law enforcement, health care providers, and community-based organizations to more effectively prevent and investigate child fatalities.

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

<u>State Building Permit System:</u> We processed 33 building permit applications in the month of November.

<u>Technical Assistance</u>, <u>Educational & Healthcare Reviews</u>: Our staff remains available for technical code assistance. We initiated 8 healthcare plan reviews in the month of November.

Variance Requests: We processed 4 variance requests in the month of November.

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

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

ESF-4

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

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

- Answered 1,342 calls for assistance
- Assisted 101 first responders with alternative lodging accommodations
- Tracked 1,557 first responders through exposure/quarantine/testing status
- Documented 1,991 activities performed in WebEOC. These activities include, fulfilling requests for PPE from first responders, answering questions related to exposures, quarantine, housing, code related questions and more

• Continue to produce and distribute numerous first responder informational documents statewide with the most up to date information

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

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

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

Our part time Hazardous Materials Coordinator will be available in a response capacity to advise the North Country area chiefs should there be an incident. In the event that an asset response is required in that area the FMO on-duty supervisor will contact an established team to respond. The FMO will cover the cost of the response.

Public Education:

Our Public Education Section hosted a holiday themed side-by-side residential sprinkler burn on November 18th. The event focused on the increased amount of combustible materials that are associated with the holidays to include Christmas trees, hanging decorations and fabrics. Several media sources came to cover the event and the FMO had a drone covering the event from above. This public education prop will be available next spring for fire departments to use for educational events.

Fireworks:

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

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

NFIRS:

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

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

Fire Standards/Training/EMS - (Director Pendergast)

Logistics-

Our bid process for our aerial had closed. Two vendors answered the bid, but after a review, neither qualified. We will re-write the bid and work with the business office to get it distributed once again.

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

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

The boiler project in the dorm building is now complete and being tested.

Programs-

With the completion of the 2020 recruit class, we graduated 14 new firefighters, many of whom also passed the CPAT test in November. That was the final Fire certification program of the year and we are now on a break with those programs until the spring semester in late January.

With the FST Commission vote to approve the new recommended curriculum for FF I and FF II, our education technology group as well as the Captains are busy preparing the curriculum for delivery in the spring semester. They are hard at work with developing new standard evolutions as well as new online training modules.

We are currently completing a Fire Inspector Program as well as a HazMat tech program before the holidays.

The final 2020 CPAT testing dates happened in late November and several successful candidates are now added to the State list

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

We are in our fourth week with the FROST Covid-19 testing program here on campus including the IPOC and have run over 200 tests. We will continue to test employees monthly through the winter or until we run out of test kits.

Our state-wide FROST program has started quite successfully with 80 communities signed up to date. We are working with DHHS to possibly get more testing kits for these communities to have the ability to test more frequently than once per 30 days.

Communications-

The 2020 annual Roster project (602.01) letters have gone out. There is a new process where the form can be easily accessed online by each department. Over half of the departments have responded so far. The deadline is December 31, 2020.

Challenges-

We are currently still the host site for the Press Conferences for Governor Sununu, although these have been reduced to one per week.

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

Fire Standards and Training Commission Report - (Clark/Buxton)

No Commission meeting. Curriculum Committee reviewed the role of the Visiting Committee and the Curriculum Committee as it relates to the process of approving revised curriculum. The Curriculum Committee does not have the authority to revise the Visiting Committee's recommendation but can reject them if they do not meet the charge of the Commission and be sent back to the Visiting Committee with recommended changes to be considered.

NH Board of Fire Control

The Board held a meeting on November 18th and most of the meeting was reviewing the significant changes identified by the Board's sub-committee which consisted of Sean Toomey, Phil Biron both from the Fire Marshal's Office and Doug Proctor and myself. No action was taken, but the full Board obtained an understanding of the magnitude of the changes.

The Board requested that the sub-committee meet again and identify those changes that require further consideration by the Board. The sub-committee met and have identified approximately 12 items that will need to be considered for amendments.

The Board meets December 16th to act on recommending to the Legislature the adopting of NFPA 1 and NFPA 101 version 2018 with amendments. Sean Toomey of the Fire Marshal's office can provide any Chief with the document that identifies the significant changes. This effort required a significant amount of work and Sean Toomey and Phil Biron from the Marshal's office did the majority of the heavy lifting.

EMS Bureau Report – Justin Romanello

Bureau Report

- FROST Released 9 November 2020 Over 80 units participating
- New Rules Public Hearing 8 January 2021
 - o Submitted to DoS Legal Unit
 - # of providers required to transport
 - Licensing as "Non-Affiliated"
- Electrostatic Sprayers 2nd distribution of devices week of 14 December 2020
- Vaccination Planning
- Complacency

COVID-19 Summary

- Emergency Protocols 5 Emergency Protocols Released
 - o Personal Protective Equipment Released 27 July 2020
 - o COVID-19 Version 3 Released 27 July 2020 Update Forthcoming
 - Version 1 Released 17 March 2020
 - Version 2 Released 17 April 2020
 - COVID-19 Testing Version 2 Released 27 July 2020 Update Forthcoming
 - Version 1 Released 26 March 2020
 - COVID-19 Destination Determination Version 2 Released 27 July 2020
 Update Forthcoming
 - Version 1 Released 26 March 2020
 - o COVID-19 Temporary MIH Version 1 Released 17 April 2020
- Emergency Rules
 - # of Providers Required for Patient Transport Released 19 March 2020 (Expires 19 September 2020)
 - 2. Expiration Extension of Currently Licensed EMS Providers Released 19 March 2020 (Expires 19 September 2020)
- Emergency Waivers

- o Provisional Certification Continued to 1 April 2021
- Partial Background Checks No longer accepting
- Executive Orders
 - Alternate Vehicle Use and Waiver of Required Equipment Drafted NOT Issued

Clinical Systems

- 2020 NH Patient Care Protocols v.8.0 Released 27 August 2020
 - o In effect statewide 1 November 2020
 - o 1,000 providers still have yet to complete
- Trauma Program
 - Site Visits Extension for all programs 1-year
 - Trauma Coordinator In a limited capacity, visiting hospitals around state
- MIH Program Continued support of COVID and Non-COVID MIH programs
 - New Programs Merrimack, Bedford, Milford and Transformative (Stewarts)
- Open Positions 2 Part-Time
 - o PIFT/Critical Care Program Coordinator Part-Time ON HOLD
 - MIH Program Coordinator Part-Time ON HOLD

EMS Operations

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

Data Systems

- Respond NH User Management System
 - Transition from old software to RespondNH beginning 12 November,
 2020
 - o Moving along, on schedule.
 - Services Entered
 - Vehicles Entered
 - Personnel In-Process
- Open Positions 1 Full-Time

o Records Management Coordinator – Full-Time – ON HOLD

EMS Training

- Continuing Education 12th and 16th of November, 2020
- EMR Programs Exploring options for future programs
- Simulation Program Up and running as of July 2020
- Open Positions Multiple Part Time
 - Staff Instructor Ongoing Hiring **ON HOLD**

Special Projects

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

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

National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) – (Chief Corey) – n/r
Homeland Security and Emergency Management – (Director Harper)

She announced that Perry Plummer is back on board as a contractor charged with vaccine distribution.

- State EOC continues to be activated for response efforts to COVID-19. Activities include:
 - o Info from DHHS to give you an idea of how quickly things are changing:

As of 12/10/2020 – 0900		Since 12/3
Number of Persons with COVID-19	28,273	+5,348
Deaths Attributed to COVID-19	584	+40
Hospitalizations	852	+15
National Cases	15,412,133	+1,468,506
Regional Cases (New England States)	525,997	+71,770
As of 12/9/2020 – 0900		
Recovered	20,513	+3,412
Number of Persons with COVID-19, current	6,509	+1,815
Hospitalizations, current	232	+70

 Vaccine Planning is the priority with vaccine expected in NH once the EUA is authorized.

- Perry Plummer is back as a contractor working for DHHS to assist with vaccine distribution due to the complexity of activities to ensure it's coordinated and rolls out in a coordinated fashion.
- We expect vaccine will be delivered to NH next week.
- There will be much more info coming out in the next week or so on vaccine planning efforts/timeline/etc.
- COVID Presidential Disaster Declaration received April 3rd.
 - HSEM staff continue to work with communities on FEMA reimbursements;
 there have been a number of communities reimbursed to-date.
- Procurement of PPE continues to be a priority for the State to ensure we can meet the demand as cases increase.

• Non-COVID related activities:

- HMEP (Year 3) funding is expected soon we have not yet seen the NOFO
- Funding for the Emergency Performance Grant Program-Supplemental (EMPG-S) is still available, but going fast; remaining balance as of Dec 10th is \$\$11,074.13
 - The supplemental funds are focused towards Planning and Equipment projects related to the prevention of, preparation for, and response to the COVID-19 public health emergency in the State of NH.
 - Application Link via: https://prd.blogs.nh.gov/dos/hsem/?page_id=8866
- As always let me know if you need anything, my cell is 419-9179.

Fallon Reed informed the membership as to the shipment of the vaccine and the background information on the vaccine. Shipments are expected to begin next week and they are awaiting the information. They will be pushing the information out as soon as they receive it so as to be able to provide the vaccine recipients with all the information they need.

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

Forests and Lands - (Chief Sherman) -

- The drought in NH has improved, but the entire state remains in either abnormally dry or drought status. We will continue to monitor this throughout the winter and provide situational awareness as the spring fire season approaches.
- Forest Ranger trainees Nathan Blanchard and David Smith, Jr. will be completing the Police Academy on December 18, 2020. Following graduation, they will be assigned to their districts and complete their field training.
- With the 2 trainees returning to the field, we will have 7 Forest Rangers statewide. This is a 30% reduction from last year and is due to the General Fund budget reductions we had to make. We are trying to secure non-general funds to bring back 2 of the positions

in the next biennium.

- We have installed a new Remote Automated Weather Station at the Warren Fish Hatchery.
 - RAWS are self-contained solar-powered weather stations that provide local weather data, including air temperature, relative humidity, wind speed and direction along with rainfall measurements, solar radiation levels, as well as fuel temperature and moisture. Data are updated on an hourly basis utilizing Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite transmissions. The data are used to monitor and calculate daily wildfire danger. The Warren station is the fourth permanent RAWS installed in New Hampshire; one additional portable weather station is also in service. Together, they form a network that monitors daily wildfire danger factors from the North Country to the Monadnock Region to the Seacoast. We were able to purchase the new weather station using funds awarded through an Emergency Management Performance Grant from the N.H. Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.
- We have a new contract for the online fire permit system and are working on a new, responsive platform for 2021. This will allow the system to work better across all types of devices. The upgrade will also allow permit issuers and fire departments to fill out a no-cost permit which will be entered into the system for mapping and dispatching purposes and will also generate a print copy for the permittee. The state does not pay the vendor for development and maintenance of the online system, it is supported completely through the transaction fees. The cost of the fire permits when the new system goes live will be \$5.50 and will remain that price through 2024.
- The online fire permit system has proven capable and valuable in 2020. YTD we have had 45,990 online permits obtained, up from our previous high in 2019 of 13,845. The program supported the increased demand and has allowed safer operations for fire departments and Wardens during the pandemic. In the near future all communities in NH will be open to online permits and we encourage all towns and dispatch centers to contact us to set up user accounts.

Board of Fire Control – (Chief Clark) (above)

Building Code Review Board - (Chief Tetreault/Marshal Lennon) - n/r

Manufactured Housing Installation Standards Board: (Chief)

• No report

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

• DHHS Data changes coming – upload of data to include antigen positive tests, tripling the total number of addressable data points. In order to keep up, we are proposing change to the method in which we reconcile the data, and provide communities with both verified and raw data extracts... *explanation will follow during the meeting* as well as answer any questions;

- Monitoring call stats total call volume is up by approx. 2.2% (YTD); Answering times are well w/i standards 99.93 % of all 911 calls are answered w/i 10 seconds (NENA Standard is 90% answered w/I 15 seconds);
- Longevity awards presented to 16 members of our Division totaling 350 years of combined service;
- The next E9-1-1 Commission meeting is scheduled for Friday the 11th at 1100 hours, all are invited to listen-in;



If you have trouble connecting, please call (603)271-6911.

We recognized 4 of our 9-1-1 Telecommunicators for assisting in the delivery of 4 babies over the course of 9 days: https://patch.com/new-hampshire/nashua/nh-911-workers-help-callers-deliver-4-babies-9-days.

- Mutualink roll-out in full swing, calls to local agencies will continue over the next week or two. 53 sites have had installations completed and 4 mobile "GO" kits & 16 mobile IWS laptops configured and tested for the ACS sites deadline for opting in is December 16. Discussing with Hospitals, now;
- Monitoring staffing and reviewing COOP Planning should we need to spin-up a
 quarantine-type PSAP configuration (i.e. mobile Command Trailer and our Training
 facility in Laconia) monitoring statewide numbers and preparing for any surge;
- National Association of State 9-1-1 Administrators (NASNA) conference call/meeting last Friday discussing legislation at the Federal level, as well as technology changes (9-8-8 suicide prevention hotline and the change to 10-digit dialing). Also met with the New England State Admins to discuss training opportunities and 9-1-1 call transfers;
- Assisting with HSEM to staff the 2-1-1 call centers should be starting up this week;

Working with our NexGen Call Delivery Network vendor to start planning for upgrades

E-911 Commission – (Chief Thomas) – n/r

IAFC Director – (Chief Christopoulos) – n/r

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

• Meeting scheduled for January 20, 2021.

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

Old Business – Chief Thomas has an issue with items not being delivered by December 31 will have to be bought out of next year's budget. He also asked about call personnel testing positive and quarantine issues.

New Business – Chief Klose asked if dispatchers being recognized as First Responders. Fallon Reed answered that since they don't engage in direct patient care, they will be in the second batch as their risk of exposure is less.

Good and Welfare -

The meeting was adjourned at 1720 hours.

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

December 10, 2020