



## **NEW HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS, INC.**

*Working Together to Make a Difference*

547 Charles Bancroft Hwy.

Litchfield, NH 03052

[www.nhafc.org](http://www.nhafc.org)

Email: [nhfirechiefs@gmail.com](mailto:nhfirechiefs@gmail.com)

### Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the NH Association of Fire Chiefs

Thursday, December 9, 2021 – Virtual via “Go To Meeting” platform

The meeting was called to order at 0905 hours by Chief Sitar.

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

Chief Sitar welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Member Introduction:** Members’ attendance was polled by the Executive Director.

#### **Special Guests:**

**Minutes** of the November 13 meeting are posted. A MOTION (Carrier/Emanuel) to accept them, carried unanimously.

**Financial Reports:** The November Balance Sheet has been prepared but not posted. Approval was deferred to January, 2022.

**Communications:** n/a

**Applications for membership:** Chief Mark DiFronzo of Merrimack; Chief Jay Wilson of Mont Vernon and Chief Anthony Burns of Mason have joined the organization.

#### **Life Membership:**

#### **President’s Report: (Sitar) –**

- Director Cutting notified me that the grant to make improvements to the North Country Fire Academy was approved by G&C. The improvements will be substantial but will take some time to complete.
- I attended the New Hampshire Crisis Standards of Care meeting where we reviewed the draft of the new plan. The plan needs to be updated to conform with Federal requirements. The draft is in the process of being amended after comments from the meeting. Our next meeting is in January.

- I served on the interview panel for District Chief in the State Fire Marshal's Office.
- I attended a meeting of the Management Group of the State Interoperability Executive Committee where AT&T Firstnet made the statement that AT&T now has the same amount of coverage in New Hampshire as Verizon. Areas of strength and weaknesses may not be the same.
- We have transitioned the duties of the Treasurer to Chief Carrier. Chief Carrier is also to take over the fundraiser checkbook from Chief Parisi which should happen shortly.
- He spoke of the ongoing virus and the spike of cases and hospitalizations. He urged all to get vaccinated. There are fire service breakthrough cases of late. He spoke with Primex to make sure that these cases are covered and went over the requirements to document the case for Primex. He is also investigating the reinstating the presumption clause.I
- II

#### **Executive Director's Report (Lemire) –**

- The January meeting of the Association will be virtual. We will address February in early January.
- BOD meeting January 5, 2022 will also be virtual as we monitor the progression of the virus.
- I am working with Primex and the Mt. Washington Hotel on our cooperative May meeting.
- June will be in Brookline, hosted by Chief Corey.
- I am also working with Nick at LRCC on a breakfast meeting.
- I sent a card of condolence to Bud Nelson from the Association on the loss of his wife.
- The November weekend seemed to be productive even though the attendance was low. We will assess the prospect of repeating it.
- I asked the board for guidance in having Vendor Showcase again in April with our Annual Meeting. Consensus is that we should take a break and just have the Annual Meeting that month.

#### **1st Vice President Report (Beattie) –**

- Received a call from Chief Buxton relative to his participation on the PTSD Commission. The BOD will be looking at the presumption language with regards to PTSD/suicide and making sure we have a consistent voice for Chief Buxton to bring to the commission. We will be meeting next week.
- Reviewing HB 1272; relative to powers of health officers. Adam Schmidt is in talks with NHMA. Concerns over stripping local powers.
- I spoke at Primex Collaborative Leadership Program, promoting the need for more classes like the one being offered. I also gave a general overview of NHAFC, in

conjunction with Chief Tony Bean-Burpee of Gilford PD. Chief Buxton presented a leadership class with Bob Barry.

- Chief Sitar, Chief Beattie, Chief Best, and Adam Schmidt attended a virtual meeting relative to proposed change to the NHRS. Fire, police, SEIU, AFSCME, others present (virtually).
  - Affects the average final compensation of new hires, and those in the tiered retirement plan
  - Those in old system are not affected
  - Multiplier not part of bill
  - We have not seen the full language
  - PFFNH seemingly taking the lead on this, will be looking for support from all Group II
  - Will be pushed as a recruitment/retention tool
  - E will have a couple of meetings before our next general meeting
  - **Current:** 5 highest base years PLUS factor of average compensation including OT not including 5 highest years
  - **Proposed:** 5 highest years including OT back into career average
  - More to come on this issue

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Report (Emanuel) –**

- He deferred to our lobbyist Adam Schmidt, who was on the call, for a report of legislative activities.
- He will be looking for input on bills that they review over the next few months. The list will be distributed.

**Sgt. At Arms (Best) –** No report

**Committee Reports**

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

**Recruitment and Retention Committee – (Chief Beattie) – (in his report)**

**Division Reports**

**Fire Marshal – (Marshal Toomey)**

**ADMINISTRATION:**

**Personnel:**

We currently have 9 full-time vacancies. The following openings are those that we are actively recruiting for at this time:

Full time Assistant Director/Deputy Fire Marshal- background in process

Full time Deputy Fire Marshal/Fire Protection Engineer-  
background in process

Two Full time Fire Investigators- posting closed December 6<sup>th</sup>

Part time State Building Inspector- posted closes December 20<sup>th</sup>

Program Assistant Jessica Nichols, Investigator Matt Wilmot, Investigator Shana Clark and District Chief Phil Biron all completed the Certified Public Supervisor training program. This is an intensive 8-week program sponsored through the Bureau of Education.

Investigator Anthony Booth attended an IAAI Motor Vehicle Fire Investigation training and has since received his motor vehicle fire investigation endorsement.

Investigator Shana Clark has attained her Certified Fire Investigator designation from the IAAI.

We are pleased to announce the promotion of Investigator Shana Clark to Deputy Fire Marshal I/District Chief in the Bureau of Investigations effective December 17<sup>th</sup>. District Chief Clark will oversee field operations in the southern part of the state.

**Statewide Fire Incident Reporting:**

We continue to work with FSTEMS on a joint initiative to implement new NH Emergency Reporting Software using Imagetrend. This solution is now available for all fire departments for incident reporting, inspections, inventory and scheduling. NFIRS data reporting remains a function of the FMO.

**Legislation:**

Items that we are monitoring at this time:

LSR 2911 Relative to Requirements for Recovery Houses

LSR 3008 Relative to Mental Health Training for First Responders

LSR 3090 Relative to Meetings of Board and Commissions in the  
Department of Safety

LSR 3109 Relative to Building Code and Fire Code Enforcement

LSR 3111 Relative to Critical Incident Stress Management for Emergency  
Services Providers, and Establishing a violent act injury disability  
retirement for public safety

We will continue to monitor the upcoming LSR's and Bills that impact the fire service.

## **BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS:**

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

- On November 15, 2021, investigators responded to 869 Washington Street in Stewartstown to assist the Beecher Falls, VT Fire Department with a fire investigation at the Spa Restaurant and Outback Pub. The building received extensive damage. Although the investigation into the cause is ongoing, it does not appear to be criminal in nature.
- On November 23, 2021, investigators responded to 4 Commerce Street in Hill to assist with a fire investigation at an occupied, multi-family dwelling. There are some possible criminal indicators and the joint investigation is ongoing.

### ***Fatal Fire:***

On November 6, 2021 investigators responded to 8-10 Dutton Street in Manchester to assist the Manchester FD and PD with a fatal fire investigation in a multi-family dwelling. A firefighter also received serious burn injuries and another firefighter fractured an ankle. At the conclusion of the joint investigation, the cause of the fire was determined to be accidental and electrical in nature.

### ***Ignitable Liquid Detection Canine Teams:***

Our two IGL Canine Teams were deployed twice in the month of November.

### ***Public Outreach:***

Investigators are assisting with youth fire setter assessments in multiple communities throughout the state. Our youth fire setter coordinator continues to work with the mental health community to resurrect a youth fire setter task force.

### ***Court Action:***

- David Favreau, Sr. pled nolo contendere to charges of violating RSA 153:37, penalties of the gas fitting code, from a propane gas explosion that occurred on September 19, 2017 at 123 Foxberry Drive in New Boston. The terms were as follows: Favreau, Sr. will pay \$9,035 to the family for funeral costs, \$2,480 to the court (suspended for 10 years), 12 months in jail (suspended for 10 years) and his gas fitting license was suspended indefinitely.
- On November 15, 2021 an investigator attended an administrative hearing with DOS Hearings reference JPI Pyrotechnics explosions in Epsom, which resulted in the damage of two lawn mowers back in August. On November 24, 2021, a disposition was submitted suspending Robert Jacobs and Douglas Blackwell's fireworks display licenses for six

months, with all held in abeyance for one year, based on the following conditions: 1) No further violations of fireworks laws/rules. 2) Shall hold and participate in a company-wide training regarding post-display searches, and provide proof to the FMO within three months of the hearing. 3) Shall work with the FMO to provide suggestions as to the amendment/rewrite of Saf-C 4024.09 to improve/clarify the required scope of the post-display searches.

**Training/Committees:**

Investigators attended several trainings in the month of November, some to include: IAAI Post Blast Investigations, Alternative Fuel Vehicles, Investigating Natural Gas Systems and Fire Investigator Health & Safety.

**BUREAU OF BUILDING SAFETY & CONSTRUCTION:**

**State Building Permit System:**

We processed 42 building permit applications in the month of November.

**Technical Assistance, Educational & Healthcare Reviews:**

We initiated 14 educational and 4 healthcare plan reviews, completed 57 inspections and 27 technical consults in the month of November.

**Variance Requests:**

We processed 4 variance requests in the month of November.

**BUREAU OF PLANNING AND SUPPORT SERVICES:**

**Hazardous Materials:**

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

Our office is working with HSEM to renew the PEAC licenses for 2021-2022.

We continue to work on Tier II reporting and associated follow-ups when deficiencies are identified.

**Swiftwater Rescue Working Group:**

Working to identify funding and training opportunities for the teams. Concord Fire Department has joined the list of available swiftwater rescue teams.

**All-Hazards Fire Mobilization Plan:**

The Federation of Mutual Aids and the State Fire Marshal's Office has completed the biannual review of the NH Statewide Fire Mobilization Implementation Master Plan. The updated plan will be made available shortly.

**Community Risk Reduction & Community Outreach:**

We have been delivering the Remembering When, a falls and fire prevention program for older adults in several communities.

**Training:**

The NH State Fire Marshal's Office will be delivering a Place of Assembly & Tent inspection training program at the Burton Training Facility in Bethlehem on December 16<sup>th</sup> at 1800 hrs.

We are working on scheduling inspection training opportunities in Sunapee, details will be made available soon.

**NH Fire Standards, Training and EMS - (Dir. Cutting)**

**ADMINISTRATION**

**Personnel**

- We are in the process of hiring a fire training Captain and an Administrative Assistant.
- On December 17<sup>th</sup> Paul Ingersoll begins as our fire training Captain assigned to the Burton facility in Bethlehem. Paul comes to us from Littleton Fire where he served as a Lieutenant.
- We have made a conditional offer for our Part-time Compliance Specialist position.
- The Curriculum Specialist, Recruitment & Retention Coordinator, Program Specialist in the Educational Technology section and three Specialty Services positions are proceeding through the HR process and have not been advertised yet.
- Becky Cournoyer is retiring at the end of December after 33 years with the Department of Safety and 24 years with our Division.
- Over 20% of our staff positions are currently vacant.

**Grants**

- The Federal FY 2022 Homeland Security Grant issued by the US Department of Homeland Security deadline for competitive applications is due by December 22<sup>nd</sup>. Go to <http://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/homeland> or contact Pamela Urban-Morin at 603-271-7663 for more information.

- The Governor and Executive Council approved our AFG grant award for the latest award that will fund a new Engine, forcible entry props and testing software. They also approved an amendment to the 2018 award that will allow us to purchase new personal protective clothing and SCBA's.
- The Governor and Executive Council approved our American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund grant request for infrastructure upgrades to the Burton Fire and EMS Training Facility, a full-time Recruitment and Retention Coordinator and for multiple EMR classes over the next four years. We have begun working with our State partners to advance this project forward. No projected start timeframe has been established yet.

#### Fire Standards and Training Commission / Curriculum

- The next Fire Standards and Training Commission meeting will be January 6<sup>th</sup> at 0930 in Classrooms 5/6 in the dormitory building at the main campus. The Commission also approved meeting dates for April 7<sup>th</sup>, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, September 1<sup>st</sup> and November 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Work continues on the Hazardous Materials Technician program and Fire Officer I/II Visiting Committees.
  - The Fire Officer Visiting Committee anticipates presenting to the FSTC Curriculum Committee in January.

#### Special Projects

- The next meeting with NHAFC, PFFNH, FMO, FSTEMS and the State Firefighters Association is December 16<sup>th</sup> at the academy.
- We are nearing completion of realigning and restructuring the geographical areas of the state that our (field) Fire Captain's cover and will communicate those changes when complete.

#### Legislative/Administrative Rules

- The "Letter of Concern" option for EMS licensure actions that was passed in 2021 legislation is being worked on through the administrative rules process.

#### Outreach

- We are continuing our Leadership Roundtables with the Fire Marshal's Office and regional Fire Chief's and expect additional dates in January.



## Mental Health & Resiliency

- We are waiting for notification on whether our American Rescue Plan Act grant request through the Health Resources and Services Administration officials has been approved or not to address suicide, burnout and behavioral health conditions - including substance abuse among public safety officials.
- We continue our meetings with mental health professionals to develop an aggressive strategy for providing initial and ongoing education on mental health and resilience. The initial plan is for a spring 2022 seminar with Fire Chief's, Police Chief's, labor leaders and clinicians to provide professional development, continuing education and a networking opportunity.
- We are working with the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation to host train-the-trainer programs here in NH for some of their firefighter behavioral health courses, including stress management and mental health for responders.

## **BUREAU OF FIRE TRAINING**

### Courses/Programs

- This November marks one year since the new Firefighter I and II programs were approved by the FST Commission. The Division has established a workgroup to examine the delivery of these programs and will report to the Commission in January of any needed changes or improvements.
- The Firefighter I in Bartlett and the LRCC FF I/II are ongoing.
  - LRCC FF I/II students are scheduled to test in mid-December.
- Spring semester Firefighter I classes will be held in Plaistow, Henniker and at the Burton Facility in Bethlehem.
- The LRCC Firefighter II class will begin in January.
- Portsmouth has contracted with us for a Driver Operator – All Vehicle class this month.
- Beginning February of 2022, to be eligible to take the required skills or knowledge tests, commercial driver's license applicants must have completed applicable entry-level driver training from a registered training provider.

- We are working with NH DMV with the goal of becoming one of those providers.
- We are nearing completion of a course planning guide/policy that will allow departments, individuals and services to share their needs for classes and to make requests for courses. The plan is for this to take effect at the beginning of the year.

### Facilities

- We are awaiting work to begin on the roadway washout on the south side of the drill yard at the Concord campus.

### Apparatus/Equipment

- Committees for construction of the new ARFF truck and Engine continue to make progress.
- Completion of the new aerial is still expected next year.

## **BUREAU OF CERTIFICATION AND SUPPORT**

### Courses/Programs

- Instructor I/II/III Programs
  - The ongoing Instructor I course will finish on December 14<sup>th</sup>.
  - In 2022 the first Instructor I offering will begin January 10<sup>th</sup>.
  - There will be a Saturday offering of Instructor I at the Burton Training Facility beginning March 12<sup>th</sup>.
  - We are exploring sites in the Upper Valley for an additional Instructor I class in the spring.
  - The first Instructor II/III course in 2022 will begin February 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Fire Officer I/II Programs
  - The next Fire Officer I course begins January 20<sup>th</sup>.
  - The next Fire Officer II course begins March 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Fire Inspector Programs
  - The current Fire Inspector I class finished December 6<sup>th</sup>.
  - The Warrants and Citations course will be held December 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - The next Fire Inspector I class begins January 11<sup>th</sup>.

- The next Fire Inspector II class begins April 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Fire Investigator
  - The next offering will begin August 25, 2022.
- For all current course listings you can go to <https://nhfa-ems.com/events/>
- The Education Technology section continues to work on the development of content for FF I/II with the goal of completing the Firefighter I work by late winter and the Firefighter II work by June 2022.

### Instructors

- We continue to work the Instructor Recruitment Plan. Recruiting more, new, instructors remains a top priority for our Division.

### CPAT

- We continue to plan for the 2022 CPAT dates and plan to announce them soon.

### Testing

- With the award of the AFG grant we continue to develop the RFP to replace the current certification testing software.

## **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 January 20<sup>th</sup> in classrooms 5 & 6 in the dormitory building.
- The NH Trauma Medical Review Committee (TMRC) will meet at 0930 on December 15<sup>th</sup> in classroom 2 in the administration building.

### Operations

- We are planning at least four (Grant funded) EMR classes in 2022 with the first beginning in January delivered primarily through a hybrid format of live streaming classroom sessions and in-person skills training.
- Our EMS Education Coordinator will initially be focused on deficits in current EMS training and the EMS simulation mannequin program.
  - Monthly continuing education courses are ongoing at the Concord campus and regionally around the State.

- For all current course listings you can go to <https://nhfa-ems.com/events/>
- The Educational Training Agency project was approved by the Coordinating Board on November 18<sup>th</sup>:
  - Administrative Rules will be developed.
  - One time approval for similar course types.
  - Initial license for one year, then three years upon renewal.
  - Practical exams will become portfolio based for each student.

### Clinical Systems

- Patient Care Protocol updates and corrections (8.1 Mid Cycle Roll-out) were approved by the Medical Control Board on November 18<sup>th</sup>. The public comment period will be announced soon.
- Covid-19 protocols and the “public health incident” are still in place allowing for 1 EMS provider in a transporting ambulance if staffing is low.

### Data Management

- NFIRS/Respond NH
  - We are offering a series of live webinars to assist service leaders in completing the EMS Unit application. Each date and time combination below is followed by the Microsoft Teams link to open the meeting. We recommend opening the meeting from within your web browser (*Continue on this Browser* option when prompted). We strongly suggest that your Unit Renewal License application be submitted by 12/15. Please mark your calendars, and as always, feel free to contact us with any questions. These webinars will take place on the following dates and times:
    - Tuesday, December 7, 2021 - 0900 hours: [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)  
Audio Only: +1 603-931-4944 PIN 856 191 043#
    - Thursday, December 9, 2021 - 1400 hours: [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)  
Audio Only: +1 603-931-4944 PIN 626 168 833#
    - Thursday, December 9, 2021 - 1830 hours: [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)  
Audio Only: +1 603-931-4944 PIN 794 598 31#
    - Wednesday, December 15, 2021 - 1830 hours: [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)  
Audio Only: +1 603-931-4944 PIN 569 565 885#

- Thursday, December 16, 2021 - 0900 hours: [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#) Audio Only: +1 603-931-4944 PIN 368 195 054#
- 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 34 departments using the software and 10 on the onboarding list.
- Anyone interested in the system can contact Joseph Cartier at 603-223-3403 or [joseph.w.cartier@dos.nh.gov](mailto:joseph.w.cartier@dos.nh.gov)
- We are planning to re-establish ongoing user groups to gain feedback, identify potential problems and develop solutions for both TEMSIS and NHESR.

**NH Fire Standards and Training Commission – (Chiefs Clark/Buxton)**

The Commission last met on November 3, 2021.

There are several new members on the Commission and the membership on the various standing committees will be reviewed.

The Visiting Committee for Officer I and II are currently meeting and recommendations are expected to be brought to the Curriculum Committee in the latter part of December and to the Commission at their next meeting.

The Commission is in favor of the Director's proposal to hire a Curriculum Coordinator with an education background to review the curriculum and delivery methods for all courses offered by the Academy.

The Academy is in the process of evaluating the curriculum delivery of Firefighter I and Firefighter II courses that have been delivered under the revised curriculum and delivery method approved by the Commission in the fall of 2020. It is anticipated that the staff will make recommendations to improve the delivery of these critical courses. The report and recommendations will be reviewed by the Curriculum Committee and brought to the next Commission meeting.

The Commission's next scheduled regular meeting is January 6, 2022.

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

n/r

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

In 2022 the NVFC will be increasing membership dues to \$21.00 member, still a great deal. You get webinars, classes, and books. NVFC is always looking for new members. NVFC is the biggest organization representing volunteer Fire and EMS personal in USA.

## **Homeland Security and Emergency Management – (Director Harper) n/r**

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

- We have hired one new Forest Rangers who started in late October. Tyler Jefferson will be covering district 23, located in Cheshire and Sullivan. He has a solid background with emergency services and was previously employed as a full-time EMT. He has joined our other two new hires and they have been undergoing extensive field training. All three will be attending the Police Academy and we hope to have them patrolling their assigned districts in late April.
- We are in the process of hiring part time positions to staff the fire towers every Saturday and Sunday from 11:00am to 5:00 pm, April through October. Staffing the fire towers on a regular basis has been a goal of the division, and we have managed to secure funding to staff the weekends. We will still staff on weekdays when the fire danger is high, but this additional funding will allow us to reach out to more visitors and provide better maintenance to our facilities, while providing detection during the weekends. If you know of someone who may be interested, please ask them to reach out to you forest ranger for more information.
- Legislation – We are following LSR 2022-2354 Titled “Repealing the permit requirement for fires at campgrounds”. We are concerned this may have impacts on the fire permit system and will update you when the bills language is released to the public. The LSR sponsors are: John Burt, John Reagan, Lino Avellani, Chris True, Gregory Hill, Bill Gannon, Hershel Nunez, Howard Pearl, Jeanine Notter, Steven Smith, Kevin Avard, Tony Piemonte, Fenton Groen, and Peter Leishman.
- The RAWS weather station, which was ordered through an Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) from HSEM, has been shipped from the Canadian vendor FTS and we are hoping to receive the unit this week, which will most likely mean we will not have it ready for installation before winter but a spring installation may become necessary. The station will be placed on town property adjacent to Monadnock State Park. This new station will provide valuable fire weather data for the southwestern part of the state in Cheshire County. The info. for our RAWS stations is publically available at: <https://mesowest.utah.edu/cgi-bin/droman/mesomap.cgi?state=NH&rawsflag=3> select “RAWS” on the network tab on the left of screen.
- The 2021 national wildfire season is winding down but proved to be another very busy year with over 100 large wildfires burning within the US during the peak. We provided firefighters (FFT2) and ICT5 personnel to complete four interagency wildfire crews this season. These crews were deployed to Minnesota, Montana and California. Our agency

wildland engine was deployed to Montana and it was utilized on a state incident and later reassigned to a federal incident before being released. Numerous single resource assignments were filled this year by NHS resources from our program. They include COML, RESL, MEDL, EMT, ENGB positions with some individuals being deployed on multiple assignments during the season. In total for 2021, 28 resources were deployed to assist on incidents within the United States.

- The 2022 Volunteer Fire Assistance Grants have been announced. In total, \$41,300.26 was awarded to 33 communities for the 50/50 cost share grants. Successful communities must complete and return their MOU to officially accept the grant award before making any purchases. Only the items that were approved by the awards committee should be purchased. Please provide Leslie Sherman with a copy of the paid invoice and cancelled check or facsimile or other proof of payment by August 30, 2022 to request the 50% reimbursement for the awarded grant expenditures.
- Despite a brief flurry of wildfire activity across the state this spring, the summer and fall months have seen weather conditions which have kept the fire danger consistently at low levels. The long lasting drought effects in Coos County are showing some minor signs of improvement but a good portion of northern Coos remains in the abnormally dry category with the northeastern portion still remaining in moderate drought. It is anticipated that this concern may be abated in the long term forecast from the NWS Predictive Services but probably not until the late winter or spring of 2022.
- We will be posting to fill a vacancy for the Forestry Dispatcher II position located at the Northeastern Interagency Dispatch Center (NECC) housed at the White Mountain National Forest HQ in Campton. This position acts as the Deputy Center Manager and works with state, provincial and federal partners to mobilize resources throughout the United States and Canada. We plan to have the posting open sometime next week through the middle of January. Please have anyone interested reach out to me directly.

### **NH Board of Fire Control – (Chief Clark)**

The NH Board of Fire Control last met on September 22nd.

A high priority for the Board is having the State Fire Code updated to incorporate NFPA 1 and NFPA 101 version 2018. It is anticipated that it will pass in this legislative session as the State Building Code proposed amendments are now complete and the intent is to keep the Fire Code and Building Code on the same year version.

The Board continues to closely watch court cases of Short-Term Rentals (“STR”) and compliance with the Fire Code. This is a hot topic of many Chiefs. A ruling on the legality as it relates to zoning is expected in the next few months. At issue is if a single-family home rented on a short-term basis year-round without the owner’s ever occupying the home a residential use or a commercial use for zoning. There are proposed bills in this session of the legislatures. A committee of the Marshal’s Staff, Board members and interested Fire Chiefs will be formed to review the proposed STR bills and what impact that they might have on the Fire Service.

The Association is working to fill nominations for the Career Fire Chief's position on the Board for the Governor's Approval. Anyone with a recommendation for a representative from Manufacturing to the Board, please bring the name to Marshal Toomey or me.

The next meeting of the Board is January 19, 2022,

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

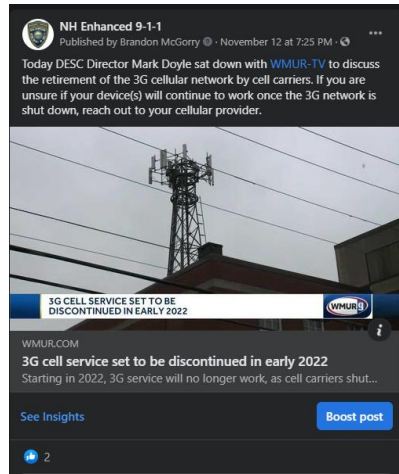
**Manufactured Housing Installation Standards Board: (Chief) n/r**

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

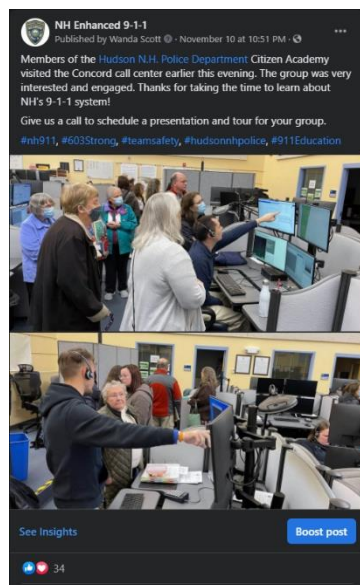
- PSAP relocation planning with the Commissioner's office continues
- Attended the New Hampshire Association of Chiefs of Police meeting in North Conway 12/4
- Preparing for the quarterly E9-1-1 commission meeting on 12/10
- SIEC (Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee) meeting on 12/3
- Final Cut over and testing of the new 9-1-1 call-delivery and CPE is scheduled this week
- December 8, 2021 2:00PM – 9-1-1 CPR save celebration at Banks Chevrolet, Concord, NH. The press invited to attend.
- Chief Jim Reinert of Farmington Fire is leaving us this month! Best of luck Jim Thank you for all your years of service to NH 9-1-1...
- Participated in 988 Planning Coalition meeting on 11/12;
- Participated in the 988 crisis panel discussion and listening session for First Responders (North Country-specific) on 11/22
- Preparing for the 9-8-8 crisis panel presentation at the annual behavioral health summit



- Attended the New Hampshire Association of Chiefs of police meeting in North Conway on 12/4
- Participated in the behavioral health summit relative to New Hampshire's crisis system transformation and 9-8-8 on 12/7
- Messaging regarding the phasing out of the 3G network has begun



- The Hudson Police Department citizens Academy visited 911 in November



- Conducted an overview of PSAP operations for the New Hampshire Fire Academy and EMS – Manchester School of Technology students



### **E-911 Commission – (Chief Thomas) –**

- He will be attending the meeting tomorrow.
- He was able to retrieve a map of the snowmobile trails from the E911 office.

### **Opioid Fatality Study Committee – (Chief Thomas)**

### **IAFC Director – (Chief Christopoulos) – n/r**

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

- He spoke of the notice on dues from the IAFC and the issue of a third party vendor sending a notice out.
- He urged everyone to look for info for the June conference in Worcester. They will be meeting in February.

### **Old Business –**

- Chief Carrier described his efforts in learning the treasurer's position and that he will have complete reports shortly. He's working through several issues.
- He will be meeting with Chief Parisi after the holidays on the fundraiser.
- Chief Sitar also mentioned the golf tournament upcoming on August 8, 2022 at Lochmere Country Club in Tilton.

### **New Business –**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 13, 2022 starting at 1600 hours virtually.

A MOTION to adjourn the meeting carried at 1009 hours.

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

December 9, 2021