



NEW HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS, INC.

Working Together to Make a Difference

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Meeting Minutes of the Board of Directors – June 3, 2026

Meeting held virtually on a Go To Meeting platform.

The meeting was called to order by Chief LaRoche at 0831 hours.

Members present: Chiefs LaRoche, D. Chamberlain, Carrier, Wheatley, J. Chamberlain, Cotreau, Chapman, Buxton, Murray, Toomey, Jones and ED Lemire. Adam Schmidt joined us also.

Minutes of previous meetings: A MOTION (Wheatley/Chapman) to approve the May minutes carried unanimously.

Financial Reports: The May reports were presented. A MOTION (J. Chamberlain/Buxton) to approve, carried unanimously.

Correspondence: n/a

Life Membership: n/a

Government Relations: (Schmidt)

- Adam's email asking for assistance (NHMA) in asking for opposition and veto of HB 340 and HB 609. Chief LaRoche explained that he is not totally against it as it addresses some of our concerns and does not think we should engage on this issue. HB 609 deals with carrying firearms in different situations. Chief LaRoche stated that there are two components in the bill, one is that the state has the authority to regulate these. Secondly, it adds stun guns, pepper spray, etc. to the existing law. We appear not to be ready to get involved yet.
- Legislature is done tomorrow!
- He mentioned several bills that are being heard tomorrow and will keep us posted as to the outcome.
- Marshal Toomey summarized his testimony on legislation allowing buildings on dead end and Class VI roads. The legislation was amended to include guardrails for fire and life safety issues.

Report of the President: (LaRoche)

- He and Chief D. Chamberlain attended the “Five Families” meeting. He summarized some of the issues discussed.
- Director Wholey brought up the curriculum changes to FF I.
- He attended the ribbon cutting for the new Burton Academy upgrades.

Report of the Executive Director: (Lemire)

- The June 11 meeting will be a breakfast meeting at the NH Fire Academy.
- The July board meeting will be at Primex on the 1st and the July 10 membership meeting will be virtual.
- In August, we will again be at the Town and Country Inn in Gorham/Shelburne ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 6. The Professional Development Committee has plans for a seminar for that meeting.
- The August 5th Board meeting will be virtual.
- The September membership meeting will be on the 10th for breakfast at Lakes Region Community College.
- The Scholarship Program has been advertised and posted. We have received one application so far.
- I attended ribbon cutting at the Burton Academy.
- I will be attending the Primex conference today and tomorrow.

1st Vice President’s Report (D. Chamberlain) –

- The Professional Development Committee 2026 Budget Line and the funds available to send a member of the committee to NVFC Training Summit June 26-27 for approximate cost of \$2130.00 and Andy Frederick’s Training Days September 14-16 approximate cost \$2000.00
- Chief Scott Cathy to attend NVFC Training Summit (May not be available to attend now)
- Chief Scott Tice to attend Andy Frederick’s Training Days
- Scholarship Committee Clarification:

Chief Officer accepted or enrolled in **an out of state** post-secondary education program.

- **Category 3**
- Pending acceptance or enrolled in a New Hampshire post-secondary education program for:
 - Paramedic Emergency Medicine or
 - Fire Protection or Fire Science or
 - Emergency Management or
 - Healthcare
- Shall be a member of Fire Department whose Chief Officer is an active member of the New Hampshire Association of Fire Chiefs.

2nd Vice President’s Report – (Fraitzl) – No report

Sgt. At Arms Report – (Wheatley) – No report

IAFC – NED – (Jones/S. Murray) –

- He spoke of the NEAFC conference August 26-28. He mentioned that there will be some excellent presenters.
- Attendees may receive reimbursement through the SAFER grant.
- He mentioned that we should be replacing our management program. He asked for permission to research vendors.
- Chief Jones stated that issues on the room blocks have been mitigated.

New Business –

- 2026 NHMA Annual Conference Session Proposal, Dave Emanuel has submitted two proposals on NHAFC behalf and Dave Emanuel, Ben LaRoche, Frank Fraitzl and David Chamberlain have agreed to present.

Old Business –

- We need new representatives to the NVFC, the State Interoperability Committee and ACEPS and SERC. Chief Matt Cole of Woodstock expressed interest for the NVFC; Dep. Chief Jeff Marshall of Milford (Chief Sitar's recommended) applied for the Interoperability Committee and Chiefs Mark Roarick and Joseph Guarnera applied for the ACEPS and SERC. Jim Richardson (Twin State HazMat) also applied but he does not meet the statutory qualifications. A MOTION (Buxton/D. Chamberlain) to approve the applications as written.

Good and Welfare –

Motion to adjourn carried at 0915 hours.

Respectfully submitted,
Brent T. Lemire, MPA
Executive Director

May 6, 2026