



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, September 10, 2020 (Online)

Called to order at 0900 hours by Chief Jones.

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

Chief Ken Jones welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Members were introduced by the Executive Director.

NOTE: ALL VOTES AT THIS MEETING WERE TAKEN BY ROLL CALL.

Special Guests: n/a

Minutes of the August 13 meeting have been posted. A MOTION (Rhodes/Howard) to accept carried unanimously (by roll call vote).

Financial Reports: July and August financial reports have been posted. A MOTION (Sitar/Rhodes) to accept carried unanimously (by roll call vote).

Communications: n/a

Applications for membership: District Fire Chief David Patten of Manchester.

Life Membership: n/a

President's Report: (Jones) –

- On 7/18 Brent & I met with Governor Sununu
 - Thoughts on filling the Assistant Position to Commissioner Quinn.
 - Thanked him for Covid stipend for emergency 1st responders
 - Thanked him for his initiative in receiving Covid PPE Supplies
 - Brent briefly touched on HB1234.
 - Inquired on any info pertaining to Hero's Care Act Funding
 - Mention possible funding towards PT/Volunteer Chiefs

w/ hours dedicated to Covid-19

- Discussed budget shortfalls; nationally, state and locally (direct effects w/ Department daily operations)
- Governor advised of dollars current available w/ Covid-19, strongly recommended to be creative and request funding for such
- PTSD Comm. Rob to continue as NHAFC rep., advised him of the 3 First Responder suicides in the past month within the State of NH
 - Held mtg. 8/28 - Rob
- NH Drug Overdose Fatality Review Comm – Chief Thomas
- Thanks to efforts of the Fire Marshall's Office, Chief Sabine ruled a LODD
 - A big step forward for the Fire Service
- Level I instruction this fall semester w/ LRCC Students/Interns
- Nick Mercuri, advised/inquired on possible legislation supporting a NH State EMT License Plate, our position
- Contacted Chief Allard wished him our condolences and offered our services
- Also contacted Director Pendergast and inquired if she needed any type of assistance as well
- Attend Capt. Tower's Wake and Funeral Service

Chief Howard mentioned that one of the issues is approval for GOFRR purchases with money that has not been appropriated. Restrictions on reimbursement is problematic.

Director Harper shared that the state has to spend the money by December 31.

Chief Howard stated that the deadline for applications for money is October 15.

Executive Director's Report (Lemire) –

- We are working on some type of virtual Candidate event for October 8.
- The Red Jacket has been reserved for our 2021 Professional Enhancement Weekend on Nov. 12-14.
- No word yet from the IRS on our non-profit status. Still waiting to hear Accountant will be checking.
- I've been working on purging and reconciling the membership list and all of the invoices.
- Crotched Mountain is not closing after all. Does this change our plans?
- Reminding everyone that dues notices are sent via the email you signed up with on our website. Please remit dues in a timely manner.
- The by-law changes have been incorporated into the original document. It will be shared with all members and uploaded to the website.

1st Vice President Report (Sitar) –

- Still accepting applications for credentialing. He will be meeting with Ty Gagne and Margaret Byrnes to assist in reviewing the applications next Thursday

2nd Vice President Report (Beattie) –

- He shared the results of the primary from the lobbyists. If anyone needs info on their district reps, contact him.
- The rule-making changes on ambulances are minor and basically housekeeping issues.
- He mentioned the request for support from the NHAFC for EMS license plates. It was discussed at the board meeting and there was too many questions without answers at this point.

Sgt. At Arms (Emanuel) – FRI will be hosting a virtual session in October. More info will be forthcoming.

Committee Reports

Scholarship Committee – (Dep. Toomey) – Two applications have been received and the committee awarded both a scholarship. The successful candidates are Mariah Chamberlain and Ethan Carrier. The checks went out this week.

Division Reports

State Fire Marshal – Marshal Parisi reported on the following:

ADMINISTRATION:

As previously reported, the FMO is moving forward with a 25% reduction in force. This has resulted in the loss of 3 full time and 5 part time positions within the agency through attrition. This reduction will affect our ability to offer services and resources to our stakeholders. However, we will do our best to stick to our core mission and meet your needs. Fire and death investigation requests will be responded to immediately, within our existing protocols. Areas that we will have a reduced capacity in will be public education, hazardous materials, routine state building inspection program, and fireworks. 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.

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 991 calls for assistance
- Assisted 270 front line workers with alternative lodging accommodations
- Provided 852 front line workers with exposure/quarantine/testing guidance
- Documented 1684 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

- Produced and distributed (16) first responder informational documents

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.

2020 Legislation: We are putting together our legislative priorities this month. These will likely include the adoption of the 2018 Uniform Fire Code and Life Safety Code which is being considered by the Board of Fire Control.

Personnel: We are pleased to report that Assistant Director Max Schultz has returned from sick leave and is back to work light duty.

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS:

New/Active cases: 17 Calls for Service in the month of August; our 6 investigators and 2 district chiefs are actively working 28 Criminal Cases.

- On 8/12/20, investigators responded to 14 Polly Ann Park in Dover to assist the Dover FD and PD with a fire investigation. One occupant in the mobile home sustained serious injuries from the fire and was transported to Boston for treatment. The fire investigation is still ongoing but it does not appear to be criminal in nature at this time.
- On 8/15/20, investigators responded to 25 Nyberg Rd. in Bristol for a house fire and a deceased individual was found inside. At this time the fire is still under investigation but it does not appear to be criminal in nature.
- On 8/28/20, investigators responded to 8 Huntress Bridge Rd. in Effingham to assist the Effingham FD and PD with a fire investigation that started on the exterior of the house and then communicated to the interior. It was determined that the homeowner had lit some combustible materials and then left it unattended allowing the fire to spread to the house.

Court Action: Grand Juries and court proceedings are slated to begin again soon. Once this happens, several of our investigations will be moving forward with criminal prosecutions.

Accelerant Detection Canine Teams: Our two Accelerant Detection Canine (ADC) Teams were deployed twice in the month of August. One of our canine teams met with each of the winners and their families at the 3rd Grade Fire Safety Calendar Contest.

The canine team performed demonstrations and congratulated the winners. District Chief Adam Fanjoy and K9 Anthem were invited to present at Camp CHAD (Children's Hospital at Dartmouth) through a virtual platform. With the assistance of the NH Fire Academy, we were able to film an entire segment of how our canines work and we were able to read a book to the kids.

Yearly, our canine teams must be recertified by Maine Specialty Dogs and the Maine's Criminal Justice Academy. Both of our canines were successful in their recertification process.

Training: BOI members attended a virtual training on 2021 NFPA 921 – Chapter 19 Fire Cause Determination & Classification of Fire Cause which was presented by the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI). This is part of a live monthly training series that started in May and runs through November and touches 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. If anybody is interested in attending these trainings the information can be found at www.firearson.com. There is a nominal fee associated with each class and they can be taken as tested or untested. The modules that have already been delivered can be taken, just not in a live setting.

Investigators participated in an in service training on the topic of youth fire setting and also attended the following committee meetings: National Insurance Crime Bureau meeting and the Child Fatality Review Committee.

BUREAU OF BUILDING SAFETY AND CONSTRUCTION:

State Building Permit System: We processed 28 permit applications in the month of August.

Technical Assistance, Educational & Healthcare Reviews: Our staff remains available for technical code assistance. We initiated 9 educational plan reviews and 8 healthcare plan reviews in the month of August.

Variance Requests: We processed 1 variance request in the month of August.

Rules Update: The most recent Saf-C 6000 and Saf-FMO 300 rules are both available on the SFMO website under the Laws & Rules page. The Saf-C 6000 rules have been renamed Fire & Life Safety Rules. The Saf-FMO 300 rules are the amendments to the State Fire Code.

BUREAU OF PLANNING AND SUPPORT SERVICES:

Hazardous Materials: 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. The Hazmat Collaborative, the Public Health Laboratory and our office, has finalized the

unknown package protocol. This allows for the transportation of substances by either NH State Police EOD members or FMO investigators.

North Country Hazardous Materials Coverage: 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. This MOU has been approved and will be presented at the next Governor and Council meeting for the final step in the process.

Public Education: We were able to hold an in-person ceremony for the 12 winners of the 3rd grade fire safety calendar contest. These students were recognized for their artistic safety messaging, which will soon be display statewide in their poster.

Members of the division will be participating in a controlled burn in Tilton, which will highlight several different fire safety messages to be aired on WMUR's Chronicle series during Fire Prevention Week in October.

Fireworks: Display shows are beginning to be scheduled again and this is a considerable increase compared to the beginning of the summer.

The state also continues to see drought-like conditions recently and we remain concerned about the dangers in using fireworks in these dry times. Unsafe fireworks usage can result in injury, death, property damage and wildland fires. Be sure to check out our website where we have provided information and safety tips about fireworks usage.

For anything COVID-19 related you should reach out directly to ESF-4, 24 hours 7 days per week at 603-223-3718.

Fire Standards/Training/EMS – (Director Pendergast)

Logistics-

We have been notified by Senator Shaheen's office as well as FEMA that we have been awarded the 2019 AFG (\$485,000 ladder truck funding). We are still waiting for an award decision for our 2020 PPE AFG. These Award decisions are now being made through FEMA and will be fully awarded by the end of September. Engine 1 is back in service.

Programs-

Our programs that were postponed are in the process of being completed. They will finish up in September and October with a total of about 85-90 students between the 5 certification programs.

New programs for the fall include classes that were CREF'd in the spring and then postponed due to Covid and include Instructor I and Fire Officer II as well as Fire Inspector I.

On September 21, our Recruit Academy students return to begin their full-time, in-person instruction and drills. There are 16 students enrolled in that class.

The North Country EMR class that was also started and postponed in the spring, will be complete on Weds. Sept. 16.

The final 2020 CPAT testing dates begin November 16. That application period is now open.

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.

Communications-

We continue to take part in weekly Directors conference calls with the Commissioner's office, as well as Wednesday noon conference calls with HSEM and local EMDs.

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. Nearly 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 continue difficult budget discussions with our business office as well as the Commissioner's Office. We have submitted a greatly reduced (20% less) budget per the Commissioner and we are awaiting further direction from the Governor's office. This budget reduction has already affected the number of programs we are able to offer this fall semester and will continue into the spring semester. We will continue to focus on our FF I and FF II programs as a priority.

We also have edited and submitted our 22/23 budget to the business office.

We will continue to assess the current data daily from NHDHHS and determine our strategy for continuation of in-person programs.

Fire Standards and Training Commission Report - Chief Allan Clark

(Chief Buxton commented on the actions taken by the FST and also referred members to Chief Clark's report below)

The New Hampshire Fire Standards and Training Commission (the "Commission") has been busy working on revisions to the Firefighter I and II curriculum to comply with the NFPA 1001 version 2019. I am the Association's representative for non-career chiefs. I also serve as chair of the Commission's Curriculum Committee. This is my second detailed report to the Association on this matter. The first is also on the Association's web site.

The Commission has recognized that the Firefighter I course has issues in its current format that needs to be addressed due primarily to the following: A) The statewide enrollment has consistently been dropping B) The course completion rate is dropping C) The pass rate is dropping D) The cost is inhibiting some Departments from sending candidates E) The completion rate is dropping F) That it is estimated that more than 50% of the non-career firefighters in NH are not certified at the Firefighter 1 level The Commission recognized that the career fire departments do not send candidates to Fire Fighter I and II. The vast majority of students enrolled in Firefighter I classes are from call and volunteer departments throughout the state. The exception being students from the technical college program, high school programs and the Academy's Rookie School.

The Commission provided explicit direction on what was expected of the Visiting Committee which was as follows: The Visiting Committee is tasked with reviewing the current program and available curriculums to determine what shall be included in the updated NFPA 1001 Firefighter I and II programs. These programs must continue to meet the requirements of the NFPA standard and Pro-Board. The program should minimize the overall course time, offer as much of the course online as possible, maximize training time on practical skills without adding course hours and overall, focus on the basics and meet the minimum standard. This direction from the Commission was consistent with the special Chief's Association committee's recommendations on Firefighter 1 and 2 that was appointed by Chief Buxton.

During the Visiting Committee process, each conversation and decision was based on the Commission's objective. One of the first tasks that was achieved, was the selection of the publisher's curriculum. Staff reviewed the three major publisher's curriculums: Jones and Bartlett, for which the program has been based on for more than a decade, IFSTA and Fire Engineering. The recommendation was the Fire Engineering textbook. It was the opinion of the Academy Staff and the Visiting Committee that a reduction in hours that would require skills objectives to be removed from the program was not acceptable. To reduce the amount of time within the Firefighter I program, the committee decided to expand the prerequisites required for Firefighter I. Students attending the new edition of Firefighter I would still need a valid medical release as well as successful completion of ICS100, ICS200, ICS700, and hold a valid Professional Rescuer CPR card which would need to expire after the scheduled testing. An area of the program that was determined to far exceed the NFPA 1001 standard for Firefighter 1 was the area of wildland firefighting.

The recommendation approved by the committee keeps intact the actual skills from the original program but eliminates the Federal NWCG training program requirements which reduces an estimated 54 hours of online work and 3 hours of lecture to 3 hours online that will focus on New Hampshire wildland firefighting for an entry level firefighter. The practical portion was increased to 9 hours.

Chiefs that desire more exposure to wildland firefighting for their firefighters have available the Academy's Wildland Firefighter course. After a substantial review of the standard, it was identified that the current Firefighter II program exceeded the standard significantly. Staff's recommendation for the Firefighter II program was to reduce the program specifically to the requirements set forth by the standard in compliance with the Commission's directive. By doing this, many of the technical rescue modules were removed from the certification program. These programs will be delivered as standalone training programs for those departments which need them.

The recommendations approved by the Visiting Committee, meet the 2019 edition of the NPFA standard, all Pro-Board requirements, significantly reduces overall and in-person class time, moves didactic instruction to an online format, maximizes the amount of time students spend on practical skills, and focuses on the basics that are outlined in the standard. It complies with the specific direction from the Commission. The Visiting Committee's recommendation as presented reduces in-person class time for Firefighter I and II by 21% and 71%, respectively. This is critical as many students outside of the Concord, Portsmouth Nashua triangle travel a significant amount of time just to attend class. In addition, by moving lectures online, this reduces total class time by 18% for Firefighter I and by 58% for Firefighter II. This recommendation would allow a student to complete both Firefighter I and II in less in person hours than the current Firefighter I program. The recommendation of the Visiting Committee is summarized as follows:

| Course | Current Curriculum | Proposed Curriculum | Variance |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Firefighter 1 | 247 | 202 | -45 |
| Firefighter 2 | 124 | 77 | -47 |
| If Offered Combined | 371 | 255 | -116 |

The detail of the hours by module are attached to this report. It should be noted that the hours are estimates of the time needed to complete a module.

The actual time may be different once the course are taught a few times. The Commission's Curriculum Committee approved the recommendation of the Visiting Committee and the full Commission on September 3, 2020 accepted the recommendation of the Curriculum Committee and will schedule public hearings. Those interested in the proposed changes should plan on either writing a letter or attending one of the public hearings to express your thoughts. The Public Hearings have yet to be scheduled.

Written comments can be submitted until November 3, 2020 at: <https://nhfa-ems.com/fst-commissioncurriculum-public-feedback-form/>

All curriculum information of the proposed program can be found at: <https://nhfa-ems.com/nfpa-1001-2019-firefighter-i-and-ii-documents/>

The Commission, Visiting Committee and the Curriculum Committee have expended a substantial amount of time on the Firefighter I and II curriculum with the hope of

substantially increasing the percentage of firefighters certified at least to the Firefighter I level in the State something that does not currently exist.

Should anyone have any questions or comments, please contact me at 603.494.1491 or via email at chief@sugarhillfd.org.

EMS Bureau Report – Justin Romanello

Bureau Report

- New Rules
 - Submitted to DoS Legal Unit
 - # of providers required to transport
 - Licensing as “Non-Affiliated”
- EMS Compact
 - HB 1234 Vetoed
 - Letter of Support from New Ipswich/Wildland Fire Team - Colorado

COVID-19 Summary

- Emergency Protocols – 5 Emergency Protocols Released
 - Personal Protective Equipment - Released 27 July 2020
 - COVID-19 Version 3 – Released 27 July 2020
 - Version 1 – Released 17 March 2020
 - Version 2 – Released 17 April 2020
 - COVID-19 Testing Version 2 – Released 27 July 2020
 - Version 1 – Released 26 March 2020
 - COVID-19 Destination Determination Version 2 – Released 27 July 2020
 - Version 1 – Released 26 March 2020
 - COVID-19 Temporary MIH Version 1 – Released 17 April 2020
- Emergency Rules
 1. # 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
 - Provisional Certification and Partial Background Checks - Released 7 April 2020 (Expires 1 October 2020)
 - Background Waiver +/- 100 processed with 25 since completing full CHRi
 - No longer accepting, CHRi operational

- Provisional Certification Waiver +/- 100 processed with 36 since completing practical exam
 - Extension to 1 April 2021
- 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
 - Available Immediately and will be in effect statewide 1 November 2020
- 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
 - PIFT/Critical Care Program Coordinator – Part-Time – ON HOLD
 - MIH Program Coordinator – Part-Time – ON HOLD

EMS Operations

- Provider Renewals - 30 July 2020 Expirations
 - Total Providers 2019 – 5,488
 - Total Providers 2020 – 5,457 -31
- 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
 - Ambulance Inspector – Part-Time – ON HOLD
 - NREMT Remote Testing Coordinator– Part-Time – ON HOLD

Data Systems

- Respond NH – User Management System
 - Moving along, on schedule.
 - Services - Entered
 - Vehicles – Entered
 - Personnel – In-Process
- Open Positions – 1 Full-Time

- Records Management Coordinator – Full-Time – ON HOLD

EMS Training

- Continuing Education – Exploring options to increase virtual offerings beginning in Fall
- “Winter” 2020 EMR Program – Expected to be completed by 19 September 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 – Planning on virtual meeting in Fall

National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) – (Chief Corey) – n/r

Homeland Security and Emergency Management – (Director Harper) –

- Assistant Director position closed on 8/31. We will be going through the applications and determining next steps.
- COVID-19 Update: September 15th will mark 6 months that the State EOC has been activated.
 - COVID Presidential Disaster Declaration received April 3rd. We continue to work with towns and state agencies to get paperwork submitted for FEMA reimbursement. We know the guidance keeps changing and that it's a paper intense process, we're doing our best to make it easy for you so we appreciate your patience and understanding.
 - State continues to procure PPE for a potential surge this fall/winter. We want to be prepared for a potential surge that may come into play when schools are open and flu season is in full swing and mixed into the COVID response.
 - DPHS has started planning efforts for vaccine distribution for 2020-2021 Fall/Winter/Spring. You may want to touch base with your Public Health Network to make sure you're aware of those activities.
 - On August 24th we announced a new funding opportunity from FEMA called **EMPG COVID-19 Supplemental (EMPG-S)**. This grant program was founded to assist states, territories, and local governments and their public health and emergency management activities supporting

the prevention of, preparation for, and response to the ongoing Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) public health emergency.

We determined two priority activities for this funding: Planning and Equipment. Planning activities under this funding will include the creation of Local Emergency Operation Plans (LEOP) to include all-hazards, Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP), and Distribution Management Plans (DMP) with pandemic-specific items. Equipment activities will include Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), interoperable communications equipment, medical equipment, etc. *Please note that there are maximum award amounts for the equipment items in the EMPG-S Guidance Document.*

If your community is interested in this funding option, please complete the EMPG COVID-19 Supplemental (EMPG-S) Application located on the [EMPG Resource Center](#). EMPG-S Applications will be reviewed and awarded on a case-by-case basis. As this funding is limited, the application window will close once all monies have been allocated.

- Non-COVID related
 - HSEM continues to work on Hurricane Preparedness activities. 2020 may end up being the most active season on record if we keep this pace---surpassing even 2005, the year that brought Dennis, Emily, Katrina, Rita, and Wilma...and 6 storms named from the greek alphabet! For context, the peak of the season is tomorrow and November 30 ends the season.
 - The School Readiness Program staff are reviewing school EOPs (due by RSA to DOE by 9/1 every year) so some of you may get requests from your schools for assistance with those regarding fire drills/codes/etc.
- As always let me know if you need anything, my cell is 419-9179.

EMS Trauma Medical Review Board – (Chief Beaudoin) – no report

Forests and Lands – (Chief Sherman) – (no report)

Building Code Review Board – (Chief Tetreault/Marshal Lennon)

- No meeting – no report.

Manufactured Housing Installation Standards Board: (Chief)

- No report

Board of Fire Control – (Chief Skantze/Chief Clark) - n/r

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

- Enhanced cleaning protocols are underway at all of our facilities (IPOC / PSAPS / Radio Communications);
- Motorola P25 Project is complete – punch list is being worked on now to be completed by the end of the month. The SUA is being reviewed now which will include maintenance, upgrades and patches to the system for the life of the system;
- Met with Chief Alan Clark of Sugar Hill Fire re: protocol review for wilderness rescues – will be addressing those matters with the Wilderness Rescue services and coordinating with FSTEMS to discuss at their next Fall meeting;
- Radio Communications Team has been working closely with DNCR to offer assistance to optimize the existing radio system at the Beach / Coast / Forest Rangers as well as their simulcast system throughout the state due to personnel shortages and life/safety concerns;
- The CAD User group meeting was held virtually – discussed a number of enhancements with the roll-out of the new CAD systems provided to all Communications Centers by NH9-1-1;
- Discussions continue with the Commissioner’s office and Administration re: budgetary concerns with anticipated revenue shortfall. A review of programs and services has been undertaken, as well as a review of current personnel vacancies. We have been authorized to recruit and hire 8 new Telecommunicator positions – Interviews have been conducted;
- Rule change to SAF-C 7006.04 (Confidentiality of Information and Records), changed to reflect the actual wording of RSA 106-H (as directed by the AG’s office);
- Updated and refreshed the Division’s COOP plan-copies submitted to the Commissioner’s office;
- Discussions started with various Department Commissioners and DOS re: potential Radio Communications consolidation as directed by the Governor’s office. Much work is being done regarding the current assessment and will be meeting to discuss potential next steps;
- Cross border transfer discussions with Maine (type of circuit) and Vermont (MOU) are moving forward, we have several options we’re looking at, and a decision on which technological solution we opt for will be very soon;
- We are reviewing our SupALI process and looking at an overhaul of the record keeping and management of the database;
- Assistant Director Pet DeNutte retired after 27 years of service to the State of New Hampshire – thank you all for participating and we will have Pete back for a formal recognition from the Commission once we resume in-person meetings.

E-911 Commission – (Chief Thomas) – (911 Commission meets tomorrow at 11:00 hours). He will have updates at next meeting.

IAFC Director – (Chief Christopoulos) – FRI virtual attendance was exceptional. The financial condition of the organization has improved and they are balanced at this point.

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

- Current Membership under new organization is; 1100 members, 700 paying 400 either inactive or retired

- Current Presidents; Chief Duross/Maine & Chief Flynn/Connecticut
- President Flynn working on a new patch for the organization
- President Duross spoke about the 100th Anniversary coming up in 2023. The Original NEAFC organized in 1922, first official conference in 1923 Bridgeport, CT. Reorganized in Mass in 1959. NE Div. IAFC with roughly 250 chiefs organized in 1944.
- Presentation was made by IAFC Treasurer Steve Locke from Burlington VT., siting the changes made within the organization, then predicting the IAFC Organization to be roughly \$46,000 in the black for this year. The have affected a major turnaround, will let director Christopoulos to report.
 - Chief Locke proceeded to praise our IAFC New England Director for his Participation & Leadership skills to assist with the organization moving forward from this point. Thanks to Chief Christopoulos
- As posted after the mtg. conference scheduled for October 19 & 20 in Mystic, Connecticut has been canceled. Executive Board to meet and determine to refund or forwarded registration cost to 2021.
- Continue to plan for the 2021 Expo, June 23rd – 26th in Worcester MA

Robert Duval (NFPA) spoke of Fire Prevention Week information/resources available to departments. He also spoke of the scam affecting the NFPA and for everyone to be cautious.

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

Old Business –

New Business –

Good and Welfare –

The meeting was adjourned at 1021 hours.

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

September 10, 2020