



NEW HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS, INC.

Working Together to Make a Difference

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Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the NH Association of Fire Chiefs

Thursday, April 11, 2024 – Common Man Inn, Plymouth, NH

The meeting was called to order at 1907 hours by Chief Emanuel.

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

Chief Thomas Morrison welcomed everyone to Plymouth and the meeting.

Introduction of members: Members introduced themselves and their spouses/guests

Special Guests: Chief Steve Locke, Treasurer of the IAFC from South Burlington, VT; Chief Robert Bradley from Manville, RI, President of the NE Division of IAFC and Chief Keith Stark of Weymouth, MA, IAFC Director for New England. Chief Locke has been offered the support of the NHAFC as he runs for the 2nd Vice Presidency of the IAFC.

They each offered greetings from the New England Chiefs and Chief Locke explained his reasons for running and the hopes of having a NE chief become President.

Minutes of the March meeting have been posted. A MOTION (Lyon/Buxton) to accept carried unanimously.

Financial Reports: February and March reports have been posted, A MOTION (Sitar/Jones) to approve them, carried unanimously.

Communications: n/a

Applications for membership: Chief Dennis Comeau of Bow; Chief Mark Roarick of Weare; Dep. Chief Courtney Heath of New London and Advocate Member Darrin Varnum. Last meeting Dep Chiefs Michael Curran and Eric Tremblay of Nashua were approved for membership and they are here tonight.

Life Membership: n/a

President's Report: (Emanuel) –

1. Emanuel attended Five family's meeting Friday March 29, 2024
 - Discussion about benefits, rights, privileges, and honors for firefighter deaths
Need to update and revise a policy to address active, retired, and line of duty deaths
Establish a workgroup to revisit the NHFMO guidance on documentation/recommendations upon hiring to determine and document employees and wishes, guidance for levels of honors and privileges, and potential benefits available to members upon death. Chiefs Buxton and Fraitzl will work with group on updating the guidelines.
 - PFFNH cancer screening legislation makes funding available for two years... need to set up systems in advance.
Need a team to outline a plan and RFP. Cancer screening committee to provide input and to help construct rules and process for screening. NHAFC representative
 - HB 1330 - EMS disciplinary proceedings. (Mark Proulx is the sponsor)
Concern with peer review of discipline moving licensing to the Office of State Professional and Certifications...
 - He attended a meeting of the North Country chiefs this morning at the Burton Academy in Bethlehem
 - Recruitment/retention community college fund is not being utilized at the NHFA yet... January 1. Funds are retroactive back to July 1, 2023...
 - AFG, SAFER, HSEM have been cut 9% by the federal government. Defer to Director Buxton, understanding that there will be an impact to NH.
2. Emanuel and Board of Directors will be attending CFSI April 29th. Thank you Brent for coordinating the meetings with our federal delegation.

Report of the Executive Director: (Lemire)

- He thanked all the vendor partners and members for attending the events today. This was the largest attendance ever recorded at an NHAFC event. He thanked the Professional Development Committee for the seminars and the staff of the Common Man Inn and Spa for the collegial manner in planning, and Chief Morrison of Plymouth for accommodating everyone.
- Our next BOD meeting will be at Primex in Concord on May 8 due to board members being in Washington on the 1st.
- For May, we will partner again with Primex for our meeting during their annual conference. Our meeting will be at 3:00 pm on May 16 in the Warner Room of the Sheraton Portsmouth Harborside Hotel.

- The June 13 meeting will be virtual and held at 4:00 so as to accommodate some of our part-time members.
- The July 11 meeting will be a breakfast meeting at the NHFA. The vendor has lowered their prices so we're back to \$16.00.
- On August 8, we'll join our North Country brethren at the Town and Country in Gorham (Shelburne) where we'll have a seminar being developed by the Professional Development Committee.
- The Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, August 12 at Lochmere Country Club in Tilton.
- Our application for 501 c3 has been submitted to the IRS and the fee paid!

1st Vice President Report (Watkins) –

(Our Government Relations Specialist Adam Schmidt submitted a legislative update)

NHAFC LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – April 10, 2024

April 11 serves as the “crossover” deadline for this legislative session. Crossover is the date by which all bills introduced in one body must be acted upon and crossover to the other body for their consideration. It is generally considered the half way point of the legislative session. The current date for the session to conclude is June 13. In the background, Legislators are paying close attention to state revenues as they have not been as robust when compared to prior years. Leveling off of tax receipts and the end of many of the federal funds to the state has created more attention on priorities for spending state dollars.

- **Ambulance Billing Issues** – There are several bills dealing with ambulance reimbursement. Here is a breakdown of where each stand in the session:
 - **SB 409 (Medicaid Re-imbursment for Treat/No Transport) -** The bill would require NH DHHS to file a Medicaid plan amendment which, under specific circumstances, would allow for re-imbursment for instances where an individual was treated, but not transported, to a hospital. Chief Mike Sitar attended the Senate hearing and testified in favor. The bill has passed the Senate and is scheduled for a hearing in the House on April 10. Chief Sitar is planning to testify once again in favor.
 - **HB 1568 (Medicaid Re-imbursment for Treat/No Transport) –** Similar to SB 409, this bill would also require the state Medicaid program to reimburse for non-transport emergency medical service calls. It has passed the House and will also be heard on April 10 in the Senate. It is unlikely both SB 409 and HB 1568 are signed into law. Eventually, the Legislators will determine which bill to pass.
 - **HB 1081 (Direct Pay) -** HB 1081 was heard by House Commerce and they voted to pass the bill. The bill would require carriers to pay providers directly, regardless of whether or not they are in network. The bill was passed by the House and is also scheduled for a hearing in the Senate on April 10. Chief Sitar will be testifying in support of this bill as well.
 - **SB 407 (Direct Pay/Required rates) –** Like HB 1081, this bill would require that carriers pay ambulance providers directly. In addition, it

creates minimum payment which carriers must provide. The bill has passed the Senate but will likely be strongly opposed by the insurance industry in House. At the end of this update is a one page overview of the Senate passed version of the bill. It includes more details and specifics regarding the proposed payments to providers. NHAFC may be asked to be part of a coalition to work in support of the bill. The summary is intended to help educate members so that if there is a request to contact local House members, they will have some details regarding the potential benefits to their community.

- **HB 1647 (Group II Retirement Reforms)** - The bill is a result of the Retirement Benefits Commission which met last summer and fall. It would adjust the retirement annuity multipliers for members who started service before 7/1/11 that were not vested by 1/1/12, and those who were hired after 7/1/11, to 2.5% per year for service in excess of 10 years. The bill appropriates almost \$56 million to cover the majority of the costs with this change. NHAFC submitted testimony in support of the bill. The House passed the bill in late February and was referred to the House Finance Committee. House Finance voted 23-2 to pass the bill with a technical amendment. The entire House will vote on the bill on April 11. Should it pass, it will head to the Senate for their consideration. It is not yet clear if the concerns relative to state revenues will impact the bill as it makes it way through the Senate.
- **SB 352 (Retired and Full Time Firefighter Cancer Screening Program)** – The bill would create a \$5 million fund from which re-imbursments to retired and full-time fight fighters could seek re-imburement, up to \$1,300, when specific documentation is provided. NHAFC, PPFNH, and Fire Standards and Training would be responsible for development of an initial plan to implement the screenings. The plan would be submitted to the Governor and Commissioner of the Department of Safety. NHAFC signed in as supporting the legislation. The bill passed the Senate Health and Human Services Committee, the Senate Finance Committee, and finally the entire Senate on a 24-0 vote in late February. It has been referred to the House Health and Human Service Committee.
- **HB 1352 (PFAS in station wear/PPE)** – As introduced, the bill would require Fire Departments to “...give preference” to PPE which does not include PFAS, once those alternatives are made available. In the interim, Fire Departments shall have in place a policy that limits unnecessary exposure to PPE. Language is included that states it would remain a best practice from PPE to be used while operating in a dangerous environment. Regarding station wear, by January 1, 2025, Fire Departments shall not provide as an option any station wear that contains intentionally added PFAS or fire resistive chemicals (fluorine, chlorine, bromine, lead, or antimony). Manufacturers are required to provide safer alternatives, should they exist. The bill was requested by PPFNH. The Committee adopted an amendment which would enable, but not mandate that local fire departments to give preference to PPE which does not include PFAS. The amendment was consistent with conversations with PPFNH to ensure the bill

could be enacted without confusion. The full House passed the bill in late March. It will be scheduled for a hearing in the Senate soon.

- **SB 309 (Reduction in vesting period from 10 to 5 years)** – Similar to HB 1647, this bill was developed as part of the Retirement benefits Commission. The bill initially passed the Senate Executive Departments and Administration Committee, and then the entire Senate. It was referred to the Senate Finance Committee for their consideration. At a Finance Committee meeting on April 9, the Committee voted 5-2 to send the bill to interim study, rather than recommending passage. Those who favored interim study indicated that there were costs associated with the bill that were not previously known. In addition, the committee was contacted by several municipalities who argued that the bill would have an unintended impact on workforce. The Retirement Benefits Commission felt the bill would help attract more state/municipal employees since it would reduce the barriers to vesting. Municipalities were concerned that the bill would actually create more individuals leaving government service earlier in their career. The entire Senate is scheduled to vote on the bill on April 11.
- **SB 599 (State Fire Code)** – This bill would alter the reference for the State Fire Code by changing the references to both the Life Safety Code, NFPA 101 and Uniform Fire Code NFPA 1 from the 2018 editions to the 2021 editions. It also would ratify amendments approved by the Board of Fire control as of September 20, 2023. The bill has passed the Senate and is scheduled for a hearing in the House on April 10.

BACKGROUND FOR SB 407 – relative to direct pay for ambulance services.

The NH Legislature is currently considering SB 407. The bill has two main objectives:

1. Ensure health insurance carriers provide payment directly to ambulance providers (rather than patients).
2. Create a re-imbursalment level for the payment by private health insurance carriers which is closer to the actual costs of service.

The bill does not impact balance billing.

The Senate passed version of the bill would require health insurance carriers to pay ambulance service providers, who do not have a contract with the carrier, the **lesser** of rates set by the local government, or at “...325% of the published rate for ambulance services established under Medicare law...”, or participating ambulances billed charges. Last summer and fall, NHAFC surveyed fire-based EMS agencies that transport patients. The data included below comes from the survey responses and is reflective of 2022 data. While the surveys did not include all providers, it included information for almost 50,000 transports in New Hampshire.

The chart includes information regarding the minimum, maximum and average costs included in the survey responses. In addition, the chart included Medicare re-imbursalment levels at 100 % (current level) and 325% of Medicare. It is likely the bill will pass the Senate. NHAFC expects the insurance industry to strongly oppose the bill in the House. This information is meant to help Chiefs and fire-based EMS agencies

understand the potential revenue implications of passing SB 407 so that we can develop stronger support for the bill in the House.

**DATA FROM NHAFC SURVEY
BASED ON % OF MEDICARE**

REIMBURSEMENT

Type of Service	Minimum	Maximum	Average	Medicare 100%	Medicare 325%
BLS	\$517	\$1619	\$934	\$455.20	\$1,478.40
ALS 1	\$616	\$2420	\$1403	\$540.55	\$1,756.79
ALS 2	\$880	\$3571	\$2058	\$782.38	\$2,542.74
Mileage	\$11	\$44	\$23	\$7.71	\$28.31

Important note: There are several other bills dealing with ambulance reimbursement. HB 1081 requires direct payment to providers. SB 409 and HB 1568 would create parameters for “treat, no transport” payments in the Medicaid program.

2nd Vice President Report (Hunter) – No report

Sgt. At Arms (Chamberlain) – No report

Committee Reports

Scholarship Committee – (Dep. Toomey) – Information to be released in May.

Division Reports

Fire Marshal – (Marshal Toomey)

ADMINISTRATION:

Personnel:

We currently have 2 part-time vacancies that we are actively recruiting for at this time:

- Part-time Building Code Review Board Administrative Secretary
- Part-time Accreditation Manager

Legislation:

The following bills are the key bills that we are currently monitoring:

- HB 1059 Relative to the state building code
Status: Passed House with Amendment
- HB 1065 Relative to fire sprinkler requirements in residential buildings
Status: Passed House with Amendment
- HB 1215 Relative to subdivision regulations on the completion of improvements and the regulation of

building permits
Status: Passed House with Amendment
HB 1332 Relative to prohibiting electric vehicles from parking in parking garages
Status: House ITL
HB 1352 Relative to firefighting personal protective equipment
Status: Passed House with Amendment
HB 1386 Relative to prohibiting the disposal of lithium-ion batteries in solid waste
landfill facilities, composting facilities, or incinerators
Status: Passed House with Amendment
HB 1387 Relative to revisions to the state building code
Status: Passed House with Amendment
HB 1396 Relative to prohibiting municipal inspections of owner-occupied units of
multi-unit housing
Status: House ITL
HB 1498 Establishing a state short term rental registry
Status: House ITL
HB 1510 Establishing a commission to identify barriers to and solutions for electric
vehicle sales
Status: House ITL
HB 1635 Relative to the definition of short term rental
Status: House ITL
SB 365 Relative to the sale or use of lithium-ion batteries for electric bicycles,
scooters, or personal electric mobility devices
Status: Passed Senate
SB 373 Relative to the state building code
Status: Senate holding bill, amendment was passed in committee
SB 430 Relative to establishing a counsel to study the impacts of electric vehicles,
lithium-ion batteries, and e-mobility devices on first responder response,
the environment, building and fire codes, and life and safety property
protection
Status: Passed Senate
SB 437 Relative to local authority to amend the state building code
Status: Passed Senate with Amendment
SB 599 Relative to the state fire code
Status: Passed Senate

Board of Fire Control:

The next Board of Fire Control meeting is scheduled for June 19, 2024.

Foam Take-back Program:

The contract for the foam take-back program was approved by the Governor & Executive Council at the end of June 2023. DES has updated that they are now working on some facility disposal items with the vendor and anticipate the program remaining in a delayed status until late spring.

Strategic Planning Initiative:

Our office has worked over the past few months to develop an updated strategic plan which will be part of an overall Department of Safety plan. The high-level goals for the office include accreditation, development of a statewide community risk reduction program, employee development, development of a statewide hazmat strategic plan, and facility/office space enhancement.

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS:

In the month of March, we received 22 incident notifications resulting in 11 scene responses. The Bureau of Investigations currently has 15 open arson or suspected arson investigations.

New cases (synopsis of some of our cases are listed below):

- On March 1, investigators responded to Bradford for a tent fire of undetermined cause.
- On March 4, investigators responded to Thornton for a structure fire, the cause is undetermined.
- On March 4, investigators, and an IGL K9 team responded to Milton for a structure fire, the cause is under investigation.
- On March 5, investigators responded to a separate structure fire in Milton. The cause is undetermined.
- On March 5, investigators responded to Northwood for an unattended death suspected to be related to carbon monoxide poisoning. After further investigation it is believed that the person died of natural causes.
- On March 11, an investigator assisted the North Conway Fire Department with a room-and-contents fire suspected to have been caused by a broken vape pen.
- On March 13, investigators responded to Atkinson for a structure fire. The cause is undetermined.
- On March 18, investigators responded to Loudon for a camper fire. The cause is undetermined but suspected to be from an electrical failure.
- On March 20, an investigator responded to Meredith to assist MPD collect evidence related to incendiary brush fires.
- On March 24, investigators responded to Chesterfield for a structure fire, the cause is undetermined.

Fatal Fire/CO Incidents:

- There was one fatal fire in March. On March 22, investigators responded to Gilford for a tent fire. One deceased male victim was found in the tent. The cause is currently under investigation but suspected to be from the use of propane space heaters in the tent.

Ignitable Liquid Detection Canine Teams:

- There was one IGL canine deployment in March.

Youth Fire Setter:

- There was one youth fire setter inquiry in March.

Court:

- A former Bradford Firefighter was indicated on 7 counts of arson by a Merrimack County Grand Jury.
- An Investigator testified in a deposition, and at an arson trial, in the Merrimack County Superior Court for a 2021 fire that happened in Hill. The trial resulted in a hung jury and is planned to be retried in the fall of 2024.

Training/Committees:

- Two investigators finished a Fire Inspector 1 class.
- One investigator took an evidence technician class.

BUREAU OF BUILDING SAFETY & CONSTRUCTION:

State Building Permit System:

We processed the following permits in the month of March:

- Building: 7
- Electrical: 10
- Plumbing: 7
- Mechanical Fuel Gas: 7
- Mechanical Non-Fuel Gas: 2
- Fire Protection: 1
- Fire Alarm: 0

Technical Assistance, Educational & Healthcare Reviews:

We initiated 9 educational and 8 healthcare plan reviews, completed 231 inspections and 185 technical consults in the month of March.

Variance Requests:

We processed 5 variance requests in the month of March.

Fireworks Safety and Enforcement Program

The Fireworks and Enforcement Program has conducted the following in the month of March:

- Proximate Licenses Issued: 0
- Display Certificate of Competency Issued: 0
- Consumer Fireworks Retail Store Licenses Issued: 0
- Explosive Magazine Inspections: 3
- Proximate Audience Inspections: 2
- Technical Assistance: 3

Modular Building Program

The Modular Building Program has conducted the following in the month of March:

- Inspections: 8
- Audits of Manufacturers: 0
- Audits of Educational Facilities: 0
- Labels Issued to Manufacturers: 85
- Units Shipped to New Hampshire: 20

Tramway and Amusement Ride Safety

The Tramway and Amusement Ride Safety section conducted the following in the month of March:

- Amusement Registrations: 51
- Amusement Inspections: 73
- Amusement Incidents: 0
- Tramway Registrations: 0
- Tramway Inspections: 11
- Tramway Incidents: 3

BUREAU OF OUTREACH & EDUCATION:

Hazardous Materials:

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

Our Hazardous Materials Coordinators are available for PEAC Software training for fire departments. PEAC is used for documentation of Tier II facilities and chemical storage.

In the month of March, our Hazardous Materials Coordinators attended the Southeastern NH Haz Mat Team training, FEMA Resource Typing training, and provided PEAC Training to the Keene Fire Haz Mat team and Respiratory Protection Policy training to our Bureau of Investigations. They also met with the Twin State

Haz Mat Team coordinating committee and attended the Twin State Mutual Aid Meeting.

Also, in the month of March, we received 122 Tier II reports from NH facilities. We also responded to 16 questions from facilities regarding Tier II reporting.

Regional Outreach/Chief's Roundtables:

We continue to partner with the Commissioner's Office, other Department of Safety Leadership and the NHAFC to conduct regional outreach/Chief's Roundtables. The next meeting is scheduled at the Burton Fire & EMS Training Facility in Bethlehem on April 11th at 10 am.

Incident Reporting:

Your commitment to ensuring we have great data to accurately show the fire problem in NH is greatly appreciated! Please remember to report any EV or lithium-ion battery fires to us.

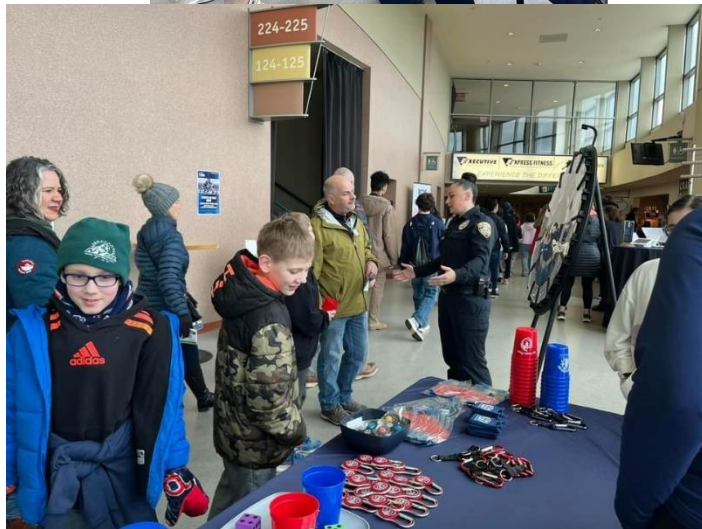
Please reach out to our NHFIRS team for any incident reporting questions at nhfirs@dos.nh.gov

We continue to monitor the development of the U.S. Fire Administration's (USFA) new fire information and analytics platform, known as the National Emergency Response Information System (NERIS), for the American fire and emergency services.

Outreach Events:

Members of the SFMO were busy in the month of March, engaging with just over 1,000 people at a variety of events across the state. Members attended the Manchester Home Show, the Law Enforcement Winni Dip, and the CHaD Battle of the Badges. They also provided Steps for Safety (fire and fall prevention program for older adults) presentations in Kingston, Franklin and Concord. Our K-9 teams provided two demonstrations in the month of March.





Please consider us as you plan your next community event! Send your request to us at fmopubliceducation@dos.nh.gov.

Public Education:

Are you familiar with the USFA's Fire and Life Safety Communicators Initiative? This initiative is a collaboration among the fire and emergency medical services to speak with "one voice" on fire and life safety. They believe in working together to present consistent messages. The theme for the month of April is "Create a Community Wildfire Protection Plan." Wildfires are becoming more extreme; larger, spread faster, and occur in areas that have never experienced fire. These fires create cascading effects like damaged water supplies, infrastructure, economies, watersheds, and ecosystems. Because of this, it is important to help your community

prepare for a wildfire. One of the best ways to prepare is by creating a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP).

Learn how to create a CWPP here: [Create a WUI action plan \(fema.gov\)](#)

For more information on this initiative, or to find outreach materials on the monthly topics, please visit:

[Fire and Life Safety Communicators Initiative \(fema.gov\)](#)

[Did you know the 2024 Arson Awareness Theme was just recently announced? This year's theme is "Protecting Houses of Worship – Fire as a Weapon" and runs from May 5-11, 2024. Arson was the leading cause of reported fires in houses of worship in 2020. Excluding fires for which a cause was undetermined, 58% of fires in houses of worship were classified as "incendiary."](#)

[Find messages and assets to share here: Protecting Houses of Worship Against Arson \(fema.gov\)](#)

Training Opportunities:

Upcoming SFMO Led Classes:

Heating and Fuel Gas Appliance Inspections

Wednesday, April 24, 2024

6:00PM-9:00PM

Jaffrey Fire Department

[A review of the State Fire Code relative to NFPA 54: National Fuel Gas Code, NFPA 58: Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code, and NFPA 31: Standard for the Installation of Oil-Burning Equipment. This session will give the Authority Having Jurisdiction \(AHJ\) or his designee a better understating of how to navigate these codes and standards.](#)

Registration Link: <https://forms.office.com/g/BSXjQRb7mK>

Heating and Fuel Gas Appliance Inspections

Thursday, May 16, 2024

6:00PM-9:00PM

Wilton Fire Department

[A review of the State Fire Code relative to NFPA 54: National Fuel Gas Code, NFPA 58: Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code, and NFPA 31: Standard for the Installation of Oil-Burning Equipment. This session will give the Authority Having Jurisdiction \(AHJ\) or his designee a better understating of how to navigate these codes and standards.](#)

Registration Link: <https://forms.office.com/g/BSXjQRb7mK>

Additional locations and offerings will be announced soon. We are working on topics to include interviewing witnesses, air monitoring, inspection multi-family dwellings and NHFIRS Incident Coding. Please reach out to Deputy Stacey Dubois at

stacey.l.dubois@dos.nh.gov if you are interested in hosting one of these sessions, a past or future session, or would like to suggest a future training topic.

Fire Standards/Training/EMS – (Director Cutting)

ADMINISTRATION

Personnel

- Joseph Cartier has been promoted to Captain of EMS Operations and Matthew Robblee has been promoted to Captain of EMS Clinical Systems. Both promotions are effective April 19th.
- Shirley Messier has begun with us March 22nd as a Program Assistant in the Program Support Unit. Shirley comes to us as a Department of Safety transfer from another Division.
- The open Fire Service Instructor Supervisor position in the Bureau of Certification and Support remains open.
- We have one vacancy for Program Specialist III (Education Technologist) of the Educational Technology section.
- We continue to advertise for our three new full-time Fire Training Instructors. We have conducted the interview and evaluation phase of the hiring process for three candidates.
- David Lange has been hired as our part-time Compliance Specialist position.
- Patrick Dunaway has been hired for our part-time EMS Vehicle Inspector Coordinator position.
- Our part-time Program Coordinator position for Fire Officer is open and we are seeking applicants.
- We have made a conditional offer for our part-time Program Coordinator position for CPAT.

Grants

- The Raymond S. Burton Fire and EMS Training Facility infrastructure project continues to move forward. The contract with the selected vendor is being completed with construction on phase I expected this Spring/Summer.
 - Construction documents are being developed for eventual requests for proposals for Phase II.
- Our 2023 AFG grant submission includes additional structural PPE, a mobile ventilation trainer, replacement for vehicle for prop delivery and support, two trailers, power stretcher for simulation programs, Stop the Bleed equipment, smoke generators, battery powered positive pressure fans, 2 sets of battery powered extrication tools, and tablets for certification testing.

- We have been extremely successful with AFG historically, as of this last grant we have received over \$3.9 million worth of funding for equipment.
- The NH EMT Training Program remains active with grant funding for training new and existing EMS providers. Contact our Division or NH Employment Security for details and question.
- The *Law Enforcement Officers, Professional Firefighters and Emergency Medical Technicians Career Development, Recruitment and Retention Program* committee established in New Hampshire RSA 188-F:70 announced the new program on December 18th. Details can be found on our website under the Recruitment and Retention link from the homepage.

Special Projects

- We are near completion on the Division strategic plan for FY 25-27.
- We are working on our website transition and improvements with NH DoIT. A staff lead has been identified and has begun work on this transition.
- We are partnering with the International Society of Fire Instructors to bring their *Water Mapping* program to the Fire Academy. Part of this project will be constructing the prop, offering a train-the-trainer program and then a student offering of the class this July.

Facilities

- We are working to have an inspection done of the “A” building.
- We are near completion of updates to the entrance and main floor area of the Richard Flynn Fire Academy building.

Legislative/Administrative Rules

- The Fire Standards and Training Commission amended Fire rules relative to the Recruitment and Retention report and its recommendations are working through the internal legal process in preparation for submission to the Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules (JLCAR) which will include public input.
- The Educational Training Agency ruleset (Saf-C 5900 EMS) were submitted to JLCAR on March 22nd with a projected hearing date of April 19th.
- The proposed Trauma Rules are working through the internal legal process.
- We are currently tracking fourteen Bills for the upcoming legislative session. A few of those include:
 - HB 1057 Relative to Provisional Licenses for New Applicants for State EMS Licensure
 - HB 1081 Relative to Insurance Payments to Ambulance Providers
 - HB 1328 Relative to Public Safety Providers Defined as Essential Services
 - HB 1330 Relative Establishing an Emergency Medical Services Disciplinary Review Panel, and Relative to Procedures for Removal of Records of Discipline
 - HB 1352 Relative to Firefighting Personal Protective Equipment
 - HB 1568 Relative to Direct Pay for Ambulance Services

- SB 353 Establishing an Early Detection Cancer Screening Pilot Program for Active and Retired Firefighters
- SB 407 Relative to Direct Pay for Ambulance Services
- SB 409 Relative to Reimbursement for Ambulance Services Under the State Medicaid Plan

Outreach

- We are continuing our Leadership Roundtables with the Commissioner, Fire Marshal's Office, HSEM and Emergency Services and Communications with regional Fire Chief's and EMD's.
 - We are planning outreach meetings at Souhegan Mutual Aid this summer and in the north country in April.

Mental Health & Resiliency

- "Trauma Informed First Responder" – April 5th
- "Unlocking the power of sleep for first responder health and wellness" – Concord July 9th
 - Presented by: Batt. Chief Dena Ali- Raleigh, NC and Capt. Brandon Dreiman- Indianapolis, IN
- We continue our work in partnership with the Police Academy to develop a more comprehensive program for PTSD training utilizing experts from this field in development of the curriculum and delivery. The Governor and Executive Council approved the funding this month.
 - We have a project team initial meeting scheduled in March.

Fire Standards and Training Commission

- The next Fire Standards and Training Commission meeting will be May 2nd at 0930 in Classrooms 5/6 in the dormitory building at the main campus.
- The NH Fire Standards and Training Commission (FSTC) is seeking volunteers for a curriculum development Visiting Committee for the new NFPA 1030 Fire Inspector (previously Fire Inspector II) and First Responder Inspector (previously Fire Inspector I) standards. Members of the Visiting Committee (VC) will be responsible for determining what students should know and be able to do, what the structure of the courses should look like, and how student skill and understanding should be measured.
 - Volunteers selected for the VC are considered subject-matter experts and will guide the Division in creating the curriculum and instructional materials. The VC will meet about once per month for several hours to review work done by Division curriculum developers and instructional designers. This process will finish when the curriculum is ready to be presented to the FSTC for approval and public comment.
 - If you are interested in helping to define what the next generation of Fire Inspectors in New Hampshire know and do, you can submit your application to join the visiting committee.

- Application form: <https://nhfa-ems.com/visiting-committee-membership-request-form/> (approx. 3 minutes to complete)
 - NFPA 1030 Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Prevention Program Positions (2024) <https://www.nfpa.org/1030>
- Fire Department Notification of Employment (Fire 601.01)
 - All full-time hires, to include lateral transfers, are required to have a Form A submitted within 15 days of employment. The form can be located at: <https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/documents/forma2017updated.pdf>
- Requests, Determination and Duration of Waivers (Fire 704)
 - These rules outline the procedure for request a waiver of training standards for full-time career fire service personnel, how the determination is made to grant or deny a waiver, and the duration of a waiver if granted, which is only valid while the employee granted a waiver is employed in that position.

Curriculum

- An extension of accreditation has been submitted to start using tablet-based electronic testing. This was the next step in the process and the last step before using the electronic for our certification exams. The next step will be to field the tablets with our Inspector and Instructor programs. This should begin before June.
- The revision of our Fire Officer I and II programs is ongoing. The working group has placed an emphasis on alignment with the NFPA standards and NHFSTC curriculum, meaningful assignments that engage students' departments and communities, and providing clear instructions for student to be successful.
- The NFPA 1006 Rope Rescue program is ready for accreditation. The next steps will be to prepare documentation for the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications, commonly known as The Pro Board. Once submitted, the curriculum will be evaluated by The Pro Board Committee on Accreditation. Once approved, the Division will be able to start offering certification courses at the Awareness, Operations, and Technician levels.
- The visiting committee for Hazardous Materials is working on the Operations level with a deadline of May.
- The 2024 Practice Analysis of the New Hampshire Fire Service survey will be going out to fire departments in early May. This survey will ask department representatives to provide information about the knowledge and skills they use on the Job. The results of this practice analysis will inform the development of the next version of our Firefighter I and II curriculum set to begin later this year. More information on the Practice Analysis will be available soon.

BUREAU OF FIRE TRAINING

Courses/Programs

- Firefighter I
 - LRCC Spring Class – began on December 6th (FF I & II)
 - Spofford – January 16th
 - Burton campus (FF I & II) – January 17th
 - Epping – Epping January 27th
 - Spring Recruit School – March 6th
 - Sunapee – August 13th (FF I & II)
 - Madison – August 12th
 - LRCC Fall class – August 26th (FF I & II)
 - Fall Recruit School – September 3rd
- Firefighter II
 - Concord campus September 8th
- Technical Rescue
 - Ice Rescue Technician – Tuftonboro March 16th (cancelled due to lack of ice)
 - Trench Rescue – Concord campus May 11th
 - Trench Rescue – Concord Campus July 8th
 - Confined Space Rescue Technician – Concord campus June 1st
 - Confined Space Rescue Technician – Concord campus July 15th
 - Swiftwater Rescue Awareness – Conway May 8th
 - Swiftwater Rescue I – Conway May 8th, Franklin June 3rd, Goffstown June 4th
- Driver Operator
 - Driver/Operator – All Vehicles
 - Driver Operator – Aerial Apparatus
- Hazardous Materials
 - We are partnering with the International Association of Firefighters to host a Pro Board Hazardous Materials Technician program at the Concord campus from April 15th – April 26th.
 - We have applied for a second offering to be held here later this fall.
- IAFF Fireground Survival
 - We are working to schedule a train the trainer class.
- Airport Rescue Firefighting
 - Airport Firefighter – Concord Campus May 6th
 - Recertification Programs – scheduling for Spring deliveries
- Prop Usage
 - The forcible entry prop was utilized in Milford.
 - Air Trailer was utilized in Jefferson.
- “On My Time” Program
 - To date, over 1,200 students have completed individual online modules.
- Special Programs

- We are coordinating with the Seabrook Station Fire Brigade to finalize their training dates for 2024.
- The Pipeline Emergency 3rd Edition Train-the-Trainer program will be held at the Concord campus May 14th. This will enable departments to deliver the training within their departments and mutual aid associations.
- Electric Vehicle Resources
 - We are partnering with the states of Maine and Vermont on a federal grant for funding EV training throughout all three states. The combined initial concept paper has been approved to the full application portion of the process with the grant application deadline of April 30th.
 - The grant is for 1.8m dollars for a three year project.
- A vendor has been scheduled for April to inspect and prepare the ARFF site.
- Ongoing maintenance and repairs are being done in the “J” building, on drill yard hydrants and roof props.
- Work continues on the construction of a prototype metal doll house for our fire behavior classes.
- We are planning to construct a ceiling prop and window entry prop.
- We continue to implement our own utilization of NHESR to enter and manage our equipment inventory.
- We are working on obtaining a contract for repairs and ongoing preventative maintenance of the ARFF site fuel delivery system.
- All of the curricula for programs may be found at <https://nhfa-ems.com/curricula/>.
- For all current course listings, you can go to <https://nhfa-ems.com/scheduled-courses/>

Apparatus/Equipment

- The new ARFF truck is in production at E-One in Ocala, Fl. and is expected in summer of 2024.
- The new Engine was delivered in March. This Engine will replace the original 1997 Engine 1.

BUREAU OF CERTIFICATION AND SUPPORT

Courses/Programs

- Instructor I/II/III Programs
 - Instructor I – Keene April 6th
 - Instructor I – Concord campus May 14th
 - Instructor I – Rye September 11th
 - Instructor I – Concord campus October 15th
 - Instructor II - Virtual February 20th

- Instructor II – Virtual October 21st
- Instructor III – Virtual March 4th
- Instructor Professional Development
 - Engaging the Affective Domain – Concord campus May 9th and Virtual May 14th
 - Meaningful Measurements: Test Item Writing – Concord campus July 11th and Virtual July 16th
 - Measure the Measurement: Test Item Evaluation – Concord campus September 19th and Virtual September 24th
 - Designing Simulation Based Education – Concord campus November 14th and Virtual November 19th
- Fire Officer I/II Programs
 - Fire Officer I – Concord campus September 3rd
 - Fire Officer I – Concord campus December 4th
 - Fire Officer II – Virtual October 15th
- Fire Inspector Programs
 - Fire Inspector I – Concord campus September 12th
 - Fire Inspector II – Manchester March 28th
- Fire Investigator - Concord campus August 22nd
- Warrants and Citations – Concord campus November 13th
- National Fire Academy
 - National Fire Academy Three State Weekend June 22 & 23rd
 - Command and Control of Incident Operations – Concord campus – June 12th
 - Incident Safety Officer – Concord campus June 15-16
 - Shaping the Future – Concord campus June 15th
 - Additional courses have been requested from NFA.
- Your Workplace has Changed: Fire Dynamics for Structural Firefighting
- For all current course listings, you can go to <https://nhfa-ems.com/scheduled-courses/>

Recruitment and Retention

- Upcoming Recruitment and Retention events:
 - Get the Scoop on Work Invest NH EMT Incentive Program – Virtual April 10th
 - CPAT Introduction & Practice – Laconia April 21st
 - Building Fire and EMS Talent with an Apprenticeship Program – New Hampton May 1st and Stratham June 5th.
 - Extended Learning Opportunities Networking – Concord campus May 14th
 - How to Stand Out in an Oral Board: Helping Candidates Succeed – Concord campus May 23rd
 - CPAT Prep for Women – Laconia June 9th
- We are partnering with the International Association of Fire Chief’s to host a two-day course called *Developing Inclusive Teams Workshop* April 13-14 at the Concord campus.

- This workshop equips members of the fire service with knowledge and skills to support diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in the workforce. The course is interactive, placing the participant in thought-provoking situations through role play, group and individual exercises, and class discussion. It includes several scenarios that are constructed to mimic real world situations, allowing participants to simulate how they would handle issues effectively as they emerge in the real world.
- Registration can be completed at <https://www.iafc.org/events/event/2024/04/13/default-calendar/developing-inclusive-teams-workshop-concord>
- The April edition of the Recruitment and Retention Newsletter is available at <https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/RecruitmentandRetention.html>

Education Technology

- Updates to the Hazardous Materials programs, EMS documentation course, and NH Trauma System Review course continue. We are also supporting ongoing programs within Moodle.

Instructors

- We are working to develop a comprehensive on-boarding and preceptor program for all new instructors to better integrate them into the Division ensuring their success and improving the overall student experience.
- The Division is always looking for highly motivated team members to become instructors. If you are interested in becoming an instructor, please contact Assistant Director Jeffrey Phillips at Jeffrey.r.phillips@dos.nh.gov or 603-223-4213

CPAT

- There are (6) CPAT dates in 2024. We have restructured the schedule of these exams to better span the entire year to make this test more aligned with department hiring needs. Remaining 2024 exams are:
 - April 22nd at Laconia Ice Rink (retest April 23rd)
 - June 10th at Laconia Ice Rink (retest June 11th)
 - August 12th at NHFA (retest August 13th)
 - October 21st at NHFA (retest October 22nd)
 - November 18th at NHFA (retest November 19th)
- 2024 CPAT
 - Department member assistance is needed for CPAT on testing days. Please confirm available personnel to assist with Bureau Chief Scott Doherty prior to the test date to assist in planning.

Testing

- Monthly Testing was completed this month (in addition to end of course testing for each program):

BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Boards and Commissions

- The NH Medical Control Board meeting will meet at 0930 on May 16th.
- The NH Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Coordinating Board meeting will meet on May 16th at 1300 at 1300.
- The NH Trauma Medical Review Committee (TMRC) will meet at 0930 on April 17th.
- The Privacy Committee will meet April 24th at 1300.

Operations

- EMS license renewals continue to be processed. There are approximately 900 providers still needing to renew.
- The EMS Simulation Training Program is active with ongoing open enrollment courses in 2024.

Courses/Programs

- Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)
 - The Spring class began March 30th in Bethlehem, Peterborough and Concord.
 - The Summer class begins June 1st in Concord, Lempster and Tuftonboro.
 - The Fall class begins September 21st in Keene, Bartlett and Concord.
- EMS Continuing Education and Simulation Education
 - Fundamental Critical Care Support – Concord campus March 11th, Keene March 18th, Littleton April 10th
 - Recognizing and Reporting Elder Abuse for First Responders – Concord campus April 3rd and Virtual April 18th
 - EMS Grand Rounds: Respiratory Emergencies – Concord campus – April 3rd
 - Unpacking the EMS Education Standards – Concord campus April 11th and Virtual April 16th
 - Pediatric Fundamental Critical Care – Concord campus April 15th, Keene May 6th
 - Fundamental Critical Care Support: Obstetrics – Concord campus May 20th
 - Asthma Care for EMS – Concord campus May 1st and Virtually May 16th
 - Cardiology Adult Cardiac Arrest – Concord campus May 15th and Burton campus June 12th

- Creepy Crawlies & Things With Wings – Concord campus June 5th and Virtual June 20th
- Medical Neurological Emergencies – Concord campus July 17th and Bethlehem campus August 14th
- Cardiology Pediatric Cardiac Arrest – Concord campus September 18th and Bethlehem campus October 16th
- Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS) – Bethlehem campus September 21st
- EMS Grand Rounds: Altered Mental Status – Concord campus October 3rd
- Obstetrics Child Birth – Concord campus November 13th and Bethlehem December 11th
- For all current course listings, you can go to <https://nhfa-ems.com/scheduled-courses/>
- EMS in the Warm Zone Awareness, Operations and Rescue Task Force Concepts
 - Bethlehem campus – April 17th
 - The Awareness and Operations courses are available free to students on our online training platform. The RTF Concepts class is a half-day in-person training that is also available. Grant funding opportunities are available for those that have not done so already.
 - If anyone is looking for this program, please contact Shawn Croteau at Shawn.A.Croteau@DOS.NH.GOV

Clinical Systems

- The EMS Protocols Ver. 9.0 were released on March 28th, effective statewide on June 1st.
 - Licensed EMS units and affiliated licensed EMS providers shall begin using the 2024 State of New Hampshire Patient Care Protocols Version 9.0 **beginning on June 1st, 2024**. Licensed EMS units and affiliated licensed EMS providers must continue to operate using the current Version 8.2 during this transition phase.
 - The protocol rollout was created to educate the provider of the changes between Version 8.2 and Version 9.0 of the New Hampshire Patient Care Protocols; and not act as the sole mechanism to teach providers on new skills, processes, and medications. Consult with your unit leader to determine the process you must undergo to familiarize yourself with the new protocols.
 - The new version of protocols can be found online at:
 - <https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/ems/advlifsup/patientcare.html>
 - The protocol rollout can be found on the FSTEMS online learning academy.
 - Sign in at www.nhfaemslearning.org
 - Log in using your username and password.

- If this is your first time accessing the online learning academy since October 2023, click 'Change Password' on the login screen and enter your RespondNH username to have a password reset link sent to the email associated with your RespondNH account.
 - Go to Self-Enroll courses.
 - Find your provider level.
- We are working with the Trauma Medical Review Committee on the Trauma Plan v.6, ACS Migration Plan for Trauma Hospital designations, Trauma Rules and Data Sharing.
- We continue our outreach and support to agencies for inter-facility transfers and mobile integrated health programs.

Data Management

- NFIRS/Respond NH
 - If you would like to start using the New Hampshire Emergency Services Reporting System (NHESR), please fill out the form available at <https://nhfa-ems.com/nhesronboard/>.
 - Fire User Group meetings occur remotely on the second Wednesday at 1300 hours each month. Contact Joseph Cartier for the link.
 - EMS User Group meetings occur remotely on the fourth Wednesday at 0930 hours each month.
 - Coordination continues with the Fire Marshal's Office for further education and guidance for reporting.
 - Anyone interested in the system can contact Joseph Cartier at 603-223-3403 or joseph.w.cartier@dos.nh.gov.
- RespondNH
 - The Division continues to expand the capabilities of the RespondNH system. As we are able to utilize this system and analyze more data it is important to have department roster information updated and current. Each department has the full capability to manage their own roster by adding new staff and removing those that may have left. Departments are able to do this at any time. For State level reporting information please fill out your roster information to include their status (career, call, or volunteer) as well as the duties they provide such as EMS care and/or fire suppression.
- New Hampshire Emergency Services Reporting (NHESR)
 - The New Hampshire Emergency Services Reporting (NHESR) system has been updated to the NEMSIS 3.5 standard as of February 27th, 2024, and will be fully transitioned for all services on April 1st, 2024. Services have been able to switch

over since February 27th, and can continue at their own pace until April 1st, when all services not already transitioned will be changed to the 3.5 standard.

- For more on this update, the changes, impact and informational sessions go to:
 - https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/documents/NHESR_NEMESIS_35.pdf
- To request a transition date or for questions or comments, email nhesr@dos.nh.gov.
- 20,161 EMS incidents were entered into the system for March.

Compliance

- There are currently over 36 active investigations and ongoing cases.

Preparedness and Special Projects

- Outreach continues on both AED and CPR programs.

Professional Development Committee – (Director Cutting) – No report
Fire Standards and Training Commission – Chiefs Clark/DeAngelis – No report

NH Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Coord. Board – (Dep. Chief Paquette) – No report

National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) – (Chief Corey) - No report

EMS Trauma Medical Review Board – (Chief Clough) – No report

Homeland Security and Emergency Management – (Director Buxton)

Updates on Division Priorities:

- Hiring opportunities part-time and full-time.
- HSEM has implemented the following programs in January, 2024
 - Stakeholder Liaison Program
 - Critical Operations Resiliency Exercises (CORE) training programs
- Seabrook Exercise Cycle
 - Graded Full Scale Exercise was April 3rd.
 - i. Thank you to all communities that participated.
 - HSEM sent a letter to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission regarding proposed licensing changes.
 - i. Seabrook Station was requested to review their proposal and provide additional justification for programmatic changes.
- Public Assistance
 - We continue to work with FEMA on existing Disaster Relief efforts.

- State of New Hampshire was granted a Disaster Declaration for the December Flooding.
- State of New Hampshire has requested a Disaster Declaration for January Flooding.
- Over the last month we have obligated approximately \$5,038,500.
- EMPG
 - We continue to update and process project applications.
- Homeland Security Grants
 - Kelly Chapman is the Bureau Chief for Grants Management. She comes to us via UNH, with several years administering federal grant programs. We are excited to work with Kelly as we strive to find new efficiencies in the grant process.

Federal Government:

- FEMA PDA Subcommittee has started to meet working to improve the damage assessment process.

Other Items of Importance:

- Internally we have started to plan for the following upcoming events:
 - NASCAR
 - Presidential Election
- COVID-19 AAR is underway.
- Monthly EMD call will be held on April 18, 2024, at 12:00.

Forests and Lands – (Chief Sherman) – No report

Board of Fire Control – (Chiefs Clark/Hunter) – No report

Building Code Review Board – (Marshal Lennon/Chief Conley) – (Next meeting is Friday, April 12 and the subject is the Energy Code)

Manufactured Housing Installation Standards Board: (Chief Blanchette) – No report

Division of Emergency Services and Communications – (Director Doyle)

- Laconia Facility Update: Design concept is being finalized, space needs study is complete, process continues to move quickly with the detailed design underway;
- Genasys Emergency notification platform is up and running, CodeRed is transitioning out. If you are interested in becoming a POC for your community to use the ENS for local messaging, please let me know. The statewide ENS system is offered to local communities at no cost;

- Community Events reminder – connect with our Public Outreach / Education Team for more info: Patrick Cavanaugh, 603-271-6911, patrick.m.cavanaugh@desc.nh.gov ;
- Eclipse response plan rolled out without any issues;
- Legislation:
 - Watching HB 1078 (Coverage Gaps in PS Radio systems) and wkg. With Sen. Carson to craft some language to have GIS data available for P/S agencies to use to assist in reducing coverage gaps in their jurisdictions;
 - Working with Sen. Prentiss on SB 85-FN-A on the Committee to study Behavioral Health Crisis Services & Programs & sustainable funding for the 988 system.
- Division participated in the Seabrook graded REP exercise last week (Communications support in ESF-#2) with HSEM;
- We held our annual “Open House” this past weekend in Laconia and was very well attended;
- Social Media update:
- In March, the Division of Emergency Services and Communications utilized its social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram) to promote St. Patrick’s Day safety tips (in collaboration with our DOS partners), share pictures from our public outreach engagements, as well as celebrate the achievements and work anniversaries of many of our team members across the Division. We continue to use social media as a tool to spread awareness of the resources available to them in an emergency (text-to-911, what3words, etc.). Additionally, we continue to engage with our public safety partners to increase interactions with our page.



- Strategic Plan for the Division is complete and being compiled in final form to be shared with our P/S Partners;
- The quarterly meeting of the SIEC is scheduled for May 10th at the Marine Patrol facility in Gilford;
- SIEC Working Group meetings are scheduled for April 30th at the IPOC at 1000;
- NHEDA Conference / Awards Banquet announcement for April 15-16 in Bartlett;
- KPI's (YTD through March 2024):
 - 99.71% of all calls answered w/i 15 seconds (exceeding NENA standard of 90% w/i 15 seconds)
 - Avg. Police/fire Transfer time = 51.26 seconds (exceeding NFPA Std. of 60 Sec.)
 - Avg. EMD Transfer time = 124.40 seconds – stable relative to last year.
 - Running @ 19% below last year's call volume
 - 395 Transfers to 988 / RRAP (since July 2022 - reflects @ 12.5% drop compared to last year's YTD);
- Any questions, comments, concerns, please reach out...

E-911 Commission – (Chief Thomas) –

- Troop F Enhancements moving ahead this spring which

- Involves a new Simulcast System-a fall completion
- 2023 E911calls were at 501,000 down 6% from 2022
 - Comfort Dog program is moving ahead with Hero Dogs
 - HSEM has Grant Money to assist municipalities in converting to a “.gov” framework
 - First Net has proposed an 8 Billion Budget over the next ten years
 - Four Telecommunicators received Commendation letters for their role in CPR Saves
 - Seven Telecommunicators joined the Stork Club for their role in childbirth calls
 - Command Vehicles and Message Boards will be deployed up north for the Solar Eclipse on April 8 . Looking at a possible crash of cell service during the event
 - E911 and Lakes Region Mutual Aid are finalizing plans for the new facility. RFP to be going out soon. Need to encumber the finances by the end of 2024
 - Looking into the Amber Alert Delays that occurred during a recent notification.
 - Telecommunicator week April 14-20
 - Northern Border Consortium met with Senator Shaneen and Staff in Pittsburg to discuss issues
 - Genasys has transitioned as the new Emergency Notification System. Replacing Code Red. Training will be made available.

NH Drug Overdose Commission – (Chief Thomas) No report

NH IAC – (James Heinz) – He reported on attacks on electric infrastructure via rifle.

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

- Chief Murray reported on the October conference at Mohegan Sun.
- He shared that Chief Jones is the 1st VP and will move up to the Presidency.
- He also expressed his support for Chief Locke for the IAFC Presidency.

Old Business – He mentioned the November retreat and urged people to take the survey to determine its feasibility.

New Business – Chief Emanuel asked for a report of the Nominating Committee, which reads as follows:

The Nominating Committee presents the following nominations for the New Hampshire Association of Fire Chiefs annual elections (2024):

The following will require a vote of the membership

- President – Chief David Emanuel - (Durham)
- 1st vice President – Chief James Watkins - (Berlin)
- 2nd Vice President – Chief Scott Hunter – (Bedford)

- Sgt. at Arms - Chief Dave Chamberlin – (Jaffrey)
- Executive Director/Secretary - Chief Brent Lemire (retired) - (Litchfield)
- Treasurer – Chief Steve Carrier - (Gilford)
- Fulltime Chief Director - Chief Steve Buxton (Nashua) **expiring 4/2026**
- Combination Chief Director – Chief Francis Fraitzl - (New Boston) **expiring 4/2026**
- Voting Member Director – Chief James Wheatley (Lebanon) - **expiring 4/2026**

BELOW ARE NOT UP FOR RE-ELECTION UNTIL 2025

- Fulltime Chief Director – Chief Mike McShane (Dover) **expiring 4/2025**
- Combination Chief Director – Chief Ben LaRoche (Bristol) **expiring 4/2025**
- Immediate Past President – Chief Larry Best (Biddeford, ME)

Respectfully submitted;

Chair, Chief Jason Lyon – New London

Chief Cotreau - Rye

Chief Phil Cloutier - Gorham

Chief Mike Sitar MOVED (seconded by Chief Murray) to authorize the Executive Director to cast one ballot for the slate of officers. The motion carried unanimously.

The 2024 Budget was presented by the President as approved by the Board of Directors. It has been posted on the website for members to view. A MOTION (Fraitzl/Thomas) to approve the 2024-25 budget, carried unanimously.

Chief Emanuel presented Chief Best with a token of appreciation from the organization for his time as President.

Good and Welfare – Chief Lyon recognized Chief Henry Thomas as he retires from his position as Chief of the Newbury Fire Department.

Following the raffle, the meeting was adjourned at 2005 hours. (\$600 was collected and \$300 was distributed in prizes. Counted by Chiefs Hunter and Chamberlain).

The meeting was adjourned at 2053 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

Chief Brent T. Lemire, Ret.

Executive Director, NHAFC

April 11, 2024