



NEW HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS, INC.

Working Together to Make a Difference

547 Charles Bancroft Hwy.

Litchfield, NH 03052

www.nhafc.org

Email: nhfirechiefs@gmail.com

Minutes of a Meeting of the NH Association of Fire Chiefs

Thursday, October 10, 2024 – New Hampshire Fire Academy – Concord, NH

Called to order at 0916 hours.

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

Welcome from Host: Director Cutting welcomed all to the Academy.

INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS. Members were asked to introduce themselves and state where they were from.

Special Guests: Emily Crosby, newly appointed Dep. Fire Marshal

Minutes: A MOTION (Lyons/Hoyt) to approve the minutes of the September meeting, carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: A MOTION (Lajoie/S. Buxton) to approve the financial reports from September, carried unanimously.

Communications: n/a

Applications for membership: Deputy Chief Scott Lewandowski of the Laconia Fire Department has been approved for membership.

Life Membership: n/a

President's Report: (Emanuel) –

He reported that the NH Fallen Firefighter Memorial was well attended on Saturday. Thank you Steve Buxton for reading the list of fallen firefighters for the NHAFC as I served as the master of ceremonies.

He reported that the IAFC - New England Division Conference and Expo is scheduled for October 16-18, 2024. He will be travelling down to CT on 17th to attend educational programs and to stand with Chief Jones as he is sworn in as the NED president.

He reported that he is registered for the NHAFC Professional Enhancement Weekend and will continue to promote the event with New England fire chiefs at the conference and expo.

He reported that a group of NHAFC chiefs would be presenting at the NHMA annual conference on the topics of:

- Strategic planning
- Contemporary issues for fire and emergency services

Thank you Chiefs Buxton, Hunter, and Thomas for joining me.

He reported that the NH Leadership - 5 Families met at NHFA on September 27, 2024. NHAFC, PFFNH, NH Fireman's Association, HSEM, and NHFST were present.

He reported that the LEO/PFF & EMT Career Development Committee has issued an annual report on the status of the funding initiative.

- Note - work invest NH program is sunsetting

He reported on reductions at the Exeter Hospital - ALS paramedic intercept program and Center for Occupational and Employee Health have been eliminated and will be closed by the end of the year.

He reported that he and Chief Carrier attended the 100 Club function to represent the NHAFC for the reading of names and annual meeting

He reported that the New Hampshire Theatre Project's Elephant-in-the-Room Series®: a staged reading of the play Aftermath by Tim Barretto, focusing on Post Traumatic Stress (PTS) in First Responders. Aftermath is the story of one firefighter and how the reverberations of a tragic accident triggers his PTS and profoundly affects his life, as well as his family and colleagues. The program will be held on **Wednesday, October 23, 7-9:00 pm in the MUB Theater**. Free tickets may be obtained at the site: <https://www.nhtheatreproject.org/onstagenow>,

Report of the Executive Director: (Lemire)

- **SAVE THE DATES:** November 15-17 for Professional Enhancement Weekend at Waterville Valley. PLEASE REGISTER SOON.
- The December 12 meeting will be virtual.
- Our application for 501 c3 has been approved, but before we file the paperwork for charity gaming, we had to fill out additional paperwork to amend our Articles of Incorporation. They have been filed and the fee paid.
- I've met with East Coast Emergency Outfitters and we will be meeting again to restart our options for shirts, vests, etc. with Assn. logo.
- In meeting with the Commissioner, he suggested that we work on a program or class that would inform chiefs of how to properly document reports in the event of an employee's serious injury/death. Justin is working with Primex and we'll be meeting to formalize a process either Nov. 14 or 15.

- Our contract with Grimblas Associates for next year has been approved. Just awaiting final signatures.
- NHMA Conference October 30 and 31. We are represented at three seminars.
- Chiefs Clark and DeAngelis' terms on FST Commission are expiring November 12. The board approved recommending reappointments for both of them.
- Chief Buxton reported that the report from the Cancer Screening Committee is being submitted to the Governor. It will be within the 90-day window as listed in the legislation.
- Chief Buxton also shared that the Behavioral Health seminar will be January 7 and 8, 2025.
- Ad book proceeds to date: Total: \$31,200; Vendor: \$21,840; Assn: \$9,360.

1st Vice President Report (Watkins) – No report

Government Relations – (Schmidt) – He has provided a list of LSRs

NHAFC 2025 Legislative Service Requests (LRSs as of 10/2/2024)

To date, the Legislature has released 170 Legislative Service Requests ("LSR", also known as bill titles). At this point, all the information publicly available is the LSR number, the title, and the sponsor. If you have questions regarding any of the titles, we can attempt to get more information from the sponsor. We should see the actual language of the bills later this month or next.

Overall, we can expect 1,000 or so bills, in the 2025 session. There will be another filing period after the November election. The filing period for House members will run from November 6 - November 22. The Senate will adopt deadlines for newly elected Senators after the election. This initial batch of bills included as part of this update represent only a small portion of the overall bills the Association will be focused on this session.

Bill	Title	Sponsor
LSR 19	Relative to Payment By The State Of A Portion Of Retirement System Contributions Of Political Subdivision Employers.	Rep. Michael Edgar
LSR 26	Relative to The Assault Of A Firefighter, Emergency Medical Care Provider, or Law Enforcement Officer.	Rep. Dennis Mannion
LSR 50	Relative to Material Subject to Disclosure Under The Right-to-know Law.	Rep. Bob Lynn

LSR 82	Defining The Term Citizen For The Purposes Of The Right to Know Law and Including Preliminary Drafts Circulated to A Quorum Of A Majority Of A Public Body As Disclosable Documents.	Rep. Jess Edwards
LSR 108	Relative to Workers' Compensation and Creditable Service Towards Retirement.	Rep. Carol McGuire
LSR 112	Updating and Recodifying The Municipal Enforcement Of The Building and Fire Code.	Rep. Carol McGuire
LSR 123	Relative to The Presence Of A Fire Department At A Fireworks Display.	Rep. Charlie St. Clair
LSR 124	Relative to An Optional Local Public Safety Assessment On Certain Room Occupancies.	Rep. Charlie St. Clair
LSR 128	Relative to Local Records Retention.	Rep. Joe Alexander
LSR 131	Requiring New Hampshire Builders to Use The 2021 Energy Building Codes.	Rep. Wendy Thomas
LSR 138	Relative to The Maximum Amount Of Disaster Relief Funding Provided to Municipalities After A Natural Disaster.	Rep. Judy Aron
LSR 145	Relative to Subdivision Regulations On The Completion Of Improvements and The Regulation Of Building Permits.	Rep. Diane Pauer
LSR 160	Relative to Hazardous Waste Accident Fees.	Rep. Mark Proulx
LSR 162	Relative to Critical Incident Stress Management Teams.	Rep. Mark Proulx
LSR 163	Relative to Making The State Responsible For Maintaining Opticom Systems For Fire and Emergency On State Roads and Making An Appropriation Therefor.	Rep. Mark Proulx
LSR 164	Prohibiting Electric Vehicles and Electric Vehicle Chargers In Parking Garages.	Rep. Mark Proulx

LSR 165	Relative to Reporting Requirements For Emergency Medical Services Personnel.	Rep. Mark Proulx
LSR 167	Relative to Reimbursement Rates For Ambulance Service Providers.	Rep. Mark Proulx

2nd Vice President Report (Hunter) – No report

Sgt. At Arms (Chamberlain) – No report

Committee Reports

Scholarship Committee – (Marshal Toomey) – Four applications for scholarships have been received and they all met the qualifications and have been awarded scholarships.

Division Reports

Fire Marshal (Marshal Toomey)

ADMINISTRATION:

Personnel:

Philip Biron will be promoted to Deputy Fire Marshal, overseeing the Bureau of Building Safety & Construction effective October 18th.

We are actively recruiting for a full-time Fire Investigator, a full-time Administrative Supervisor, a full-time Hazardous Materials Coordinator, a part-time Hazardous Materials Coordinator and a part-time Recreational Ride and Lift Inspector.

Legislation:

We are currently monitoring the following bills:

HB 1333 Relative to Prohibiting State Agencies from Buying or Leasing Fleet Electric

Vehicles For 10 Years.

Status: Executive Session 10/17/2024

HB 1602 Relative to The Authority Of The Housing Appeals Board.

Status: Executive Session 9/18/2024

SB 365 Relative to the sale or use of lithium-ion batteries for electric bicycles, scooters or personal electric mobility devices.

Status: Executive session 10/17/2024

The Legislative Service Requests (LSR's) for the upcoming legislative session are starting to be published. We will be monitoring and release a report of the bills we will be monitoring in a future monthly report.

Board of Fire Control:

The next Board of Fire Control meeting will be held in January 2025.

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS:

In September, we received 23 incident notifications resulting in 9 scene responses. The Bureau of Investigations currently has 7 open arson or suspected arson investigations.

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

- On September 2, the State Fire Marshal responded to Webster for an accidental boat fire that resulted in a burn injury.
- On September 17, an investigator responded to Rye for a barn fire. The cause is undetermined due to the damage but is suspected to have involved electricity.
- On September 19, investigators responded to Littleton for a fire in an apartment building. The fire appears to have been intentionally set and the investigation is ongoing. Littleton Police have identified the suspect and are the lead agency in this case.
- On September 20, investigators responded to a mobile home fire in Somersworth in which a man was found deceased. The cause of the fire is under investigation but suspected to be intentionally set. The man died from self-inflicted injuries, not the fire.
- On September 25, an investigator responded to Conway to assist the Conway Fire Department with a garage fire. The cause is undetermined but suspected to have involved electricity.
- On September 30, investigators responded to a structure fire in Meredith in which one man died. The autopsy determined he died from a heart attack. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

Fatal Fire/CO Incidents:

- On September 1, the State Fire Marshal and a Deputy Fire Marshal investigated a burn injury in Henniker. The victim, an elderly man, accidentally fell onto a campfire and died the next day.
- On September 2, investigators responded to Barnstead for a carbon monoxide death in a motor vehicle. The carbon monoxide came from the vehicle and the death was determined to be suicide.
- On September 18, investigators responded to Weare for an apparent explosion fatality. The incident is still under investigation, but it

appears to have been an accident.

Ignitable Liquid Detection Canine Teams:

- There were three IGL canine deployments in September.

Youth Firesetter:

- There were two youth fire setter assessments in September.

BUREAU OF BUILDING SAFETY & CONSTRUCTION:

State Building Permit System:

We processed the following permits in the month of September:

- Building: 36
- Electrical: 25
- Plumbing: 6
- Mechanical Fuel Gas: 3
- Mechanical Non-Fuel Gas: 5
- Fire Protection: 4
- Fire Alarm: 4

Technical Assistance, Educational & Healthcare Reviews:

We initiated 5 educational and 13 healthcare plan reviews, completed 195 inspections and 148 technical consults in the month of September.

Variance Requests:

We processed 4 variance requests in the month of September.

Fireworks Safety and Enforcement Program

Fire performers, also known as fire jugglers or fire breathers, may be found performing at community fairs, renaissance festivals, ski venues, and private events. While these performances can be exciting and entertaining, they come with safety requirements.

Any event that utilizes open flame or flame devices for the purpose of entertainment in front of an audience require a Proximate Audience Permit and a Proximate Audience Special Effect Operator License.

These Performers must follow the laws and rules during any performance in the State of New Hampshire. In New Hampshire, these groups are regulated by RSA 153:5-c, RSA 21-P:14, IX, NFPA 160 and the rules below.

Saf-C 6903.01 Proximate Audience Permit Required. No person shall use pyrotechnic effects or flame effects in the performing arts in conjunction with theatrical, musical, or any similar productions before a proximate audience, performers, or support personnel without having obtained a permit from the state fire marshal.

Saf-C 6906.01 Proximate Audience License Required.

(a) The display of pyrotechnic effects, special effects, or flame effects before a proximate audience, performers, or support personnel shall not be permitted unless the display is directly supervised by a person who has obtained a license from the state fire marshal.

(b) The licensed operator shall ensure that the display is in compliance with the requirements of the state fire code and shall be responsible for the safe handling and display of all pyrotechnic effects, special effects, or flame effects utilized during the event.

Any questions regarding these performers or rules which govern them can be directed to our office at 603-223-4289.

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

- Proximate Licenses Issued: 6
- Display Certificate of Competency Issued: 0
- Consumer Fireworks Retail Store Licenses Issued: 0
- Explosive Magazine Inspections: 0
- Proximate Audience Inspections: 3
- Technical Assistance: 3

Modular Building Program

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

- Inspections: 6
- Audits of Manufacturers: 0
- Audits of Educational Facilities: 0
- Labels Issued to Manufacturers: 113
- Units Shipped to New Hampshire: 12

Tramway and Amusement Ride Safety

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

- Amusement Registrations: 35
- Amusement Inspections: 102
- Amusement Incidents: 2
- Tramway Registrations: 1
- Tramway Inspections: 2
- Tramway Incidents: 1

BUREAU OF OUTREACH & EDUCATION:

Hazardous Materials:

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

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

We currently have two Emergency Response Guidebook trainings scheduled this fall. Details available below in the “Training Opportunities” section.

Electric Vehicles and Lithium-Ion Batteries

The council to study the impacts of electric vehicles, e-mobility devices, and the associated lithium-ion batteries hazards for first responder response, the environment, building and fire codes, life safety, and property protection has been established. Meetings are ongoing and an interim report will be issued in November 2024.

Have an incident to report? Please fill out this form: [Electric Vehicle \(EV\) and Battery Incident Reporting \(office.com\)](#)

Incident Reporting:

Your commitment to ensuring we have great data to accurately show the fire problem in NH is greatly appreciated!

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.

Find more information and resources here: [National Emergency Response Information System \(NERIS\) \(fema.gov\)](https://www.fema.gov/national-emergency-response-information-system-neris)

The Fire Safety Research Institute (FSRI) is hosting their next informational webinar:

**NERIS Version 1:
Platform Launch and National Rollout
October 29, 2024 | 1pm-2pm ET**

This event marks a major milestone in the rollout of NERIS, transitioning from development to national deployment. This session will provide:

- An overview of the NERIS V1 launch and onboarding of 100 departments.
- A walkthrough of the user experience and key features.
- The rollout timeline and next steps for fire departments and vendors.
- Information on new onboarding resources, APIs, and Version 1 data schemas.

Register Here: [Webinar - NERIS Version 1 : Platform Launch and National Rollout \(cvent.com\)](https://cvent.com/webinar-neris-version-1-platform-launch-and-national-rollout)

Outreach Events:

Members of the SFMO were very busy in the month of September! We provided support and/or interacted with over 1,900 people at the following events: Hudson Fire Department Open House, NH Construction Career Days, Pittsfield Homecoming, Keene State College Campus Night Out, North Country Outdoor Industry Career Expo and Steps to Safety in Belmont. There were four K9 demonstrations this month.







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

Fire Prevention Week is HERE! This year's campaign runs from October 6-12, 2024



This year's Fire Prevention Week (FPW™) campaign, "Smoke alarms: Make them work for you!™" strives to educate everyone about the importance of having working smoke alarms in the home.

Find our FPW Press Release here: <https://www.firemarshal.dos.nh.gov/news-and-media/fire-prevention-week-approaches-nh-state-fire-marshals-office-urges-residents-make>

The SFMO's FPW Chalk Art Contest is BACK!!

We are again running a chalk art contest for local fire departments to participate in during FPW, October 6-12, 2024. During this week, we invite departments to create a chalk art piece that conveys an important message centered around this year's FPW theme. Smoke alarms: Make them work for you!™ We ask that each department post a picture of their finished chalk art piece on Facebook and tag the NH State Fire Marshal's Office. Images will be shared and voted on by our Facebook followers the week of October 14-20, 2024. The winning department will be announced on October 21, 2024. We hope you will join us in spreading the importance of having working smoke alarms in homes and we can't wait to see what you create!

Fire Prevention Week

October 6-12, 2024



The NH State Fire Marshal's Office is running a chalk art contest for all local fire departments to participate in. We hope the contest will grab the community's attention and get them talking about the importance of working smoke alarms in their homes.

Please join us for some FPW 2024 fun!

We invite departments to create a chalk art piece that conveys an important message centered around this year's FPW theme, "Smoke Alarms - Make Them Work For You." We ask that each department post a picture of their finished chalk art piece on Facebook and tag the NH Fire Marshal's Office (NHFM) throughout the week of FPW, October 6-12.

On the last day of FPW, the FMO will grab copies of the shared images to create a gallery displaying all participating fire departments' chalk art pieces. On October 14, we will share all the departments' pictures in a single post, asking our followers to vote on their favorite departments' challenge execution. Voting will run the week of October 14-20. The winning department will be announced on October 21.

Good luck to all participating fire departments.

*Helpful Hint & Word of Advice:
"Perfect/professional-level" artwork doesn't always win. Creativity and execution of an effective message usually are the winning combination!*

The FMO ran this contest in 2023 on a small scale trial run and it was met with great success! Please see examples below of the departments' artistic creativity centered around last year's FPW theme, "Cooking Safety Starts With YOU! Pay attention to fire prevention."



[Interested in having the SFMO join an event in your community? Please reach out to us as early as possible so we can make every effort to attend your event. Want to know what resources we have available to supplement your event? Check out what is available to loan here: Equipment Loan](#)

Public Education:

The USFA's Fire and Life Safety Communicators Initiative is a collaboration among the fire and emergency medical services to speak with "one voice" on fire and life safety. The theme for the month of October is "Smoke alarms: Make them work for you!™"

Find the monthly themes for 2024 here: [Fire and Life Safety Communicators Initiative \(fema.gov\)](https://www.fema.gov)

Training Opportunities:

An Overview of the 2024 Emergency Response Guidebook

October 17, 2024

6:00PM to 8:00PM

Raymond S. Burton Training Facility, Bethlehem

The Emergency Response Guidebook 2024 (ERG2024) is a guide to aid first responders during an incident involving hazardous materials in transport, by quickly identifying the specific or generic hazards of the material(s) involved; and protecting themselves and the general public during the initial response phase of the incident. This class will include an overview of the 2024 ERG, including changes to the 2024 version, as well as how to use the 2024 ERG during an incident.

Register Here: <https://forms.office.com/g/BSXjQRb7mK>

An Overview of the 2024 Emergency Response Guidebook

November 21, 2024

6:30PM to 8:30PM

Tuftonboro Fire Department

The Emergency Response Guidebook 2024 (ERG2024) is a guide to aid first responders during an incident involving hazardous materials in transport, by quickly identifying the specific or generic hazards of the material(s) involved; and protecting themselves and the general public during the initial response phase of the incident. This class will include an overview of the 2024 ERG, including changes to the 2024 version, as well as how to use the 2024 ERG during an incident.

Register Here: <https://forms.office.com/g/BSXjQRb7mK>

Please reach out to Deputy Stacey Dubois at stacey.l.dubois@dos.nh.gov if you are interested in hosting one of these sessions, or a future session, or would like to suggest a future training topic.

Fire Standards/Training/EMS – (Director Cutting)

ADMINISTRATION

Personnel

- We have one vacancy for Program Specialist III (Education Technologist) of the Educational Technology section.
- We have two vacancies for full-time Fire Training Instructor positions.
- We have one vacancy for a Specialty Services Specialist (Mobile Integrated Healthcare) and are conducting interviews.
- We have one vacancy for our part-time Medical Director and are conducting interviews.

- We have one vacancy for our part-time Communications Specialist are scheduling interviews.
- We have one vacancy for our part-time Program Coordinator position for Fire Officer.
- We have one vacancy for our part-time Program Coordinator for EMS Simulation and have made a conditional offer.
- We have one vacancy for our part-time Program Coordinator for EMS Education Assessment Coordinator and are conducting interviews.
- We have one vacancy for our part-time Program Coordinator for Technical Rescue Programs.
- We have one vacancy for our part-time EMS Vehicle Inspector Coordinator and have made a conditional offer.
- We have vacancies for EMS Vehicle Inspectors and are conducting interviews.
- Kimberly McCulloch will be leaving the Division this month. Her dedication, contributions across the state, and focused recruitment and retention work have made a positive impact, and we wish her the best in the future. The ARPA grant we received over two years ago for recruitment and retention expires this fall as anticipated and was initially granted for a full-time temporary position because of the impact on recruitment and retention exacerbated by Covid.

Grants

- The Raymond S. Burton Fire and EMS Training Facility infrastructure project continues to move forward.
 - Ongoing construction meetings are occurring on a regular basis.
 - The Phase II contractor has been selected and we are working towards finalizing a contract for approval by the Governor and Executive Council.
- We were awarded the 2023 AFG grant which will fund a half-million dollars in equipment. Purchasing new PPE, extrication tools, a mobile ventilation prop, a new utility truck, trailers, PPV fans and EMS training equipment is in progress.
- 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.
 - Funding is expected to be available through the end of 2024.

Special Projects

- We have been working with the Police Academy, Department of Safety personnel, federal partners and local public safety leaders on developing a coordinated strategic approach, training and management of active threat incidents.

- We are working with the NHAFC, PFFNH, State Fireman's Association, the Fire Marshal and Primex on performing a gap analysis in cancer awareness and training.
- With the passage of SB 352 we worked with the committee as outlined in the law to develop an early detection cancer screening pilot program plan. The committee developed the initial plan that was presented to the Commissioner of Safety and Governor, and the Governor approved the plan. We are working to finalize the RFP for this program.
- On September 20, 21 and 22 we hosted the Firefighter Cancer Cohort Study which was enrolling firefighters into several studies including the *Volunteer Firefighter Cancer Study* and the *Women's Firefighters Study: Evaluation of Exposures & Toxicity Enrollment Event*.
- We continue to work with the NH Department of Insurance on the Ground Ambulance Cost Reporting Program and Study as part of the recently passed SB 407.
- With the passage of SB 430 we are working with the Fire Marshal (Chair) as part of the council to study the impacts of electric vehicles, e-mobility devices and the associated lithium-ion batteries on first responder response, the environment, building and fire codes, life safety and property protection.
- We have partnered with the Maine and Vermont Fire Training Academies on a federal grant to develop an EV training curriculum, fund EV training and a train the trainer program throughout all three states. The full application for the grant was submitted on April 30th for a three-year project, \$420,000 for each state specifically for delivery of EV training.
 - We anticipate a response to this grant at any time.
- We continue to work on our website transition and improvements with NH DoIT. Much of this work is being done offline in preparation of a full transition to the new state web platform.
- The *Law Enforcement Officers, Professional Firefighters and Emergency Medical Technicians Career Development, Recruitment and Retention Program* established in New Hampshire RSA 188-F:70 remains active and available.
 - Details can be found on our website under the Recruitment and Retention link from the homepage.
 - The annual report was submitted by the committee to Governor and legislative leaders as required by law.

Legislative/Administrative Rules

- The Fire Standards and Training Commission amended Fire rules relative to the Recruitment and Retention report and its recommendations have been submitted to the Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules (JLCAR).

- The proposed Trauma Rules are working through the internal legal process.
- An EMS discipline related administrative rule proposal has been drafted and is working through the internal legal process. This proposed change is supported by the EMS Coordinating Board and would allow for deceased providers names to be removed the public listing.
- We are working to develop provisional EMS License rules following the passage of HB 1057 in the last legislative session.

Outreach

- Staff members continue to attend various stakeholder and mutual aid group meetings and make department visits.
- We assisted with and took part in the annual FF Memorial on September 28th.

Mental Health & Resiliency

- We are working with our Mental Health Seminar planning group on the 2025 seminar which is planned for January 7-8, 2025 at the Richard Flynn campus in Concord. The content and presenters have been finalized and registration is expected to open in early November.
- 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 Mental Health Professional contract is nearing completion of the internal process and is expected to be presented to the Governor and Executive Council soon.

Fire Standards and Training Commission

- The next Fire Standards and Training Commission meeting will be November 7th at 0930 in Classrooms 5/6 in the dormitory building at the Richard Flynn Fire Academy in Concord.
- The NH Fire Standards and Training Commission has approved the written comment period to open through September 5, 2024 to November 4, 2023 for public comment on the proposed changes to the Hazardous Materials Awareness and Hazardous Materials Operations curriculum.
 - Public comment can be submitted at: <https://nhfa-ems.com/fst-commission-curriculum-public-feedback-form/>. Public hearings in the process of being schedule and will be announced shortly.
 - Curriculum information can be found at: <https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/boards/index.html>

- The NH Fire Standards and Training Commission (FSTC) is seeking volunteers for a curriculum development Visiting Committee for the new NFPA 1010 Firefighter I and Firefighter II standards. The new 1010 standard is part of the NFPA standards consolidation project.
 - 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 will guide the Division of Fire Standards and Training & EMS in creating the curriculum and instructional materials, testing materials, and other requirements outlined in Administrative Rule. The VC will meet once per month 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 Firefighters in New Hampshire know and do, you can submit your application to join the visiting committee. Applications must be received by October 18th to be considered.
 - Application form: <https://nhfa-ems.com/visiting-committee-membership-request-form/> (approx. 3 minutes to complete)
 - NFPA 1010 Standard on Professional Qualifications for Firefighters (2024) <https://www.nfpa.org/1010>

CURRICULUM

- *Hazardous Materials*: The FST Commission has approved the written comment period to open from September 5, 2024 to November 4, 2023 for public comment on the proposed changes. In person public comment sessions are being scheduled in October and the dates and times will be posted.
- *Fire Inspector*: The visiting committee for First Responder Inspector (formerly Inspector I) and Fire Inspector (formerly Inspector II) will be meeting again in October.
- *Fire Investigator*: The Investigator curriculum has been submitted to the Pro Board for reaccreditation and is on their agenda for their upcoming meeting.
- *Firefighter I & II*: The 2024 Practice Analysis survey window closed with 58 responses (25% of departments). Analysis of the data has begun, and the results will be presented to the FST Commission.
- *Airport Firefighter*: An administrative update of the Airport Firefighter curriculum is under way. No Job Performance Requirements (JPRs) changed when the old NFPA 1003 standard was consolidated into the new NFPA 1010

standard. This administrative update will go through the standard public comment period when it is complete.

BUREAU OF FIRE TRAINING

Courses/Programs

- Firefighter I
 - Sunapee – August 13th (FF I & II)
 - Madison – August 12th
 - LRCC Fall class – August 26th (FF I & II)
 - Fall Recruit School – September 16th
 - Litchfield – January 21st
- Firefighter II
 - Richard Flynn campus – Concord, September 8th
 - Epping – February 19th
- Technical Rescue
 - Swiftwater Rescue Boat Operations – Goffstown, April 11th
 - Swiftwater Level I – North Woodstock, May 5th and Franklin June 2nd
 - Swiftwater Level II – Goffstown, May 7th
- Driver Operator
 - DO – All Vehicle – Littleton September 23rd, Richard Flynn campus in Concord October 14th and in Bartlett October 21st.
- Hazardous Materials
 - Operations – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, October 19th
 - Operations – Ray Burton campus – Bethlehem, November 23rd
- IAFF Fireground Survival
- Airport Rescue Firefighting
 - ARFF Recertification programs took place throughout the month of September for Departments from three regional airports: TF Green, Martha’s Vineyard, and Hyannis.
- Facilities, Prop Usage and Projects
 - The Epsom FD utilized the “B” building for training on September 14th.
 - The Woodsville FD used the Forcible Entry prop at the Burton campus on September 17th.
 - The Sugar Hill FD used the “A” Building at the Burton campus on September 18th.
 - The Exeter FD used the “A” Building at the Flynn campus on September 23rd and 26th.
 - The Laconia FD used the Flashover Prop on September 25th for Fire Behavior training as part of their On My Time program.

- The Forcible Entry trainer traveled to New Durham on September 30th.
- The stationary pump on the drill yard at the Flynn campus was repaired which allows for filling of the retention pond for water supply.
- We continue to work in the “J” Building on the windows, wall breach prop, and interior doors.
- The removable walls for “A” Building have been completed and are in service.
- A new ceiling prop was constructed which will eliminate using the “A” Building second floor manhole for that purpose.
- Staff continued to support the Fire Investigator program in preparing the burn pods for the ongoing program.
- Annual hose testing continues, annual pump testing is scheduled for October and aerial and ground ladder testing is being scheduled.
- Fire Training Captains and our full-time instructor have been training and endorsing new personnel as Operators for our Buildings and Apparatus, and in all of the training disciplines.
- “On My Time” Program
 - To date over 2,848 students have completed individual online modules and 202 skills modules.
 - We continue to offer support and guidance to many departments participating in this program.
- Special Programs
 - CMC was on campus from September 9th to the 20th for delivery of two, one-week programs, for Rope Operations and Rope Technician.
- Electric Vehicle Training Resources
 - US Department of Energy, Alternate Fuels Data Center, EV Safety Training Resources for First and Second Responders
 - <https://afdc.energy.gov/vehicles/electric-responders>

Testing

- Monthly Testing was completed this month for the NFPA 1001, 1002 and 1003 testing processes which includes administering the written and practical exams.
 - The next monthly test is at the Richard Flynn campus in Concord on November 12th.

Apparatus/Equipment

- All apparatus and fleet vehicles are in service.

BUREAU OF CERTIFICATION AND SUPPORT

Courses/Programs

- Instructor I/II/III Programs
 - Instructor I – Rye September 11th
 - Instructor I – Richard Flynn campus - Concord, October 15th
 - Instructor I – Manchester – January 16th
 - Instructor I – North Woodstock – March 29th
 - Instructor I – Richard Flynn campus – Concord – May 7th
 - Instructor II – Virtual October 21st
 - Instructor II - Virtual February 24th
 - Instructor III – Virtual April 9th
- Instructor Professional Development
 - Designing Simulation Based Education – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, November 14th and Virtual November 19th
 - Designing Effective Curriculum – Virtual February 25th, Richard Flynn campus February 27th
 - Developing Learning Objectives – Virtual March 25th and Richard Flynn campus March 27th
 - Engaging Instructional Strategies – Richard Flynn campus April 22nd and April 24th
- Fire Officer I/II Programs
 - Fire Officer I – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, September 3rd
 - Fire Officer I – Richard Flynn campus - Concord, December 4th
 - Fire Officer I – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, February 4th
 - Fire Officer II – Virtual October 15th
- Fire Inspector Programs
 - Fire Inspector I – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, September 12th
 - Fire Inspector II – Manchester March 28th
- Fire Investigator - Richard Flynn campus – Concord, August 22nd
- Warrants and Citations – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, November 13th
- National Fire Academy
 - Exercising Leadership to Facilitate Adaptive Change – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, October 21st
 - Youth Firesetter Intervention Specialist – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, November 14th
 - Decision Making for Initial Company Operations – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, March 10, 2025
 - Incident Safety Officer – Richard Flynn campus – Concord, April 7, 2025
- Your Workplace has Changed: Fire Dynamics for Structural Firefighting
 - New Hampton – October 21st and 22nd from 1800-2200

Education Technology

- The Resource Center (NHFA-EMS.com) will be getting a theme update. This is designed to improve functionality and ease in maintenance of the site.
- We have upgraded the Moodle site to version 4.4.
- Firefighter I Communication, Hazmat, OB Prenatal Assessment, and FF I Safety are being upgraded to comply with ADA standards. This involves the addition of alternate text and captions/transcripts.
- The FF I Communication module update is near completion.
- The OB Normal Labor & Delivery course development work continues with the final review beginning soon.
- The Sleep seminar held earlier this year, which is being developed into an online course, will be ready for internal review this month.
- The updated Pediatric Ambulance Safety Restraint course is in production.

Instructors

- We are in the final stages of completion of 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:
 - October 21st at Richard Flynn campus, Concord (retest October 22nd)
 - November 18th at Richard Flynn campus, Concord (retest November 19th)
- 2024 CPAT
 - Department member assistance is needed for CPAT on testing days. Please confirm available personnel to assist with PC Nick Poulin at Nicholas.a.poulin@dos.nh.gov prior to the test date to assist in planning.

BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Boards and Commissions

- The NH Medical Control Board meeting will meet at 0930 on November 21st.
- The NH Emergency Medical and Trauma Services Coordinating Board meeting will meet on November 21st at 1300.
- The NH Trauma Medical Review Committee (TMRC) will meet at 0930 on December 18th. The October meeting has been cancelled due to the Concord Hospital Trauma Conference.
- The Privacy Committee will meet October 30th at 1300.

Operations

- With final adoption of the Educational Training Agency ruleset as of April 30, 2024, the Administrative Packet for application can be found at on the Division website and Resource Center.
- As of October 1, 2024 there are 6,008 licensed providers with 5,402 of them with an affiliation.
- The EMS Simulation Training Program is active with ongoing open enrollment courses in 2024.

Courses/Programs

- Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)
 - The Fall class began September 21st in Keene, Bartlett and Concord.
- EMS Continuing Education and Simulation Education
 - *Cardiology Pediatric Cardiac Arrest* – Ray Burton campus - Bethlehem October 16th
 - *SIRS, Sepsis, Shock and Death: Recognition and Intervention for Systemic Infection* – Richard Flynn campus - Concord October 2nd and Virtual October 17th
 - *EMS Grand Rounds: Altered Mental Status* – Richard Flynn campus - Concord October 3rd
 - *NFA F0146 Supervising Emergency Medical Services* – Richard Flynn campus - Concord October 7th
 - *Pre-Hospital and Interfacility Transport Stroke Care* – Richard Flynn campus - Concord November 6th and Virtual November 21st
 - *Cognitive Bias in EMS* – Richard Flynn campus - Concord December 4th and Virtual December 19th
 - *Obstetrics Childbirth* – Richard Flynn campus - Concord November 13th and Ray Burton campus - Bethlehem December 11th
 - *The CBRNE Patient* – Richard Flynn campus – Concord February 5th and Virtual February 20th

- *Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS)* – Richard Flynn campus - Concord March 21st
- *NFA FO146 Supervising Emergency Medical Services* – Ray Burton campus - Bethlehem April 26th
- EMS in the Warm Zone Awareness, Operations and Rescue Task Force Concepts
 - 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

- We continue our outreach and support to agencies for inter-facility transfers and mobile integrated health programs.

Data Management

- We continue to work on implementation of the Mobile Integrated Healthcare and Continuum software.
- 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.
 - 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 nhesr@dos.nh.gov by email, submit a ticket at <https://nhfa-ems.com/support/>, or call 603-223-4200 and ask for a member of the data team to reach us.
- 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)
 - 22,054 EMS incidents were entered into the system for September bringing the total for 2024 to 198,445.

Compliance

- There are currently over 38 active investigations and ongoing cases.

Preparedness and Special Projects

- Outreach continues on AED consultations and orientation sessions.

Professional Development Committee _ (Director Cutting) – No report

Fire Standards and Training Commission – (Chiefs Clark/DeAngelis) –

Chief Clark reported:

There was no meeting since our September meeting and report.

Proposed revisions for Hazardous Materials Awareness and Hazardous Materials Operations are in the period where public comments can be made. Assuming no negative comments that require further review by the Curriculum Committee the revised curriculum for those two courses will be approved at the November 7, 2024 meeting.

The Commission approved the establishment of a Visiting Committee for Firefighter I and II. The Commission is seeking 7 members to serve as voting members of the Visiting Committee. Members of the Association who are interested in serving on this most important committee should apply through the Fire Academy. It is expected that the members of the Visiting Committee will be seated by the Commission at the November meeting.

The Commission approved a revised Curriculum Approval process that clearly defines the role of the Visiting Committee and that of the Curriculum Committee.

Construction of the required sitework is well underway for the \$5.7 million dollar upgrades to the Burton Fire & EMS Academy in Bethlehem.

Chief Don DeAngelis who represents the Association as a career department chief was nominated by the Association to serve a three year term as was Chief Allan Clark who represents the Association as a non-career department chief

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

National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) – (Chiefs E. Thomas/Cathy) –

- Chief E. Thomas travelled to Kansas City for the National meeting and reported on the events of the conference.

EMS Trauma Medical Review Committee (Dep. Chief Clough) – (Submitted)

Meeting held August 21, 2024

1) Welcome/Membership

a) A moment of silence was held for Lauren Morton.

Item 1. Neurosurgery position remains vacant as well as medical examiner position.

2) Approval of the minutes

A motion was made (Maggio/Marcotte) to approve the June 19, 2024 minutes, with the addition of the state medical examiners new equipment. All in favor, none opposed.

3) BUREAU REPORTS

a) Specialty services position still open and posted. Vehicle inspection positions and EMS exam coordinators open as well.

b) Background checks remain at a 2- 3-week timeline. Ensure members have accurate contact information to help facilitate any issues.

c) ETA rules have rolled out and are being implemented. The Division is streamlining psychomotor exam process. ALS exams being facilitated by the Division until May 2025, or when ETA implementation is complete.

d) SIM and con-ed programs continue, more details can be found on the website.

e) Chair Martin would like the Statewide EMS Conference discussion to be on the agenda.

4) SUBCOMMITTEE & TOPIC REPORTS

Item 1: Trauma Registry Sub-committee-Walter Trachim

– Data working group met and discussed the 2025 NTDB dictionary released in July. Five new data elements and pre-existing conditions were added, and so these will be updated in the state trauma dictionary as well.

→ Proposed trauma rules are at the DOS legal department with minimal changes and will go through the process including public comment. Estimated rollout date is early 2025. Eight institutions are currently submitting data.

Item 4. Coordinating Board Report- Joel Coelho

→ Nothing to report

Item 5. Medical Control Board Report- Tom Trimarco

→ Nothing to report

Item 6. Injury Prevention Report- Jim Esdon

→ Nothing to report

Item 9. Hospital Designation Subcommittee- Eric Martin

→ Reviewing checklists for trauma designations and trying to streamline the expectations to include more hospitals.

5.) OLD BUSINESS

→ A discussion was held on reviewing motor vehicle fatality data for the state and inviting different stakeholders to the TMRC meetings for information regarding trauma issues.

→ Neil Moore wants to revitalize the seatbelt coalition.

→ Discussed holding TMRC meetings at other locations in the state.

6.) NEW BUSINESS

→ Concord Hospital Trauma Conference will be held October 16, 2024 at the Grappone Center. The focus will be on disasters. **There will be no TMRC meeting in October in order to support the Trauma Conference.**

Homeland Security and Emergency Management – (Director Buxton) –

- Public Assistance
 - Immediate Needs Funding (INF) has been lifted with the passing of the federal CR. HSEM is in the process of administering approximately 75 projects at a value of just shy of 6 million dollars.
 - The CR funds the federal government until December 20, 2024. It currently is expected that FEMA will be back under the INF protocol sometime around Thanksgiving.
 - We continue to work with FEMA on existing Disaster Relief efforts.
 - HSEM will be attending a town hall meeting with the Town of Gorham in October to review recover plans from flooding this past year.
- Mitigation
 - We continue to work to support the following programs:
 - i. Hazard Mitigation Planning

- ii. Mitigation Project Scoping
 - iii. High Hazard Dam Programs
 - iv. SWIFT Current efforts to address repetitive flooding locations.
- EMPG
 - We continue to update and process project applications.
 - The FY 24 program will be getting underway shortly.
 - If you have a potential EMPG project, please reach out to your Stakeholder Liaison for assistance.
- Homeland Security Grants
 - Award letters have started to be distributed for the FY24 program.
 - We are currently preparing for the FY25 notice of funding.
- We would ask that agencies please review and address any open quarterly reporting for all associated grants programs. HSEM will be developing and distributing a follow up on this. Quarterly reporting is a critical component to remaining compliant with the federal grants' platform.
- Active Shooter Incident Management
 - Working groups continue to meet regarding Incident Management initiatives for Law Enforcement.
 - WE are preparing for the formal recommendation and adoption of NFPA 3000 (ASHER)/ALERRT programs.
- School Safety
 - School Districts are underway submitting their updated Emergency Operations plans. Please make sure you are aware of and participating in the process. As a reminder October 15th is the deadline for this year's plan submission.
- REP
 - We are in the process of finalizing the FY 25 assessment for NextEra Energy.
 - Assessment notice will be distributed to the EPZ communities once this is fully adopted.

Other Items of Importance:

- Internally we continue to plan for the following upcoming events:
 - Presidential Election

- Please continue to sign up for Genasys, the emergency notification platform. This is the replacement for the OnSolve CodeRED program. If you need any assistance, please contact us.
- Monthly EMD call will be held on October 17, 2024, at 12:00.
 - We anticipate starting to have discussions regarding winter operations.
- The SEOC will be getting a technology upgrade thank you to commitment of ARPA funds by Governor Sununu.

Commission to study the Incidence of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in First Responders – (Chief Watkins) – No report

Forests and Lands – (Chief Sherman) – No report

Board of Fire Control – (Chiefs Clark/Hunter) – Chief Clark reported:
 The Board of Fire Control met on September 18, 2024. The Legislators approved updates to the State Fire Code with amendments which went into effect on August 13, 2024. Work will begin soon on reviewing changes to NFPA 1 and NFPA 101 version 2024 versus 2021 soon.

The legislators approved law that allows the conversion of an existing building for up to 4 apartments without a fire suppression system provided certain criteria is met. The Board was generally in favor of the change although the actual law was different than what was proposed.

A review of the progress of the legislative study committee concerning Lithium Ion Batteries and electric vehicles was received from the Marshal with progress on track.

There was discussion of the proposed changes to OSHA rules for municipal fire departments was held. The conclusion being that it would be very expensive to comply. NH Municipalities are not subject to OSHA.

The committee that was reviewing the issue of fire suppression in summer camp cabins concluded that an amendment to the Fire Code would be cumbersome and that the use of the variance process by the Marshal was more appropriate.

It was reported that Fire Deaths were 17 year to date and a normal year was 10 – 12. A majority of the deaths could have been prevented had there been functioning smoke detectors in the home. There have been two more fire deaths since the meeting.

There was discussion of amending the code as it related to exit sign graphics. It was determined that an amendment was not required.

Building Code Review Board – (Chief Conley/Asst. Chief Pouliot) – No report

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

Division of Emergency Services and Communications – (Director Doyle)

- Laconia Facility Update: Bids have been received and are being reviewed by DAS/Public Works;
- Community Events reminder – connect with our Public Outreach / Education Team for more info: Patrick Cavanaugh, 603-271-6911, patrick.m.cavanaugh@desc.nh.gov ;
- PSAP Comfort Dog is in training with her Handler, “Winni” is expected to be full time at the completion of her training this fall;
- E911 Commission met last month for the quarterly meeting- minutes available on the website;
- Critical Incident and Planning continues with Director Scippa and the subcommittee;
- Mental Health Symposium planning continues for the event being held at FSTEMS January 7-8:



- Media events:

In September, the Division of Emergency Services and Communications used its social media platforms (Facebook, X, and Instagram) to spread the word about Suicide Prevention Month, sharing important resources and emphasizing the role of the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline. We also highlighted the extensive media coverage of our Comfort Dog Program, which continues to generate excitement within the community. As part of our ongoing efforts to educate the public, we maintained outreach to New Hampshire schools, teaching students the importance of knowing

when and how to dial 911. Additionally, we celebrated the milestones and achievements of our employees, strengthening team morale. Our social media engagement remains strong, as we continue building relationships with both local and national public safety agencies to raise awareness and drive engagement with our page.



- Behavioral Health Crisis Systems study committee meets Friday the 11th at 1000;
- Working with HSEM to develop a policy guideline and 1-pager of “Best Practices” and for local messaging using Genasys;
- Troop “F” radio enhancement project is complete – reduces 4 zones into 3, enhances coverage in the North Country;
- The quarterly meeting of the SIEC was held on August 16th at the Derry Municipal facility;
- Participating in the 988 Implementation and Planning Coalition meetings, engaging Law Enforcement and the Emergency Departments is the current focus;
- Legislation Watch:
 - Updates:

- HB 1078: passed – DOS will now be collecting maps of Municipal radio systems and have them available for other local agencies to use to plan & build out their systems.
 - Rulemaking finalized regarding Saf-C 7000 series, procedure for obtaining a copy of an E911 recording;
- KPI's (YTD through August 2024):
 - 99.66% of all calls answered w/i 15 seconds (exceeding NENA standard of 90% w/i 15 seconds)
 - Avg. Police/fire Transfer time = 50.08 seconds (exceeding NFPA Std. of 60 Sec.)
 - Avg. EMD Transfer time = 125.2 seconds – stable relative to last year.
 - Running @ 18% below last year's call volume
 - 451 Transfers to 988 / RRAP since July 2022
- Any questions, comments, concerns, please reach out...

E 911 Commission – (Chief Thomas) –

Phone Surcharge

Discussion on increasing the phone surcharge. The Administrative Rules require a 50% reserve of the current year's operating budget. We are currently at 24%. The Commission voted to increase the cost to \$1.00. This will keep the reserve positive until FY 33. The recommendation to increase to \$1.00 now goes to the Commissioner of Safety Robert Quinn.

Crowd Strike Outage

E911 was down for 2 hours. The Staff got called in and worked hard to get redundancy systems up and running. Most of the unanswered incoming calls were returned. Draft future messaging to Dispatch Centers and the public will be set up if this type of problem occurs again. If the 911 lines cannot be answered by the telecommunicators the caller will receive a message to contact their Dispatch Centers direct. E911 is working on the possibility of having an additional vender at the Laconia Facility, with Crowd Strike remaining at the Concord Facility.

Call volume is lower than last year. Critical calls are at an all-time high which is taking a toll on the staff.

E911 is working with HSEM on 4 scheduled active threat/shooter exercises.

Pitcher Mountain Fire Tower is undergoing major renovation. Temporary scaffolding has been set up for the point-to-point microwave dishes.

Upgrades have been made to the generators at Highland Hill, Moose Mountain, and Oak Hill.

First Net has two new towers operational in Bow and Salem. Two more towers are scheduled one in Keene and one in Lebanon. Cheshire and Sullivan Counties are getting reinvestment money for towers. First Net is working with the Fire Academy to set up a six-hour training program for the fire service.

RFP has been posted for the Laconia Facility

Winnie the 911 Comfort Dog was at the Commission Meeting. Winnie is 9 months old and will be joining 911 in January.

NH Drug Overdose Commission – (Chief Thomas) – No report

NH Information Analysis Center – (James Heinz-liaison) – (Submitted)

- It seems clear that mass attacks in public spaces will continue to happen.
- It also seems clear that Firefighters and Emergency Medical Service Providers will continue to be called upon to pick up the pieces, sometimes literally.
- What might not be so clear is that all first responders can possibly play a part in the prevention of such acts.
- There has been much data collected and studied on these events. Two things stand out: 1) Perpetrators do not “snap”, they “decide”. 2) Perpetrators sometimes leave evidence of planning, some of which is observable.
- The United States Department of Homeland Security has an excellent online class on its “**Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reporting Initiative.**” for Firefighters/EMS. It is an excellent program that can be completed in less than an hour. This should be mandatory training for all fire and EMS personnel in NH. It is an excellent source of EMS con-ed!
- The link for the training is below. Please pass this memo along to all your members

[NSI Training: Fire/EMS | Homeland Security \(dhs.gov\)](#)

If you have any questions, feel free to contact your Fire/EMS Liaison Office at:
James.B.Heinz@dos.nh.gov

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

NED-IAFC Conf/Expo

The annual Conference/Expo is scheduled for October 16th – 18th, 2024 at Mohegan Sun in Uncasville, CT. Currently scheduling Professional Development, expo spaces, program layout and most importantly working on a new registration format. Chief Jones will be sworn in as New England President at this meeting.

Old Business -

New Business – Chief Jones reported that the NED legislative arm is supporting the repeal of the social security restriction for firefighter pensioners.

Good and Welfare – Chief Blanchette expressed his frustration at the lack of personnel available for firefighting/EMS positions available. Recruitment and retention efforts have not been successful and he suggests that we act on this sooner than later.

Chief Carrier noted that the profit from the golf tournament was around \$4,000.

A raffle was held and \$130 was collected with \$65 in prizes. \$45 was donated back to the Assn. Counted by Chief Chamberlain.

Following the raffle, the meeting was adjourned at 1028 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,
Chief Brent T. Lemire, ret.
Executive Director, NHAFC

October 10, 2024