



## NEW HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS, INC.

*Working Together to Make a Difference*

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### Meeting Minutes of the Board of Directors – June 5, 2024

The Virtual meeting was called to order by Chief Emanuel at 0832 hours

**Members present:** Chiefs Emanuel, Watkins, Hunter, Chamberlain, Carrier, Fraitzl, LaRoche, Wheatley, McShane, Murray and ED Lemire. Adam Schmidt joined us also.

**Minutes of previous meeting:** Distributed and posted for meeting. Chief McShane asked to have his name added as attending. A MOTION (Hunter/McShane) to accept the amended minutes carried unanimously.

**Financial Reports:** Distributed via email. A MOTION (Hunter/Watkins) to approve the April financials carried unanimously.

**Correspondence:** Note from Allan Clark requesting reappointment to the BOFC. Discussion ensued as to advertising the position or simply recommending the incumbent. The item was tabled pending further review.

**Life Membership:** Chief Henry Thomas was awarded Life Membership at a surprise dinner gathering after the Primex conference in Portsmouth.

#### **Government Relations: (Schmidt)**

- He reported on his email updates for bills being considered. As the session is coming to a close, he is actively involved with the legislature and the amendments being offered on several bills. His update from last Friday: *Yesterday, the House and Senate met and determined on which bills they would create committees of conference. The committees have until next Thursday to develop a report. If a report is agreed upon by all members of the committee of conference, the House and Senate will vote on their report on Thursday, June 13. That is also the last day for the session. If a committee is unable to reach agreement, the bill is dead. Also, if either body rejects the report on June 13, the bill is dead. There are over 60 committees which have been created between the two bodies.*

*I have included the bills which have been scheduled for committees of conference that are of interest to NHAFC below. The notice includes the bill number, date, time, and location for*

*the meeting, and the conferees from each body. You will note **SB 407** (ambulance cost study) is scheduled for a committee of conference on Monday at 2 pm. The Senate requested a committee of conference. Senators would like to try to move the House toward agreeing with their version of the bill which would have required a payment to ambulance providers at certain rates, including 325% of Medicare. The House typically does not budget from their position, but we will plan to monitor their meeting and provide an update.*

*Also, during the sessions yesterday, there were many bills on which the two bodies “concurred” with amendments from the other. At this point, bills on which concurrence has been reached will head to Governor Sununu later this summer. Included in the bills on which there was concurrence was **SB 352** (cancer screening pilot program for active and retired firefighters). Please remember that, if the bill is signed into law, the following provision will be applicable “... Within 90 days of the effective date of this act, a committee consisting of representatives from the Professional Fire Fighters of New Hampshire, the New Hampshire Association of Fire Chiefs, and the department of safety, division of fire standards and training and emergency medical services, with oversight from the commissioner of safety or designee, shall present to the commissioner and the governor their initial plan to administer the program...” It may be worth determining how the Association would like to move forward with participation with this requirement.*

*The House also concurred with the Senate changes to **HB 1647** (Group II reform). I have attached the document we shared previously which provides details regarding the impact of the changes. During the debate on the House floor, many of the same points that were made in the Senate were repeated, including the effort to control the costs associated with the change.*

*Finally, the House also agreed to the Senate amendment [HB 1352](#). Should Governor Sununu sign the bill, it will alter some of the requirements which fire departments must comply with currently, specifically the written notice regarding whether PPE includes PFAS. In addition, beginning on 1/1/2025, fire departments may no longer include as an option for firefighters station ware which includes intentionally added PFAS. It would seem likely that the Governor will sign the bill. Moving forward, it may be worth considering the most effective way to ensure Departments are aware of the changes in law.*

**HB1386** - relative to prohibiting the disposal of lithium-ion batteries in solid waste landfill facilities, composting facilities, or incinerators.

**Meeting:** 06/03/2024 9:30 AM **Location:** LOB 203

**Senate:** Kevin Avard, Howard Pearl, David Watters

**House:** (C) Judy Aron, Karen Ebel, Peter Bixby, Jim Creighton

**HB1521** - (New Title) relative to recovery houses.

**Meeting:** 06/03/2024 11:00 AM **Location:** LOB 306-308

**Senate:** James Gray, Keith Murphy, Rebecca Perkins Kwoka

**House:** (C) Carol McGuire, Daniel Fitzpatrick, Tom Dolan, Jeffrey Goley

**HB1069** - (New Title) relative to material subject to disclosure under the right-to-know law.

**Meeting:** 06/03/2024 1:30 PM **Location:** LOB 206-208

**Senate:** Sharon Carson, Jeb Bradley, Shannon Chandley

**House:** (C) Bob Lynn, Scott Wallace, Marjorie Smith, Eric Turer

**SB499** - (Second New Title) relative to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and the Summer EBT program and making appropriations therefor and relative to providing disaster relief funding to municipalities after a natural disaster.

**Meeting:** 06/03/2024 1:30 PM **Location:** SH 100

**Senate:** (C) Regina Birdsell, Jeb Bradley, Rebecca Whitley

**House:** Keith Erf, Jess Edwards, Mary Jane Wallner, Laura Telerski

**SB407** - (New Title) establishing a ground ambulance cost reporting program and a study by an independent actuarial and accounting expert of the cost of providing ground ambulance services in the state.

**Meeting:** 06/03/2024 2:00 PM **Location:** SH 100

**Senate:** (C) Regina Birdsell, Kevin Avard, Suzanne Prentiss

**House:** John Hunt, Anita Burroughs, Carry Spier, Keith Ammon

**HB1202** - (New Title) relative to the issuance of permits for the alteration of driveways exiting onto public ways and relative to the definition of disability or special needs under the child care scholarship program.

**Meeting:** 06/04/2024 12:30 PM **Location:** LOB 201

**Senate:** Denise Ricciardi, Carrie Gendreau, David Watters

**House:** (C) Mark McConkey, Mary Jane Wallner, John Cloutier, Jess Edwards

**SB379** - relative to emergency action plans for sports related injuries.

**Meeting:** 06/05/2024 9:00 AM **Location:** SH 103

**Senate:** (C) Timothy Lang, Carrie Gendreau, Suzanne Prentiss

**House:** Rick Ladd, Glenn Cordelli, David Luneau, Hope Damon

**HB1215** - (Second New Title) relative to development approvals and appeals, and allowing the town of Hampton to discontinue a particular highway in order to lease that property.

**Meeting:** 06/05/2024 1:30 PM **Location:** LOB 305

**Senate:** Daryl Abbas, Daniel Innis, Debra Altschiller

**House:** (C) Joe Alexander, Scott Wallace, Charlotte DiLorenzo, Diane Pauer

**HB1400** - (Third New Title) relative to residential parking spaces, landlord-tenant law, unauthorized occupant evictions, and zoning procedures concerning residential housing.

**Meeting:** 06/05/2024 2:30 PM **Location:** LOB 305

**Senate:** Bill Gannon, Jeb Bradley, Rebecca Perkins Kwoka

**House:** (C) Joe Alexander, Rebecca McWilliams, Joe Sweeney, Dennis Mannion

### **Report of the President (Emanuel)**

- He is headed to Kansas City to work on a FEMA grant and will report on it when he gets back.
- He appreciated the support of the NHAFC for the Explorer Fire Academy.
- He submitted two proposals to NHMA for seminars for their conference in October.

### **Report of the Executive Director: (Lemire)**

- Our next BOD meeting will be either July 3 or 10 and will be virtual. What is your pleasure?
- 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.
- Our August 7 BOD meeting will be at Primex at 0830 hours.
- 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 He
- August 12 will be the Golf Tournament at Lochmere in Tilton.
- Ad book proceeds to date: Total: \$24,450; Vendor: \$17,115; Assn: \$7335.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President's Report (Watkins)** – No report

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President's Report – (Hunter)** - No report

**Sgt. At Arms Report – (Chamberlain)** – No report

**IAFC – NED – (Jones/S. Murray)** –

- Chief Murray reminded everyone to vote for Chief Locke from VT for 2<sup>nd</sup> VP when the ballots are mailed.
- The board met and voted to establish a \$30,000 scholarship fund for NE
- The NE Chiefs' conference will be Oct. 14 to 18 at Mohegan Sun again.

- The new website is almost ready for launching. Each state will have its own access.
- He asked for names of deceased members during the last year.
- FRI will be in Dallas August 14 to 16. The NE lunch will be the 14<sup>th</sup>.

**New Business:**

- Chief Carrier asked for an appropriation of up to \$1000 for golf tournament prizes. A MOTION (Chamberlain/McShane) to approve, carried unanimously.

**Old Business:**

- Chief Emanuel reached out to Marshal Toomey on Chief Clark's request to be reappointed to the BOFC and there was no negative feedback. A MOTION (Chamberlain/Watkins) to reappoint him carried 5-4-1.

**Good and Welfare –**

Motion to adjourn carried at 0910 hours.

Respectfully submitted,  
Brent T. Lemire, MPA  
Executive Director

June 5, 2024