

## **NEW HAMPSHIRE FIRE STANDARDS & TRAINING COMMISSION**

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### **MINUTES OF MEETING**

**June 7, 2007**

*(Approved, September 7, 2007)*

Members Present: Edward Murdough, Brad Simpkins, Michael Williams, David Duquette, Kevin Pratt, Stephen Carrier, Richard Mason, Carl Roediger, Al Burbank.

Members Absent: Karen Schlitzer, Earl Sweeney, Joseph Butts, William Degnan, George Sykes, John Hoglund.

Others Present: *Division of Fire Standards & Training and Emergency Medical Services*—Dennis Rosolen, Bureau Chief; Sue Prentiss, Bureau Chief, Jeff Phillips, Bureau Chief; Heather Newland, Recording Secretary; Denise McAdoo, Executive Secretary.

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

**Item 1. Call to Order.** The meeting of the New Hampshire Fire Standards & Training Commission was called to order by Chair David Duquette at 3:05 p.m. on Thursday, June 7, 2007 at the Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy, 222 Sheep Davis Road, Concord, NH.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

#### **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Item 1. May 3, 2007. Motion** was made by Commissioner Roediger, seconded by Commissioner Carrier, to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2007 Commission meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **III. CHAIR'S REMARKS**

Chair had no remarks.

### III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Item 1. Emergency Medical Services.** Chief Prentiss gave her report. In addition, she was asked to introduce her two newest employees. They are:

Shawn Jackson, who joined EMS as of June 1, 2007. Shawn replaces David Dow as the Field Services Representative for the Southern District and will be based in the Wilton office. Shawn is a paramedic and instructor coordinator, and is from Nashua.

Mike Schnyder, who is replacing Fred von Recklinghausen as the Field Services Representative. Mike is originally from the North East, but is coming to us by way of Salt Lake City, Utah and will soon be residing in Deering, NH. He is a nationally registered paramedic.

Welcome to Shawn and Mike!

**Item 2. Fire Marshal's Office.** Fire Marshal Degnan gave no report as he was absent.

**Item 3. Forest Protection Bureau.** Commissioner Simpkins gave the following report:

Commission report for Forest Protection Bureau – June, 2007

- In-state wildfire activity YTD: 200 fires for 130 acres
- Out-of-state activity: We currently have two single resources on the large fire complex in southern Georgia. In addition, the recently-formed incident management team of the Northeast Forest Fire Compact has received their first assignment on this same complex of fires in Georgia. The Compact IMT is made up of members from several New England states and Canadian provinces. Two NH firefighters returned last week after fighting a large fire in northern Minnesota.
- NH is hosting the annual Northeast Forest Fire Protection Compact meeting this year, for the first time in many years. It will be held at Bretton Woods July 31<sup>st</sup> and August 1<sup>st</sup>. This year the Director of the Division of Forests and Lands, Phil Bryce, will become Chair of the Commission. In addition, the Canadian province of Newfoundland Labrador has sought membership into the Compact

and is expected to be approved at this meeting. This would allow New Hampshire to share resources with this province.

- Weekend fire training is coming up on September 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. The training will simulate the organization for an extended attack fire incident. Several other agencies have expressed interest in participating, including Emergency Mgmt., Red Cross, National Guard and HHS.
- This past week the Bureau obtained two almost-new travel trailers for use in the fire community. One will be retained by the Bureau and converted into a mobile command post for use at fires, trainings and other complex incidents to support communities, and the second is tentatively going to the Fire Marshal's Office.
- The federal excess wildland engine that will be used for wildland fire training is scheduled to be refurbished starting the end of next week, depending on governor and Council approval of the service contract. We hope to have the engine ready and available by the end of August, in time for this fall's Wildland Firefighter I courses.
- We have offered two people conditional offers of employment for the vacant ranger position and a tentative ranger position resulting from a retirement. We hope to have both people on board before the end of July.
- Interviews were held this week for the vacant Bureau program assistant position. That position is expected to be filled by June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Item 4. Curriculum Review.** Curriculum Status Report by Chief Rosolen is in each Commission member's packet and is as follows:

CURRICULUM STATUS REPORT  
June 7, 2007

(a) Driver/Operator:

- (1) Pumps:
- (2) Aerial Apparatus:  
Still waiting to hear from the committee. No other programs will be approved at this point.

- (3) All Vehicle:  
We are currently forming a visiting committee to review this program and bring it up to the NFPA standard. A report will be coming forthwith.

(b) **Hazardous Materials:**

- (1) Operations:
- (2) Technician:

(c) **Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting:**

(d) **NFPA 1030 Series:**

- (1) NFPA 1031, Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Inspectors and Plan Examiners: Inspector II scheduled for late March to early April was a large class and went very well. Over 60 people in this program.
- (2) NFPA 1033, Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Investigator is in the planning stage for delivery.
- (3) NFPA 1035, Standard for Professional Qualifications for Public Fire and Life Safety Educator: Will probably follow the 1033 standard.

(e) **Rescue Series:**

- (1) Structural Collapse:  
No pilots scheduled as yet.
- (2) Confined Space:  
A confined space trailer has been purchased from Mike Carrier of Merrimack Fire and is on campus at this time.
- (3) Technical Rope Rescue:  
An Operational level of rope rescue TtT has been accomplished and  
This program is ready to be offered this month. A Rope Rescue Technician class is scheduled for early September. The first Operations class went well.
- (4) Trench Rescue:  
A Trench Rescue class was completed in April.
- (5) Water Rescue/Ice will be the next programs to be considered.

(f) **NFPA 1001 Firefighter I and Firefighter II:**

(g) **NFPA 1021 Fire Officer:**

(h)

(i) NFPA 1041 Instructor:

An Instructor I pilot scheduled for this month at the Academy went well; all passed a few items to fix. Otherwise it went well. A second class will be offered in Manchester in July.

(j) NFPA 1051 Wildland Firefighter:

Doing well at this point.

(j) C2F2

The new point system is working much better as well, the new orientation 6 weeks ahead is still an unknown at this point.

(k) ICS/NIMS

Starting to regionalize these programs for more effective and economical delivery.

### **Pro-Board Certifications, Standards and Year**

NFPA 1001, Firefighter I, 2002

NFPA 1001, Firefighter II, 2002

NFPA 1002, Driver Operator Pump & Aerial, 2003

NFPA 1021, Fire Officer I&II, III&IV, 2003

NFPA 1041, Fire Service Instructor I, II, III, 2002

NFPA 1031, Fire Inspector I, 2003 and soon Inspector II

NFPA 1003, Airport Firefighter, 2005

NFPA 472, Hazardous Materials Operations, 2002

NFPA 472, Hazardous Materials Technician, 2002

NFPA 1006, Rescue series not yet accredited, 2003

NFPA 1051, Wildland Firefighter, 2006

## **IV. REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR**

**Item 1. Director's Report #109.** The Director's Report #109 for June 7, 2007 was reviewed by Director Mason and was as follows:

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT #109 June 7, 2007**

1) **Construction**

As you can see, the fire station addition is going quite well. The estimated completion will be in September. This will allow for bay space for 2 more

vehicles and a 2-story equipment storage area similar to a tool crib, with very limited access.

2) Recruit School

May 25<sup>th</sup> we graduated the eleven week Recruit School. Twenty-seven students attended all eleven weeks, attaining Fire Fighter I, Fire Fighter II and C2F2. A few other students participated in portions of the class. This class went very well and even gave me the opportunity to get back in the classroom!

3) NH Community Technical College

We met with Dr. Connell, the Fire Technology Program Chair for the Tech College in Laconia. Presently, we offer two Fire Fighter I programs per year for their students. This fall we will look at adding our Fire Fighter II program. They have purchased SCBA and protective gear for us, we will charge a stipend for its use and we will now be responsible for its upkeep and replacement.

4) Explorer Academy

Sixty explorers, (aged 14 to 18), will take the campus over June 24-29, 2007. This will be the eleventh time we have closed for the future fire fighters in NH. A very well organized and dynamic program!

5) North American Fire Training Directors (NAFTD)

The annual meeting of NAFTD will be in Portsmouth, September 25-28, 2007 at the new Hilton Garden Inn. We anticipate about 50 attending from the states and Canadian provinces. We will tour the Fire Academy and Globe Fire Fighting Suits on September 27<sup>th</sup>.

6) Camp Fully Involved

The week of August 13<sup>th</sup> we will host "Camp Fully Involved," a trial this year for teenage girls. Last count there were 12 applications, so we will see how this program works. We are co-sponsoring with the Fire Instructors & Officers Association of NH. Nashua fire fighter Jess Wyman is the chair and Captain Lund is our liaison.

## VI. OLD BUSINESS

No old business to discuss.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Murdough mentioned that House Bill 556 – a bill to require schools to have an Emergency Response Plan – was passed by both the House and Senate and is awaiting the Governor's signature. One thing that may be an issue is that while most schools have plans, this bill requires that they be ICS based. Gregg Champlin has already communicated a need for ICS instruction.

We are definitely seeing the results of improved fire inspections in schools. All the inspector classes that have taken place in the past few years are showing up in that there are less violations. It was not a very good year for school construction projects. Some of the worst places have started construction.

Commissioner Murdough is on the state asbestos advisory committee. At their last meeting, one of their concerns was the buildings being used for training burns may contain asbestos and the fact that it needs to be properly removed and disposed of. Apparently, one department removed asbestos in their own station and did not follow proper procedure. He suggested that they contact the Fire Academy. Director Mason replied that the Academy can do that, and DES has administrative rules to be followed. Commissioner Simpkins mentioned that it also has to be done if a structure is torn down. He also said that it is something that the forest rangers can handle.

Commissioner Burbank questioned whether the new outdoor burning law also includes clean burning materials. Commissioner Simpkins noted that the law does not actually go into effect until January 1, 2008. He has spoken with DES to discuss the impact on open burning and permits. There will be more discussion on the matter.

Director Mason mentioned that House Bill 135 establishes the second Sunday in October as Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial Sunday. It passed the House and Senate. A signing ceremony has been requested.

Senate Bill 169 the Public Safety Officer Benefit Program for \$100,000 for police and fire fighters killed in the line of duty. Late yesterday afternoon, (Wednesday, June 6, 2007), the Senate passed it, with changes. Also establishing a feasibility committee to look over EMS personnel. It is now awaiting passage by the House.

House Bill 218 also passed. This is for due process to remove a fire chief from office. This now parallels that of a police chief's removal.

### **VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. There will be 10 legislators and Commissioner Barthelmes attending dinner and the Public Hearing following at 7:00 p.m. Director Mason will be giving a PowerPoint presentation.

### **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion** was made by Commissioner Carrier, seconded by Commissioner Williams, to adjourn at 4:00 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard A. Mason, Director

Items distributed at meeting:

1. Agenda 06/07/07
2. Minutes of Meeting – 03/01/07 – Approved 05/03/07
3. Curriculum Status Report 06/07/07
4. Minutes of Meeting – 05/03/07 – Not Approved
5. Director's Report #109 – 06/07/07