

NEW HAMPSHIRE FIRE STANDARDS & TRAINING COMMISSION

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MINUTES OF MEETING

September 4, 2008

(Approved Nov. 6, 2008)

Members Present: Stephen Carrier, Michael Williams, Brad Simpkins, Edward Murdough, David Duquette, Richard Mason, Al Burbank, William Degnan, Frank Fraitzl, John Hogle, Kevin Pratt, and Karen Schlitzer.

Members Absent: Earl Sweeney, Joe Butts, Gary Stenhouse and Mark Tetreault.

Others Present: *Division of Fire Standards & Training and Emergency Medical Services*—Jeffrey Phillips, Bureau Chief; Sue Prentiss, EMS Bureau Chief, Denice McAdoo, Recording Secretary, Capt. Andy Anderson, FST/EMS, Capt. Chris Rousseau, FST/EMS, Capt. Bob Pragoff, FST/EMS, Capt. Meredith Lund, FST/EMS, Dr. Bill Porter and Joe Friere, Training Supt., Nashua Fire Rescue.

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 Duquette at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 4, 2008 at the Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy, 98 Smokey Bear Blvd, Concord, NH.

The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Commissioner Williams.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Item 1. Motion was made by Vice-Chair Carrier, seconded by Commissioner Fraitzl, to approve the minutes of the June 5, 2008 Commission meeting, with one change: Commissioner Schlitzer's name to be added to the Members Absent list. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 2. Motion was made by Commissioner Fraitzl to approve the minutes of the July 5, 2008 special meeting, seconded by Commissioner Pratt, with

one change: Commissioner Murdough's name to be added to the Members Absent list. Motion passed unanimously.

III. CHAIR'S REMARKS

Nothing to report.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Item 1. Emergency Medical Services. Chief Prentiss gave her report. No written copy was available.

Item 2. Fire Marshal's Office. Fire Marshal Degnan gave his report. No written copy was available.

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

Forest Protection Bureau Report for Commissioner's Meeting, September 4th, 2008

- In-state fires statistics YTD (state jurisdiction): 323 fires; 143 acres; 5 injuries
- Federal mobilization statistics YTD: 41 resources
- Weekend training will be the weekend of September 20th at Hidden Valley Scout Reservation. We currently have approximately 75 attendees.
- The next round of Volunteer Fire Assistance grant applications will be coming out hopefully before the end of September. The division has \$36,000 in grant funds this year.
- The Director of the Division of Forests and Lands, Phil Bryce, will be leaving the division effective September 12th to go back into the private sector.
- We are currently in the process of filling the Coos County Forest ranger position. Written and physical fitness tests are this month. Once we fill that district we will still be left with two vacancies.
- In July a bill was signed into law by the Governor that allows state employees leave to assist in out-of-state mobilizations for wildland fires and other emergencies without having to take annual leave. They would go out as state employees.
- There is currently a legislative study committee looking at the feasibility of adding an additional fire tower to the current system. The proposed location is Copple Crown Mountain in Brookfield.

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

**CURRICULUM STATUS REPORT
September 4, 2008**

- (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:
The program is doing very well; we have had at least 3 completed thus far.

- (b) **Hazardous Materials:**
 - Captain Pragoff and Jeff Allison are reviewing the standard now and have formed a visiting committee for the new standard and curriculum.
 - (1) Operations: To be presented with the new standard for approval this meeting.
 - (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 is now Pro-Board accredited. The reviews and acceptance will come in September.
 - (2) NFPA 1033, Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Investigator is in the planning stage for delivery. A planning meeting is to take place in the near future.
 - (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:
 - (2) Confined Space:
 - (3) Technical Rope Rescue:
An Operational level of rope rescue TTT has been accomplished and this program is ready to be offered. A Rope Rescue Technician class is scheduled for early September. The first Operations class went well.
 - (4) Trench Rescue:
A Trench Rescue class is scheduled for fall.
 - (5) Ice Rescue – 2 classes were scheduled this winter and will need to be reviewed before any are offered next winter (09).

- (f) **NFPA 1001 Firefighter I and Firefighter II:**
A visiting committee has been formed and has had a meeting thus far to review the standard and Resources available. Representatives from Delmar and Jones and Bartlett presented their curriculum. Jones and Bartlett were chosen as the new curriculum and will be presented this meeting.
- (g) **NFPA 1021 Fire Officer:**
A fall class is scheduled for the seacoast this fall.
- (h) **NFPA 1041 Instructor:**
- (i) **NFPA 1051 Wildland Firefighter:**
Doing well at this point.
- (j) **C2F2**
Went well for recruit school and the August class. The skills evaluation portion looks good for now but will need to see what happens with the June class before we can more accurately assess them.
- (k) **ICS/NIMS**
Starting to regionalize these programs for more effective and economical delivery. An ICS 300/400 program was just completed that included a TtT. We are now able to offer these classes around the State.

Pro-Board Certifications, Standards and Year

NFPA 1001, Firefighter I, 2008
NFPA 1001, Firefighter II, 2008
NFPA 1002, Driver Operator Pump & Aerial, 2003
NFPA 1021, Fire Officer I&II, III&IV, 2003
NFPA 1041, Fire Service Instructor I, II, III, 2007
NFPA 1031, Fire Inspector I, 2003 and soon Inspector II
NFPA 1003, Airport Firefighter, 2005
NFPA 472, Hazardous Materials Operations, 2008
NFPA 472, Hazardous Materials Technician, 2008
NFPA 1006, Rescue series not yet accredited, 2003
NFPA 1051, Wildland Firefighter, 2006

Captains Anderson and Rousseau gave a presentation, reviewing the changes to Fire Fighter IA and IB, and Fire Fighter II programs. Capt. Anderson discussed the differences between the Jones & Bartlett and Delmar and IFSTA curriculums. The suggested changes and the differences between Jones & Bartlett and IFSTA curriculums are outlined in more detail in the accompanying handout. Among the questions brought up by the Commissioners, the concern about the amount of time devoted to practicals in modules that have them was a discussion point.

Capt. Anderson reassured the Commission that on modules such as Fire Extinguishers where the Lecture time and Practical time is shown as evenly divided, there would be time more specifically devoted to the practical portion. Commissioner Williams also questioned whether there would still be a mid-term exam as there was between FFIA and FFIB. Capt. Anderson said that instead there would be two 20 question quizzes with different questions on each. If they fail both quizzes they will need to retake the module.

The motion was made by Commissioner Burbank and seconded by Commissioner Murdough to go ahead with the 2 pilot programs as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Captain Pragoff initiated a discussion of the update to the Hazardous Materials curriculum. He mentioned that there are 2 substantive changes to the Haz-Mat program:

- 1) Name change from Hazardous Materials Operations to Hazardous Materials Awareness/Operations, which would appear on the issued certificates; and
- 2) Make SCBA and PPE pre-requisites to Haz-Mat Awareness/Operations.

The hours (24) would stay the same and the only modifications would be the updating of the curriculum to meet the new standard. It will still be offered as a stand alone program.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fraitzl and seconded by Commissioner Burbank to accept and go forward with the Hazardous Materials program. Motion passed unanimously.

Director Mason requested drafting a letter to NFPA in support of including Hazardous Materials programs in the 1000 series. He noted that the only standard that we certify to that is not included in that series is the Haz-Mat program, which is NFPA 472. A motion was made by Commissioner Degan and seconded by Commissioner Fraitzl. The motion passed unanimously and it was decided that Director Mason would draft the letter.

Commissioner Burbank said he was approached by fire fighters at a meeting he attended regarding the 1006 Standard. In particular, a heavy/industrial rescue program for certification. Director Mason said the entire standard was being reviewed and that any questions could be directed to Steve McKenna.

Item 5. Academy Awards . Vice-Chair Carrier read the list of award recipients and thanked those who helped compile that list.

Academy Award Recipients:

Capt. Joe Butts	Chief Bob Crowell
Capt. Mike Clark	Dave Lang – Pres. – PFFNH
Commissioner John Barthelmes	

Fire Service Award of Excellence Recipients*:

Gary Lambert	Barbara Lambert
Keith Lambert	Eric Lambert
Aaron Lambert	Capt. Joe Butts
Chief Mike Buxton (Ret.)	Chief Sandy Young
Lt. Chris Roy	Ryan Fortin

*All recognized for their work on the Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial.

He went over the schedule for the day of the awards, November 6, 2008, as follows:

3:00 p.m.	Commission Meeting
5:00 p.m.	Pictures
5:30 p.m.	Dinner
7:00 p.m.	Awards Ceremony

Vice-Chair Carrier asked that all Commissioners plan to attend.

V. REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR

Item 1. Director's Report #116. The Director's Report #116 for September 4, 2008 was reviewed by Director Mason and was as follows:

DIRECTOR'S REPORT #116
September 4, 2008

- 1) Interim Rules – As a result of the June meeting and the special meeting in July the Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules have approved our rules for six months. This allows us to file the updated rules by the 15th of this month to file as the permanent rules. The proposal from the sub-committee was sent out last week and is in today's packet.
- 2) Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus Training Trailer – The new SCBA maze trailer should be in this week. It will be a little larger than the trailer it is replacing; it will have a three-tier maze, rather than 2 and is situated in a trailer larger than the older one. The student will still be watched by infrared cameras by the instructors. We will have this on display at the November meeting...anyone interested is certainly welcome to work their way through the maze!

- 3) 2010-2011 Budget Process – We are well in the budget process for the next biennium. With the onset of the new software program to track the budget and other management systems we are starting from scratch this year regarding the budgetary preparation process.
- 4) Camp Fully Involved – The Fire Instructors and Officers Association of New Hampshire and our office sponsored the Second Annual Camp Fully Involved, a program for up to 18 teenage girls. This is a camp that does offer certifications like the June Explorer program; rather it is an awareness type program to see if these attendees are interested in a career in the fire service.
- 5) Mutual Aid Americas – For about the sixth or seventh time we hosted an intensive training program for fire officers and firefighters from South America. Initially we had on those from Ecuador, but have expanded to other South American countries. The program this summer hosted 16 students, there were supposed to be more, but there was a VISA problem. We work with a Captain from the FDNY Training Division who started the non profit organization Mutual Aid Americas (go to: <http://www.mutual-aid.org/> for more information).
- 6) North American Fire Training Directors – The Annual Meeting of the North American Fire Training Directors will be in Portland, Oregon next week. Even though there are many travel restrictions we are finding that many will still make the trek for this important meeting. At the meeting we will host Fire Administrator Greg Cade, NFA Superintendent Dr. Denis Onieal, Fire Grant Director Glenn Gaines, Congressional Fire Service Institute Director Bill Webb, and many others. This meeting will mark the mid-term as President of the NAFTD, I will be handing the gavel over to the new president of Louisiana State University in the fall of 2009.
- 7) Fire Service and EMS Committee of Merit – The annual Fire and EMS Committee of Merit will hold their annual awards ceremony at the Capital Center for the Arts on South Main Street Concord at 6:30 PM on October 8th. This ceremony will honor those who have gone above and beyond the call of duty during calendar year 2007 and will present several special EMS awards. All are welcome and refreshments will be served.
- 8) Commission on Professional Credentialing – The Center for Public Safety Excellence, Chantilly, VA oversees two special commissions. One commission has responsibility for fire department accreditation and the other has responsibility for credentialing for the Chief Fire Officer Designation and the new Chief Medical Officer Designation. In Denver this past month I was elected Chairman of the Commission on Professional Credentialing; this is a nine member commission from all aspects of the fire service. New Hampshire has 20 Chief Fire Officer Designees with Milford Chief Frank Fraitzl and Portsmouth Assistant Chief Steve Achilles as the newest. We also have two of the 21 Chief Medical Officer Designees:

Barrington EMS Chief Antonio Maggio and our own NH Chief of EMS Sue Prentiss, who was part of the BETA test group for this designation!

- 9) Fire Station Addition – The fire station addition has been completed and the “tool crib” concept is about to be launched. Much of our tools and equipment are now located in the secured area in the fire station and newer methods of distributing gear and tools will be utilized. We anticipate that this will be a much more user friendly way of distributing and collecting our tools and equipment.

Director Mason also brought before the Commission an Extension Request for FF Tamara Lafrancis of Plaistow Fire Dept. for one year from her date of hire for completion of C2F2. A medical reason was stated.

The motion was made to grant the extension by Commissioner Pratt and seconded by Commissioner Williams. The motion was passed unanimously.

Director Mason announced that the ceremony at the Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial this year will be on Sunday, October 12th at 2:00 p.m. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

Item 2. Administrative Rules – Proposal

The final proposal was included in everyone’s packet. Director Mason went over the revisions.

The motion was made by Commissioner Fraitzl and seconded by Commissioner Burbank to accept the Administrative Rules as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Nothing to report.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Burbank said that the State Firemen’s Association competition will be this coming weekend.

VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER

Chair Duquette mentioned that the new phone system at the Academy is inadequate. He said when calling the main number (271-2661) it is impossible to get through to the receptionist or anyone else and you always get the automated answering service.

Commissioner Hoglund mentioned that the Insurance Industry is getting a hydraulic water jet that is capable of cutting through metal doors.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Chair Duquette, seconded by Commissioner Burbank, to adjourn at 12:35 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard A. Mason, Director

Items distributed at meeting:

1. Agenda 09/04/2008
2. Minutes of Meeting – 06/05/08 – Not Approved
3. Minutes of Special Meeting – 07/05/08 – Not Approved
4. Curriculum Status Report 09/04/08
5. Forest Protection Bureau Report 09/04/2008
6. Director's Report #116 – 09/04/2008