

NH Fire Standards and Training Commission**MEETING MINUTES** (Approved)**June 2, 2022**9:30AM – **Dormitory Building, Classroom 2**

Please note the changes in the agenda in bold red.

FST Commission members present:

Robert Buxton (Chair), Allan Clark, William Campbell, Robert Field, Frank Fraitzl, Sean Toomey, Ron Sebastian, Richard C. Bailey Jr., Jeffrey Beard, Steven Sherman, Nancy Smith, Neil Irvine, Jason Smedick,

FST Commission members not present:

Kerry LeBlanc, Eric Wilking

Division of Fire Standards and Training & EMS Staff:

Director Justin Cutting and Assistant Director Jeffrey Phillips

Guests present: None Present**I. CALL TO ORDER****Item 1.** The meeting was called to order at 9:30AM. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.**Item 2.** Membership

- Chair Buxton introduced Jason Smedick, the new representative for the NH Fire Prevention Society.
- Commissioner LeBlanc's appointment is currently with the Governor and Council.
- This meeting is the last meeting for Nancy Smith, and the Commission thanked her for her dedication to the Fire Standards and Training Commission since 2015.

I. REPORTS**Item 1.** Questions/comments regarding reports (Division, EMS, CB, FMO, Forest Protection, Curriculum)**Item 2.** Waiver Report – Chief Shawn Murray of Goffstown was granted a waiver for Fire 702.01 as allowed by Fire 704.02.**Item 3.** Legislative Report – Reported by Director Cutting

- The Division has been tracking several legislative bills, including SB 337 Relative to EMS and Trauma Services Data Sharing to the Purpose of Analysis which has passed the House & Senate, and SB 339 Relative to Boards and Commissions meetings which was killed in the House.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made (Field/ Sebastian) to approve the minutes for the April 7, 2022 meeting as presented. None opposed. Two abstentions (Irvine/Sherman).

IV. SUB-COMMITTEES

Item 1. Administrative Rules Sub-Committee -Reported by AD Phillips.

- No meeting recently. The committee will be waiting on the replacement for the Attorney General or designee position.

Item 2. Curriculum Review Sub-Committee - Reported by Commissioner Clark

- Meeting was held on June 2, 2022 before the FST meeting. The committee discussed seating for the Rope Operations and Technician Visiting Committee which includes the following members: Division Representative Ted Tillson, Commission Representative Robert Field, Glen Nielsen of Nashua, Ben Selleck of Bedford, Brain Campbell of Pelham, James Snyder of Sugar Hill, Richard Gribble of Brookline, Daniel McKenna of Keene, David Hall of Franklin, and two alternates William Shea of Nashua and Michael Melchionne.
- AD Phillips stated the Committee is waiting for approval of the 2018 code sets and will update the references within Fire Inspector I & II programs.

V. OLD BUSINESS

Item 1. Medical Release Policy

- A letter and memo was provided at the April FST meeting to the committee regarding some possible options for the current medical release policy. Director Cutting summarized the three options available: Leave the medical release policy as is, eliminate the medical release policy, or change the policy to include a Chief's signature in lieu of a medical professional signature without additional documentation. Statewide it has become increasingly more difficult to obtain medical providers signatures for these forms. Chief Clark stated that it should be up to the municipality/ and or Chief to determine if someone is fit for firefighter duty. He also stated that some municipalities are not willing to pay for physicals.
- A discussion ensued about the benefits of having a medical release policy, and the pros and cons of allowing Chief's to sign in the medical release in lieu of a medical professional.

Chief Clark made a motion (seconded by Fields) to accept Option 3 allowing the medical release policy to include a Chiefs signature in lieu of a medical professional. Sean Toomey amended this, asking that the release also include the student's signature. All in favor. None opposed.

Item 2. Recruitment and Retention Committee update- Director Cutting

- The Director stated the weekly meeting dates for this committee to discuss the issues related to recruitment and retention. Report for the Commissioner is due at the end of the meetings this month.

Item 3. Burton Facility update- Director Cutting

- Architects will be on site at the Concord campus to look at the props here to gain a better understanding of what is needed at Burton. Architects will be creating a proposal.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Item 1. Academy Awards- Chief Clark announced the committee nominated Senator Erin Hennessey and Dr. Nicole Sawyer.

A motion was made (Irving/Field) to accept this report from the Academy awards committee, passed unanimously.

VII. GOOD OF THE ORDER

- The Commission thanked commissioner Nancy Smith for her service to the Fire Standards and Training Commission.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made (Campbell/Field) – to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 AM, passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING: September 1, 2022 at 9:30 AM – Classrooms 5 & 6- Dormitory Building

(Minutes: Crystal Tuttle, Administrative Assistant)