

NH Fire Standards and Training Commission**MEETING MINUTES** (Approved)**May 6, 2021**

9:30AM Virtual - Zoom

Action items are in bold red.**FST Commission members present:**

Robert Buxton (Vice Chair), Richard C. Bailey Jr., William Campbell (late), Allan Clark, Robert Field, Eric Frauwirth, J. Michael Joyal, Ronald Sebastian, Steve Sherman and Eric Wilking **(10)**

FST Commission members not present:

Jeremy Thibeault (Chair) (excused), Jason Greene, Kerry LeBlanc, and Nancy Smith **(4)**

Division of Fire Standards and Training & EMS Staff:

Commissioner Robert Quinn, Assistant Director Jeffrey Phillips and Hayley O'Brien **(3)**

Guests present for public session only:

Brian Ryll - PFFNH **(1)**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Item 1. The meeting was called to order at 9:33AM. Vice Chair Buxton read the "Checklist to Ensure Meetings are Compliant with the Right-to-Know Law during the State of Emergency."

Item 2. Roll call vote for attendance

Item 3. Non-Public Session

A motion was made (Sebastian/Wilking) - *to move into non-public session at 9:38 AM for the purpose of interviewing and discussing the hiring of a public employee pursuant to 91-A:3, II(b);* passed unanimously.

Bailey	Yes
Buxton	Yes
Clark	Yes
Field	Yes
Frauwirth	Yes
Joyal	Yes
Sebastian	Yes
Sherman	Yes
Wilking	Yes

A motion was made (Wilking/Sebastian) - *to move back into public session at 10:08 AM;* passed unanimously.

Bailey	Yes
Buxton	Yes

Campbell	Yes
Clark	Yes
Field	Yes
Frauwirth	Yes
Joyal	Yes
Sebastian	Yes
Sherman	Yes
Wilking	Yes

Public Session reconvened at 10:08 AM.

A motion was made (Sebastian/Wilking) - *to seal the minutes because it is determined that divulgence of this information likely would affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of this Board;* passed unanimously.

Bailey	Yes
Buxton	Yes
Campbell	Yes
Clark	Yes
Field	Yes
Frauwirth	Yes
Joyal	Yes
Sebastian	Yes
Sherman	Yes
Wilking	Yes

A motion was made (Sebastian/Clark) - *to concur with the Commissioner's recommendation of the Director of the NH Fire academy;* passed unanimously.

Bailey	Yes
Buxton	Yes
Campbell	Yes
Clark	Yes
Field	Yes
Frauwirth	Yes
Joyal	Yes
Sebastian	Yes
Sherman	Yes
Wilking	Yes

Item 4. Chair Thibeault is aware of this expiration.

II. REPORTS

Item 1. Questions/comments regarding reports (Division, EMS, CB, FMO, Forest Protection, Curriculum)

Assistant Director Phillips added to his report;

- Effective Friday, May 7th at 4:00 PM, Covid restrictions on campus will be removed. Including, no more checkpoint, room capacities, reduced course limits.
- 1200 EMS providers have not renewed their license. Vice Chair Buxton was curious about a shortage or not. AD Phillips elaborated on this and explained many wait until the last day to submit. That number has gone down to 500-600 since the report and this number is "usual." The new system allows many reminders to go out to all providers about relicensing.

Item 2. Waiver Report – AD Phillips reported

Since the last Commission meeting, 3 hiring requirement waivers have been issued to the following;

Michael Matthy - Fire Inspector for New London, Stephen Dennis – Fire Investigator for the Fire Marshals Office and Michael Devine – Fire Chief in Sandown. All jobs met the requirements and fire suppression was not included in their job description.

Item 3. Legislative Report – AD Phillips reported

An updated Legislative Tracking Spreadsheet is dispersed to all members prior to the meeting. Nothing more to add.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made (Field/Sebastian) - to approve the minutes for the March 4, 2021 meeting; passed unanimously.

Bailey	Yes
Buxton	Yes
Campbell	Abstain
Clark	Yes
Field	Yes
Frauworth	Yes
Joyal	Yes
Sebastian	Yes
Sherman	Yes
Wilking	Yes

IV. SUB-COMMITTEES

Item 1. Administrative Rules Sub-Committee - Commissioner Smith - absent

- Absent, no report.

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

- Curriculum Committee has not met since last meeting. They are waiting for the Visiting Committee from the Instructor course to meet with them.

Item 3. Visiting Committees:

- **Haz Mat NFPA 1072** – Reported by Commissioner Buxton
Nothing to report.
- **Technical Rescue NFPA 1006** – Chair Thibeault - absent
Absent, nothing to report.
- **Fire Officer NFPA 1021** – Reported by Commissioner Clark
Spoke with Assistant Director Phillips, getting close to establishing a Visiting Committee for this.
- **Instructor NFPA 1041** – Reported by Ron Sebastian
Instructor I is still an in person program. Instructor II & III still in development, hoping for something to present mid-June to the Commission. Potential vote this fall.

V. OLD BUSINESS

Item 1. Prerequisite Removal – Rescue Classes except Confined Space

Commissioner Clark stated the 2 public hearings have been held, currently waiting for the 60 day public comment period to end for the 2nd one.

Item 2. Firefighter III Certifications

AD Phillips recapped that this was put on the agenda per Chair Thibeault's request to start discussing the removal of Firefighter III certifications and converting to a Technical rescue certification since there is no National recognition of a firefighter III certification. This would not get rid of any programs, it would strictly be a name change. Collective bargaining language complications can be seen. Looking to see how the Commission wants to proceed with it. Vice Chair Buxton and Commissioner Wilking brought it to the Chief's Association to start getting the information out. Commissioner Sebastian said the discussion did occur at the last PFFNH Executive Board meeting. Mentioned bringing it to the five families meeting for some input.

VI. NEW BUSINESS - None

VII. GOOD OF THE ORDER

Item 1. The Committee of Merit Awards Ceremony has been postponed again for this year. Nominations are still being accepted. Academy Awards were not chosen for last year or this year. Chief Wilking will reach out to Hayley about some questions.

Item 2. Starting at the June 3rd meeting, all Commission meetings will be back to in person.

Item 3. Commissioner Frauwirth is leaving the Dept of Education and will be taking over as the CTE Director at the Hudson CTE High School. Eric's position was posted soon so once the chosen person has been confirmed, they will be appointed to the Commission.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made (Wilking/Field) – *to adjourn the meeting at 10:29 AM*; passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING: June 3, 2021 at 9:30 AM – Dormitory Building – Classrooms 5 & 6

(Minutes: Hayley O'Brien, Administrative Assistant)