

NH Fire Standards and Training Commission**MEETING MINUTES** (Approved)**November 2, 2023**

9:30AM – **Dormitory Building, Classroom 5 & 6**

Please note the changes in the agenda in bold red.

FST Commission members present: Don DeAngelis, Robert Field, Frank Fraitzl, Wayne Grudzien, Steven Lavoie, Ron Sebastian, Steven Sherman, Jason Smedick, Sean Toomey, Christina Wilson

FST Commission members not present: Jeffrey Beard, Allan Clark, Neil Irvine, Eric Wilking

Division of Fire Standards and Training & EMS Staff: Justin Cutting, Jeff Phillips, Max Dodge, Tiffany Doucet

Guests present:**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Item 1. The meeting was called to order at 9:30AM by Vice Chair Frank Fraitzl. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 2. Membership- Officially welcomed Wayne Grudzien, representing the Insurance Industry of NH. Introductions were made by the group.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made (DeAngelis/Field) to approve the September 7, 2023 minutes. All in favor. None opposed.

II. REPORTS

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

- Division Report-
- FMO- No questions or comments.
- Forests and Lands- S130 Basic Wildland Courses were held this year, with more interest across the State.

Item 2. Waiver Report- None to report.

Item 3. Legislative Report – The Division is currently tracking 20 LSR's, but language for many of the bills has not been released yet.

- Some of the LSR's of interest are: LSR 2222- Relative to personal Protective Equipment, LSR 2348- Relative to first responder organization access to wireless co-location, LSR 2349- Relative to critical incident stress management team members, LSR 2365- Relative to public safety provider defined as essential services, LSR 2366- Relative to allowing special number plates for fire departments, LSR 2376- Relative to part time employment of a retirement system retiree (HB 183 was a bill from last year that was specific to the Fire Academy, but this new LSR is not specific). Some LSR's are specific to EMS, such as the creation of a disciplinary review board (LSR 2377).

IV. SUB-COMMITTEES

Item 1. Administrative Rules Sub-Committee – Recruitment and Retention rules were wrapped up and sent to the Commissioner, the next phase is the review of Chapters 200 and 500, Suspension and Revocation rules.

- Director Cutting stated that the rules are being processed by the Department of Safety legal team, with some minor changes to definitions and references.

Item 2. Curriculum Review Sub-Committee -

Item 3. Visiting Committees- Test validations for Ropes and Investigator courses are needed before submitting for Pro Board accreditation. Fire Officer is still on hold.

- A public comment session was held for Fire Investigator, the written comment period is open until November 11, 2023.
- Hazardous Materials- The visiting committee has met, and the goal is to have an awareness portion complete in order to move forward with the operations portion. A draft curriculum will be available in the first Quarter of 2024.
- Max Dodge provided an overview of the curriculum design process to follow the 14 items outlined in Administrative Rule. This process will provide better guidance to the Educational Technology group for online development and provide better documentation to improve instructor consistency.

V. OLD BUSINESS

Item 1. On My Time- FFI and FFII Modular Delivery-

- Allows a State Fire Instructor to teach and then submit a form attesting the student(s) has passed all the required modules. The student can go online and complete the written portions, and then complete a practical exam.
- Max Dodge presented an overview of the NFPA consolidation plan, a handout is attached to these minutes to provide more information.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Item 1. A motion was made (Toomey/Field) to approve the 2024 FST Meeting Schedule as proposed. All in favor. None opposed.

- The 2024 schedule will have meetings on January 4th , March 7th , May 2nd , September 5th , and November 7th 2024.

Item 2. National curriculum networking- Director Cutting gave a brief overview of the idea of creating a curriculum administrator networking group nationally.

Item 3. A motion was made (Sebastian/Smedick) to approve Eric Wilking as Chair of the FST Commission, and Frank Fraitzl as Vice Chair respectively. All in favor. None opposed.

VII. GOOD OF THE ORDER

Item 1. Robert Field complimented the Division and its efficiency with CPAT held in the fire station on campus and reiterated the need for an indoor training space for the Division.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made (Field/ Deangelis) – to adjourn the meeting, passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING: January 4, 2023

(Respectfully Submitted by Crystal Tuttle)