

NH Fire Standards and Training Commission**MEETING MINUTES****June 2, 2019**

9:30AM

Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy, Classroom 1 & 2, Admin. Building
98 Smokey Bear Boulevard
Concord, NH 03301

FST Commission members present:

Jeremy Thibeault (Chair), Robert M. Buxton (Vice Chair), Allan Clark, Justing Cutting, Ashley Frame, J. Michael Joyal, Peter Lennon, Andre Parent, Paul Parisi, Perry Plummer, Steven Sherman, and Nancy Smith **(12)**

FST Commission member not present:

William Campbell, Kerry LeBlanc, Kevin Pratt **(3)**

Division of Fire Standards and Training & EMS Staff:

Director Deborah A. Pendergast, Assistant Director Jeffrey Phillips, Chief of Strategy and Planning Nick Mercuri, Bureau Chief Andy Anderson, Captains Dan Tice and Scott Cathy; and Eric Uitts and June Connor **(8)**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Item 1. The meeting was called to order at 9:30AM. After the Pledge of Allegiance, there was a moment of silence for Tom Kenney and Director Pendergast's mother, Beverly Collins.

Item 2. Presentation to AC Bailey – AC Bailey was unable to attend; he will be honored at the September FST Commission meeting. (POST MEETING NOTE: June emailed his administrative assistant so that she could put this on AC Bailey's calendar.)

Item 3. Membership update:

- Kevin Pratt's term expires on June 16, 2019; he will be replaced as the representative of the Federation of Fire Mutual Aids Association by Eric Wilking whose membership on the FST Commission is in process with all paperwork having been submitted to the G&C.
- Kerry LeBlanc's renewed term was approved by the G&C; her term will expire on 4/14/2022.

II. REPORTS**Director Pendergast added some items to her report:**

- Captain Laurie Miller's has announced her retirement; she will continue to work for the Division on a part time basis.
- After 40 years with the Division, Instructor Michael Clark submitted his resignation.

- 3-State Weekend – 38 NH students and 2 Division staff members will be attending; this represents a 20% increase over the last five years; using Facebook helped to spread the word about this event. The total number of students from all 3 states (VT, AL, and NH) is 90.
- Answers to commissioner questions:
 - ♦ **A Building** – If the grant funding does not come through, \$125,000 could possibly come out of the budget for repairs.
 - ♦ **Ladder Truck** – Repairs will total about \$20,000 and should be completed within 2 weeks.
 - ♦ **CPAT Exams** – The second exam was cancelled. 45 people are registered for the June testing date. Annually, registration is down about 10 – 15%. The total for the year is estimated to be 150 – 200.
 - ♦ **Recruit School** – The waiting list was opened up, and 27 students will be attending.
 - ♦ **Financial Report** – Our fiscal year starts on July 1st. There was a shortfall in estimated revenues in the Fire Fund which is shared between the Division and the Fire Marshal's Office. AC Phillips explained how to interpret the budget report. Spending will be kept at a conservative level. The legislature did not make any changes to the budget that was submitted.

Coordinating Board report comment from Chair Thibeault – He expressed his support for comments made by Chair Turpin regarding the rules process; the CB members must have prior notice to proposed changes as part of the rule making process.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made (Cutting/Lennon) - *to approve the minutes for the May 2, 2019 meeting;* passed with abstentions from Sherman, Parent, and Joyal.

IV. SUB-COMMITTEES

Item 1. Administrative Rules Sub-Committee

- Nancy Smith reported that the committee met after the last full FST meeting in May and will do the same after today's meeting (June 6, 2019).
- The results of the survey will be looked at today. Nick Mercuri also submitted additional information for the Haz Mat/ICS Rules.
- Jeremy Thibeault agreed to be a sub-committee meeting member so that it will be easier to have a quorum.

Item 2. Curriculum Review Sub-Committee – **not active at this time**

(Chair Thibeault wants items that are standing to be marked on future agendas.)

Item 3. Visiting Committees

- **Visiting Committee Structure (see attachment)**

AC Phillips handed out a copy of what the staff came up with for a visiting committee structure for the future. The commissioners asked questions and made suggestions that included establishing timelines and deadlines, having the commission select visiting committee participants, and having those participants submit letters of intent and resumes. Potential participants will be able to apply online.

After discussion, the members asked the staff to make changes for the next meeting.

A motion was made (Joyal/Buxton) – 1) *to ask the staff to wordsmith the visiting committee structure document, based on the suggestions made during discussion, and bring it back for a vote by the full commission at the September meeting; and 2) move forward on establishing visiting committees that need to be formed before the September FST Commission meeting,* passed unanimously.

- **Haz Mat Technician**

The committee met on May 17th, and the next meeting is scheduled for 9:00AM on June 28th, during which lesson plans will be reviewed.

- **NFPA 1001 Firefighter**

Members will soon be solicited based on the discussion the FST Commission members had about visiting committee structure and process. **The commission will vote on this during the September meeting.**

- **Driver Operator VC** (presented after **V. New Business**)

- **Technical Rescue**

The search for curriculums is in process. The next step will be to solicit membership for a visiting committee.

- **Fire Officer** – nothing to report

- **Inspector/Investigator** - The second pilot is running this fall and then will come back to the commission for final approval.

- **Instructor**

Commissioner Cutting reported that the committee met last week, led by Bureau Chief Scott Doherty and Captain Laurie Miller. Curriculums will be examined at the June 18th meeting.

V. OLD BUSINESS

Item 1. Visiting committee policy (already done above)

Item 2. PFAS update **(Remove this item from the September agenda.)**

- As reported at the last meeting, 10 wells were set up around the campus. Samples have been pulled but results will not be available until the end of summer/early fall.
- The State has 2 different lawsuits against the foam manufacturers, and the Fire Academy has been named as a complainant.
- AD Phillips reported that there could be some funding coming for a “take back” program; DES will be coordinating this.

Item 2. SAMHSA grant update **(Remove this item from the September agenda.)**

- Year 3 applications will be accepted up until June 15th.
- 6 communities are up and running. Police departments want to do something similar; helping people connect to services is a top priority.
- Approximately \$450,000 in carry over money was approved.

Item 3. Legislative authority of the FST Commission to establish credentials
We have not yet heard a final determination from the DOJ.

Item 4. Legislative Report

The commission members would like to continue to receive spreadsheets from Chief Nick Mercuri.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Item 1. Academy Award nominations (Items 1 and 2 were switched around)

The Academy Award committee met and unanimously approved someone to receive the Award of Excellence. This person's name will remain confidential until invitations are sent out after July 1st.

Item 2. NFPA 1002 Driver/Operator curriculum preliminary approval request

Captain Dan Tice gave the report.

2 changes:

- Communications added
- FFI removed from pumps as a pre-requisite

As a result of the changes, the program has been reduced by 4 hours (36 down to 32).

Director Pendergast added that the Division has an agreement with the DMV for those who have completed the Driver/Operator program to get their CDLs.

A question/answer period and discussion ensued.

A motion was made (Lennon/Parisi) – to give preliminary approval to the Driver/Operator program, passed unanimously.

A motion was made (Cutting/Buxton) – to give preliminary approval to the Pumping Apparatus program, passed unanimously.

A motion was made (Buxton/Cutting) – to give preliminary approval to the Aerial Apparatus program, passed unanimously.

Letters will be sent to the committee members upon final approval of the programs

VII. GOOD OF THE ORDER

No items

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Item 1. Motion to adjourn regular meeting

A motion was made (Buxton/Lennon) – to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 AM, passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING: SEPTEMBER 5, 2019 in classrooms 5 & 6, Dormitory Building