

NEW HAMPSHIRE FIRE STANDARDS & TRAINING COMMISSION

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MINUTES OF MEETING June 13, 2014 (Approved)

Members Present: Stephen Carrier, Kevin Pratt, Brad Simpkins, Jeremy Thibeault, Richard McGahey, George Klauber, J. Michael Joyal, Michael Brown, William Degnan and Kerry LeBlanc.

Members Absent: David Lindh, Earl Sweeney, Peter Lennon and William Campbell.

Vacancy: Dept. of Education Designee.

Others Present: *Division of Fire Standards & Training and Emergency Medical Services*—Deborah Pendergast, Director; Jeffrey Phillips, Bureau Chief; Nick Mercuri, EMS Bureau Chief; Denice McAdoo, Recording Secretary; Stephen Gallagher and Ed White.

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 Carrier at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, June 13, 2014 at the Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy, 98 Smokey Bear Blvd., Concord, NH.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Pratt.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the minutes from November 14, 2013; ***motion*** made by Commissioner McGahey; seconded by Commissioner Thibeault; passed with correction on first page under Others Present; should be *Forest Fire Warden Association* rather than “associates.” So noted; minutes unanimously approved with correction.

Approval of non-public minutes from September 5, 2013; ***motion*** made by Commissioner Brown; seconded by Commissioner Klauber to seal the non-public minutes; passed unanimously; ***motion*** made by Commissioner Klauber; seconded by Commissioner Simpkins to accept the minutes as amended; unanimously approved.

Approval of January 10, 2014 minutes; ***motion*** made by Commissioner Klauber; seconded by Commissioner Joyal to accept the minutes; Commissioner Simpkins abstained; unanimously approved.

Approval of March 6, 2014 minutes; ***motion*** made by Commissioner Simpkins; seconded by Commissioner Joyal to accept the minutes; Commissioners Klauber and Brown abstained; unanimously approved.

III. CHAIR'S REMARKS

Chair Carrier thanked everyone in attendance and reminded everyone that they are here to represent their respective organizations and it is important to be present at these meetings. He also mentioned that the Big E will be taking place next week in Springfield, Mass.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Item 1. Emergency Medical Services. Bureau Chief Mercuri was present and gave a report. There was no written report submitted.

Item 2. Fire Marshal's Office. Director Degnan was present and gave a report. There was no written report submitted.

Item 3. Forest Protection Bureau. Chief Simpkins was present and gave a report. There was no written report submitted.

Item 4. Curriculum Review. Bureau Chief Phillips gave an update. There was no written report submitted.

Item 5. Academy Awards. Chair Carrier reminded everyone to get any nominations in. Awards Committee will meet sometime near the end of summer.

V. REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR

Director's Report
June 13, 2014

1. North Country Training Facility update

Official ribbon cutting ceremony with Gov. Hassan on Friday, August 8, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. Save the date!

2. Facility upgrades ongoing –
“B” Building
Admin. Building
Grant for fire truck
FAA/DOT upgrades to ARFF site
3. Spring Recruit Class graduation tonight at 6:30
14 weeks; 554 hours of classroom and practical plus self-study; reading;
etc.
4. 2013 Annual Report completed in May – copies available
5. National Guard purchased property behind ARFF

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Item 1. Changes to Curriculum – Process Question.
Commissioner Brown reported that any *substantial* changes to curriculum require (2) public hearings; one to be held during the daytime and another held during the evening. There is a 60 day notice requirement. The hearings themselves can have several topics scheduled for each.

Item 2. Inspector I Curriculum – Stephen Gallagher
There was a handout for everyone. No changes to delivery.
Change to Jones & Bartlett curriculum.

Motion was made by Commissioner Thibeault; seconded by Commissioner Klauber to approve the Inspector I program as presented; motion passed unanimously.

Inspector II Curriculum – would like to expand it to 48 hours; adding citation authority back in. This would need a public hearing. As would Inspector III curriculum.

Motion was made by Commissioner Klauber; seconded by Commissioner Thibeault to hold public hearings for Inspector II and Inspector III programs because of changes in the curriculum; motion passed unanimously.

Item 3. NFPA 1033 (Fire Investigator) and NFPA 1035 – these will need public hearings.

Motion was made by Commissioner Thibeault; seconded by Commissioner Klauber to hold public hearings for these programs; motion passed unanimously.

Item 4. Wildland Fire Fighter I – the floor was opened for discussion as to whether this program should be available on-line or in the classroom. Discussion followed.

Motion was made by Commissioner Pratt; seconded by Commissioner Klauber to recommend it be delivered on-line or in the classroom, accompanied by an 8 hour practical. Not reducing or changing hours. Motion passed unanimously.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Item 1. Question for Discussion – CDL Inclusion in FFI.

There was a discussion as to whether or not CDL training should be required.

Motion was made by Commissioner Degnan; seconded by Commissioner Klauber not to include CDL training in Fire Fighter I. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 2. Medical Requirements for Training.

Should have some sort of sign-off for liability that impacts everyone on the training ground. The sign-off could be done by the Chief, personal physician or both.

Motion was made by Commissioner Joyal; seconded by Commissioner Klauber to have staff come back with a recommendation of what this document should look like. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 3. ADA/EEOC

Motion was made by Commissioner McGahey; seconded by Commissioner Joyal to change the hiring requirements to eliminate 1582 as it does not follow the rules of the ADA. Amend this motion to have a recommendation by the Rules Sub-Committee come back before the Commission. Motion and amendment passed unanimously.

Item 4. Fire Officer I – II – III

There was a short discussion about these programs.

Motion was made by Commissioner Thibeault; seconded by Commissioner McGahey to accept the recommendations of the visiting committee. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 5. Waivers

Motion was made by Commissioner Joyal; seconded by Commissioner Thibeault to give the Director the ability to grant or deny waivers. Amendment to this motion was made by Commissioner Joyal; seconded by Commissioner Klauber to include the Director notifying the Commission of waiver(s). Motion and amendment passed unanimously.

IX. GOOD OF THE ORDER

IIX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Klauber; seconded by Commissioner LeBlanc to adjourn the meeting at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah A. Pendergast, Director