

NH Fire Standards and Training Commission**MEETING MINUTES** (Approved)**March 7, 2024**

9:25AM – **Dormitory Building, Classroom 2**

Please note the changes in the agenda in bold red.

FST Commission members present: Alan Clark, Don DeAngelis, Robert Field, Frank Fraitzl, Neil Irvine, Steven Lavoie, Jason Smedick, Sean Toomey, Eric Wilking,

FST Commission members not present: Jeffrey Beard, Wayne Grudzein, Ron Sebastian, Steven Sherman, Christina Wilson

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

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

Item 1. The meeting was called to order at 9:25AM. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 2. Membership

- Fire Instructors and Officers Association still has a vacancy, a candidate has expressed interest.

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II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made (Field/ DeAngelis) to approve the November 2, 2024 minutes. Two abstentions. Motion passes.

III. REPORTS

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

- Division Report- The Division is working to fill open positions and is actively interviewing candidates.
- FMO- Tracking legislative items, building fire code updates, creating a study commission for electric vehicles, continuing education outreach continues. Haz Mat is a big focus.
- Forests and Lands- Nothing to report.
- Coordinating Report- Version 9.0 Protocol vote will take place on March 21, 2024.

Item 2. Waiver Report- Waivers approved for Tyler Taatjes, Phillip Richardson, and Bobby Hudson.

Item 3. Legislative Report – The Division is tracking several bills, but none that impact the commission directly.

Item 4. Metrics- The Director shared an education dashboard from 2023 that showed the total students trained, total student hours and the number of courses offered. The data showed a steady increase from 2021, with a 15 % increase of total students trained in 2023 over 2022. There was also a 2.5% increase in total student hours in 2023 over 2022.

The written exam dashboard reflects first time pass rates for courses and overall pass rates for courses.

CPAT from January 2024 showed that 49% of CPAT candidates are already working for a service.

The roster report reflects that 82% of departments are submitting their required roster reports for the year.

IV. SUB-COMMITTEES

Item 1. Administrative Rules Sub-Committee- Input from a call/volunteer Chief is needed to move forward with some of the changes that may be proposed. The Admin Rules committee reviewed the State Fire Instructor policy and approved with no changes.

Item 2. Curriculum Review Sub-Committee – Met and discussed NFPA consolidation plan and how it will impact the curriculum committee. The committee also reviewed the FFI & FFII hour ratio, the On My Time delivery program, and the combined FFI & FFII classes.

Item 3. Visiting Committees-

- NFPA 1033- Fire Investigator- Went through public comment period, with no comments submitted. Approval of curriculum needed.
A motion was made (Fraitzl/Clark) to approve the NFPA 1033 Fire Investigator curriculum as presented, with an amendment of “most recent edition” added for reference materials. All in favor, none opposed.
- NFPA 470- Haz Mat Awareness and Operations- The awareness portion is being created by the educational technology group at the Division. The Division is working on building the sequence of the course material for the operations portion, with hands on opportunities.

V. OLD BUSINESS

Item 1. Burton facility update- Governor and Council approved to fill the gap in funding from the original plans. Contracts are being developed and the goal is for these to be implemented in November.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Item 1. Standards change for Fire Inspector- Max Dodge provided gap analysis for Fire Inspector I and II. The NFPA has consolidated several standards including Fire Inspector I, II and III, with new title changes to First Responder Inspector and Fire Inspector. This will require a redevelopment of the current curriculum. A discussion was held about the title changes and the potential impact on collective bargaining agreements and certifications.

A motion was made (Fraitzl/Irvine) to authorize the curriculum committee to seat a visiting committee to review the new curriculum for Fire Inspector. All in favor, none opposed.

Commissioner Smedick will be the FST representative for this visiting committee.

Item 2. NH Fire service practice analysis presentation- Max Dodge presented to the commission conducting a formal practice analysis of departments across New Hampshire via a survey focusing on practices in the fire service. A discussion was held about the timeline of this study.

VII. GOOD OF THE ORDER

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made (Field/ Fraitzl) – to adjourn the meeting at 11:25 am, passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING:

(Respectfully submitted by Crystal Tuttle)