

**FIRE SERVICE COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
January 21, 2021**

The Fire Service Commission held a meeting on Thursday, January 21st, 2021 via conference call per COVID-19 Guidelines under Mass. General Law Chapter 30A, Section 20.

Present at the meeting were the following Commission members:

Captain Michael McCullough
Chief Alan J. Roy
Chief Stephen L. Archer
Ms. Roberta Fitzpatrick
Undersecretary Jeanne Benincasa Thorpe
FF Richard D. MacKinnon, Jr.

Absent Commission members:

Chief Gregory J. Burns

DFS staff present at the meeting:

State Fire Marshal Peter Ostroskey
Deputy State Fire Marshal Maribel Fournier
General Counsel Steven Rourke
Deputy General Counsel Glenn Rooney
Alanna Malatos
JoAnne Caruso

There were no guests present.

Meeting called to order by Co-Chairman Captain Michael McCullough at 10:07 a.m.

AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes of the December 22, 2020 Meeting

A motion was made by Ms. Fitzpatrick and seconded by Undersecretary Benincasa Thorpe that the minutes of December 22, 2020, meeting be approved as written.

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

B. Credentialing/Re-Credentialing Process

A motion was made by Undersecretary Benincasa Thorpe and seconded by Chief Roy to award accreditation to the following and defer one applicant until the next meeting.

1. Credentialing –

- Captain Eric Jack – Athol Fire Department
- Deputy Chief Richard Pfautz – Barnstable Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

C. Annual nominations and elections

The floor was opened for nomination for chairperson. Chief Roy nominated and voted for Chief Burns and was seconded by Ms. Fitzpatrick. FF MacKinnon Jr agreed that Chief Burns has done a tremendous job. There were no other nominations. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The floor was opened for nomination for vice chairperson. Chief Roy nominated and voted for Captain McCullough and was seconded by FF MacKinnon, Jr. There were no other nominations. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

E. General Issues and Updates from DFS

The Marshal explained that vaccines have been offered to staff through the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security as the positive COVID-19 cases has increased. The Department has done a great job preventing the spread using the protocols in place.

The Department is actively seeking a Director for the Fire Academy. It has been posted and Deputy Marshal Fournier is the acting Director until said position is filled.

We have had a couple retirements take place, Cindy Ouellette, the Fire Safety Division's Public Education Manager and Captain Paul Zipper, Section Commander of the Fire & Explosion Investigation Unit. The Department wishes them both healthy and happy retirements. Interviews are taking place to fill both of those positions.

Deputy Marshal Fournier explained that the Academy's Cancer Awareness Team in conjunction with UMASS is working on CT scans for interested firefighters in MA that meet all the qualifications. Approximately 6,500 Firefighters will get the email with details on eligibility etc. and we have funding for 800 through June 30, 2021.

DFS continues to work with a Licensed Site Professional in concert with and in response and reaction to the "Notice of Responsibility" from the Department of Environmental Protection in regard to "PFAS".

F. Determination of Next Meeting Date and Adjournment

The date of the next meeting of the Fire Service Commission is tentatively scheduled on February 18th at 10:00 a.m. via WebEx.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Fitzpatrick and seconded by Undersecretary Benincasa Thorpe.

Said motion was approved by a unanimous vote of the Commission.

The meeting of the Fire Service Commission concluded at 10:25 p.m.