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CHIEF WALTER O. NELSON
CHAIRMAN

**Massachusetts Fire Training Council
Minutes of the May 4, 2022 Meeting
DFS, 1 State Road, Stow**

Vice Chairman Chief Tim Nelson opened the meeting of the Massachusetts Fire Training Council with the Pledge of Allegiance at 2:10 pm on May 4, 2022.

Members attendance: Vice Chairman Chief Tim Nelson, Assistant Chief Andrew Connerty, Chief Frank Barresi, Undersecretary Jeanne Benincasa Thorpe, Chief Richard DeLorie, and Firefighter Billy Cabral, Assistant Chief Jonathan Miller, Chief Dave Celino, and Deputy Fire Marshal Maribel Fournier.

Also present were State Fire Marshal Peter Ostroskey, DFS Counsel Glenn Rooney, DFS Deputy Counsel John Dean, Director of Operations Dave Clemons, MFA Deputy Director Joseph Klucznik, Curriculum Specialist Sara Walsh, Special Hazards Coordinator Paul Betti, PIO Jake Wark, past FPAM member Mike Swain, Retired Lt. Paul Medeiros, and Administrative Assistant Susan Neaz.

Not present: Assistant Chief Kurt Ruchala, Chief Justin Alexander and Jason Cardoso.

Chairman Paul Medeiros submitted his letter of resignation to the Training Council effective April 29, 2022 as a result of his retirement from the Hyannis Fire Department.

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Assistant Chief Andy Connerty made a motion, seconded by Chief Rick DeLorie, to approve the minutes of the April 6, 2022 Training Council Meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

B. Fiscal Affairs Report

Deputy Fire Marshal Fournier reports that we have a negative balance but a great deal of outstanding billing for contracts. The trust fund is healthy.

C. Update of Affiliated Members - Fire Chiefs' Association of Massachusetts

- Chief Nelson--representing part paid/part call --Thanked Paul Medeiros for his work on the Training Council.

- Chief Delorie--representing metro – was invited to a meeting on the ASHER program. Was very encouraged by the development of the program and wants to keep pressing for more equipment and training.
- Chief Barresi--representing call – nothing to report
- Chief Justin Alexander -representing full-time – not present

Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts

- Firefighter Cabral—House budget just came out; waiting for the Senate budget. Happy for Paul but sorry to see him go. He has been a big asset for the whole state.

Mass Call/Vol

- Assistant Chief Miller—nothing to report
- Assistant Chief Ruchala—not present

Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors

- Assistant Chief Connerty—nothing to report

Fire Prevention Association of Massachusetts

- Position open

Citizen of the Commonwealth – Insurance Industry

- Jason Cardoso—not present

Bureau of Forest Fire Control

- Chief Dave Celino—It's been a typical spring fire season with 284 fires total to date and 620 acres burned. I'm happy to report that the department is fully staffed. We're making a lot of responses and doing a lot of wildland training for cities and towns.

Citizens of the Commonwealth

- Retired Chief Sheri Bemis (not present) submitted her letter of resignation to the Council.

Undersecretary Report – Jeanne Benincasa Thorpe

- Going through the FEMA grant process.

D. Legislative Update –DFS Counsel Glenn Rooney

- Waiting on Senate budget and we'll track that.
- Tracking legislation regarding the current open meeting law scheduled to expire on July 15.

E. DFS Update – Fire Marshal Peter Ostroskey

- Budget process – the House budget is out and DFS and MFA are in good shape.
- Bridgewater – there's a delay on the completion of the search & rescue prop; possibly by the end of June.
- The department was part of a meeting in Southbridge hosted by Secretary Reidy to formally adopt NFPA 3000. We hope to be able to work with all the stakeholders and to have the academy pursue training.
- We're working on a variety of projects including building and fire codes updates.

F. Academy Activities Report – Deputy Fire Marshal Fournier

- Deputy Marshal Fournier explained revamping the Academy statistics report into excel graphs to coincide with the information in the report.
- Director’s position – starting round 1 interviews this week; we have seven viable candidates.
- MFA is planning to post 30 additional instructor candidate positions for Stow and Bridgewater recruit, Tech Rescue and HazMat.
- Sara Walsh is working on revamping many of our courses. First one is Fire Instructor II; eight sessions will be opening up in the next few weeks.
- Bridgewater project – we will be selecting a construction manager in the coming weeks.
- Fall River call/vol class has been cancelled due to low enrollment. We offered to switch applicants to the Stow class in June.
- A thank you was extended to retiring Chairman Medeiros; “He has been easy to work with and has made my job easier.”

G. Old Business

H. New Business

- Glenn Rooney opened up the floor for Chairman nomination for Fire Training Council; Tim Nelson was nominated, and he accepted the nomination. The vote was unanimous in favor of the nomination.
- Glenn then opened up the floor for Vice Chair nomination of the Fire Training Council. Billy Cabral was nominated, and he accepted the nomination. The vote was unanimous in favor of the nomination.

I. Policy Presentation/Adoption

- J. **Review of Correspondence** – resignation of Ret. Chief Sheri Bemis. Chairman Nelson recognized her for her service.

K. Determination of Next Date and Location

- The next meeting of the Training Council will be on Wednesday, June 1, 2022 at 11:00 am in person at the Department of Fire Services, 1 State Road, Stow, in the Boards & Commissions Conference Room.

K. Public Comment

- Paul Medeiros thanked the Council for their support over the years, especially the last five as Chairman.
- Marshal presented Paul with a plaque and thanks for his work on the Council.
- Chairman Nelson thanked Paul for his work on the Council and presented him with a clock from the members of the Training Council.

M. Adjourn Meeting

- Firefighter Cabral made a motion, seconded by Chief Barresi, to adjourn the meeting at 3:00. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.