



CHARLES D. BAKER  
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO  
LT. GOVERNOR

TERRENCE M. REIDY  
SECRETARY

*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security  
Massachusetts Fire Training Council*

*P.O. Box 1025 ~ State Road*

*Stow, Massachusetts 01775*

*(978) 567~3100 Fax: (978) 567~3229*



CHIEF WALTER O. NELSON  
CHAIRMAN

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

Chairman Chief Tim Nelson opened the meeting of the Massachusetts Fire Training Council with the Pledge of Allegiance at 11:00 am on June 1, 2022.

Members attendance: Chairman Chief Tim Nelson, Assistant Chief Andrew Connerty, Chief Frank Barresi, Chief Richard DeLorie, Vice Chairman Firefighter Billy Cabral, Assistant Chief Jonathan Miller, Assistant Chief Kurt Ruchala, Chief Justin Alexander, Chief Dave Celino, Jason Cardoso and Deputy Fire Marshal Maribel Fournier.

Also present were State Fire Marshal Peter Ostroskey, DFS Counsel Glenn Rooney, Director of Operations Dave Clemons, MFA Deputy Director Joseph Klucznik, PIO Jake Wark, Chief Leonard Albanese Jr. and Administrative Assistant Susan Neaz.

Not present: Undersecretary Jeanne Benincasa Thorpe

**A. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Chief Rick Delorie made a motion, seconded by Assistant Chief Connerty, to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2022 Training Council Meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**B. Fiscal Affairs Report**

Deputy Fire Marshal Fournier reports the Trust Fund is in the positive \$12,000. This is our busiest time of the year. The Trust Fund is a pass through account and there are no issues with the account this month.

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

- Chief Nelson--representing part paid/part call – nothing to report
- Chief Delorie--representing metro – a lot of Chiefs have submitted for retirement in the metro area. The main issue with Chiefs is the long recruit assignment list but he mentions that Springfield is an available option. Chief DeLorie reported that his will be his last meeting and has recommended two excellent Chiefs to replace him.
- Chief Barresi--representing call – there's been a large uptick of fires in our area keeping us busy.

- Chief Justin Alexander -representing full-time – He had heard that there was a problem with the Fire Officer II class – half the class failed paper submission. Deputy Marshal Fournier noted there was an issue with IFSTA we found out after the fact. Everyone was allowed to resubmit and were given an extension to complete it.

#### **Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts**

- Firefighter Cabral—PFFM is very busy going through the budget process. We had an election to replace Paul Medeiros - Jay Burns is filling his spot. PFAS is a huge topic with our members.

#### **Mass Call/Vol**

- Assistant Chief Miller—training at the end of the month
- Assistant Chief Ruchala—nothing to report

#### **Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors**

- Assistant Chief Connerty—MFIDI – He recommends to everyone to take the Taking Action Against Cancer class and take advantage of screening. He had a chest CT scan and blood screening.

#### **Fire Prevention Association of Massachusetts**

- Position open

#### **Citizen of the Commonwealth – Insurance Industry**

- Jason Cardoso—our company president is retiring. Jack worked with the FIU on the Arson Program.

#### **Bureau of Forest Fire Control**

- Chief Dave Celino—fire activity has slowed up. 13 fires in last week for only 7 acres. Year to date 423 fires; 1,018 acres burned. Volunteer fire assistance grants will start up again – one this year in Sunderland. Rural fire departments under 10,000 population qualify for the grants. I was involved in an exercise at Wachusett Mountain. None of the participants had any command staff training.

#### **Citizens of the Commonwealth**

- Open position

#### **Undersecretary Report – Jeanne Benincasa Thorpe**

- Not present

#### **D. Legislative Update –DFS Counsel Glenn Rooney**

- Not much by way of legislation – open meeting laws will expire on 7/15/22. There is a bill to extend remote meetings until 2023.
- Legislature is in budget mode.

#### **E. DFS Update – Fire Marshal Peter Ostroskey**

- Making process on development plans in Bridgewater. Search and Rescue prop is mostly constructed – should be on line in mid-July.
- Continuing effort with architect and DCAMM for phase 1 Bridgewater development plan as part of the infrastructure package.
- All campuses are extremely busy in all programs.
- Fire Protection Engineer Jake Nunnemacher will be leaving to pursue different job in the Fire Service.
- Sergeant Mike Mazza from the Mass state police west team is retiring.

- There have been a lot of significant incidents in the last several weeks of residential environments not up to code. We are working on how can we best help departments. A lot of good work is going on with the fire safety code.
- Active Shooter program - NFPA 3000 is the framework. There is currently a lot of training and exercises going on leading up to training to be scheduled in the next fiscal year.

**F. Academy Activities Report – Deputy Fire Marshal Fournier**

- CT scans – approved 237 through June with 83 approved PCA blood tests. We will keep scheduling in to July. At least four people’s lives were saved as a result of this program.
- Recruit assignment list – 198 total– filling August in Springfield and January in Stow and Bridgewater.
- Instructor position has been posted on MassCareers with an emphasis on BW and Stow Career Recruit, HazMat and Tech Rescue. The agency has only increased the instructor staff by 5 due to COVID and audit requirements.
- MFA Director – 6 candidate went to round 1 – 3 went to round 2.
- Structural Collapse program is holding 2 TtT sessions in June. Several instructors will be attending an 8-day course in the fall.
- Bridgewater master planning – infra structure committee will be selected by June to start in fall of 2023.

**G. Old Business**

**H. New Business**

- Chief Celino brought up the need to offer a Command Staff course. MFA is perfect place to train for an all hazards FEMA type-3 course for command and general staff. Just wanted to throw that out to the academy.

**I. Policy Presentation/Adoption**

- J. **Review of Correspondence** - Chelsea Fire Department request- Chief Albanese was present to speak to the Council about his request to accelerate the time frame for his returning recruit from January to August or September. Chairman Nelson recommends to take it under advisement and to meet separately. Council can meet remotely under executive session according to Counsel Rooney. Council will meet within the next couple of weeks.

**K. Determination of Next Date and Location**

- The next meeting of the Training Council will be on Wednesday, September 7, 2022 at 11:00 am in person tentatively at the Department of Fire Services, 911 Conant Street, Bridgewater.

**K. Public Comment**

- Marshal Ostroskey informed the Council of the International Conference of Fire Chiefs in June. June 17<sup>th</sup> is 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hotel Vendome fire.

**M. Adjourn Meeting**

- Assistant Chief Ruchala made a motion, seconded by Firefighter Bill Cabral to adjourn the meeting at 12:15 p.m. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.