

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

The Fire Service Commission held a meeting on Tuesday, December 21, 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:

Chief Gregory J. Burns
Captain Michael McCullough
Chief Stephen L. Archer
Chief John S. Ingram
FF Richard D. MacKinnon Jr.
Ms. Roberta Fitzpatrick
Undersecretary Jeanne Benincasa Thorpe

No absent Commission members.

DFS staff present at the meeting:

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

There were no guests present.

Meeting called to order by Chairman Gregory Burns at 10:06 a.m.

AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes of the November 17, 2021, Meeting

A motion was made by FF MacKinnon Jr. and seconded Captain McCullough to discuss the minutes of the November 17, 2021, meeting.

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by FF MacKinnon Jr. and seconded Chief Archer that the minutes of November 17, 2021, meeting be approved as written.

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

B. Credentialing/Re-Credentialing Process

A motion was made by FF MacKinnon Jr. and seconded by Chief Ingram to award accreditation to:

- Captain John Kennedy – Amherst Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Captain McCullough and seconded by Chief Ingram to award accreditation to:

- Captain Kevin Brailey – Barnstable Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by FF MacKinnon Jr. and seconded by Chief Archer and Chief Ingram to award accreditation to:

- Captain John Bresnahan – Ayer Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Chief Ingram and seconded by Captain McCullough to award re-accreditation to:

- Chief Richard Arruda – Dartmouth District 3 Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Chief Ingram and Chief Archer and seconded by Captain McCullough to award re-accreditation to:

- Deputy Chief Jason Ferschke – Westborough Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Chief Ingram and seconded by Captain McCullough to award re-accreditation to:

- Chief Alexander Schaeffer – Edgartown Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Captain McCullough and seconded by Chief Ingram to award re-accreditation to:

- Deputy Chief Keith Weightman – Andover Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

C. Discussion regarding a re-credential application that comes in prior to the last year of the expiration of the credential.

A motion was made by Captain McCullough and seconded Chief Ingram to discuss when a re-credential application comes in prior to the last year of the expiration of the credential.

Marshal Ostroskey and Ms. Malatos both clarified that a candidate can re-credential earlier than the expiration of the credential.

The Commission discussed and agreed that when questions arise, they will be handled on a case-by-case basis with the candidate.

D. Annual Report Discussion

A motion was made by Captain McCullough and seconded by FF MacKinnon Jr. to discuss the draft of the annual report.

Captain McCullough requested to update the language that explained the composition of the Commission. Chief Archer requested an update to the language regarding recent appointments.

A motion was made by Undersecretary Benincasa Thorpe and seconded by FF MacKinnon Jr. to approve the annual report with changes.

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

E. General Issues and Updates from DFS

Marshal Ostroskey congratulated Glenn Rooney on his appointment to General Counsel of the Department of Fire Services following the retirement of Steven Rourke.

The Department is continuing to maintain COVID-19 protocols and has been notifying staff, students, and visitors of positive cases as a courtesy and will continue to do so.

The Department is advertising the MFA Director position. Marshal Ostroskey especially thanks Deputy Marshal Fournier as she has been overseeing the operations of the academy while the position has been vacant.

Deputy Marshal Fournier mentioned that CT scans are back up and running and that they are hoping to enhance this program as it has been extremely successful and highly utilized.

Lastly, on behalf of the Department, Marshal Ostroskey wished everyone a safe, happy, and healthy holiday season.

A. Determination of Next Meeting Date and Adjournment

The date of the next meeting of the Fire Service Commission will be determined via meeting poll.

A motion to adjourn was made by Undersecretary Benincasa Thorpe and seconded by FF MacKinnon Jr.

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

The meeting of the Fire Service Commission concluded at 10:49 a.m.