

**FIRE SERVICE COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
December 21, 2023**

The Fire Service Commission held a meeting on Thursday, December 21, 2023, via conference call 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 John S. Ingram
Chief Peter J. Burke Jr.
Ms. Roberta Fitzpatrick
FF Richard D. MacKinnon Jr.
Deputy Secretary Susan Terrey

No Commission members were absent from the meeting.

There were no guests present at the meeting.

DFS staff present at the meeting:

State Fire Marshal Jon Davine
Deputy State Fire Marshal Maribel Fournier
General Counsel Glenn Rooney
Alanna Malatos
JoAnne Caruso

Meeting called to order by Chairman Gregory Burns at 10:02 am.

AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes of the November 16, 2023 Meeting

A motion was made by Deputy Secretary Terrey and seconded by Ms. Fitzpatrick to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2023 meeting as written.

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

B. Credentialing/Re-Credentialing Process

A motion was made by Chief Burns and seconded by Captain McCullough to table an applicant for accreditation until the January meeting pending submission of additional documentation.

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Chief Ingram and seconded by Deputy Secretary Terrey to award accreditation to:

- Chief Michael Witham – Halifax Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Chief Ingram and seconded by Chief Burke Jr. to award re-accreditation to:

- Deputy Chief Jeremy Januskiewicz – Ayer Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Deputy Secretary Terrey and seconded by Chief Ingram to award re-accreditation to:

- Deputy Chief Louis LaChance – Hingham Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Chief Ingram and seconded by Ms. Fitzpatrick to award re-accreditation to:

- Chief Jeffrey Osswald – Onset Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

C. Credentialing Application Administrative Updates

Ms. Malatos briefed the Commission on the proposed administrative updates to the Fire Chief Credential and Fire Chief Re-Credential applications.

A motion was made by FF MacKinnon Jr. and seconded by Chief Burke Jr. to accept the proposed changes as presented and incorporating Chairman Chief Burns' suggestions.

D. General Issues and Updates from DFS

State Fire Marshal Davine reminded the Commission that January is Firefighter Cancer Awareness Month. There are new offerings of mammograms and ultrasounds and several upcoming skin cancer screenings throughout the Commonwealth during the month of January. Guidance will be sent out to Chiefs with additional information for registering, requesting, and applying for these services.

The Department is excited to announce that Jeff Winn has taken the position of Director of the Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Division. Director Winn comes to Hazmat from the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, where he served as Director. Deputy Fire Marshal Fournier will step into the role of Acting Academy Director until this key position is filled.

General Counsel Rooney will be speaking to the Massachusetts Fire Training Council in January about the new harassment policy in hopes that it will be adopted at their January meeting. State employees are covered by Commonwealth policy, but students will fall under this new policy. Legal will be hosting in-person trainings as well as virtual offerings beginning in January and through June 2024.

E. Determination of Date/Time for Next Meeting

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

A motion to adjourn was made by Chief Burke Jr. and seconded Chief Ingram.

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

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