

**FIRE SERVICE COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
January 23, 2023**

The Fire Service Commission held a meeting on Monday, January 23, 2023, 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
FF Richard D. MacKinnon Jr.
Undersecretary Jeanne Benincasa Thorpe
Chief Peter Shedd
Chief John S. Ingram

Commission members absent from the meeting:

Ms. Roberta Fitzpatrick

There were no guests present at the meeting.

DFS staff present at the meeting:

State Fire Marshal Peter Ostroskey
Deputy State Fire Marshal Maribel Fournier
Public Information Officer Jake Wark
General Counsel Rooney
Massachusetts Fire Academy Director Jeffrey Winn
JoAnne Caruso

Meeting called to order by Chairman Gregory Burns at 10:04 a.m.

AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes of the December 15, 2022 Meeting

A motion was made by Undersecretary Benincasa Thorpe and seconded by Chief Ingram to discuss the minutes of the December 15, 2022 meeting.

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Chairman Burns noted a typo which DFS Staff will correct.

A motion was made by Captain McCullough and seconded by Undersecretary Benincasa Thorpe that the minutes of December 15, 2022 meeting be approved with correction.

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:

- Chief Todd Corriea – Fairhaven Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

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

- Captain Jordan Hill – Pembroke 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 accreditation to:

- Chief Robert Connor – Littleton Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

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

- Chief Michael Cranson – Nantucket Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

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

- Deputy Chief Mark Gassirano – Pembroke Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by FF MacKinnon Jr. and seconded by Captain McCullough to award re-accreditation to:

- Assistant Chief Howard Anderson – Onset Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by FF MacKinnon Jr. and seconded by Captain McCullough and Undersecretary Benincasa Thorpe to award re-accreditation to:

- Deputy Chief Daniel Baldwin – Westport Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by FF MacKinnon Jr. and seconded by Captain McCullough and Undersecretary Benincasa Thorpe to award re-accreditation to:

- Chief Matthew Belsito – Sutton Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

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

- Lieutenant Brian Charron – North Brookfield Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by FF MacKinnon Jr. and seconded by Captain McCullough to award re-accreditation to:

- Assistant Chief Timothy Choate – Sudbury Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by FF MacKinnon Jr. and seconded by Captain McCullough to award re-accreditation to:

- Chief Troy Cooley – Shirley Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by FF MacKinnon Jr. and seconded by Undersecretary Benincasa Thorpe to award re-accreditation to:

- Deputy Chief Jamie Desautels – Devens Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by FF MacKinnon Jr. and seconded by Captain McCullough to award re-accreditation to:

- Chief Scott Fournier – Berkley Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by FF MacKinnon Jr. and seconded by Undersecretary Benincasa Thorpe to award re-accreditation to:

- Chief Timothy Kelly – Devens Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by FF MacKinnon Jr. and seconded by Undersecretary Benincasa Thorpe to award re-accreditation to:

- Captain Travis McDonald – Dudley Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

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

- Assistant Chief Richard Ripley – Wayland Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by FF MacKinnon Jr. and seconded by Captain McCullough and Undersecretary Benincasa Thorpe to award re-accreditation to:

- Chief Donald Stats Jr. – North Reading Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

C. Annual Elections and Nominations

Marshal Ostroskey was asked to preside over this section of meeting at 10:18am.

The floor was opened for nomination for chairperson.

FF MacKinnon Jr. nominated and voted for Chief Burns and was seconded by Undersecretary Benincasa Thorpe.

Chief Burns accepts the nomination. There were no other nominations.

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The floor was opened for nomination for vice chairperson.

Undersecretary Benincasa Thorpe nominated and voted for Captain McCullough and was seconded by Chief Ingram.

Captain McCullough accepts the nomination. There were no other nominations.

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

A motion was made to close out the annual elections and nominations

Marshal Ostroskey turned the meeting back over to Chief Burns at 10:21am.

D. General Issues and Updates from DFS

Academy Director Jeff Winn introduced himself to the Commission. Deputy Fournier will be working very closely with Director Winn during this transition.

Marshal Ostroskey thanked EOPSS and Undersecretary Benincasa Thorpe for their support with the contractor rate chart increases which will attract and retain staff post pandemic.

January has been designated as Firefighter Cancer Awareness Month to raise awareness of this serious health and safety issue. DFS Staff will be wearing lavender shirts on Thursday's during the month of January 2023.

Code Compliance has been busy with new code roll out, holding six deliveries with more scheduled.

The ASHER director position has been posted. This position will have an MPTC equivalent and will work in conjunction with state, county, municipal, and regional law enforcement agencies, and will assist with standard training development to achieve an integrated preparedness, response, and recovery for active shooter or hostile event situations. A comprehensive training program will be prepared and rolled out to first responders.

Marshal Ostroskey continued to discuss other key positions that the Department is trying to fill; Director of Fire Safety Division; Deputy General Counsel; Deputy Director of Capital Asset Management; Public Education Coordinator; Chief Fire Protection Engineer as well as some key fiscal positions. The Deputy Director of Special Operations is in the final selection/hiring stages.

Deputy Fire Marshal Fournier explained that the annual budget presentation will be later than in previous years due to the new administration having additional time to prepare. Looking at a joint meeting with the MFTC during the March meeting.

Marshal Ostroskey announced his retirement effective June 30, 2023.

E. Determination of Next Meeting Date and Adjournment

The date of the next meeting of the Fire Service Commission is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, February 16th at 10:00am.

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

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

The meeting of the Fire Service Commission concluded at 10:48 a.m.