

**FIRE SERVICE COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
October 26, 2020**

The Fire Service Commission held a meeting on Thursday, October 26th, 2020 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 Alan J. Roy
Ms. Roberta Fitzpatrick
Undersecretary Jeanne Benincasa Thorpe
FF Richard D. MacKinnon, Jr.

There were no Commission members absent for this meeting.

DFS staff present at the meeting:

State Fire Marshal Peter Ostroskey
Deputy Fire Marshal Maribel Fournier
Alanna Malatos
JoAnne Caruso

There were no guests present.

Meeting called to order by Chairman Chief Greg Burns at 3:03 p.m.

AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes of the September 17, 2020 Meeting

A motion was made by Undersecretary Benincasa Thorpe and seconded by Chief Roy that the minutes of September 17, 2020, meeting be approved as written.

B. Credentialing/Re-Credentialing Process

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

1. Credentialing –
 - Deputy Chief William Miller – Hopkinton Fire Department
 - Chief Stephen Silva – Plympton Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Ms. Fitzpatrick and seconded by Captain McCullough to award re-accreditation to the following:

2. Re-Credentialing –
 - Chief William McCarthy –North Andover Fire Department

- Chief John Sullivan – Brookline Fire Department
- Chief David Parenti – Northborough Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

C. General Issues and Updates from DFS

Marshal Ostroskey took a moment to express thanks to Chief Alan Roy of the Palmer Fire Department for his generous donation of an engine to the Department's Bridgewater campus to add to the ladder truck donation from Turner's Falls. The Search and Rescue Building for the Bridgewater Campus is in the final planning stages and hope to break ground in the spring.

The majority of Department staff continue to work remotely but we taking steps by enhancing some of our customer services to ensure that our customers remain satisfied even during this pandemic.

The Department has only suffered minor issues relative the COVID-19 pandemic but continues to watch the numbers. The Academy has seen a significant decrease in applications and waitlist numbers. A Springfield class had to be postponed due to lack of students. Factors such as funding, COVID-19, and the Civil Service exams being delayed are to blame.

The Department will be assisting with election security as Election 2020 fast approaches.

D. Determination of Next Meeting Date and Adjournment

The date of the next meeting of the Fire Service Commission is tentatively scheduled for November 19th at 10:00 a.m. via WebEx virtual meeting.

A motion to adjourn was made by Chief Roy and seconded by Ms. Fitzpatrick.

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

The meeting of the Fire Service Commission concluded at 3:20p.m.