

**FIRE SERVICE COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
Monday September 25, 2023**

The Fire Service Commission held a meeting on Monday, September 25, 2023, in the Boards and Commissions Room pursuant to 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
Ms. Roberta Fitzpatrick
Deputy Secretary Susan Terrey
Chief Peter J. Burke Jr.

Absent from the meeting:

FF Richard D. MacKinnon Jr.

There were no guests present at the meeting.

DFS staff present at the meeting:

State Fire Marshal Jon M. Davine
Deputy State Fire Marshal Maribel Fournier
Public Information Officer Jake Wark
General Counsel Glenn Rooney
JoAnne Caruso

Meeting called to order by Chairman Gregory Burns at 10:00 am.

AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes of the June 15, 2023 Meeting

A motion was made by Chief Ingram and seconded by Captain McCullough to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2023 meeting as written.

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

B. Credentialing/Re-Credentialing Process

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

- Deputy Chief Christopher Beecher – East Longmeadow 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 accreditation to:

- Captain Brian Hayes – Weston Fire Department

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:

- Assistant Chief Brian Kelley – Holliston 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 accreditation to:

- Lieutenant Justin Mui – Natick 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 accreditation to:

- Chief Michael O'Brien – Lakeville Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

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

- Chief Paul Parisi – Ipswich 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:

- Captain Ryan Quinn – Onset 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:

- Chief Patrick Egloff – Westfield Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

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

- Chief Robert Valentine – Groveland Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

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

- Chief James Young Jr. – Orange Fire Department

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

C. Massachusetts Firefighter Service Award Discussion

A motion was made by Chief Ingram and Captain McCullough to discuss.

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Chairman Chief Burns briefed the Commission on the inquiry he received from a Chief regarding whether one of their career firefighters could use the years they were a firefighter in another country could be counted towards their years of service award.

The Commission discussed and they would like to update the criteria to reflect that any years spent for an international fire department would be evaluated on a case-by-case basis once supporting documentation outlining the duties is presented by the Chief.

The Commission will table this specific inquiry until such supporting documentation is provided.

A motion was made to change the wording of the “Criteria for Massachusetts Firefighting Service Award” to include, “years of service in an out-of-state or international fire department will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.” by Chief Burke Jr. and seconded by Deputy Secretary Terrey.

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

D. General Issues and Updates from DFS

Marshal Davine briefed the Commission on Stow’s recruit class size being recently increased to thirty-six (36) hoping it will help alleviate the backlog; Cancer Screenings are now offering mammograms and ultrasounds and mobile option for chest CT scanning and blood test; a lithium battery symposium will be held here in Stow on October 13 and will also be available on YouTube for those that were unable to register for the in-person offering; he is working closely with the Fire Investigation Unit on Youth Firesetting program initiatives; the Public Education Conference was well attended; and the updated live burn policy was brought to the Fire Training Council and has been adopted, there will be both a new hire two-day-in-person training and a refresher course offering for current staff.

E. Determination of Date/Time for Next Meeting

DFS Staff will poll the Commission for their availability in October.

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

The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The meeting of the Fire Service Commission concluded at 10:32 am.