Minutes May 8,2020 NBAFC

PRESENT:

President Charles Kavanaugh

2ND VP Dave McKinnley

1st VP Scott Poupart

Past President Mike Walton

Lynne Gallant-Valley

Deputy Chief Guy Paulin

Deputy Chief Harry Farrell

Deputy Chief Paul Bruens

Deputy Chief Tim Nickerson

Deputy Chief Yvon Pelletier

Deputy Chief Dan McCoy

Industrial Chiefs Jeremey Stuart

Martin Corbet – Environment Local Government

Eric McLellan – Department Natural Resources

Permanent Chiefs - absent

President Kavanaugh informed the members the Executive meant this past weekend to interview applicants for the Position of Executive Director of NBAFC. The Position has filled by Lynn Gallant-Vallie. Lynn presently works with the Bathurst Fire Department and will be working with the Present Executive Director prior to her retirement.

He liked to thank Fire Marshal Lewis with all the assistance he had shown our fire service. He has been going above and beyond.

Regional Directors are having problems with training and this is presently being worked on with NBCC and the OFM.

Issue had arisen with DNR, and other issues that made us realize that we cannot meet face to face with the Ministers. The Executive Director will send out correspondence to set up a call. We also want to meet with DNR and DTL.

Deputy Chief Scout Poupart – No report, items covered points President Kavanaugh

Deputy Chief Dave McKinley – Welcome Lynn to the Association

Several meetings have been held to discuss response to Covid19 issues in a round table format. All Provinces are the same minor differences. New Brunswick seems to be on track and is doing well.

Electronic shipping documents has been discussed and a pilot project is underway.

Communications System - CAFC is looking at a safer way to meet and share information with Emergency Responders.

CAFC is working on revising a package for firefighters who may be laid off during this pandemic and only receive a $10hr week exemption. CAFC is lobbying to get this improved. There next meeting is scheduled for May 20.

Fire Chief Mike Walton

MBU (Mobile Burn Unit) has arrived and inspection has been done however this will also be carried as training starts on this unit.

Equipment for the MBU items from Mic Mac is being shipped, along with equipment which was donated by other distributors. Bunker Gear is also being done and sizes will be looked into.

INSFTA Investment. This week is a good week for the investments. Seems to be continuing an an upward trend.

Fire Marshal – Mike Lewis reported Covid19 there has been a shift and no great demand for their office. He is taking a look 12 to 15 months on what the OFM delivers, Local Assistant renewals and the process on line.

Looking into on line professional development courses; carbon monoxide and ammonia; training for fire fighters can also be done on line. Normal operations of the Office of the Fire Marshal should be back up and running within two weeks. Course delivery is being looked into with NBCC and his office.

Future of OFM is being looked into on the way we do things. He asked if anyone as comments for his office to please forward.

Fire Service Co-Ordinator Serge Gallant – NBCC is presently working on how to get back to normal and working on getting some sort of training. Mid next week Serge is hoping to have the package that they have working on

Operational planning, training using the on line platform. Hoping to move forward by the end of May. Process in place to send an operational package and would like to follow the Provinces with **Color code**. He would like to start with virtual class training. In this vase would assist the instructors. Requirements must meet with WorkSafe NB and NBCC. Would like to be ready by the end of May 2020.

They are looking at 150 students for this on line training and working towards future information prior to training our members. Virtual training with the instructors is also being looked into.

Serge informed the members the Fire Fighter Workshop for 2020 has be cancelled. Training sessions will be developed and future information to be had.

Martin Corbet Environment and Local Government – Echo what the Fire Marshal; his department is taking a measured approach and will be done over a number of weeks. This will take some time, there are approximately 400 employees in this building.

Martin Corbet Informed the members the Annual Fire Conference 2020 is being cancelled and will be hosted again in 2021.

Government’s main focus is on Covid19 Pandemic.

Looking at a meeting with DELG Minister. President stated the priorities approved by the Board of Directors in January of this year will be discussed with the Ministers. A copy of the priorities for government will be done this coming week and a copy will forwarded. Priorities were made part of the January 2020 minutes.

DENR – Eric McLellan report seasonal fire crews are ready and to date they have had presently 108 fires; some additional sessional fire crews are presently being trained. He thanked the fire service for their response to the fire calls to assist. Covid19 has not had an impact on their fire service.

President. Kavanaugh stated that the startup of fire season all of the fire service should be informed of the time. There were no issues this year as far as he has heard.

Permanent Chiefs –absent no report

Volunteer Chiefs – absent- no report

Industrial Chiefs – Jeremey Stuart has no official report as they have not met since the last update, he noticed in the last minutes a query for NB Power. He stated if the association needs a contact for NB Power he can possibly assist.

Finance report. Bank account report. Membership 2020 this 144 paid for 2020,

Fenety year to date $8,164.66 a big difference from 2019 of $3,989 during the time frame. Going well and reports have been received from Fenty that all is going well.

Fire Chief Mike Walton asked the Executive Director to send 2019 information and send a list of the fire departments who have not paid. The information will be sent to our regional directors.

Fire Fighter Certification - some members require their practical training and this will be scheduled once we can get back to training grounds so the practical training can be done and get back to normal. All on hold for now.

Deputy Chief Yvon Pelletier reported there were nine applications received.

Names below are the two recipients of the NBAFC Bursary for 2020

Maxime Veilleux - Clair Fire Department

Ethan Turnbull - Long Reach Fire department

Deputy Chief Dan McCoy moved to accept the recommendation of the Awards committee, 2nd Mike Walton, motion carried.

NBAFC Hall of Flame recipient Regional Fire Marshal - FM Raymond LeBlanc has been approved during the January meeting and will be received 2021.

Haz Mat – Mike Lewis e-manifest still being looked into, no other information to date.

NBAFPO Board Report to the NBAFC May 8, 2020

The NBAFPO Board held two conference calls in February to discuss:

1. The April 3-5, 2020 Seminar.
2. The need for a name changes to New Brunswick Association Fire Prevention Officers and Educators.
3. Inviting Laura King to come to NB to provide a 1 to 1.5-day session to help fire departments that do not have a fire prevention education program learn how to begin the process of promoting fire prevention in their communities.
4. Providing training for the Fire Prevention and Life Educator 1 Course according to the NFPA Standard 1035 (Standard for Professional Qualifications for Public Fire and Life Safety Educators).

With the state of things at this time we will not be rescheduling the seminar for the fall and will look at having it in April of 2021.

The vote to change the name has been put on hold until we are able to hold an Annual General Meeting.

The Seminar Planning Committee contacted Laura King who agreed to provide a basic 1 to 1.5-day workshop at a time to be determined that would help departments develop a program to use in their communities.

The Seminar Planning committee made contact with Laura King to see what we needed to do to get training for the Fire and Life Safety Educator 1.

She spoke with John Cunningham, director of the NS Firefighters School. Laura learned that she could come and teach the course in New Brunswick. It would be a 2.5-day course. We would need to get a proctor from the Office of the Fire Marshal to administer the exam. The course material is taken form the IFSTA, Fire and Life Safety Educator Book - Chapters 2-6.

We received an email from The Home Sprinkle Coalition of Canada inviting fire departments to join them for their upcoming virtual Home Fire Sprinkler Week May 17-23. The contact information was put on the NBAFPO website and Facebook page.

Deputy Chief Dan McCoy- Regional Fire Dispatch received a call from Bob Martin and they are hoping to get back to work and are waiting for the OK from Government restrictions and are waiting to get back to work.

Chauleur Firefighters – Quentin McGrath absent, Scott Poupart reported there have been no meetings held due to Covid19, however we have been networking with EMO updates with the changes in Government. Hoping by the end of June we will have a virtual meeting set up.

Deputy Chief Guy Paulin on the call; had to leave – no report

Deputy Chief Tim Nickerson – no report they have had no meetings due to covid19 and holding their own for changes from Government.

Fundy - Fire Chief Kevin Theriault grass fires where people were no charged RFP program was put on hold due to covid19

A couple of questions did arise over the past few weeks

1. Why has the emergency fire ban been taken off we are not worried about social gathering of our firefighters?
2. It would have been nice to have our TMR radios for the COVID-19 response.

Meetings are on hold.

Miramichi Valley- Chief Roger Pitre reported no meetings to date. Grass fire season will be stating soon. All is quiet.

Fire Chief Harry Farrell – Capital District no meetings; waiting to see what will take place with the Province current issues with Covid19 Pandemic.

Chief Stephen Armor Central Valley absent – Chief Mike Walton reported on behalf of Central Valley; no meeting held in the past few months and Level 1 and 2 have not been completed to date.

South East Paul Bruens training is being worked on, his comments were sent to the Fire Chiefs of the Southeast and training concerns he realizes that Serge is presently working on.

Feedback from Chiefs of the Southeast - training concerns and he realizes Serge is working on this. He feels the Chiefs should have feedback on the type of training. The Board of Directors could forward to their firefighters to inquire what they would like to do. One of the biggest concerns ability to receive Fire Fighter 1 Training. Serge will reach out to Paul this week coming to discuss this issue future.

Regional Co-Ordinator’s should work with Serge to carry out this on line training. Serge noted he is working on this issue. He will reach out to Paul to discuss further.

Southeast Fire Fighters Association has agreed that DENR need to remove the calendar from the equation of being ready for a specific date, every year spring seems to come earlier and the apposite in the fall.

WSNB we should reach out for vaccination program for our Fire Fighters of the Province. Every Fire Fighter should be inoculated free of charge. The Fire Marshal informed the members that discussion is in the process and will keep them informed.

Deputy Chief Dan McCoy - Regional Fire Dispatch Dan McCoy asked was the band put in place due Covid19 reason or for safety standards.

Fire Marshal Lewis stated there is two weeks before the official opening for fire season and there is nothing that can be done by way of a burn band, both were the intent however due to this year’s Covid19 and fire fighters’ response the band was not in place. Now that the band is lifted what is the procedure from his department regarding gatherings of fire fighters. Fire Marshal Lewis stated there will be information sent out regarding gathering of fire fighters within the next two weeks.

MFCA - Chief Charlie Kavanaugh there has been no meeting held since our last meeting and the 2020 Conference has been canceled in Halifax 2021 using the same venue one year later.

Next meeting - June 26, 2020 last weekend in June