

# NBAFC Meeting

## April 22, 2021

Virtual meeting – Bongo – 7 pm

**Attending:** Charles Kavanaugh, Mike Walton, Scott Poupart, David McKinley, Jody Price, Tim Corbin, Roger Pitre, Brian Hunter, Lynne Gallant-Valley, Ivan Corbett, James Brown, Kevin Theriault, Mike Lewis, Serge Gallant, Matt Ruff, Charlie Chiasson, Dan McCoy, Guy Paulin, Quentin McGrath, Dianne Pelletier, Andrew Easton

**Absent:** Harry Farrell, Jeremy Stuart, Paul Bruens

**Motion to accept minutes:** Brian Hunter, 2<sup>nd</sup> by David Mckinley - Motion passed

**Motion to accept agenda:** Kevin Theriault, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim Brown - Motion passed

### **President's Report - Charles Kavanaugh**

Met with Work Safe – One-on-one with Douglas Jones. Discussed claims and increasing coverage. He said he would get back to us in a few weeks. Also met with Natural Resources - Minister Mike Holland. Spoke about babysitting downed power lines. Lynne has gathered stats from Fire Scene Security, and they will look to see if something along that line can be done for compensation. The first hour of coverage will not be reimbursed. Met with Minister Allain – LGR.

Fenety Marketing received a complaint from a person they had called. In the end, it was a personal issue the person had with a firefighter.

### **MFCA Report – Charles Kavanaugh**

There will not be a convention this year. They have done some training online and hope to be offering more. They will be trying to meet in person in the fall.

### **CAFC Report – David McKinley**

March 17. The fire underwriters survey, mental health supporters, vaccine access, and fire codes were discussed. Met again on April 21<sup>st</sup>, and the budget was sent to all CAFC members today. It included what the asks were and the budget summary. Received an E-Shipping project update. The 2021 volunteer census was discussed. The census questionnaire is as of April 30<sup>th</sup>. All fire departments are asked to participate. Remember answers are as of April 30, 2021. They need to be returned by end of May.

### **Finance & Fundraising – Mike Walton**

The bank account balance is \$240,779.41 as of April 15, 2021. No new updates on investments. Fenety has raised \$26,715.23. They have been running for six weeks so far in the 2021 campaign. The rates for the Fire Scene Security with the commissioner have increased for 2021 from \$22.40 to \$22.85.

### **Firefighter Certification Board of NB - Serge Gallant/Mike Lewis**

Received the NFPA 1072. Could be possibly offering the Officer 1 and Fire Investigator. Working on setting up testing. Things are starting to fall in place.

### **Awards Committee - Kevin, Scott and Roger**

Lynne will scan the bursary submissions to them for review.

### **Training & Education – Jody Price**

Looking to have the workshops this fall directed toward instructor development training for instructors and officers. This would be with COVID guidelines in place, of course.

### **HAZMAT – Mike Lewis**

Gone to TMR for telecom. Will have a dedicated line where you can talk to any incoming commander. The second stage of the E-Manifest training is approved. This phase will give PSAP access to dangerous goods documents.

### **Fire Prevention – James Brown**

Had a meeting in February. Had online training on Life Safety Educator. We had a Tire Fire Prevention and Suppression and it was offered in English and French. Received Fire Smart Education grant – we will be hosting some training in the fall with those funds.

### **Nominations & Resolutions – Kevin Theriault**

Committee is missing one member. Waiting for elections.

Discussion on where elections and AGM at end of May should be.

Jody Price made a motion that the current executive stay in place until May 2022. Motion was voted upon. 15 yeas, (inaudible) no votes, the motion passed. As for the AGM, Serge said this can be done via Bongo. English and French can run at the same time in two online rooms. Jody suggested that it would be nice if Executive were on camera from one location. Lynne, Serge and board will meet on May 6<sup>th</sup> to discuss and try the bilingual Bongo with a translator. Tentative date for AGM is May 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Convention & Games – Serge Gallant**                      No Report

### **License Plates – Lynne Gallant-Valley**

Discussed an issue that people with businesses seem to have when registering for their plates. Mike agreed to contact Nicole Shorrock regarding this issue.

**Permanent Chiefs - Jody Price**                      No Report

### **Volunteer Fire Chiefs – Tim Corbin**

The meeting on Feb 13<sup>th</sup> was well attended. We discussed the NB power scene, recruitment and retention, training, COVID guidelines, and TMR.

**Industrial Fire Chiefs - Jeremy Stuart**                      No Report

## **Training Standards Review – Jody Price / Serge Gallant**

No Report. Will be starting back up in April.

## **Office of the Fire Marshal – Mike Lewis**

Will be hiring a government inspector for the Saint John area. There is a project going on with Medavie in Edmundston. They are looking at the way fire departments are made aware of home oxygen. Currently, they are obligated to notify local fire departments. With this pilot project, they will notify dispatch to have notations, but on civic address.

Local Assistant course is still being offered online. Will be adding Fire Extinguisher for company officers and Fire Extinguisher visual.

An administration manual is being created for new fire chiefs. We have 22-23 peer support people ready to train. This will be paid for from the Bell donations last fall of \$20,000. Training should be done by first week of June. This first training part will cost \$7,000 - \$9,000, with the remainder spent by year-end. Any excess will be covered by the OFM.

We are digitizing fire investigation and insurance reports. Have a study done on fire trends and fatalities from 2010-2020. We are in the middle of changing to the 2015 national building codes.

Small discussion on oxygen users being flagged by PSAP.

## **Guest Andrew Easton - Assistant Deputy Minister of Public Safety and Security**

And **Dianne Pelletier - Director of NB911**

Andrew and Dianne provided an update on NB-9-1-1 program and the work that is underway to enable and deploy of NB-9-1-1 technology that will lead to operational changes and efficiencies. Power Point is attached in English only at this time. French will follow shortly. Q&A took place through presentation.

### **NBCC – Serge Gallant**

We have a good number of students registered. Twelve students in the pre- employment course. They are there three days a week. Feel free to (inaudible) stop in and say hello if you are passing through. Exams are going well.

### **Local Government - Ivan Corbett**

We will be having a session on April 27<sup>th</sup> on the green paper. There will also be public sessions coming up. Anyone can go on the GNB website and download it. It's an easy read. If you can't make it, try to send a suitable replacement.

### **Dept. Environment & Natural Resources - Matt Ruff, Provincial Coordinator**

Fire season started on April 19<sup>th</sup> and will end Oct 1<sup>st</sup>. We have changed it from four regions to two - East and West. Air operations will now be flying out of Fredericton instead of Miramichi. Dispatch is being done from Fredericton. Aircrafts will be day-based where fire load is higher as needed.

## **REGIONAL REPORTS**

### **Southeast - Paul Bruens**

No Report

### **Chaleur - Scott Poupart (for Quentin McGrath)**

We met on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss going onto the Bongo platform with NBCC. We now have FF 1 on Bongo in English and French, and also one group in-house with another department.

Deputy Chief Quentin McGrath from St. Anne Regional was selected as the new NBAFPO rep. for Chaleur.

### **Acadian Peninsula - Guy Paulin**

Working on FF 1 and will be changing to FF 2.

### **Northwest – Charlie Chiasson**

We are trying to get FF 1 going but need to wait for yellow phase.

### **Royal - Brian Hunter**

We had elections. Jamie VanTassel was named president and Doug McLean was named vice president. These are two-year terms. We have gotten the level one blocks and exams off the ground and looking at a pump course in the future. Zone 1 is doing medical and fit testing.

### **Fundy - Kevin Theriault**

We had a virtual meeting. Election of president - myself - for 2 more years.

No word from Rad. Comms on implantation timelines. They were around and installed the boxes and antennas. The Level 1 course is online with 25+ students and going well. Some crews are busy with grass fires.

Questions on R2MR/Working Minds were asked and will be addressed by Dan McCoy in new business.

### **Miramichi Valley - Roger Pitre**

Level 1 testing will start April 27<sup>th</sup> at NBCC. These are catch-up tests. No new courses started.

Getting ready for grass fire season. Getting ready for Miramichi PSAP to change to TMR. This is scheduled for the end of May.

We have not met live since the pandemic. First live meeting will be voting for a new executive.

### **Capital District - Harry Farrell**

Started level 1 and level 2, seems to be going okay. Also, will be having a wildland firefighter training, 3 in total.

### **Central Valley - Mike Walton**

Meeting virtually monthly. Working on level 1. Have 2 EFF courses.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **MBU**

Need to get the training started. Discussion took place. Mike Walton will call the company and start the process for them to come here and train a small group who will then train others.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Mental Health Contract - Dan McCoy** -DND is switching to Working Minds, which is better, free, and online. This will be looked into.

Police are receiving calls to validate that the campaign is legit. Mark Fenety will send a letter to all police departments to let them know they are doing our campaign.

Some people are e-transferring their payment. I have been accepting the through my account since the NBAFC account does not allow this. I take the money from my account and deposit in NBAFC account. It was agreed that it was okay to continue doing this.

A vote took place as to whether the meetings should be on Thursdays or Fridays. 72% voted for Thursday, motion passed, meetings will be on Thursdays.

The tentative date for AGM is May 28<sup>th</sup> or 29<sup>th</sup>. Executive could be in one location. Executive and Serge will meet on May 6<sup>th</sup> for a test run of the platform.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:32 by Mike Walton