



MINUTES

Southeastern Firefighters Association

Association des Pompier du Sud-est

Representing Albert, Kent and Westmorland Counties

Sunday, February 6, 2022 at 7:00 pm via Zoom Virtual Meeting

Attendees:

Platoon Chief Paul Bruens – Moncton
Daniel Dupuis –ATR/ Dorchester
Ray LeBlanc – Fire Marshal
Colleen Gallant – Saint Paul
Darrell Weir – Riverside-Albert
Tim Gaudet – Saint Paul

Marc Cormier – Dieppe
Ronald Cormier – Cap Pele
Denis Richard – St. Antoine
Brian Dunfield - Petitcodiac
Troy Collins - Hillsborough

This meeting was held via Zoom Virtual Meeting. The meeting was called to order by President, Paul Bruens.

There were 10 members in attendance representing 9 departments.

Condolences were given for the death of Gilles Cormier.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Serge Gallant – NBCC

Exams have been bumped up, South East area, exams are next Thursday and Tuesday. MBU put in plans, once date is secured, let Serge know and if you require any props.

Dan Dupuis and Don McCabe will be the trainers – how to use computers, controls so you can train as many as you want.

Advisory Committee – modify and improve FF Level 1, revising as a support member. Looking at digitalized, secure way of doing it – log book.

Full workshop, plans starting shortly in Miramichi.

- **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 6, 2021**

A copy of the meeting minutes was distributed to members via e-mail, posted on the website.

Motioned by: Dan Dupuis

Seconded by: Marc Cormier

MOTION CARRIED

- **REPORTS FROM OFFICERS**

President's Report – Paul Bruens

The next scheduled NBAFC meeting is being held on 10 Feb 2022, virtual.

SEFFA has moved forward with the communication committee and a regular report will be given by the Chair during our meetings. The committee has put together a training session on the TMR Radios and has formally delivered two sessions. As the role of the committee is to be a voice and process for the SEFFA to work with Fire Control, to discuss both needs and issues as Regional Fire Dispatch moves forward. Paul thanked Corey Gallant for all the hard work gone into this committee.

Municipal reform update, from the Fire Marshall who responded to my email with the following update.

Dated: 01 Feb, 2022

From: OFM Michael Lewis – Here is the abridged comments (speaking on behalf of ELG here).

There are transition teams that started last week who will be introducing themselves to the departments in the weeks to come.

They are responsible for helping fire departments over the next two years-the change is not intended to happen overnight on January 1st, 2023.

For municipalities that are joining, or LSD's that will find themselves in a new entity, all current councils should abstain from making any determinations/suggestions on fire services until after new elections are held.

The NBAFC met with ELG this week and had some good feedback-when we meet with the NBAFC on the 10th (I believe?) for our next quarterly meeting, ELG will be present with more details and a transition plan.

Notwithstanding, the OFM is in the process of modifying the fire prevention act-we are looking to introduce new fire service minimum standards that are anticipated to come into place next January.

*What we are considering are a number of measures that ensure municipalities properly support fire services **by law. The OFM will be meeting with each FF association individually between March-July 2022 to gauge feedback on these regulations. I caution this is just a high level draft.***

- (a) Every Fire Station must have no fewer than 15 members*
- (b) Every Rural District or Local Government must maintain a Dwelling Protection Grade of X for communities above X person(s), and a Dwelling Protection Grade of X for communities under 5,000 person(s)*
- (c) Every Fire Department must have no fewer than 75% of its members OR certified as, or in training as, Firefighter I or greater*
- (d) Every Fire Station must possess at least one apparatus which is NFPA 1901 compliant*
- (e) Every Local Government with greater than X persons must develop, implement, and make available for review an NFPA 1300 community risk reduction plan*

One of the motives of this legislative change is to ensure that LSD departments that were previously under the LSD Fire Policy, will enjoy the same level of investment and support they did while they were LSD's.

Training Update:

In the most recent iteration, the only restriction in place for fire departments is that no more than 50% of the department is present at one single training session. Most departments have been splitting their training into two nights to meet this.

In terms of incidents and response-there are no restrictions.

The hope is that by February 14th, we will be in a position to say that there are no restrictions on training of any kind.

We're still sitting at roughly 30/167 departments reporting impacts from Covid-19, including about ten in the SE association, so I think the 50% restriction is still justified. I recognize that it's challenging for FD's, but hopefully in a few weeks we will be done.

In terms of provincial courses and exams, we've removed all restrictions (except social distancing and masking during exams), and they should be resuming shortly.

Vice President, Kent County – Dave Gallant

No Report Submitted

Vice President, Westmorland – Derrick Fillmore

No Report Submitted

Vice President, Albert County – James Lyman

No Report Submitted

Financial/Treasurer's Report – Tim Dryden

No Report, Tim will forward when done. No motions so cannot vote at this meeting.

Motioned by:

Seconded by:

MOTION CARRIED

NBAFPO – Tim Dryden

No Report Submitted

OFM – Raymond LeBlanc

- Fire Safety Gazette
 - Winners have been drawn and prize bags have been delivered to associations.
 - Fire Chief for a Day – Kassidy Munn of Plaster Rock – celebration took place at her school on Feb. 1st.
- Fire Service Training Survey sent out in the Fall:
 - Have compiled the results and will be discussing some options at the next Training Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for March 15th.
- Fire Service 2025
 - 76% of the Province completed and have compiled and tabulated some good statistical information. Next steps to analyze the data to measure areas for improvement.
- Certification Training – Fire Investigator NFPA 1033
 - Looking to put together training for Sept./Oct. of 2022. Need to go through the process of having it added to our list of certification courses, obtain the curriculum, and seek out qualified instructors.
- New investigation report form
 - Developing a new fire investigation report form that will be placed on FIRS and will marry up with Fire Department reports. This will result in some minor modifications to fire department FIRS reports – work in progress.

- Fire Investigation for First Responders Online Course
 - The Office is working on this project. Requires some editing and finishing additions. Looking to have this completed by end of March 2022 and have posted on our website for the fire service.
- Smoke alarm campaign
 - In the beginning stages of implementing a new smoke/CO alarm campaign in the province – target launch is proposed for Fire Prevention Week 2022.
- NFPA 1035 Course
 - Have Laura King (NFPA Canada Rep) putting on a certification course with our Office being the host on March 25, 26, 27. Notice has gone out for pre-registration and is nearly full.

• COMMITTEE REPORTS

ATC Report – Daniel Dupuis

Training

Training is moving forward with online training, needless to say, it has been hard going since just before Christmas

Level 1

We have an online level 1 going at the moment, teaching has not been a problem, however, we are bottle necked for exams due to covid restrictions. Block 1 and exam is done but block 2 and block 3 have been completed, but we need exams and they are both planned for mid Feb. hopefully we can get back on track

Level 2

Looking to start a level 2 training, please send number of students willing to participate, as stated, maybe in class or online and possibly both depending on numbers.

Basic Off-Road Rescue

Please advise if you have any firefighters interested in doing the course

Low Angle Rope Rescue

Please advise if you have any students for a new course

Auto Extrication

We have also had requests for an auto extrication course, again, please advise ATR if you have any firefighters interested in this course, pre-requisites are firefighter level 1

Officer Course

Officer Course may be offered online if we have enough students. Please advise if you have any students willing to participate

Instructor Course

We have had some requests for an instructor course, please advise if you have any firefighters interested

Spring Training

We can discuss our options for spring training,

Conclusion

Training as a whole has been very challenging this year. Moving into the Spring, we will have to adapt to new ways of training in order to minimize contact with others. WE MUST KEEP TRAINING. We owe it to our communities we serve, to be knowledgeable and ready to do our jobs.

Some of these online trainings would be good for your firefighters and some can be provided on your training nights. If you have any ideas for training, please advise, we may also be doing online training as an association if the demand is there.

If you have any training ideas or have firefighters interested in attending mentioned training sessions, please advise me ASAP so we can start planning these sessions.

Firefighter.dan@hotmail.com 506 875 3540

Communications – Robin True

Paul thanked Corey Gallant for all his hard work. Paul will get a copy of the report and send out with the minutes. If you would like training, contact Robin True

• UNFINISHED BUSINESS

We will wait until the Spring meeting to determine how money Dan needs for the Fall training.

• NEW BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING – The next meeting will be Sunday, April 10, 2022 at 10:00 am at the Riverview Fire Department.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT: Ron Cormier

SECOND BY: Tim Gaudet

MOTION CARRIED