MAINE FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES COMMISSION

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday, June 19, 2018**

***(Unanimously Approved On September 10, 2018)***

Chair Dan Brooks called the Maine Fire Protection Services Commission to order at 10:35 a.m. in Room 438, State House, Augusta. Fire Commission members attending today’s meeting included James Graves, Ron Green, Chief Joseph Guyotte, Chief Thomas Higgins, Harty Norris, Vicki Schmidt, Chief Joseph Thomas, Chief Michael Thurlow, Chief Larry Willis (RET) and Susan Pinette (staff). Members excused included Stephan Bunker, Senator Brownie Carson, Senator Scott Cyrway, Kenneth Desmond, Gerry Gay, Matt Gomes, Steven Greeley, Suzanne Krauss, Representative Thomas Longstaff, Representative Catherine Nadeau, Charles Soltan, Shaun St. Germaine and Representative Timothy Theriault. The Fire Commission welcomed the following guests to today’s meeting: former Representative and Fire Commission member Michel Lajoie of Lewiston; Chief William Gillespie of the Liberty Fire Department; Chief Bernard Williams of the Pittsfield Fire Department; Chief Tommie McKenzie of the Lovell Fire Department; Chief Jim Owens of the Hallowell Fire Department; and Chief Dennis Yates of the Norway Fire Department. The Fire Commission also extends their gratitude to these Fire Chiefs for their support on LD 1845 *An Act To Provide Incentives To Attract Trained Firefighters to Maine and To Retain Trained Firefighters by Expanding the Provision of Live Fire Service Training.*

Committee Reports and Old Business

The 2019 Joint Spring Conference Committee reported they will soon start planning the 2019 conference, but have agreed to return to Sunday River. There has been some discussion regarding more space for attendees and vendors but are very happy with the location.

The Best Practices Committee reports no new nominations were received this month. Committee members continue to encourage Fire Commission members and the public to submit worthy candidates to the Committee to be considered for the Fire Commission’s Best Practices Award.

The Education and Training Strategy Committee recapped the morning’s lobbying efforts regarding LD 1845 “*An Act To Provide Incentives To Attract Trained Firefighters to Maine and To Retain Trained Firefighters by Expanding the Provision of Live Fire Service Training*”. Fire Commission members and representatives from Maine’s fire service spent the last two hours talking to members of the Legislature’s Appropriations Committee in an effort to move LD 1845 off the Special Appropriations table and to the floor of the House for consideration. Discussions and compromises among Appropriations Committee members, the bill’s sponsor, Fire Commission members and fire service representatives led to an agreement to amend the bill with a sunset provision and reduce the fiscal note. The Fire Commission is very grateful for all those individuals who contributed to this successful outcome. Thank you!

Chief Mike Thurlow presented the Treasurer’s report to Fire Commission members. The Treasurer reported that the Fire Commission’s state appropriation was received and deposited. The Fire Commission has three outstanding invoices for services rendered- expenses related to the 2018 Spring Joint Conference including copying and printing- which require Fire Commission approval to pay.

***A motion by Chief Joseph Guyotte, seconded by Chief Larry Willis (RET), that the Maine Fire Protection Services Commission approves the payment of the three outstanding invoices and directs the Treasurer to make the payments as soon as possible.*** The motion passed unanimously.

The LOSAP (Length of Service Award Program) Board reported that they are working on a RFP (Request for Proposal). LOSAP Board members also recently met with Maine Revenue Service staff to discuss the LOSAP program and investments.

New Business and News From Members

Winthrop Fire Department proudly announced that they have moved into their brand new fire station. The old building has recently gone out to bid, but no serious interest to date.

The Town of Gorham is considering changing their town ordinance to require that all new residences will install fire sprinklers.

A reminder that the Fire Commission voted in May to cancel the July meeting. The August 6th meeting will proceed as scheduled.

With no further business to come before the Maine Fire Protection Services Commission, Chair Brooks adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Pinette

Staff

**MEETING SCHEDULE**

Monday, August 6th MEETING Public Safety 9:00am

Monday, September 10th MEETING Public Safety 9:00am

Monday, October 1st MEETING Public Safety 9:00am

Monday, November 5th MEETING Public Safety 9:00am

Monday, December 3rd MEETING Public Safety 9:00am

***Dates of Interest:***

*Monday, September 3, 2018 HOLIDAY-LABOR DAY*

*Monday, September 10, 2018 LOSAP Board Meeting, 10:00am, DPS*

*Monday, October 8, 2018 HOLIDAY-COLUMBUS DAY*

*Tuesday, November 6, 2018 ELECTION DAY*

*Monday, November 12, 2018 HOLIDAY- VETERANS DAY (observed)*

*Thursday, February 7, 2019 Fire Service Day at the State House (Hall of Flags), 8:00am*