



# CT FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

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[www.connecticutfirechiefs.com](http://www.connecticutfirechiefs.com)

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The Connecticut Fire Chiefs meeting of February 23, 2021 was held on line and called to order at 19:02 by President Duval.

A motion was made and passed to go to the education presentation by Kevin McManus of Everbridge. It was followed by questions and answers.

Meeting was called back to order at 19:40.

A moment of silence was held for the 107 fire fighters and 53 Ems members who died from the virus.

A motion was made and passed to accept the secretary's report.

Treasurer's report was given as follows: starting balance in the checking account was \$6,622.99 expenditures of \$3,354.09 and ending balance of \$3,054.09. A motion was made and passed to accept the treasurer's report.

President report was given: Review CT Fire-Rescue Plan Revision – shared the latest revision of the CT Fire-Rescue plan with the CFCA E-Board to solicit feedback on the revised document. (2/1/2021)

Working with Jeff Morrissette on calling a meeting of the Technology Committee after a long hiatus. (2/2/2021) Spoke to Chief M Varney (Chairman of Committee) Working on scheduling a meeting of this group in the coming weeks.

Working with the E-Board on changes to the association's financial procedures to better handle grant funds. (Recommended items from F Dudek's work with FEMA on SAFER Grant application process.) Chief M Thurz is researching possible CPA firms that can assist (and associated costs).

Continued work with CFCA treasurer on re-filing of incorporation paperwork for non-profit status.

FILO Oversight Working Group conference call to discuss a second FILO position at CTIC and to create a program description for the FILO position(s). (2/4/2021).

Worked with CFDIA President Buonome on partnering on several upcoming virtual speakers/training series events.

Crafted and submitted testimony on several bills being heard before the Public Safety Committee on February 11. The bills included:

- Opposition to HB 6046 - Sale and Use of Consumer Grade Fireworks
  - Support for HB 6304 - Just Cause Dismissal of Municipal Fire Chiefs
  - Support for HB 5722 - Exempting from Personal Income Tax Stipends Paid to Vol FF and Ambulance Members.
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Continuing to work with the other members of the Joint Council to move forward the addition of 'Make Safe Crews' and other key safety considerations from the utilities through work with the Energy Committee in the legislature.

Participated in a conference call with representatives of the IAFC and Senator Larson's office to discuss the income tax deferral legislation regarding stipends for volunteer fire fighters. The Congressman wants to recognize the FD in his district. Chief K Cooney will work on a list of contacts within the 1<sup>st</sup> district and get back to Larson office by week of 2-14. The press conference was held on Tuesday 2-23.

Joint Council Zoom Meeting – February 11, 2021

Submitted CFCA E Board State Fire-EMS Plan feedback to Chief Ed Richards and Jeff Morrisette for review. Spoke to plan revision author S Foley and relayed out suggestions/recommendations. Foley agreed to work with the group on our concerns.

Reviewed and renewed CFCA Insurance Policy with ESIP.

Reviewed PSAP Consolidation report from CTCOG. Provided feedback to Chief J Oates on shortcomings in report. (Related to HB 6052 and 6302)

Participated in virtual press conference on Volunteer Responder Incentive Protection Act (VRIPA) permanent. VRIPA exempts from taxation the nominal recruitment and retention benefits volunteer firefighters and emergency medical services (EMS) personnel receive from their communities on Tuesday 2-23-2021. Chiefs Duval, Thurz, and Cooney represented the CFCA on the conference call. Dozens of other CFCA members were in the gallery during the call.

Tim Wall on legislative search, he wasn't on the call but he spoke to the people that were and no decision was made.

Jeff Morsette gave a report from the commission and the academy: the recruit class is in week three. They are working with the University of Conn. on getting and receiving grants for research into cardiac impacts on fire fighters.

Ted Schroll on legislative: there has been no in person session and the bills online for all to see. Ted is always available for questions.

Chief Flynn on the VCOS section and the IChiefs. There are 3 openings on the VCOS board, and the applications are due by Friday the 26 of March, 2021. The New England division will meet in March. Anyone who is in arrears for dues contact Chief Flynn.

Pete Beckwith on Flanagan Fund: 9 applications were received. One person was only award 1 semester because he will graduate and the go for his masters. One award will be given by the instructor's association.

The joint council is meeting and there top priority is still the fire academies.

The technical advisory committee will meet soon.

The foam take back program is moving forward and a report will soon be available.

Several members of the Association took part in a virtual press conference with Congressman John Larson regarding the Volunteer Responder Incentive Protection Act on Tuesday 23 of February.

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**Old business:** a motion was made and passed the following people be made members of the association. Stephen Breen, David Lee and Leo Berube all from the Mortlake Fire Company.

**New Business:** a motion was made and passed to spend \$125.00 for a full page ad. In the Hall of Fame booklet.

**Good of the order:** John Mancini is looking for a cab and chassis for brush apparatus in Maine.

Fire Fighters families who need rooms in New Haven for cancer treatments hotels are giving discounts.

The meeting in April will probably be held in person and on line.

**A motion was made and passed to adjourn at 20:32**

**27 people were in attendance**

Respectfully submitted,

Richard McDonough, Secretary

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