

# Fire Chiefs' Association of Massachusetts, Inc



MEETING: **General Membership**  
TYPE: **Minutes**  
DATE: **December 17, 2025, 1200 hours**  
LOCATION: **Renaissance Boston Patriot Place Hotel**

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The meeting opened at: 1221 hrs. by President, Chief Patrick Purcell

Pledge to the Flag led by President Purcell.

Plymouth Fire Chaplain Gery Bloom offered the Invocation and prayer for those members that have passed.

### **Previous Minutes Approval:**

Minutes of the General Membership meeting held November 19, 2025, distributed by email, were voted on for acceptance.

**A motion was made and seconded,**  
Vote: **APPROVED**

The following applications were voted on for Membership –

- *Fire Chief Luke Harnett, Montague Center Fire Department, recommended by Fire Chief Christopher Norris, Easthampton FD*
- *Fire Chief James Browne, Burlington Fire Department, recommended by Fire Chief Andrew Connerty Ret., Burlington FD*

A motion was made and seconded,  
Vote: **PASSED**

Applications for Life Membership:

- *Fire Chief Mike Bussell Ashby Fire Department, recommended by Fire Chief Russ Hall, Holden*
- *Fire Chief David Hurlbut, Sterling Fire Department, recommended by Fire Chief Russ Hall, Holden FD*

*A motioned was made and seconded  
Vote: APPROVED*

### **Application for Associate Membership:**

- *Mark Cady, Owner/Project Manager, LB Comms, LLC recommended by Chief Kevin Partridge*

### **Chief Patrick Purcell – President**

President Purcell thanked everyone for attending the Holiday Luncheon, and wished everyone the best for .

President Purcell informed members that anyone interested in the position of Director for MA on the New Chiefs Association should submit their resume and cover letter to the Sec./Treas by January 31, 2026.

President Purcell let all members present know that the Board is proposing a \$50 increase in the annual dues for all positions except Life Members and Retired members.

The President mentioned that the Governor's Officer recently issued a press release regarding her Supplemental Budget which will include \$5 million for Nashoba Valley Communities to support EMS services. Chief Purcell mentioned that information about how long EMS calls are taking these communities will be important.

### **Chief Brian Nardelli – 1<sup>st</sup> VP**

VP Nardelli reminded members that in January FCAM and the Attorney Gambincini's office will be launching the new Legal Defence program, information will come out in January on how to sign up.

Chief Nardelli reminded members that the IMT 305 class will be held in January. A last call for members to sign up will be done.

Chief Nardelli advised the Chiefs that FCAM was made aware that the Police Chiefs have been filing Disclosure documents with their towns because they are presenting their budgets which includes their own salaries. FCAM will have Legal Counsel do a review of the issue and we will provide guidance to everyone on whether or not Chiefs should be filing an annual disclosure when submitting and presenting their budgets.

**Chief Christopher Norris – 2<sup>nd</sup> VP-** Not in Attendance

**Chief Michael Kelleher- IPP** No Report

**Secretary/Treasurer Chief Kevin Partridge, Ret.**

Secretary Partridge reviewed the following correspondence and information,

- FCAM renewed the 100 Club membership for the Executive Board. The 50/50 raffle being done today will be for the 100 Club.
- PDC Registration portal is open and applications are coming in good, vendor spots are also sold out.
- Received our 3rd quarter SAVVIK dividend as part of our revenue share
- Completed the required Lobbyist Registration with the Commonwealth
- FCAM has 50 Chiefs attending the CFSI in March

**Treasurer Partridge gave the treasury report .**

**Bank Balances as of December 15, 2025**

Chase Bank:

- Checking \$ 1,000.00
- CD 1 4 mth-4286 \$137,623.36 maturity date 1-11-26
- CD 2 4 mth-4287 \$136,966.22 maturity date 1-11-26

Assets Chase Bank = \$275,589.57

BayCoast Bank:

- Checking Operating \$ 49,902.18
- Checking Legal Defense \$ 23,737.50
- Money Market \$ 271,838.54

Assets at BayCoast Bank = \$ 345,478.22

Quickbooks checking = \$ 5,788.62

**Total assets: \$ 626,856.41**

**A motion was made and seconded,  
Vote: APPROVED**

Government Affairs Director- Chief Bill Scoble, Ret.

1. There has been no change of status in any of our priority Bills. We are getting close to the reporting deadline set out in the rules for this session. Committees are allowed to ask for extension orders. At this point we're only waiting on the Ambulance reimbursement Bill and the Senate versions of the Public Safety Building Authority.
2. The Training Council seat language has been finalized with both of our sponsors and the amendment has been forwarded to the Public Safety Committee for their approval. The staff for Rep. Kilcoyne and Senator Moore have been very responsive and helpful.
3. The Single Stairway Bill was reported out favorably by the Senate Rules Committee (because it had been amended) and sent to Senate Ways and Means.
4. A Bill that would require 5 years of uniformed service in order to be appointed as Fire Chief has been reported out favorably by the Public Service Committee. This is a refiled PFFM Bill but is similar to one that FCAM filed for several years following problems with non-fire personnel being appointed to the position.
5. At the request of the Marshal, I had a conversation with Glen Rooney, DFS Legal Counsel, to discuss upcoming legislation to codify the expanded use and interstate deployment of the JHIRT Team. The plan is to include the language as an outside section of the FY 27 State Budget.
6. I attended a Hearing at the State House held by the Emergency Preparedness and Planning Committee for the purpose of gathering information regarding the effect of changes in Federal Grant money. Chief J.J. Burke from Sandwich was invited to testify by his State Rep. Steven

Xiarhos. Also testifying were representatives from the Coastal Zone Management (EOEA), DPH (not a mention of ambulances), the Chelsea Housing and Community Development Department, MAPC, MEMA (Dawn Brantley), and International Association of Emergency Managers (Chief Michael Cassidy). Takeaways were

- a. DPH mention of the Brockton Hospital Fire, and the stockpiled supplies at warehouse in Franklin
- b. Chelsea discussed the BRIC funding
- c. Rep. Flanagan has filed a Bill to require assessments for all communities
- d. Director Brantley's comments regarding legislation to professionalize the field of Emergency Management.
- e. Chief Burke's testimony was excellent, covering the various FEMA Grant programs.
- f. At the same time, regarding FEMA – IAFC and CFSI submitted White Papers in response to the President's Executive Order establishing a Council to Assess the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

7. A reported at the State meeting, on November 18<sup>th</sup> AGAD Doherty and I attended a small private event for Lieutenant Governor Driscoll at the office of the Suffolk Group – Bill Cass. We had a great opportunity to talk about the Bills to move OEMS and for Ambulance Reimbursement/Patients' Rights. Bill Cass also related that he had been contacted by a senior Senate leader to confirm that private EMS is in agreement to move OEMS.

8. After having a conversation with Chief Rob Reardon, Representative Ken Sweeney from the Duxbury area called me to introduce himself and asked if he could attend either a Board or General meeting to learn about what we do so that he could better support our needs.

9. There was an article in MassLive regarding fire safety legislation in the State, following up on the Fall River incident. It spoke about the difficulty of getting legislation or code changes passed. Regarding Fall River, the Legislators quoted have basically left it up to the Administration to act after

they receive a study regarding assisted living facilities.

10. The Secretary Treasurer forwarded a survey request from the IAFC Emergency Vehicle Management Section regarding issues with procurement and delays for fire apparatus. Please ask the Chiefs in your districts to participate.

11. CFSI – March 18-19, 2026, at the Marriott Marquis. All event tickets are to go through FCAM for the biggest impact. The Breakfast will be on the 18<sup>th</sup> as well as the meetings with members of Congress, the Dinner is on the 19<sup>th</sup>. The rooms for the E-Board are being worked on.

### **State Fire Marshal – Jon Davine- not in attendance**

**Reports of Committees** - No committee reports were heard do to it being the holiday meeting

**Unfinished Business : None**

**New Business : None**

### **Remarks for the Good of the Association**

President Purcell remarked that there has been a lot happening with the association and thanked everyone for their work.

President Purcell introduced several Senators and Representatives in attendance, and welcomed up Senator Paul Feeney from Foxborough who has been a great friend to FCAM. Senator Feeney thank President Purcell and mentioned that he continues to work with FCAM Leadership on legislative items, he thanked all the Chiefs for their work in their communities and wished everyone a Happy Holiday.

### **Next regularly is scheduled General Membership meeting**

January 21, 20256 will be a virtual meeting

Adjourn at: Chief Purcell again wished everyone a the best for the

holidays. Meeting adjourned at 1241 hours