

MASSACHUSETTS FIRE DISTRICT FOURTEEN

MEETING MINUTES

August 27, 2025, 9:00 AM
Maynard Fire Headquarters

Present:

Deputy Sammet	Chief Sorrows	A/Chief Latta	A/Chief Schultz	Chief Dutcher
Chief Lawless	A/Chief Kelley	Deputy Doucet	Deputy Weigold	Deputy Hayes
Deputy DeTore	Chief Nelson	Chief Puntini	Chief Choate	A/Chief Gordon
Chief Desautels	Chief Young	Chief Ferschke	A/Chief Ripley	Chief Colby
Deputy Aspesi				

Absent:

Ashland	Bellingham	Boxborough	Hopedale	Hopkinton
Marlborough	Sherborn	Stow		

Meeting called to order at 9:03 AM

- Acceptance of June minutes. Motion was made by Chief Lawless, seconded by Chief Ferschke, and voted unanimously to accept the June minutes as presented.

MEMA Update

- Justin Shrair was not in attendance but sent an email with a short update. August 12th drill was tabled, and no new date has been set. Planning is underway for a variety of large-scale events happening next, including FIFA WC 2026. Please notify your local coordinator if you know of any FIFA events/large gatherings happening in your area.
- Many training opportunities are happening next month and in the fall. For more information and to register, go to mematraining.mass.gov.

Treasurer

- Chief Lawless presented the June Treasurer's Report. Motion made by A/Chief Ripley, seconded by Deputy Hayes, and voted unanimously to accept the June Treasurer's report as read.

Submitted Committee Report Questions or Comments

- Chief Colby suggests a change to A/Chief Latta regarding FIU SOG wording and he agrees. A/Chief Latta speaks about FIU and new teams and members. Looking to recruit and "retain, recruit and become active." Request to spend FIU budget plus additional funds. Request tabled until Chief McPherson is available.

- Chief Young speaks about CISM and a lot of new applicants and struggling with team leaders.
- A/Chief Schultz speaks about the Dive Team, SOG, new team leader and looking for another Chief that wants to help out.

Old Business

- Legislative Breakfast to be held on Tuesday, September 23, 2025, 8:30 AM at the Italian American Victory Club in Shrewsbury. Class A Dress minus the gloves. This will be considered our September meeting.

New Business

- We need a new chairperson due to the retirement of Chief Judge. Chief Lawless explains the bylaw process. Chief Dutcher nominates Chief Lawless to finish out the term. Chief Choate seconds the nomination.

- Nomination Committee

Deputy Moraghan

Deputy McMorrow

Chief Purcell, appointed by Chief Lawless, Seconded by Chief Choate.

They will determine who the vice chair will be and present it to us at the next meeting.

- Dive Team

Chief Dutcher (Co-Chair)

A/Chief Schultz (Co-Chair)

Chief Puntini

- Tech Rescue

Chief Dutcher

Chief Colby

Chief Nelson

- District 14 HazMat Representative to District 3

Deputy DeTore

- MFA Representative

Chief Choate

A/Chief Schultz

Much discussion ensued regarding ongoing issues at the fire academy.

- Training Committee

Chief Choate
A/Chief Schultz

- Incident Management Assistance Team (IMAT)

Chief Choate
Chief Breen
Chief McPherson
Chief Purcell
Chief Ferschke
Chief Ward
Chief Nelson
Chief Colby
Chief Daugherty
Chief Desautels

- Fire Mobilization Committee

Chief Choate – Coordinator
Chief Breen – Assistant Coordinator
Chief Purcell
Chief Daugherty
Chief Desautels

- Grant Committee

Chief Sorrows
Chief Purcell
Chief Parenti
A/Chief Gordon

- NERAC

Not appointed my District 14. Appointment is made through the NERAC application process.

- Control Point Committee/Liaison

Chief Choate
Chief Lawless

- D14 Communications Car

Chief Breen
Deputy Moraghan

- Fire Investigation Team

A/Chief Latta
A/Chief Gordon

- Chief Lawless will reach out to the new nomination committee, set up a meeting for them to discuss our next vice chairperson and then we can vote at our October meeting.
- October meeting is to be held on Thursday, October 16, 2025, at Hudson Fire HQ at 9:00 AM.
- Chief Ferschke offers that FCAM is offering two different programs in September and October. More information on these programs is available on the FCAM website. FCAM is also still looking for mentors. October 30th is the New England division of IAFC meeting at Mohegan Sun. The next FCAM meeting is in Lynnfield at Spinelli's on the 17th of September.
- Chief Young discusses a fire at Hanscom Air Force Base and jurisdiction for federal property. Chief Ferschke offers that Natick has an MOA for Natick Labs.
- A/Chief Latta discusses the Fall River tragedy and CPA funds for sprinkler and fire alarm systems. Preserve and maintain. 2013 memo regarding the CPA money. FCAM All Hazard Incident Management team will be offering some classes. Classes sent out by Deputy Aspesi. D14 credit card request is in the works. Car 14 AFG money for that is still in the works along with NERAC additional funds. Deputy Aspesi offers CRHS was approached for additional funding. MAPC handles all aspects of building the new Car 14.
- Chief Dutcher brings up Quincy purchasing gear with PFAS. The PFAS is actually manufactured into the material. Chief Puntini offers that Armor AP is the manufacturer. Chief Nelson just purchased new gear, and one random set goes for testing upon receipt.

Chief Choate makes a motion to adjourn, seconded by Chief Dutcher and voted unanimously to accept.

Meeting adjourned at 10:16 AM

Legislative Breakfast, September 23, 2025, at 8:30 AM, Italian American Victory Club, Shrewsbury, MA.

October 16, 2025, at 9:00 AM, Hudson Fire HQ.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Arsenault

Coordinator