

**Nevada State  
Board of Fire Services  
January 30, 2009  
10:00 am**

**Nevada State Fire Marshal Division  
107 Jacobsen Way  
Classroom C  
Carson City Nevada 89711  
775-684-7525**

**Call to Order (Agenda Item #1)**

Chair Irwin called the meeting to order.

**Verification of notice of compliance with Open Meeting Law (Agenda Item 2)**

Denesa Johnston verified compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

**Roll call and introductions (Agenda Item 3)**

Members Present:

Pat Irwin, Chair, Training Officer, Lovelock Volunteer Fire Department  
David Petersen, Specialist Hazardous Material Mesquite Fire Department (via phone)  
Brad Geinzer, Professional Engineer, JBA Consulting Engineers (via phone)  
Bertral Washington, Assistant Chief Las Vegas Fire Department (via phone)  
Craig Nixon, Chief Mineral County Fire Department (via phone)  
Pete Anderson, State Forester, Nevada Division of Forestry  
James M. Wright, Chief, Nevada State Fire Marshal Division

Members Absent:

Paul Wagner, Chief, Reno Fire Department

Staff:

Denesa Johnston, Administrative Assistant, Nevada State Fire Marshal Division

Guests:

David Fogerson, Chair, Fire Service Fire Standards & Training Committee, Deputy Chief, East Fork Fire Protection District  
Mike Heideman, Executive Director, Nevada State Firefighters Association

Chair Irwin asked Denesa Johnston to verify quorum. Quorum was verified and introductions were made.

**Approval of April 21, 2008 and October 21, 2008 minutes (Agenda Item 4)** Pete Anderson motioned to accept the minutes as submitted.

Chief Nixon seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

**Discussion regarding the Board of Fire Service members review of the State Fire Marshal Division Blue ribbon Report (Agenda Item 5)** Chair Irwin asked for feedback from those

present regarding the Report. He would like to see the Report transferred to a spreadsheet/check off list of accomplishments using the Fire Marshal Progress Report to compare with.

Chief Wright said a lot of the items were taken from the Report and he will work on cross referencing them.

Chair Irwin shared that at the last Nevada Firefighter's Conference, it was reported that the items were 92 percent complete.

**Discussion regarding current Legislative issues (Assembly Bills, Senate Bills and Bill Draft reviews) that will have an impact on the fire service and public safety (Agenda Item 6) SB 6 Revises provisions regarding occupations diseases of volunteer firefighters** Mike Heideman reported that this Senate Bill will be heard on February 9, 2009 and that Senator Lee has offered to sponsor it.

Chief Nixon asked if the Board would be reissuing a letter of support or if the one submitted last year would suffice.

Chair Irwin shared that he would like to write a new letter of support basically stating what was submitted last year.

**BDR277 Governing auto defibrillators**

Chair Irwin shared that there is no release on this Bill

**BDR568 Safe Cigarette**

Chief Wright reported that there has been draft proposal language from others stated and he has been gathering information on it and is looking for the federal standard to become available. He also shared that he supports this BDR and is asking for an officer position to be maintained for this.

Pete Anderson asked about authority over the smoke shops.

Chief Wright answered that he sees this as a state issue and has been speaking with lobbyists about this BDR.

**BDR569 Novelty lighters**

Chief Wright reported that Oregon has a lead on this program. One concern that was shared by Chief Wright is that Nevada does not have any statistics regarding this issue.

**BDR590 Changes in worker' compensation**

Pat asked for comment. There was no comment regarding this.

**AB 16 Provides for the disclosure of certain information to an emergency response employee concerning possible exposure to an infectious disease.**

It was shared that this Assembly Bill would require a hospital to notify the emergency responders that came into contact with patients who have possible infectious diseases. Chair Irwin would like to see this Board support this Assembly Bill. Pete Anderson agreed with this comment.

**BDR768 Volunteer firefighter reemployment exemption from consequences**

Mike Heideman shared that this is a P.E.R.S. issue; the language should be out soon and that there is no fiscal note on it.

**BDR898 Occupational diseases**

Chair Irwin reported it is still in language.

**BDR908 Provisions relating to Fire Department**

No language is available at this time.

Denesa Johnston was asked to make this an action item as soon as the information becomes available and that the Board will meet via phone again to conform to the open meeting laws.

AB67 Authorizes boards of county commissioners to levy an ad valorem tax to pay the costs of public safety, health and welfare service.

It was stated there hasn't been any opposition heard yet regarding this Assembly Bill.

Chair Irwin shared that he doesn't think anyone has closely reviewed it yet but Chief Washington stated that there is 50/50 support of this Assembly Bill coming from Clark County.

Chair Irwin then asked if there were any other bills that needed to be tracked such as AB 75 & SB 94, which are both specific to the Tahoe Basin.

Chief Wright mentioned Assembly Bill 40 that is coming from State Public Works. This Bill will affect the State Fire Marshal Division and Clark County Schools.

Chief Washington shared that there is a Senate and Assembly Bill allowing specialized plates for motorcycles that could affect the Professional and Volunteer Firefighter plates. This will open up another avenue for funding.

**Discussion regarding the recent site visit of the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress that took place on January 8 & 9, 2009 for the State Fire Marshal Division Training Bureau accreditation (Agenda Item 7)**

Dave Fogerson reported that Pat Irwin thanked those involved for the very complete and accurate work it took to make this happen. He was impressed with the few changes that needed to be made and that this accreditation will add a layer of professionalism to what the State Fire Marshal Division does. The goal of the Fire Service Standards & Training Committee was to get this certification to travel to states and on an international level. The State Fire Marshal Division received the letter this week saying they are recommending Firefighter I, Firefighter II and Hazardous Materials Operation and Awareness be granted immediately and that the office is currently working on the four recommendation that were made during the site visit. He thanked Dennis Pinkerton, Denesa Johnston, Ben Jenkins, Lori DeGristina, Rob Edgington and the State Fire Marshal Division for their support. This is a great accomplishment.

Chair Irwin shared that he came in at the end Fire Service Standards & Training Committee meeting when the I.F.S.A.C. site team members commented this was one of the best site visits they had ever seen.

**Discussion of 911 for Kids Program (Agenda Item 8)** Chair Irwin announced that at the Nevada Chiefs Meeting, it was discussed that there are two children being honored on March 18<sup>th</sup>. He will forward the actual information to everyone. He has a 911 golf tournament in Fallon that raises money for teachers and fire department. He will also send out invitations to the golf tournament. He would like to see a big turn out for the golf tournament.

**Nevada State Fire Marshal's discussion of Division activity that has taken place since October 21, 2008 meeting (Agenda Item 9)**

Chief Wright reported that there has been a lot happening at the Fire Marshal Division. I.F.S.A.C. site visit has been a great accomplishment and the Division is trying to find the funds to for him and Dennis Pinkerton to travel back east in April to accept the accreditation. He also shared that the Training Section continues to exceed in Haz Mat Training and thanked Bureau Chief Pinkerton for doing a tremendous job and also the Adjunct Instructor staff for their help. Budget preparations continue on a regular basis and shared that the Fire Marshal Division may not look the same as the Division continues with the process. The Division continues losing positions but has been making things happened with fewer people. The Division could do a lot more if it were able to get some of the positions back.

Chair Irwin asked if David Fogerson and Chief Wright could supply Mike Heideman with information on I.F.S.A.C.

Chief Wright and David Fogerson will forward information to Mike.

Pete Anderson asked about the Examiners and Inspectors positions.

Chief Wright shared with everyone that these positions are funded by plan reviews fees and we have not had the fund to support them. One of the things he has implemented as a pilot program contracting for services using North Lake Tahoe staff to come down to the State Fire Marshal Division office to help. He would like to maintain the core staff we have and continue to utilize contract services. The Inspectors and Examiners are currently reporting to Deputy Hastings and that a lot of the inspection follow-up is being done by the Investigators.

The new Haz Mat database that is a joint venture between the State Fire Marshal Division and the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) is now online. The staff is still trying to clean up some of the IT problems. The automated payment system of it is not working.

The Division went through its license renewal period. The Division has taken an enforcement act on this program and he is getting a lot of calls from legislative representatives on it and the Division is assessing late fees and also and charging for the change of addresses. The Division is also reviewing and working on changes to the N.A.C.'s that will close loopholes that have been discovered with new language and also dealing with penalty fines.

Chair Irwin asked about the Blue Ribbon Report.

Chief Wright stated that the Division has received a "good bill of health" from L.C.B. and also from the Internal Audit that was done but also stated that some of the items are a continuing process, which the auditors realize. The Division has closed out two of the audit reports and the Division's Letter of Intent will end at the end of this fiscal year.

#### **General announcements and call for public comment (Agenda Item 10)**

Chair Irwin invited everyone to the February 21, 2009 Fireman's Ball in Lovelock.

Mike Heideman shared that the Fire Rescue conference held in Las Vegas every year did not take place this past year. The Chief's Association is bringing it back to the Fire Tech Reno at the Reno Event Center in November. The Silver Legacy will be the host hotel. He will share information as it becomes available and he will be meeting with Ken Riddle next week to start working on details.

Brad Geinzer announced that his term will be expiring in June and that he would be willing to submit names for recommendation.

Chief Wright shared with everyone that the State is closely reviewing Boards & Commissions. He also shared that Denesa Johnston got notice that the architect, Dale Smith, was approved for appointment.

Chair Irwin asked that members please get information to Denesa Johnston for future Agenda's as soon as possible

#### **Adjournment (Agenda item 11)**

Meeting was adjourned.