

Minutes Approved 12/7/10  
**NEVADA STATE**  
**BOARD OF FIRE SERVICES**  
**October 25, 2010 – 10:00 a.m.**  
**Washoe County Regional Emergency Operations Center**  
**5195 Spectrum Boulevard**  
**Reno, Nevada**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Bertral Washington (Chairperson) – Assistant Fire Chief, Las Vegas Fire Department  
Dale Smith – President, Smith Design Group  
Lynn Nielson, Professional Engineer, City of Henderson  
Pete Anderson – State Forester, Nevada Division of Forestry (*via telephone*)  
Elaine Pace – Training Officer, East Fork Fire-Fish Springs Volunteer Fire Department  
Michael Brown – Fire Chief, North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District  
James Wright (Secretary) – Nevada State Fire Marshal Division

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Denesa Johnston – Administrative Assistant, Nevada State Fire Marshal Division  
Samantha Ladich – Deputy Attorney General  
Peter Mulvihill, Assistant Fire Marshal, North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District  
Dennis Pinkerton – Bureau Chief, Nevada State Fire Marshal Division  
Chad Hastings, Deputy Chief, State Fire Marshal Division  
Pat Irwin – Firefighter/EMT, Lovelock Volunteer Fire Department  
David Fogerson – Deputy Chief Trainer, East Fork Fire & Paramedic District  
Bruce VanCleemput, Nevada Division of Emergency Management

- I. **Call to Order** – Chairperson Washington called the meeting to order.
- II. **Verification of Notice of Compliance with Open Meeting Law** – Denesa Johnston verified the meeting was noticed, according to Open Meeting Law.
- III. **Roll Call and Introductions** – Roll call was heard and a quorum of seven members was determined. Introductions were made.
- IV. **Approval of September 23, 2010 Minutes** – **Elaine Pace moved to approve the September 23, 2010 minutes as presented. Michael Brown seconded the Motion. Motion was carried.**
- V. **Discussion Regarding The Restructuring Of The Board Of Fire Services In Combination With The Fire Service Standards & Training Committee (FSSTC)** – Chairperson Washington stated this issue was discussed at the last FSSTC meeting and that some revisions had been approved. The revisions were distributed and reviewed.

Member Nielson commented that he is in favor of combining the Boards, but that his concern would be the removal of the architectural or engineering representation give the types of issues this Board addresses. Discussion followed regarding the replacement of the Haz Mat Specialist with a Professional Engineering representative.

**Lynn Nielson moved to authorize Chair Washington to continue further investigation into the viability of combining the Board of Fire Services with FSSTC through meetings with the Chair of FSSTC, State Fire Marshal, the Director of Public Safety and other Nevada Fire Service organizations including the revision of the language on Line “G” to “Professional Engineer” instead of “Haz Mat Specialist”. Dale Smith seconded the Motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

- VI. **Discussion Regarding The April 1, 2002 State Fire Marshal Division Blue Ribbon Report** – Member Nielson commended the recommendations presented in the report and noted some of the recommendations have been implemented. He stated this item has been agenzized for a future meeting in order for the Board to provide input to the Legislature.

Pat Irwin pointed out this document had been used by the BFS in the past as a benchmark to work with the Fire Marshal's Office and that, in his opinion, approximately 90% of the items in the report have been implemented.

Member Nielson reviewed the following recommendations that have not yet been implemented:

- The minimum Fire and Life Safety Codes for all state agencies contained in NRS to be developed by the State Fire Marshal's Office.
- For the Board of Fire Services to concur on regulations proposed by the State Fire Marshal prior to being included in the NAC.
- To review NRS and NAC language in order for the State Fire Marshal to enter into interlocal agreements with local jurisdictions.

Chairperson Washington requested this item be agendaized for the next meeting and that Member Nielson provide information regarding the obstacles with the development of Fire and Life Safety Codes for all state agencies by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

**VII. Discussion of Fire-Based Emergency Medical Services (EMS)** – Chairperson Washington suggesting taking a look at the departments in the State to gather information on which departments provide EMS and which departments would like to provide more EMS. Member Brown volunteered to gather information in the north. Chairperson Washington volunteered to gather information in the south.

**VIII. Discussion of a Statewide Public Safety Communications System** – Chairperson Washington requested a Board member take the lead on this item in order for the issue to continue to go forward. Member Brown volunteered. Member Nielson requested information regarding this item. Chairperson Washington stated further information would be provided in agenda item X.

**IX. Discussion regarding any pending Fire Service BDRs for the Upcoming 76 (2011) Nevada Legislative Session** – Chairperson Washington stated this item was agendaized to make sure the Board was prepared for the upcoming Legislative session and to be aware of any BDRs that will need recommendations. Member Wright stated the State Fire Marshal Division has a system in place for tracking BDRs especially related to fires and that he would provide information as it becomes available. Member Brown commented on the public's interest regarding this issue. Member Nielson requested input regarding how the Board has been involved in previous Legislative cycles. Pete Mulvihill stated he was speaking as a former BFS Board member. He explained Board meetings would be held in January to discuss BDRS for the upcoming Legislative session and that he would be kept informed when he would be needed to testify before the Legislature.

**X. Presentation of the Tahoe Regional Interoperability Partnership (T.R.I.P.)** – Member Brown provided a brief history of TRIP and explained TRIP was developed to provide a better communications system between departments throughout the State. To-date, mapping work for the system was being worked on and that grant funding was being sought for the system.

**XI. Discussion regarding activities taken place at the State Fire Marshal Division since July 1, 2010** – Member Wright reported the Division was completing budget preparation. Staff has reached the 5,000 target for Haz Mat permits; therefore, tracking would begin for retrieving permit funding. The licensing renewal period was beginning. There were approximately one hundred licensees found not in compliance. He issued a thank-you letter for the efforts to reduce commercial fires and noted there were some in the hood and duct industry that were not following standards. There have been eight fire fatalities to-date included an elderly female in Dayton. A Fire Death Reporting Form has been developed and available on their website in order to better retrieve death notifications.

Member Pace asked about the NFIRS Report. Member Wright commented on the lack of information being provided by departments.

Member Nielson asked if NFIRS data was provided to the Governor or was more information provided. Member Wright replied no. He stated information given to the DPS Director's Office was then forwarded to the Governor's Office.

## **XII. General Announcements and Call for Public Comment**

**A.** Pat Irwin announced he would be the new Director of the State EMS on November 15, 2010.

**B.** Chief Washington announced he would be going before the Board of Commission for ratification on November 3, 2010. He stated he intends to remain on the BFS Board.

**XIII. Adjournment** - There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**Michael Brown moved to adjourn the meeting. Pete Anderson seconded the Motion. Motion carried.**