

Nevada State Board of Fire Services  
January 19, 2018  
10:00 am  
University of Nevada Cooperative Extension  
2621 Northgate Lane, Suite 12  
Carson City, NV 89706  
Videoconference to  
College of Southern Nevada  
3200 E. Cheyenne, Building C, Room 2638  
North Las Vegas, NV 89030  
Teleconference to 775-687-0999, Participation Code 47525#

## **MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**

### **Members Present:**

Chair David Fogerson  
Bart J. Chambers, State Fire Marshal  
William Erlach, Captain, Reno Fire Department  
Nicholas Moriarty, Executive Director of Fire Protection, JBA Consulting Engineers  
Eric Guevin, Fire Marshal, Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District  
Kelli Baratti, Member of the General Public, Department of Emergency Management  
Elaine Pace, Chief of a Volunteer Fire Department, East Fork Fire Protection District  
Domingo Cambeiro, Principal, DCC Architects  
Terrance Wilferd, Division Chief, Henderson Fire Department  
Kacey KC, State Forester Firewarden, Nevada Division of Forestry

### **Members Not Present:**

Jeffrey Buchanan, Deputy Chief, Clark County Fire Department

### **Also Present:**

Gwen M. Barrett, Executive Administrative Assistant, State Fire Marshal Division  
Shane Chesney, Deputy Attorney General, Attorney General's Office  
Mike Heidemann, Director, Neva State Firefighters' Association  
Jeff Donahue, Regional Education Specialist, National Firefighter Protection Association  
Dennis Pinkerton, Training Bureau Chief, State Fire Marshal Division  
Tom Martinez, Training Officer, State Fire Marshal Division

### **1. CALL TO ORDER BY THE CHAIR (Non-Action Item.)**

Chair Fogerson called the meeting to order.

### **2. VERIFICATION OF NOTICE OF COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN MEETING LAW (Non-Action Item.)**

Chair Fogerson verified with Gwen Barrett that the meeting is in compliance.

**3. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS (Non-action Item.)**

Members and guests introduced themselves. A quorum was established.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT (Non-Action Item.)**

There was no public comment.

**5. APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 9, 2017 MEETING MINUTES (Discussion/For Possible Action.)**

Elaine Pace, Kelli Baratti, Kacey KC made minor spelling and punctuation corrections.

**Elaine Pace motioned to approve the November 9, 2017 meeting minutes as corrected. Kelli Baratti seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.**

**6. PRO BOARD ACCREDITATION (Non-Action Item)**

Dennis Pinkerton announced that the Pro Board application has been completed. A self-study is in the process and is halfway done and he might be complete with it in the next couple of weeks. A site visit will be made and there might be some manual changes that will be voted on at a later meeting. Dennis Pinkerton indicated that he will have to ask the Board for guidance as to what levels will be certified. Bart Chambers envisions, on the prevention side, to look at the Inspector Series, especially with the upcoming changes to 1031 with the NFPA. Also, with what we see some of the other states doing; we should take a look at Investigations and Company Officer/Chief Officer series. Dennis Pinkerton indicated that the next Board meeting will probably be at the National State Firefighter's Association (NSFA) conference and he will provide more information at that time, and perhaps make an action item for more direction. Chair Fogerson added that aiming on the prevention side, Pro Board is a better fit than International Fire Service Accreditation (IFSAC,) especially for the Intrastate Interlocal contracts between the State Fire Marshal's office and the local jurisdictions. Eric Guevin asked Dennis Pinkerton how long it will take and he replied that it would take about one (1) year.

**7. FIRE SERVICE INSTRUCTOR ETHICS COURSE (Non-Action Item)**

Dennis Pinkerton handed out an overview of the Ethics Course. The State Fire Marshal Division (SFM) intends on giving this course to Evaluators and Proctors and to add it to the SFM's Instructor I and Instructor II program. The SFM would like to see this put into the "Nevada Fire Service Professional Qualifications" (Professional Qualifications) manual so all fire departments that do their own training will be required to do an Ethics Course. Elaine Pace asked for a timeframe, Tom Martinez answered that they will be scheduling Fire Service Instructor I and II later in the spring and will also get Adjunct Instructors together to complete the course and will include a Proctor Evaluator course with a recertification throughout the State beginning around mid-March. Chair Fogerson asked if SFM would bring the changes to the Professional Qualifications manual for the IFSAC and

for this course, allowing a once a year review and update of that document. Eric Guevin asked if the Board could get the document prior to the next meeting so they can have comments ready and Dennis Pinkerton agreed. Bart Chambers asked that a draft be sent to the Board members by the first week of May, if not sooner, allowing members to review ahead of time and get a final draft document to the Board for the next meeting.

Eric Guevin commented that Ethics is a huge issue, for example, the Lake Tahoe Regional Fire Chiefs meeting was recently working on a code of conduct for the strike team. During the California fires this year, as crews were making entries into homes, notifications were going off on people's cell phones and they were able to watch and hear firefighters make entries into their homes, and some comments were made on the outside of homes that were also captured by camera and audio. Eric Guevin mentioned another instance when firefighters went to a movie during their off-time but in uniform, the fire truck was parked out front and you could see smoke from the fire in the background, the pictures were on social media. Information is being routed through public information and ICS command and crews are on camera all the time and they may not be aware of that. The manuals and the expectations are out of date because of technology. Lake Tahoe Chiefs are trying to standardize and give an orientation to strike team leaders and engine companies. In the classroom we need to be ever aware of the social media aspect. Bart Chambers provided some history on what Eric Guevin just covered. Curriculum for a Strike Team Leader may be something we will want to emphasize in the Ethics Course, to ensure the agency's policies and procedures are being followed when wearing the uniform off-time vs down-time.

## **8. EXTERIOR SUPPORT FIREFIGHTER TRAINING (Non-Action Item)**

Tom Martinez distributed course descriptions of the Exterior Support Firefighter (ESF) and Firefighter I Transition (FF1T) and noted that an adjustment was made to the hours in the skills portion. He is trying to match the curriculum of the online portion of the International Fire Service Training Association (IFSTA) and is in the process of finishing it up with some adjustments; removal of the Hazardous Materials Awareness (HMA) and Hazardous Materials Operations (HMO) from the IFSTA ResourceOne site, they will still be required in order to get the Exterior Support Firefighter and the Firefighter I. They were removed in order to reduce the cost to each agency, there is a \$40 extra charge for each course which SFM can supply at no charge to the agencies.

The online portion is going to vary depending on the level or experience of the individual. Recommended times will be given; the ESF will be 30 hours and the FF1T will be 24 hours (FF1T will be fewer hours because there are only 8 chapters versus 12 chapters in the ESF.) Hours were matched in the IFSTA 6<sup>th</sup> Edition for the skills portion or the face to face instruction. The hybrid was matched so they have some hours of minimum or recommended and we do not tie the hand of the agency. If they have one person going through the course is going to take less time, if they have a group or an academy it will take longer. ResourceOne offers a free course and a \$40 course which gives interactive activities. Tom Martinez has reviewed both courses and determined you get much more with the interactive video. Other agencies he has spoken with have agreed that \$40 for the course is acceptable. A pilot course is being considered, at no charge that would allow us to iron out bugs and make adjustments. Lovelock Volunteer Fire Department and Lyon County Fire Protection

District are interested in participating. Once it is up and running, if an agency chooses to use it, it will be available.

Bart Chambers wanted to confirm that firefighters who are currently in the process through something like Target Solutions will not have to incur additional costs. Tom Martinez answered that as long as they use an approved curriculum, it will be accepted. Eric Guevin asked who approves the curriculum. Tom Martinez responded that it is all standardized. Elaine Pace asked if the manual was an additional cost and Tom Martinez indicated that the agency would pay \$80 for the manual or \$65 for the eBook. Chair Fogerson commented that it ties back to the Professional Qualifications Standards, it looks like a 2013 Standard, are they going to update a 2017? Tom Martinez answered that as they come up with new additions, the Training Unit updates them.

**9. LIVING WITH FIRE CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION TO ED SMITH AND SONYA SISTARE (Non-Action Item)**

Ed Smith was present, Sonya Sistare was unavailable. Ed Smith appreciates the partnership between the Cooperative Extension and Nevada's Fire Service and gave a brief history on how the Cooperative Extension got started: It started out in 1988 (30 years ago) as a partnership between the Sierra Front Wildfire Cooperators and Cooperative Extension. The Sierra Front and Cooperative Extension applied for a grant to develop a wildfire reduction education program for Nevada. He got the funding and went to the Sierra Front Board of Directors and asked them to appoint a committee with the purpose of agreeing to recommendations between the feds, the state, and local fire service about what Nevadans should do to reduce fire threats, giving us a standardized set of recommendations. His job was to facilitate the discussion and do the literature searches, at the time there wasn't much information out there. These are the people that Sierra Front gave as the committee: Pat Murphy, NDF; Bob Ashworth, NDF; Mike Dondero, US Forest Service; Jim Reinhart, East Fork Fire Protection District; Mike Terwilliger, Truckee Fire Protection District; Steven Mihalic, Carson City Fire Department; Gerry Adams, North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District; and Ron Barrett, Bureau of Land Management. Ed's job was to facilitate the discussion and to get everyone to agree how far from the house should be fence post base be. They came up with standardized set of recommendations and that was the critical foundation for Living With Fire, because once that was done they could take those recommendations and start building an educational program around it. What was unique about it is that there would be a standardized message, the public would hear the same thing from Tahoe Douglas, that they would hear from East Fork that they would hear from Nevada Division of Forestry on how to reduce the fire threat. Resources were pulled together; one set of materials with everyone's name on it. Right from the start it was a partnership.

Ed was very touched by the recognition and knows that Sonya will be too. Ed Smith commented that he enjoyed working with the Board and Eric Guevin added that the Board has enjoyed working with them and that they have produced great resources.

Chief Chambers commented that during his short tenure as the Fire Marshal, Ed's cooperation with the fire service throughout the Nevada and CAL FIRE has been amazing. He cannot say thank you enough to what Ed and Sonya have done and it resonates in other areas of the country as well. Ed Smith indicated that he would be remiss not to mention Pete Mulvihill.

Kelly Baratti commented that she is so proud to see the things that Ed has helped develop; he established National Best Practices and Living With Fire and different versions have been adopted in many other areas of the country. To say that there is going to be a hole that Ed and Sonya are going to leave is an understatement. Their leadership and patience with the Board, and kindness and direction are second to none, thank you so much. Ed Smith thanked Kelli Baratti and added that he has to mention Sonya. In 2006 Ed received a grant from Nevada Division of Forestry and Kacey KC was the grants person at the time. The funding was to hire a marketing person whose job would be to promote the materials, get the word out to the media, and that was Sonya. Things have not slowed down ever since the day they hired Sonya.

Kacey KC added that she was in high school when the program began and she has worked with Living With Fire all of her 16 years in State service and has been really pound of the relationship, the mentorship she received. Ed and Sonya have been great to work with and it is a testament that this is talked about nationwide and all over the fire service. Kacey KC added that she hopes this continues beyond their much deserved retirements.

Chair Fogerson commented that now days we are looking at fire based research for the structure environment; in 1988 you were already doing this on the wildland side. Where we are to today, because of what you did, is incredible. The Sierra Front message you have to the public will not go away when you retire because you guys ingrained so many generations of middle school students that are now, for example, a State Forester Firewarden. Jim Wright had a saying: "how many fires were prevented today, every fire that didn't happen." Think of the homes that exist today, all the firefighter lives saved because you have given us the working space around a home.

Ed Smith commented that one of his mentors was Gerry Adams, former Fire Marshal of North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District. Ed met him on his second day on the job after having given a presentation at the Rotary, whom Gerry Adams was a member and he walked into Ed's office later and said that he had heard the presentation and he needed his help. Ed replied that he didn't know anything about fire and Gerry Adams said that's ok because he had that expertise. He said the biggest threat to his community is not a chimney fire; it is a wildland fire burning through open space in Incline. We have to do something about our dead trees and he didn't know one bush from the next.

Kelli Baratti added that this is one of the few examples that we have of where we had a decade of pretty destructive catastrophic fires in the 80's along the Sierra Front and we had some people who had foresight to build and support a program like this. It is incumbent upon all of us to look at some opportunities we have going forward to not lose opportunities to build good programs and best practices that are actually implemented into the fabric of what we do.

**10. LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE FIRETREX DATABASE (Discussion/For Possible Action)**

Chief Chambers brought the Board up to speed on status of the FireTrex Database. He has been in discussion with Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB), the Governor’s Budget Committee, as well as Department of Public Safety Finance. He has presented not only on the fire side but the potential that the database would benefit the State through Department of Emergency Management, Homeland Security, etc. It has been approved by the Board of Examiners and if approved by LCB we will move forward to put FireTrex into place for tracking of Hazardous Materials certification in training, our foundation. All aspects of Hazardous Materials Training whether Awareness, Operations, Technicians, Specialist, as well as any Inspector, Company Officer certification that would pertain to Hazardous Materials will be presented to LCB in two (2) weeks. This is where we are going to be tracking, for example; in regards to an Inspector, if they have hazardous Materials Inspection and that is required of them, we will be tracking their certifications.

We will also have a repository going back to 2000. The total cost of this program for five (5) years is \$81,000; the first installment is \$39,900, thereafter for the next fiscal year approximately \$19,000 and annual maintenance of approximately \$6,000. The fiscal impact to agencies will be reduced in regards to immediate notification to the student and agency.

Chief Chambers recommended to the Board that a letter of support be submitted to ensure that we emphasize the need to support this program and move forward for the “Tracking of Hazardous Materials Certification” and the repository of said certification of firefighters statewide. This will also have an impact outside of the firefighter realm, in regards to environmental health and those individuals have to be tracked through our system who have attended the Hazardous Materials Course. The NRS 477.039 states that the State Fire Marshal shall establish training programs within the state and NRS 477.045 states that the State Fire Marshal shall establish Hazardous Materials Training for firefighters statewide. This is where Chief Chambers will be pushing the information to legislative bodies at LCB; to get a strong support for the monies for the database.

Once in place we will be able to support other modules outside of not only the fire service but other components. We are tentative in our projections that the fiscal impact of this database will be minimal if any at all, but the primary is that it is for Hazardous Materials Tracking and Certification. Doming Cambeiro confirmed that we do have the funding for this. Chief Chambers stated that we do have the funding and that has been going back and forth with DPS Training they were looking at a 45/45/10 or 50/50 split with SERC. We have the monies, through NDEP, from the Beatty Dump fees that are collected annually. That is Chief Chambers’ push and recommendation. Eric Guevin asked if this program tracks the Hazardous Material as well as the training, Chief Chambers replied that it is just the training and certification of the individual taking the course. Erick Guevin asked if it would dovetail with: A) storing the materials in the system we currently have and B) we would know they had training in that area. Chief Chambers said that is different, this database is for Training and Certification in regards to Hazardous Materials training, there is no tracking of product, and we already have the database for that. We are trying to bring something back in a cloud held program to the fire service and firefighters that can be user friendly and reduce what we have as a repository. It

currently takes significant personnel hours – someone asks for a certificate that was earned in 2000, on average it takes anywhere from 3 to 6 hours spent trying to locate due to filing systems.

Bill Erlach mentioned that at the last meeting the Board talked about having a system similar to Resource Ordering and Status System for all risk and wondered if the new database could be integrated into that, so when DEM says there is a wildland fire near a town with hazardous materials, we can look for qualified firefighters to send. Chief Chambers replied yes, with a different module that can be built off of this program once it is established.

**Domingo Cambeiro motioned to approve the letter in support of FireTrex. Bill Erlach seconded the motion. No further discussion. The motion carried**

**11. REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS CONCERNING THEIR VARIOUS CONSTITUENT GROUPS THEY REPRESENT ON THE BOARD (Non-Action Item)**

Chair Fogerson mentioned that there was discussion about expanding the membership of the Board at our last meeting; we do not need to expand the membership because each of us has a group that we are representing. Each Board member can report back on any issues for discussion as future action items.

**Nick Moriarty, P.E. Executive Director of Fire Protection JBA Consulting Engineers, Las Vegas.** Nick Moriarty mentioned that at last the meeting Chief Chambers had referenced some discussion in the southern part of the state regarding the high-rise requirements of 55 feet vs 75 feet. There was a meeting yesterday in Southern Nevada to discuss this very issue, it came to a vote and failed. There does not appear to be an agreement as to what is classified as a high-rise among Southern Nevada jurisdictions. The discussion has been going on for several months now and there were three different proposals to the committee yesterday and all three failed. To update the Board on the progress of that, it appears that there will be different criteria for each of the jurisdictions in Southern Nevada upon adoption of 2018 code for what is classified as a high-rise and what criteria will be needed for those buildings.

**Terry Wilferd, Division Chief, Henderson Fire Department.** Terry Wilferd had a meeting on Wednesday with the Southern Nevada training chiefs from various departments. Most of their questions have been answered over the course of the agenda for this meeting. There is one outstanding item that the chiefs had, and is directed towards the Training Unit; they appreciation being allowed to help with the Fire Officer Test database late last year and would like to know if there are plans to look at the other testing databases such as Firefighter, Fire Instructor, and Hazardous Materials. Dennis Pinkerton indicated that he would really appreciate that, any help is great.

**Doming Cambeiro, AIA, Principal, DCC Architects, Las Vegas.** Domingo Cambeiro commented that architects are happy. Nick Moriarty’s comment has been tossed around the architects and everybody has a difference of opinion and it appears that until the jurisdictions get together and can agree on something it will probably hold as different requirements in different jurisdictions. Architects have worked with that for years and will continue to do so.

**Kelli Baratti, Grants & Projects Analyst, Department of Emergency Management.** Kelli Baratti wears two hats; public representative and representing the Division of Emergency Management. The first thing to report is following the October 1 shooting in Las Vegas, both Chief John Steinbeck

from Clark County Fire who serves as Clark County's Emergency Manager and Chief Caleb Cage of Department of Emergency Management were directed by the Governor to put together recommendations as to how to improve all the lessons learned from the October 1 shooting. She cannot go into detail until the Governor is briefed, but hopefully people will be able to listen in during the meeting, as they have put some very serious thought into recommendations for both Southern Nevada and the Division of Emergency Management as to response and preparedness for those unfortunate types of situations.

Following the accidental launch of the Hawaii announcement, the Governor's Office asked if that could happen in Nevada. The Short answer is "no" because we don't have a missile launch. Fortunately for Nevada we have the next generation EAS software and hardware and we have a robust relationship with the Nevada Broadcasters Association who launches those messages on our behalf. There are people involved so there is always the slight chance of operator error.

Jim Walker and Kelli Baratti will be assisting Nevada Department of Transportation with a debriefing of their road crews and dispatchers to the October 1 shooting. They have some people who are having some issues and they are a little concerned about how their agency responded to their employee's needs. Kelli Baratti reached out to one of our national representatives for critical incident stress management, Ms. St. Claire, and she will be in Las Vegas next week.

The Homeland Security Grant Program will be coming; those of you who have an interest, you better be ahead of the game. There is a requirement for both local governments and the Division of Emergency Management to collect emergency response plans from schools, casinos, utilities, and emergency managers. We have been busy updating and gathering all those plans; we act as a repository and a reminder to those people who have that requirement under statute. They must provide them to those of you who are in a response capacity, so you know what you are walking into. If that is not happening, DEM can help leverage those folks to help get you those plans. There will be a short term committee made up of a member of the casinos who meet the statutory requirements for this plan submittal.

The Nevada Preparedness Summit 2018 will take place in Pahrump on February 6-9 of this year. There are 160 attendees, which is unprecedented. We are trying a Track concept this year; we have a Response and Logistics Track, Technology Track, and Schools Track.

We will continue to work on identifying the training database for DEM.

**Eric Guevin, Fire Marshal, Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District.** Eric Guevin is on the Advisory Planning Commission (APC) at Tahoe, he is the Fire Marshal fire representative on the Board. One of the big things they are looking at is the egress and access to the lake; our choke points. They are working with the TRPA to come up with a plan to have good communication because cell phones drop six or seven times. We are looking at some State funding for microwave communications. AT&T is paying for the emergency upgrade at priority service but it did not work well because when the system fails it doesn't matter what priority you are, it bumps everybody off. We are looking at trying to do some stuff creatively in linking the lake for communication which will help people know which routes to use for evacuation; roads are narrow and we know the roads cannot handle incoming engines and outgoing people. The Angora Fire could have been more disastrous.

Eric Guevin is also on the Planning and Emergency Management Committee as a fire rep; looking at water supply around the lake and those types of things. There are a lot of positions open; a vacuum forms and people leave, we need succession planning and training for those folks.

The Fire Prevention Association of Nevada is tying in with the FireShowsWest because it is a regional program, not just Nevada. They are putting in a component for public education and risk reduction working with the NFPA (another board that he sits on) for the community network. FireShowsWest also looked at bolstering their program and bringing in EMS; it used to be that FireShowsWest was fire shows and he pointed out that everybody who is in fire has to be involved in EMS. The program has now moved to November and he thinks that it will continue to grow. We are also looking at what can be done in Southern Nevada because we don't want to isolate our fire prevention folks down there. The Nevada Chiefs has opted out of FireShowsWest; they have separate interests so they may look at something in September.

The Tahoe Regional Planning Association (TRPA) is fighting a lot of the communications towers; we have private interests that want to put communication towers in and TRPA is squelching it saying they don't want people to see them (although they look like a pine tree) and they are too tall. They have to be tall for the reach for communications. Another problem is if AT&T puts them in, they don't like to share with everyone else, they charge a premium. It is a real issue and battle. We made it clear to them (if you remember back to the Angora Fire, we were not allowed to rake pine needles) this is your new pine needle situation and if you don't address this communication problem people are not going to know how to get in and out of the basin.

**Kacey KC, State Forester Firewarden, Nevada Division of Forestry.** Chair Fogerson and the Board congratulated Kacey KC on her promotion to State Forester Firewarden.

Kacey KC indicated that she is really excited to hire a new deputy one with a strong background in natural resources and wildland fire.

Kacey KC met with the Utah State Forester on the Wildland Fire Protection Program, their program is very interesting and started exactly where the current Wildland Fire Protection Program is and has just evolved. We are forming an executive committee and will be reaching out to see who should be on the committee. It will start formulating how we are going to do this in the State of Nevada for the next legislative process. Utah had to change a lot of the stuff in their law, we already have codified in law so we are a step ahead.

Update on the hoist: the helicopters were in Redding last week getting the attachment fittings for the hoists. The three engines we had talked about last time are on order.

Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant Program; everything is ordered; what we have received has been shipped out to the volunteer firefighter stations.

A new addition to the Division is the In-Fact Coordinator. We have hired the position and the starting date is February 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Elaine Pace, Volunteer Fire Chief, Fish Springs Volunteer Fire Department, East Fork Fire Protection District.** Elaine Pace is on the volunteer side of the fire service and has heard from several people about how much they appreciate the development of the Exterior Support Firefighter and Firefighter I Transition. There has been a request by the volunteers to offer a Fire Service Instructor I class on a volunteer friendly schedule as Monday-Friday from 8-5 is difficult for the vast majority of volunteer fire departments to do.

**Bill Erlach, Captain, Reno Fire Department.** Bill Erlach asked Kacey KC if she was one the Nevada Wildland Fire Cohesive Strategy Committee that was a board that she was on, she indicated

that she is on the Nevada Fire Board and they haven't held a meeting in a while. Bill Erlach asked if it would be prudent to have a delegate from the Board. She replied "Yes". Chair Fogerson said that he would like the Board to receive information from them, the Nevada Fire Chiefs Association has a representative on the board, a Clark County Deputy Chief, but we don't get much feedback from him. Maybe you could bring the information back to the Board of Fire Services and see how we integrate that with our constituents. Chief Chambers had a meeting with Mike Brown about a month ago, he made mention of the Nevada Fire Board and they talked about who the representatives were. Chief Chambers is looking for a nexus to tie in, having that representative keep the cohesion and support where Kacey KC would need it as our State Forester Firewarden as well as our local government needs.

Bill Erlach said that he had mentioned the idea at the last meeting of changing our strategy when it comes to the Wildland Urban Interface; it is focused on the company level, the structure defense and firefighter safety. With his military background he thinks about how they had to change the thought process from conventional warfare (Iraq) and moved into the asymmetrical warfare (Afghanistan.) Now we are seeing this change in fire behavior, fire environment, etc. Everybody is still focused on saving the structure and making sure firefighters are safe. The other huge component is we are getting into fire situations now where we are not going to be fighting them; we are simply going to try to evacuate people. Bill Erlach would like to start the discussion on how we are going to train our individuals at the company level, battalion level, and division level that we are in a different realm in some of these fires and asked for some ideas and to get the discussion started.

Bart Chambers supports being on both sides, we still pull resources from Clark County, Utah; states that do not have a very robust timber or significant vegetation. Chief Chambers mentioned the recent Santa Rosa fire and indicated that it has the same footprint as the 1964 fire (the 1964 fire was a little larger.) Some of these areas have gone from state responsibility to local government. Then you add health and safety code that embrace certain areas for the fire services, then you have the government code, then the public resources code. CAL FIRE sits in that public resources code and 4291 and 4290 inspections. These are things that we were doing on a regular basis, but when a city or entity starts dealing with that annexation, you lose some of that. Thus after the tunnel fire in Oakland you had the government code which mirrored the public resources code for defensible space. Defensible space is not being done or if it is, it is not being followed up. We don't have the forces within NDF to go out and do certain things. CAL FIRE did not have the resources to do these things, but it had to have the cooperative relationship. It is two-fold; we are looking at defensible space but in turn are also looking at firefighters - what we need to do with the battle right now. We have to do the triage appropriately and work with our prevention counter parts. We can work with National Wildfire Coordinating Group for your training that we can support at the SFM to get to out to local government to have that enhanced training of where it needs to be. There is still a lot of the west that can burn and you are going to see more resources coming out of Nevada to California because the mindset with a lot of those agencies; "I am off after 3 days and I am not going to answer my phone." If they are not supporting the plan, we need to ensure that the training is there. Corey Iverson passed away during the Thomas Fire, he should not have been there, and the 10s and 18s were violated. We are going back to the basics, it isn't so much what we are trying to protect the house but if we can't learn the basics then it doesn't matter where the house is standing, then I have failed as a chief officer, as an instructor, and our fire services in Nevada. Chief Chambers suggested to Bill Erlach that he tell the Board what he wants to see so the Board can support needed training.

Kacey KC added that the firefighter training aspect is very important, it has changed and it's on the news, it's our new norm. We haven't changed our courses in decades and we don't look at that. One thing that Ed Smith said that is true from Kacey KC's perspective is that we have separated natural resource management from wildland fire fighting and you can't do that because part of

understanding how wildland fire moves is through understanding the natural resources. That is something that NDF is focused on, trying to intermingle that wildland fire training with natural resource management so that our firefighters are equipped to know where they should and should not be; understanding the vegetation types and the type of situation we are in. It is different than 100 years ago, it is different than 20 years ago and so is the climate.

Kelli Baratti said that there may be a mechanism in place to do exactly what Bill Erlach is talking about. Traditionally, the Nevada Firewarden has been simply the three big agencies: Forester Service, BLM, and NDF. Not only were local governments not represented, they were actively discouraged. Houses are fuel, no different than sage brush, no different than a tree. With the support of NDF, perhaps we can get local jurisdiction representation on the Nevada Fire Board which would trickle down to the response committee. None of our fires in Nevada are pure; rarely do you have a fire that is simply in a specific jurisdiction. If we don't have our federal partners advocating with us then we are also part of the problem. Maybe we could shift the paradigm a little bit with the Nevada Fire Board and then have the two boards work more cohesively. We don't need a new committee; let's make the ones we have work better for Nevada. With WUI, we had safe effective fire response. When we look at the Nevada Fire Board or NWCG we keep getting changes in the federal leadership and they don't do anything at all about structure protection. In trying to blend that into what local governments do; to at least be ready for that with the right training, find a better course and beef it up not only for the firefighter level and have it tiered for the chief operator levels. We understand the chained philosophy but then that also ties in with the safe resilient landscapes for the WUI code. We need to adopt a statewide WUI code but we also have to figure out how to enforce it so it stays correct and protects our firefighters. We need to figure out a way to make all these things come together, there is no reason we cannot make this happen.

Bill Erlach thanked everyone for sharing their thoughts and mentioned a broader thought of trying to bring in insurance companies. If insurance companies aren't paying for burnt houses, they will save money. How do we move forward? Chief Chambers suggested that the CAL FIRE WUI program can be adjusted accordingly and make a week long class that addresses the WUI aspect and hits the components of what we have for the prevention aspect of fire prevention communities. Aspects can be pulled and made more robust and share it with a couple of the members, get recommendations then bring to the next Board meeting to find if this is a draft that we want to take on to enhance our firefighters for local government and our NDF wildland fire firefighter counterparts if they so desire. It's win/win. A lot of these courses identify some of the items, let's put everything into one bucket for their protection and in turn for a strike team leader and/or a chief officer that has the mechanism in place to hold these people accountable who are not wanting to follow this, but also to support people who are willing to support this to look out for their best interest. As a Lead Investigator since 2006 until retirement, when there was a serious accident or fatality of our firefighters, all of the things that had been violated were things that we learned 50 years ago and we still don't get it. There is a lot of complacency; firefighters need to have their situational awareness intact.

Kelli Baratti commented that it is a great idea. We are seeing chief officers moving up into ranks that are falling into those time periods of the ten years where we didn't have a big fire season. Now we have chief officers and higher who don't have the knowledge, they are not getting the real world experience. Let's see if we can help them with that class.

Chief Fogerson would like to have Bill Erlach involved and he himself would like to be involved because it is a timely topic with the Sierra Front Wildfire Cooperators. We are getting pushed back from our federal cooperators on not wanting to do anything related to WUI. There is the tie to prevention because of the talk about adopting codes at the WUI meetings. Kelli Baratti commented that they are short staffed. Chief Chambers added that the Esperanza Fire incident hit some agencies

pretty hard and it is still having a compromise with local government relationships and state entities that are associated with the feds. Even some of the investigators and their patrol units don't have the coverage nor will the feds cover them on investigations for simple wildland fires. It is global and we need to address it, we have waited too long. Chief Chambers is willing to take it on through the Division and will share it with Chair Fogerson, Bill Erlach and anyone else. Kacey KC added that her training officer would be more than happy to help in the production.

Domingo Cambeiro left the meeting, confirmed a quorum remains.

Chief Chambers asked Terry Wilferd about WUI and structure protection agency needs in Clark County. Terry Wilferd commented that Clark County is working on that. Chief Chambers asked him to keep a pulse on it but will look globally regardless of what the fuel model is. Bill Erlach would like to suggest that the SFM begin developing a plan to address the deficits in current training and prevention in regards to the WUI and work with collaborators. If no one else is looking at this, we will take the lead and push it out nationally.

**Chief Chambers, State Fire Marshal.** National Burn Awareness Week is in two weeks. The SFM would like to get a proclamation issued by the Governor. There were 21 fire-related deaths in 2017 – two of the highest causes were cooking and cigarettes with oxygen rich environments. So far in 2018 there have been two fire fatalities; cooking related and transient in nature.

Chief Chambers recently met with the California State Fire Marshal in regards to curriculum and reciprocity for both states. Chief indicated there are folks in Las Vegas that have received training from California and would like to be able to recognize those certifications with reciprocity.

Professional Qualification requirements in some of the Intrastate Interlocals lists Fire Inspector III, we don't have anything that is ICC certified. It would be a local requirement; NFPA 1031 is coming up for changes and perhaps we could take the Inspector Series and Plan Examiner series and eliminate I, II, or III. A component will be added for the Company Officer; a request from local governments and agencies. Jeff Donahue of NFPA mentioned that Eric Guevin is on the 1031 committee and will be going back to Quincy, MA. Peter Mulvihill chairs the committee to look at the updated standards that are coming out. As for Engine Company Inspection qualifications, we might want to get a hold of Oregon's standards which were based on something they created because NFPA didn't have anything yet. Peter Mulvihill he had made mention of that and we would like to try to mirror the NFPA as we start developing these courses, or if we need to changes in the Professional Qualifications manual. We will be presenting recommended changes to the manual at the next Board of Fire Services meeting. We can look at IFSAC and Pro Board as well; it will enhance our capabilities statewide and benefit those individuals that have done training not only with the NFPA requirements but addressing their ICC certification. Ultimately, the fire chief or department head will request the certification from the State Fire Marshal for review and approval.

The SFM Public Information Officer wants to put out monthly announcements; some sort of awareness from any agency in the state; Reno, NDF, etc. we can share information and enhance the cooperative partnership that we have statewide. For example; the Fire Sprinklers Tax Incentive has been placed on the website. We can share topics such as the potential changes in a code, etc.

The Fire Prevention Poster Contest is being pushed again, will be ramping up with school districts and agencies the end of February or beginning of March. Hopefully the teachers and districts will embrace it. We had 20,000,000 hits on the information that was going out on the Fire Prevention message last year. Ultimately, it went out nationally because individuals were traveling through

Nevada. The event was a huge positive and Lamar gets a big thank you for giving up 5 or 6 additional billboards to help us get the Fire Prevention message out.

White boards for DPS training and extending our classrooms for the SFM was approved through SERC through the mid cycle HMEP grant. This will enhance our capabilities to have remote training, distance training, and our communication with DEM for forward thinking of future needs.

Interviews are next week for the vacant Training Officer position, which has been vacant since February, 2016. There are two candidates - one from California, retired from a well-recognized fire department with a background in training and one retired from the federal government with a background in training.

The SFM is trying to get a fourth Training Officer approved during the legislative session. That individual will be dedicated to Hazardous Materials Training statewide, working with our cooperators, especially in Clark County.

Staff will be attending the quarterly meetings and have been given direction to begin cultivating the relationship in the north end of the state. The Training Unit has been neglected for too many years.

We have a new Investigator, Joe Rodriguez. He comes from NHP and started with SFM at the end of November. He has some fire service background, was an Explorer with Reno Fire Department, and worked for BLM. We have been working with our cooperators and want to support them for fire investigations.

Our new SERC Administrator, Wendi Wyatt started in November and comes from the Department of Education with an extensive grant tracking background.

There was a presentation at SFM on the I-plan tables. The purchase is under the \$30,000 limit for two tables. If approved by IFC, we will have them up and running by June, 2018. Our plan turnaround time will be reduced and UNLV and UNR are supporting us.

We are moving forward with the FireTrex database. We had a couple of work programs that we are going to be taking to IFC in the next two weeks. It is favored in regards to supporting haz mat as the base foundation.

Exterior Support Fire, which was covered by Tom Martinez, will help us collectively with our SFM budget. Chief is pushing our budget to look towards the development of curriculum and support for training. Beatty dump fee reserves, as well as SERC, will help to make more courses available. We have been wasting a lot of the monies on classes. We have received requests from agencies throughout the state, the agencies say they have x number of bodies for the minimum requirements, we try to put the class on but only two bodies show up. We had a Capstone class three weeks ago, 15 students were registered, we lost 7 of them – some on fire assignment; three did not report back; two other were committed to work. The expense of that is not to the agency, it is the expense of the SFM and it is an oversight of the Board, the Fire Marshal, and DPS. I brought it up in the Northern Nevada Fire Chief's Association meeting and let them know it doesn't cost their agencies, it costs my Division. I have asked staff what we have done in the past, is there any compensation, do we charge for the class, where do we go? We sometimes have to pay an instructor \$1,200 for two days of instruction with only three people in a class. That is not fiscally responsible. I want the Board to be aware of where I am going, I need to bring the dollars and cents to the fire chiefs throughout the state as well as the training chiefs to do what they need to do. The fire chiefs need to understand that the training chiefs are asking for the support, that means that the fire chiefs need to throw that

lightning bolt down through the chain of command to get those firefighters to the courses they are registered for, otherwise it's all going to be a negative to where I am going to have to sit and try to explain to try to get monies for the FireTrex program as well as everything else. As you all are aware one thing plays upon another, negatively and positively.

Staff has been instructed to post other agency courses on the training calendar in addition to our courses.

Training staff has been instructed to come up with a plan to start training and instructing on weekends. I will be part of that as well. We need to go out and reach out to our cooperators. You will see a big push on training.

A couple extra contractors for plan reviews have been hired. Our Inspector retired last week so we will be looking at contracting out for Inspectors and Investigators as well. We are hopeful that by mid-April or early May we can start filling the positions.

We are working on Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) submittal for a mobile fire investigation trailer. It will be a connex box with three cells. By statute we are supposed to be supporting some sort of fire investigation training to the agencies. I want something mobile so we can get our investigators, who are certified to instruct, as well as our staff to get this out on the road and be a viable source for fire investigation. I will keep the Board posted; deadline for the grant is February 2<sup>nd</sup>.

I have reached out to NFPA, in regards to where are we going with the high-rise and mid-rise definitions. Orange County Fire out of California changed their high-rise definition from 55 feet to base code of 75 feet. We are seeing a push from industry in regards to developers and some cities with revitalization redevelopment in key areas. There has to be middle ground. I have seen that there has been some omission in some of the reports, ie; after 911 there was a look at mid-rise and high-rise pertaining to egress and one of the concerns was the World Trade Centers were set up for potential aircraft 707, not a 767 with the additional fuel. The MGM fire is still made mention of in reports from 2013 to present. Thus as you go through the Blue Ribbon Commission documents and you start digging; egress was one of the keys to reduce it from base code of 75 feet to 55 feet. In dialogue with cooperators down south, I asked specifically what the cost difference would be per square foot, the difference from 20 feet and it is about \$20 - \$20 more per square foot to have what we have in place. Fiscally it isn't a cost savings other than the fact that maybe \$500,000 into what we look for as affordable housing is the theme, why are we addressing egress? There is middle ground to support the development and revitalization to our communities. Clark County is experiencing that, there has to be some sort of middle ground where it is beneficial for not only the developer but most importantly those that will be living in it and our firefighters responding. Operationally I want to hear back from the fire chiefs as to where we can meet with this.

**Chair Fogerson, East Fork Fire Protection District.** Some of the items I have from a combination of departments is we are trying to tie the IFSAC test into the academy final, so we are not testing students twice. There are some communication issues coming especially in the north that we need to be aware of as the Board of Fire Services; some communities are looking to go to a 700MHZ system, some have the State 800MHZ, some of us on VHF, and some on 700. We are going to see the whole issue of interoperable communications rear its head again. Nevada Fire Chiefs has an AFG grant for recruit and retention of volunteers for combination volunteer fire departments. It will pay for a full set of turn-outs and full physical for anybody that has a Firefighter I. Nevada Fire Chief's also has a conference this year in the south, as Mr. Guevin indicated, at the New Orleans. We have reached out to all the fire service organizations and emergency preparedness organizations in the

state to try to make it an Officer level, Leadership level, advance class - not looking at fire skills but looking at how we manage the fire service, emergency service, trying to tie all the pieces together at the upper echelon.

**12. FREQUENCY OF BOARD OF FIRE SERVICES MEETINGS (Non-Action Item) Discussion of the frequency of meetings. Per NRS 477.073 #7.**

Item 12 was discussed in conjunction with Agenda Item 13.

**13. SCHEDULE THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF FIRE SERVICES (Discussion/For Possible Action.)**

Chair Fogerson indicated that traditionally there is a meeting in conjunction with the NSFA conference. There was big push in 2006 to hold our meetings in rural Nevada. We rarely get anybody from local communities to show up. There is a cost to send us to the conventions, as a Board do we still need to meet in the rural areas? Is it more effective for us to be the conduit as our constituent group representatives to reach out to those folks, bring the message back to our Board meetings so we can reduce travel expenses? I will throw it out for comments to see what you think. Kelli Baratti thought that perhaps the meeting schedules conflict with the conference schedules and maybe we can make an outreach letting people know we would really like them to attend the BOFS meetings. Chair Fogerson indicated that we always tie-in with the host organization; FireShowsWest, NSFA, etc. Also the training staff is very busy during conferences, so they talk to us really quick and leave for their training. If we save money on Board travel do you have the ability to use it someplace else or is it a line item? Chief Chambers answered that it is a line item and we will expend those monies, but he can also increase his spending authority by going to IFC, which he would need the Board's approval. There is approximately \$4,100 remaining in travel for Board members. Chief wants to show due diligence to ensure rural Nevada is included. He can support the plan, but again it is dialogue and discussion that the Board needs to make. If we held our Board meeting during FireShowsWest one or two days before the conference got up and running, what day will be most beneficial for the Board to get participants? If we hold the meeting in conjunction with the Firefighters Association conference, what will be the best day? Statue is set up it is to support the rurals. We also need to look globally; maybe we meet once a year in Clark County and the remaining here. If we are holding it in the rural areas we need to ensure we have some people attending, otherwise I would rather spend the money doing things the Board needs specifically. I will be asking for more money in travel due to cost increases.

Bill Erlach suggested that from now on we can plan on Carson City and once every year or two go to Las Vegas. If we have something that pertains to specific rural department or agenda item, then we could go there. Otherwise we may as well save the money.

Kelli Baratti likes the idea of more frequent meetings. Perhaps we can consider sending two Board members to the traditional meeting places and they can share the information obtained during conference at the next Board meeting. Chair Fogerson added that it might be more beneficial for the Board to attend the conferences. Chief Chambers added that if there is something significant in a rural we could take the Board there, but what we are currently doing with FPAN is we are opening up key locations in Las Vegas, Carson City, Reno, Sparks, and Elko for video conferencing, why can't we do that now? That might be allow the budget to put us in Clark County once a year or elsewhere if there is a need. Elaine Pace likes the idea of videoconferencing to the NSFA conference, giving people the ability to listen in if they want to.

Mike Heidemann likes the idea of having a representative at the NSFA conference to network. If you decide to come to Ely you might want to take a look at a Wednesday afternoon instead of training on Thursday and Friday. Chair Fogerson added that June would be a good time for the next meeting.

**14. PUBLIC COMMENT (Non-Action Item)**

Jeff Donahue with NFPA had a response to Kelli Baratti’s discussion of the incident in Las Vegas. For only the second time in the history of the NFPA, the standards council has authorized a provisional standard, NFPA 3000. It is a standard for preparedness and response to active shooter and/or hostile events. This is being fast tracked and public comment is open now until February 23. The standard should be available by April and can be viewed at [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org). In regards to NFPA, Chief Chambers has been working with code people about mid-rise issues and you should be looking at the provisions for construction standards. The big push since 2016 is the construction standards where they want to build mid-rise and high-rise entirely in wood. Keep in mind not only the egress issues but the type of construction. Locally he has had the pleasure of working on the poster contest with Chief Chambers. The NFPA back in Quincy was extremely excited about the activity in Nevada. Jeff Donahue also had the pleasure of sitting in on the Sparks City Council meeting where the Fire Prevention Association of Nevada presented Fire Marshal Bob King with the Golden Sparky award. Where NFPA comes in with that is that Bob King was nominated at the national level of NFPA Fire and Life Safety Officer of the year. The NFPA has a new Director of Regional Operations, Ray Bizal who just brought on Regional Director Bob Sullivan to meet with the fire marshal and agencies within the state. Bart Chambers thanked Jeff Donahue for his support.

Mike Heidemann wants to echo what Elaine Pace said about ESF program and applaud them for getting that going. It has been needed in the rurals; the Firefighter 1 program was a little daunting the ESF will be a good step for them. The NSFA conference will be June 20-23, Chief Chambers and Firewarden KC will get business meeting invites. We have been involved in the memorial that is being built at the legislative grounds and are looking at an avenue to be sure the EMS partners are included. He and Chief Carlini do not think a second memorial is the way to go. By laws might have to be changed to include those who moonlight with REMSA, etc. Mark Flesher, President of NSFA was contacted by Ken Riddle, Executive Director, NVCA about potentially bring a component to the chief’s conference in September. There will be a meeting with Chief Cleveland in regards to CAPCE (Commission on Accreditation for Pre-Hospital Continuing Education) is a 12 state conference so the CEs are good nationwide. Working on a Wildland Fire Assessment Program – “train the trainer” to inspect homes in their areas. There seems to be some confusion on F endorsements for firefighters, Mike Heidemann is doing a simplified class next Tuesday. Be prepared to hear grumbling about legislation in regards to recruitment and retention for our volunteers, they are down. People think of NSFA as a volunteer organization but we are about 70/30. We are looking at perhaps an exemption on car registration for volunteers and getting the volunteer world out to training is not so much about budget as it is about the volunteers getting time off from work so we are consider a tax incentive for employers to let employees get training.

**15. ADJOURNMENT (Discussion/For Possible Action.)**

Chair Ferguson asked for any more comments. There were none. Adjournment was unanimously approved.