

State of Nevada
Nevada State Board of Fire Services

October 6, 2016

10:00 am

Reno Sparks Convention Center

FireShowsWest Conference

4590 S. Virginia Street

Room D10

Reno, Nevada 89502

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

Members Present:

Chair Eric Guevin – Fire Marshal, Tahoe-Douglas Fire Protection District

William Erlach – Captain, Reno Fire Department

Nicholas Moriarty – Executive Director of Fire Protection, JBA Consulting Engineers (by telephone)

David Fogerson – Deputy Fire Chief, East Fork Fire Protection District (by telephone)

Jo Anne Hill – Member of the General Public, FireShowsWest

Elaine Pace - Volunteer Chief, East Fork Fire Protection District

Members Not Present:

Jeff Buchanan

Domingo Cambeiro

Joe Freeland

Terry Wilferd

Also Present:

Gwen Barrett – Executive Administrative Assistant, Nevada State Fire Marshal Division

Nathan Hastings – Deputy Attorney General Attorney General's Office

James M. Wright – Director, Nevada Department of Public Safety

Dayle Wellbrock – Chairman, FireShowsWest

Randy Hill – Employee, FireShowsWest

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

Chair Guevin called the Board Meeting to order.

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

Chair Guevin verified with Gwen Barrett that compliance had been met in accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law.

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

Chair Guevin asked for introductions and established a quorum.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT (Non-Action Item.)

Chair Guevin mentioned that yesterday the Fire Prevention Association of Nevada had two (2) guest speakers who were victims of the Seton Hall University Fire; Alvaro Llamas and Shawn Simmons. It is a horrific story, but a story of great heroism. Chair Guevin also mentioned that Fire Prevention Week is October 9th-15th. The theme is “Don’t wait, check the date.”

5. REPORT FROM DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY (Non-Action Item.)

James Wright, Director of the Department of Public Safety thanked the Board for inviting him to the meeting. Director Wright indicated that he is a former State Fire Marshal and Lt. Mike Dzyak, State Fire Marshal (Interim), has immediate access to the Director.

In compliance with NRS 477.013, Director Wright reported to the Board in regards to the appointment of a new State Fire Marshal. The plan is to get an advertisement completed; widely advertise for one month; sometime in December the Board can plan on conducting interviews; with an appointment by first of the year. Director Wright indicated California also has a fire marshal opening, but he does not anticipate competition, it could actually add interest to the west.

Chair Guevin recapped the interview process and was glad to hear about the reasonable time line. Jo Anne Hill asked about the time frame of hire after candidates are presented to the Director. Director Wright indicated that he would like to have a State Fire Marshal in place for the legislative process. The divisions do not normally get engaged in the legislative process until April, so getting a new Fire Marshal in by February or March will be fine. Elaine Pace suggested that the position be sent to all of the fire agencies and they will post on their websites.

William Erlach asked the Director what he is looking for in a candidate. Director Wright expressed the importance of state government experience. Other qualities he will be looking for include: fire prevention and fire marshal experience, understanding codes, operational experience, personnel management, customer service, and meeting/board experience to name a few. The job positing will have specifics. Chair Guevin asked if it would be a POST position. Director Wright said that the position itself is not required to be POST, but it would be a plus because the position does supervise peace officers.

6. REPORT FROM INTERIM STATE FIRE MARSHAL (Non-Action Item.)

- Lt. Dzyak assured the Board that the Division will function exactly as it has over the past ten or twelve years. He has direct access to Director Wright and Deputy Director Muth. The Division is not in a holding pattern and will take care of the public and fire services exactly as the Division has been doing.
- The Division has a new Bureau Chief, Plans Examiner III starting in December. Marty Larson, the former Bureau Chief, is taking care of the plans as a contractor. Fiscal is working on attaining additional funding of approximately \$100,000 to pull more contract plan reviewers, allowing the plan review turnaround time to be less than 14 days.
- There has been difficulty with filling the Fire Training Officer position and it will be relisted. William Erlach asked why there was trouble in filling the position. Lt. Dzyak indicated that he is

not exactly sure, but state salary is not what it is in cities and counties. There were only three (3) applications for the last posting, of which only two (2) were qualified to interview.

- Nevada fire deaths for the year are currently at 12. We are trying to get more accurate tracking for fire deaths by trying to get more reporting participation from agencies.
- We are internally revamping Administrative Actions. In the regulatory world there has been a struggle with licensing and certificates of registrants. Lt. Dzyak has reached out to the Hearings Division to get neutral hearing officers with all the court services provided. This will make it clean when we engage in Administrative Actions up to and including revocations, suspension, and administrative fines. We have done an internal Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), which does not change any NAC or NRS requirements. The process will be much more stream-lined, and if found guilty, the guilty will fund it. Chair Guevin asked if the Board will be involved with the Administrative Actions' clean-up for the hearings. Lt. Dzyak answered that with the appellate nature of the bill, if they don't like what happens with the hearing officer, they come to the Board, none of that has changed.
- A Request for Proposal meeting is scheduled for November for a new Hazardous Materials Database. Chief Brennan and the State Emergency Response Commission are working on it.
- The Division is cleaning and restructuring servers in-house. Interlocal agreements are being scanned to the internal server and updated, making it more user-friendly.
- We are on Bill Draft Request watch, which is a group effort in the Department of Public Safety. If you hear something is coming up, let us know. For example, Lt. Dzyak heard rumblings about the Clark County area and high rise requirements.
- The Governor has made a proclamation for "Fire Prevention Week," October 9th-15th. Lt. Dzyak made a press release and is interested in making more press releases as events occur.
- David Fogerson thanked Lt. Dzyak for doing a great job. Chair Guevin concurred.

7. ELECTION OF A STATE BOARD OF FIRE SERVICES CHAIRPERSON (Discussion/For Possible Action.)

David Fogerson motioned to nominate Eric Guevin as Chair for the State Board of Fire Services. Nick Moriarty seconded the motion. David Fogerson amended to move that Eric Guevin be elected. Nick Moriarty seconded as amended. The motion carried.

8. APPROVAL OF THE June 24, 2016, MEETING MINUTES (Discussion/For Possible Action.)

Elaine Pace motioned to approve the June 24th Board meeting minutes as recorded. William Erlach seconded the motion. The motion carried.

9. REVISIONS OF THE PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS MANUAL (Discussion/For Possible Action.)

Chair Guevin read 9a to the Board:

- a. Proposal to require candidates to include their legal name as it appears on a government identification document such as a driver's license, passport, or identification card. The modification to the manual would require first name, middle initial or middle name, and last name as it appears on the governmental identification documents.

Gwen Barrett presented for Bureau Chief Dennis Pinkerton. Chief Pinkerton has made this proposal to make the name registration more formal. Currently, course registrants are requested to use their legal first name, middle initial/name and last name. This does not always happen; often times a firefighter can be in our database with several names. Chair Guevin added that this is coming about due to the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress accreditation and certification process. People inadvertently have multiple certificates under different names; this is merely a housecleaning item, but an important item.

Elaine Pace asked what we do with existing records. Gwen Barrett indicated that we would leave all records as is. Chair Guevin added that some of the clean-up is occurring as we go along.

William Erlach motioned to adopt “9a” as presented. Jo Anne Hill seconded the motion. The motion carried.

10. REPORT BY THE DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (Non-Action Item.)

Jim Wright presented on behalf of Chief Caleb Cage:

- Intrastate Mutual Aid System (IMAS): The Intrastate Mutual Aid Committee has been appointed and has been meeting during this year. The top priority was to develop regulations for the administration of the IMAS within the state. The regulations have been finalized internally and will be heard during a public meeting on October 27, 2016. The second priority is to develop policies and procedures; a subcommittee has been formed to accomplish the task. The IMAS is for all resources, and built upon the successful fire mutual aid system that we have been operating for a number of years.
- The Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management (DEM), and State Fire Marshal Division have been engaged in numerous political events. The next one will be the presidential debate at UNLV.
- Planning has begun for New Year’s Eve events.
- DEM has updated the Nevada State Comprehensive Emergency Plan (SEMP) and it is posted on the DEM website.
- DEM has been engaged with National Guard and other agencies for the Vigilant Guard. Exercise for this year.

11. REPORT BY THE STATE FORESTER FIREWARDEN (Non-Action Item.)

Chair Guevin indicated that Joe Freeland, State Forester Firewarden is taking care of smoke issues at a prescribed burn in Little Valley. Chair Guevin indicated that the fire was burning over the high pressure gas line, there was some concern yesterday, but it is fine. Nathan Hastings inquired as to why there was a burn in Little Valley. Chair Guevin explained that it is a prescribed burn; in prescription they determine the amount of fuels to be removed; predict the fire behavior; and monitor the weather. They introduce a fire to the environment to better that environment, either for the health of the forest or to reduce the fuels, usually they go hand in hand.

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

Chair Guevin indicated there will probably be a special meeting in December to interview State Fire Marshal candidates and the next regular meeting will be during the National State Firefighter's Association's conference, which is typically in June.

13. PUBLIC COMMENT (Non-Action Item)

- Chair Guevin introduced the two inspirational speakers for FireShowsWest, sponsored by Fire Prevention Association of Nevada: Shawn Simmons and Alvaro Llamas. Chair Guevin looks forward to the University of Nevada Reno arranging for future presentations by them. The two speakers have a book "After the Fire" and a movie about the Seton Hall fire.
- Elaine Pace thanked Jo Anne Hill and her staff for offering excellent classes and speakers for the FireShowsWest Conference.
- Chair Guevin added that the investigation and prevention pieces were awesome additions. Chair Guevin also noted the extra work involved in preparing for the Conference with yesterday's presidential rally.
- Jo Anne Hill thanked everybody for their support and gave a special thanks to Dayle Wellbrock, Chairman, FireShowsWest

14. ADJOURNMENT (Discussion/For Possible Action.)

William Erlach motioned to adjourn. Elaine Pace seconded the motion. The motion carried.