

**STATE OF NEVADA  
NEVADA STATE BOARD OF FIRE SERVICES**

June 24, 2016

1:30 pm

DZHC Training Center

410 E Street

Hawthorne, Nevada 89415

**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  
David Fogerson – Deputy Fire Chief, East Fork Fire Protection District (by telephone)  
JoAnne Hill – Member of the General Public, FireShows West  
Elaine Pace – Volunteer Chief, East Fork Fire Protection District  
Peter Mulvihill – Chief, Nevada State Fire Marshal Division  
Jeffrey Buchanan – Deputy Chief, Clark County Fire Department  
Domingo Cambeiro – Principal, DCC Architects  
Terrance Wilferd – Division Chief, Henderson Fire Department  
Joe Freeland – State Forester Firewarden, Nevada Division of Forestry

**Also Present:** Gwen Barrett - Executive Admin Assistant, Nevada State Fire Marshal Division  
Katie Brady - Deputy Attorney General, Attorney General's Office (by telephone)  
Benjamin Jenkins – President, Nevada State Firefighter's Association  
Mike Heidemann – Director, Nevada State Firefighter's Association  
Dennis Pinkerton – Training, Nevada State Firefighter's Association  
Scott Huntley – Chief, North Lyon County Fire Protection District  
Rich Pace – Private Citizen

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

Chair Eric 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, all Board members were present.

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

Scott Huntley spoke in support of Item 6 on the Agenda.  
Benjamin Jenkins offered his assistance to the Board while in Hawthorne.

**5. APPROVAL OF THE October 8, 2015, MEETING MINUTES (Discussion/For Possible Action.)**

The members of the Board of Fire Services discussed minor changes to the meeting minutes.

**Domingo Cambeiro moved to approve the October 8, 2015 meeting minutes. Elaine Pace seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

**6. REVISIONS TO THE NEVADA FIRE SERVICE PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS MANUAL (Discussion/For Possible Action.)**

Chair Guevin read Agenda Item 6 parts a and b to the Board and added that the manual is online at fire.nv.gov.

Dennis Pinkerton indicated that the changes on Agenda Item 6a will eliminate both the exemption status in the manual and the Entry Level Firefighter (ELF) program.

Chair Guevin indicated these changes were made per the Board meeting of October 8, 2015. This change does not eliminate an agency's ability to have an ELF; it eliminates the certification through the State. Dennis Pinkerton added that the ELF program was built to verify that a candidate has the training to go into a live fire training; the elimination of certification does not take away from the locals to do the training, and most are doing it without the certification. Jeff Buchanan does not see that there is a financial or operational impact to any firefighter's presumptive benefits, specifically 617, so therefore agreed that it makes sense to move towards one guideline.

Chief Guevin asked for any other comment, there was none.

**Dave Fogerson moved to approve amending the Nevada Fire Service Professional Qualifications Manual per Agenda items 6a and 6b. Nick Moriarty seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

**7. ADOPT UPDATED EDITIONS OF NFPA PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS STANDARDS (Discussion/For Possible Action.)**

Chair Guevin made note that Agenda Items 7a through g are the amended changes. Chief Mulvihill indicated that the summary was prepared by National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and comes from the cover sheets of each of the respective documents. Dennis Pinkerton indicated that an update to the policies in the manual will be required for the Officer III, NFPA 1021. The Officer III was previously required to have Fire Service Instructor II prior to certification and that certification is no longer required. Everything else is updating the language.

Peter Mulvihill indicated that nothing has been developed in the manual portion relating to Wildland Firefighters. The Board welcomes input from the Division of Forestry on embarking on a project to offer the certification program to local, State, federal, and contract firefighters, and eventually incorporating it with IFSAC accreditation. A lot of NFPA 1051 parallels National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) with a lot of crossover. Joe Freeland added that he would like to help the Board of Fire Services make a more tangible product. Dennis Pinkerton noted that the Technical Committee is working with the NWCG to closely represent the two.

Chair Guevin read through Agenda Item 7 and proceeded to ask if there were further questions, there were none.

**Domingo Cambeiro motioned to updating the manual to the editions of the NFPA Standards. Jeff Buchanan seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

**8. UPDATE ON ACTIVITIES OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL DIVISION (Non-Action Item.)**

Peter Mulvihill, State Fire Marshal Division (SFM) gave a report of the following:

- There were a total of 12 fire fatalities for the calendar year 2015; one of the lowest since tracking began. Calendar year 2016 is back to the normal occurrence rate; ten (10) fire fatalities have occurred through the

first of this year. Typical issues are occurring: smoking while on medical oxygen, smoking, heat sources, and heating appliances improperly used, and poor electrical wiring.

- Dennis Pinkerton has been accepted into the State's Certified Public Manager Program. A round of applause went out to Dennis.
- The Division this October will provide support to the FireShows West program. The Live Fire Training Program will continue to be used. The propane car prop and the West Wendover burn trailer will be put to use. The car prop has gotten a lot of good use and provides significant improvement for environmental and safety issues over the burning of real cars.
- The Division is seeing significant building permit activity. The SFM is responsible for all State buildings and State construction and construction in the 14 smaller population counties. Anticipated annual revenue from permits is about \$550,000; however, this fiscal year ending June 30<sup>th</sup> revenue is up around \$1.4 million dollars, indicating a lot of activity in the State.
- The SFM annual National Fire Incident Reporting System report will be released soon.
- Peter Mulvihill announced his retirement from the State effective in September. The process to fill the State Fire Marshal's position will involve this Board, by conducting interviews of the candidates and making recommendations to Director James Wright. The budget for the next biennium will be done prior to the new person arriving. Board members congratulated Pete Mulvihill on his retirement and thanked him for his service.

**9. PRESENTATION BY THE DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (Non-Action Item.)**

Caleb Cage was unavailable to attend today's meeting, Peter Mulvihill presented his report:

- Department of Emergency Management (DEM) completed the Homeland Security Grants process to identify projects through the federal FY16 grants funding cycle for the Homeland Security Program and the Urban Area Security Initiative.
- The 2016 annual report has been submitted for the Emergency Management Accreditation Program for an annual update on certification achieved by DEM in 2014, a very significant item for them.
- DEM hosted a Mass Migration Workshop with over 100 local, state, and federal partners as part of the Vigilant Guard 17 exercise to be held this coming November. The purpose of the workshop is to develop a concept of operations in the event of a major exodus through Nevada following a significant earthquake in Southern California.
- DEM hosted members of the Intrastate Mutual Aid Committee to develop the Nevada Administrative Code regulations for the Nevada Intrastate Mutual Aid System created by the last legislative session in AB90. A public workshop to solicit comments is scheduled for July 15, 2016.
- The recovery staff participated in planning discussion for California's clearing house exercise, support to the Cascadia Rising exercise. That exercise was a 9.0 magnitude earthquake along the Cascadia Subduction Zone and a resulting tsunami in the most complex disaster scenario that emergency management and public safety officials in the Pacific Northwest could face.
- Caleb Cage participated in the National Governor's Association Policy Academy on enhancing state cyber security. The academy was held in Detroit. The focus was on the fundamentals of governance and incident response so each participating state could develop strategies based on best practices.

**10. PRESENTATION BY THE STATE FORESTER FIREWARDEN (Non-Action Item.)**

Joe Freeland of the Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) started his new position in early April and is excited to be back in Nevada, having spent the last four (4) years in D.C. That time was largely spent on Great Basin related issues: fire, sage grouse, and rural public lands issues. Since the NDF left the 473 Districts, and is no longer an all-risk organization, NDF is tied more to the core missions it started with; wildland fire, natural resource protection and management, and the camp program.

The NDF hosts the Wildfire Protection Plan for counties in protection districts. Only four (4) counties have chosen not to enter into a plan and there are some districts within certain counties that have chosen not to opt in as well. Entering into a plan is an economic decision by the fire protection district- insurance premium versus what is spent on a normal year.

Joe Freeland talked about the long standing partnerships with the Department of Emergency Management and the Department of Public Safety and the Fire Marshal Division. He also mentioned the potential for stronger relationships with other agencies.

NDF has a couple of proposals drafted to acquire new Wildland engines for the next legislative session. If supported, the engines will be placed in host counties or protection districts.

NDF has three (3) aged helicopters, but they are great tools. The aircraft have a life cycle of six (6) to ten (10) more years. NDF will be approaching a variety of ways to find a transitional replacement for some of the aircraft.

Domingo Cambeiro asked if a drone program has been looked into. Joe Freeland said the Governor would like to see more drone application used in a variety of settings. The NDF is open to piloting or partnering with anybody that has some solutions in mind. Joe Freeland continued to discuss drone application (ie, intelligence and communication) and funding (ie, grants and proposals.) There will be a better chance of developing ideas such as a drone program if it is not just a pure NDF proposal. The power seems to be with having various partners come to the table to support an individual initiative. The Tahoe Basin is a perfect example; 15 funding streams coming together for a common goal is much more powerful than one request through a legislature.

With regard to fuel loading, things are drying out. Serious challenges are predicted for July and August.

Chair Guevin asked how the Board can assist NDF in the future. Joe Freeland stated as he looked at the last meeting minutes and the current agenda items; he likes that he sees the nexus between the National Fire Protection Association and the National Wildfire Coordinating Group and seeing them as tightly dovetailed partners on policy qualifications. Joe Freeland hopes that this Board continues to bring the cohesive fire management strategy more to a reality and hopes that it continues to be a vehicle to really show what the large group of wildland firefighter oversight groups might be missing. Joe would like to see the State of Nevada use this Board to leverage some areas where there might be a gap.

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

JoAnne Hill stated that the date for the next State Board of Fire Services Meeting is at the FireShows West Conference in Reno on Thursday, October 6 at 10:00 am, room D10. Elaine Pace passed out conference flyers for FireShows West. Chair Guevin gave some information on courses and speakers for the conference and encouraged all to show up for the conference.

#### **12. PUBLIC COMMENT (Non-Action Item)**

Peter Mulvihill thanked everybody for having helped him with his position as State Fire Marshal. He particularly thanked the staff of the Division. He has worked with fantastic people in different places and in different parts of the country; but the staff of the Division is exceptional and recognizes their contributions. The Board was also thanked. The Board and the experience and the exposure have been very important to him.

Scott Huntley commented on how lucky and blessed he has been to be working with a great State Fire Marshal.

#### **13. ADJOURNMENT (Discussion/For Possible Action.)**

**Domingo Cambeiro moved to adjourn. Jeff Buchanan seconded the motion. The motion carried.**