

Minutes

Nevada State Board of Fire Services

February 8, 2019

8:00am

State Fire Marshal Division, 107 Jacobsen Way, Carson City, Nevada

Teleconference to 775-687-0999, Participation Code 47525#

Members Present:

Bart J. Chambers

Dave Fogerson (by phone)

Elaine Pace (by phone)

Eric Guevin (by phone)

Kelli Baratti (by phone)

Bill Erlach (by phone)

Terry Wilferd (by phone)

Members Not Present:

Nicholas Moriarty

Jeffrey Buchanan

Domingo Cambeiro

KC Kacey

Others Present:

Gwen Barrett, Administrative Assistant, State Fire Marshal Division

Nathan Hastings, Deputy Attorney General, Attorney's General Office

Dave Ruben, Fire Marshal, Carson City Fire Department

Lisa M. Beaver, Deputy Fire Marshal, Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District

Mark Regan, Fire Marshal, North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District

Michael Heidemann, Executive Director, Nevada State Firefighters' Association

Jack Snyder, Deputy Fire Chief, City of Elko Fire Department

Dennis Pinkerton, Training Bureau Chief, State Fire Marshal Division

1. **CALL TO ORDER BY THE CHAIR** (Non-Action Item.)
Chair Fogerson called the meeting to order at 8:12am.
2. **VERIFICATION OF NOTICE OF COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN MEETING LAW**
(Non-Action Item.)
The Chair of the Nevada State Board of Fire Services verified with Gwen Barrett that compliance had been met in accordance with Nevada Open Meeting Law (NRS 241.)
3. **ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS** (Non-Action Item.)
Roll was taken. A Quorum was established. Introductions were made.
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT** (Non-Action Item.) There was no public comment.

5. **APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 17, 2019 MEETING MINUTES** (Discussion/For Possible Action.)

Elaine Pace noted grammatical corrections and motioned to approve as amended. Eric Guevin seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

6. **UPDATE ON THE STATEWIDE ARSON HOT LINE** (Non-Action Item.) Chief Chambers to present an update to the Board information on the Arson Hot Line. Agenda Item Number 6 was taken after Number 9.

Chief Chambers has adjusted the verbiage, "if an individual is calling in that needs immediate attention, it states to call your local jurisdiction or 9-1-1 for immediate action." Elaine Pace acknowledged that that covers a lot of reservations that we had about the hotline. Eric Guevin thanked the Chief for addressing the concerns.

7. **THE 2018 INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE, SECTIONS 404 AND 405** (Discussion/For Possible Action) Agenda Item Number 7 was taken out of order.

Chief Chambers presented and read Sections 404 and 405 of the 2018 International Fire Code and stressed that there is a need to ensure that any schools being built or remodeled that have the emergency plan in place have identified the lockdown alarm that is different from the fire alarm. Chair Fogerson confirmed that Chief Chambers is looking for a position from the Board that will reaffirm the International Fire code that a lockdown alarm must be a different sound than the fire alarm system.

Eric Guevin motioned that the Board of Fire Services supports the 2018 International Fire Code Sections 404 and 405. Kelli Baratti seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. Motion carried.

8. **LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR BUDGET REQUESTS** (Discussion/For Possible Action) Discussion of a letter from the Board supporting the State Fire Marshal Division for budget enhancements identifying additional positions, vehicles that are needed statutorily. Possible action may include the approval of a letter of support from the Board of Fire Services.

Chief Chambers asked the Board to support the State Fire Marshal Division's Budget Enhancement Request to: add two (2) Investigators that can both investigate and inspect, one (1) would be stationed in Elko and one (1) in Las Vegas; add one (1) additional Inspector in Las Vegas; enhancement of the Plans Examiner Chief to be in line with the Chief Building Inspector of State Public Works; and support the replacement of older vehicles for the Investigators.

All requests are to help the State Fire Marshal Division maintain its statutory requirements under NRS 477 and NAC 477. The NRS 477.030 1c references that the State Fire Marshal will conduct fire and life safety inspections in schools public or private, working with our local jurisdictions who have been conducting those inspections, and most importantly, the rurals that may not have had or received an inspection in some locations greater than 10 years. The State Fire Marshal Division was

removed from schools in approximately the 2009 Legislative Session, but there was a misconception that we were taken out of schools completely. The NRS 393.110 specifically states that the State Fire Marshal is removed from new construction and remodels, but it says nothing in regards to annual inspections for fire and life safety inspections of the school. There are additional regulatory issues that we need to deal with as well.

Dave Ruben urged the Board to support this request and added that the Division is the only section of DPS that is charged with 24-hours operations, and it is not budgeted for, so he urged the Board to support that as well.

Mike Heidemann agreed with Dave Ruben. The SFM is the unofficial voice representing the rurals; his county has not had those inspections in 10 plus years and urged the Board's support.

Mark Reagan was also in agreement and added that there are a lot of hazmat that facilities are operating without the proper permitting and allowing additional inspections will result in additional revenue to the State.

Eric Guevin fully supports the letter.

Dave Fogerson motioned that the Board of Fire Services permits the Chair to submit a letter of support to increase State Fire Marshal staffing by two additional investigators, one additional inspector, replacing the old vehicles, to reach parity to chief safety officer and to seek a budget that allows for 24-hours operations for their system. Elaine Pace seconded the motion. There was some discussion on the content of the letter. Motion carried.

9. **INTRUCTOR SIGNATURE ON TRAINING CERTIFICATES** (Discussion/For Possible Action.) Currently, only the State Fire Marshal signs Training certificates. Possible action would be for the Board to require that the Course Instructor's signature be added to the certification process.

Dennis Pinkerton explained that currently the signatory on course completion certification is the State Fire Marshal and would like to include the Course Instructor's signature as well. The SFM intends on working more with the locals and certifying more specific courses this way. There would be the requirement to provide the curriculum for SFM approval, provide a syllabus for total hours, and provide the name of the lead instructor for the course. Bart Chambers added that all those elements are currently in place in NAC 477 when requesting specialized training or specific courses.

Eric Guevin motioned for course completion certificates that the instructor of records, along with the State Fire Marshal signature to be on those certifications and to follow NAC 477. Elaine Pace seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion carried.

10. **2019 PREPAREDNESS SUMMIT** (Non-Action Item.) Discuss possibility of Fire Chiefs attending the 2019 Preparedness Summit

Chief Chambers recommended the support of Fire Chiefs at the Preparedness Summit to especially identify the issue of school safety. Assembly Bill 127 was passed last session; giving authority to the local departments to approve the emergency action plan, or response plan for the schools. The concern is not so much the career departments but it gave authority to the local volunteer fire chiefs,

of which most do not know anything about inspections or emergency plans and could pose a potential issue for the rurals. The other concern is the 2018 International Fire Code, Sections 404 and 405. Kelli Baratti added the AB 127 had some holes in it and if the Board does not take the opportunity to educate and strongly put forth support for the schools the requirement for schools to be serious about their emergency response plans. We have to get our voiced heard. She added that one of the reasons the summit is held in the north on the Legislative year is so that we can have these discussions and hopefully have opportunities to make our issues and concerns known to the legislators. She suggested that those people participating in today's meeting work with their chiefs and spread the word throughout your professional fire organization that we need your help. The Fire Marshal Division needs your help and support and there are safety related school bills. The Preparedness Summit allows opportunities to visit, coordinate, and collaborate our various areas of concerns.

11. **TRAINING UNIT REPORT** (Non-Action Item.) Presented by Dennis Pinkerton. To update the Board to include, but not limited to: ProBoard certification status and Trex system status.

Dennis Pinkerton report:

- Richard McKnight is working with ProBoard for certification.
- Dennis Pinkerton encouraged a Board meeting to be held before the June meeting to discuss the levels of certification for the ProBoard seal.
- An extension has been requested for the IFSAC program, based off of the new Hazardous Materials and Weapons of Mass Destruction Emergency Response code. The code has changed from 472 to 1072. The 1072 code is vague so we were going to stay with the 472, but as it turns out, we will have to adopt the 1072 prior to the 472 going out of circulation. Chief Chambers will identify it in NAC 477 code adoption. The 472 will have to be maintained as well.
- Trex System: an email to chiefs and designees will go out soon, requesting information to put into the data management program. They will be able to review their department's information, add or delete personnel, view information. System testing will be the next step.

12. **2019 LEGISLATIVE SESSION** (Non-Action Item.) Board discussion of Legislative Bills that may affect the fire service industry, fire service agencies, school safety, and/or the State Fire Marshal Division.

Chair Fogerson opened this topic up for discussion.

Chief Chambers brought up Senate Bill 11, referencing NRS 477.030 12 in regards to the one-year timeframe for code adoption on the International Fire Code, presented by the City of Las Vegas. We are looking at other bills that have anything dealing with school safety, anything that pertains to fire service related, fire service personnel, construction, anything that could impact the fire code or make it less stringent, anything healthcare related.

Kelli Baratti is tracking bills for DEM and sending out a bill update on Listserv.

Mike Heidemann has been meeting with stakeholders in regards to cancers that effect female firefighters and also some Post Traumatic Syndrome Disorder language. They are also looking at Workers Comp for volunteer firefighters, and are trying to increase the wage base calculation to 2018 standards; it has not increased since 1991.

13. **FIRESHOWS WEST CLASS IDEAS** (Non-Action Item.) Discussion of possible class ideas for the next FireShowsWest conference to be held in November, 2019.

Chief Chambers suggested a law enforcement hazardous materials or all- risk for law enforcement, fire, EMS to bring more disciplines into FireShowsWest. Also in discussion with Eric Guevin and Professional Firefighters Association, looking at more robust fire prevention or solid investigation update courses, perhaps in conjunction with International Association of Arson Investigators.

Dennis Pinkerton would like to get more local instructors involved in the program. Chair Fogerson liked that idea, promoting the great instructors that are in our State.

Kelli Baratti suggested that John Bakkedahl, DEM is an incredible training resource. Dennis Pinkerton, Bart Chambers, Mike Heidemann, and Elaine Pace agreed.

Mike Heidemann listed off some courses that will be offered and encouraged additional suggestions are submitted by the end of the month. Chair Fogerson asked for a list of courses to share with Local Emergency Planning Committees and Mike Heidemann indicate he would do that.

Kelli Baratti suggested early on development of the all hazardous incident management team; one for the north and on for the south. Mike Heidemann agreed and mentioned that Jeff Buchanan is interested in developing more leadership courses. FireShowsWest is now a non-profit organization on the training side; FireShowsWest Training and Education Foundation.

Lisa Beaver would like to help preventions staff have a better base knowledge in regards to suppression operations. Plan reviews and development meetings ; they are actually the first line protection for the firefighters and for the public in prescribing and being able to explain the intent of protection for both groups to developers. Chair Fogerson acknowledged that that was a very valid point, a lot of times prevention is there not so much to save the public but to save the firefighters and we forget to thank the prevention staff for doing that.

14. **RECIPROCITY** (Non-Action Item.) Review of “Nevada Fire Service Professional Qualification Manual,” Section 14, Reciprocity. The review will be led by Chief Chambers.

Chief Chambers indicated that some parts of Section 14 of the Professional Qualifications Manual will be reworded and he will present to the Board when they get the wordsmithing and verbiage drafted. In the next couple of months we will have something a little bit more solid from a neighboring state on recognizing our certification process, for true reciprocity.

15. **REVIEW OF “SAFER” FUNDS** (Non-Action Item.) Chief Chambers will provide information on the results of the volunteer fire department survey that was done by the Nevada Fire Chiefs Association using federal “SAFER” funds.

Chief Chambers recently spoke with Ken Riddle, Executive Director, Nevada Fire Chiefs Association, in regards to the SAFER Grant and Funds and survey. Information on the survey should be available in the next couple of days.

16. **REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS CONCERNING THEIR VARIOUS CONSTITUENT GROUPS THEY REPRESENT ON THE BOARD** (Non-Action Item) To be tabled for the next meeting.

17. **SCHEDULE THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF FIRE SERVICES** (Discussion/For Possible Action.) A tentative date was not set.

18. **PUBLIC COMMENT** (Non-Action Item) No action may be taken on matters raised in context with this Agenda item prior to inclusion of the matter itself as an action item on a future Agenda. Public comments are limited to three (3) minutes.

Mike Heidemann mentioned that the NSFA is going to get an AG opinion regarding fire drills in schools and the differences between the NRS and the IFC qualification in regards to substituting lockdown drills for fire drills. Chief Fogerson noted that we will discuss it at the next Board meeting.

Eric Guevin suggested that for the next agenda of trying to formalize a fire marshal group for northern and southern Nevada and that the State Board of Fire Services recognize it as a fire prevention leadership.

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

Eric Guevin motioned to adjourn the meeting. Bill Erlach seconded the motion. No additional discussion. Meeting adjourned.