



STATE FIRE MARSHAL  
FIRE EXTINGUISHER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

January 24, 2023, Meeting Minutes, 10:00 A.M. to 3:00P.M.  
Pacific Daylight Time (PDT)

Office of the State Fire Marshal  
Zoom Meeting Conference Call

Meeting ID: 859 4070 3175

MEMBERS PRESENT

Robert Vasquez, California Association of Life Safety and Fire Equipment (CAL SAFE)  
Edie Wade, Brooks Equipment  
Randy Dysart, CAL SAFE (retired)  
Marcus Hernandez, City of Morgan Hill  
Rebeca Leda, Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District  
Perry "Mike" Goth, Victorville Fire Department  
Shelly Beach, San Bernadino County Fire Department  
Darrell Hefley, Jorgensen Company  
Isaac DeFee, Cintas Corporation  
Randy Rousseau, La Sierra Fire Equipment  
J.R. Nerat, Presto  
James Knowles, Amerex  
John Huffman (Alternate), Jorgensen Company

MEMBERS ABSENT

Garth Embree (Alternate), Amerex

GUESTS PRESENT

None

OSFM STAFF

Jeffrey Schwartz, Chairperson, OSFM

Greg Andersen, OSFM  
Cortney Walker, OSFM  
Brice Bennett, OSFM  
Megan Lopes, OSFM

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

### A. Welcome and Logistics Briefing

Chairperson Jeffrey Schwartz called the meeting to order at 10:02 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time (PDT).

### B. Roll Call/Determine Quorum

Roll call was conducted by Megan Lopes and determined that a quorum (12 of 12) of members was present.

### C. Introductions

All attendees introduced themselves.

### D. Approval of Previous Minutes

Chairperson Jeffrey Schwartz asked for approval of the minutes for the October 25, 2022, meeting. It was moved by Member Randy Dysart to approve the minutes as presented; motion seconded by Member Edie Wade. Motion was carried with a unanimous vote in favor of approval of the October minutes as presented.

### E. Announcements

Chief Greg Andersen announced several staffing changes within the OSFM. Brice Bennett will become the new Fire Extinguisher Program Coordinator as of February 1<sup>st</sup>. He also announced that Chief Daniel Berlant is now the acting State Fire Marshal. Chief Steve Hawks retired at the end of the year, and Chief Frank Bigelow is now the Assistant Deputy Director of Community Wildfire Preparedness & Mitigation and Fire Engineering & Investigations.

## 2. OLD BUSINESS

### A. Title 19 Portable Fire Extinguishers Regulations Update

Chairperson Jeffrey Schwartz stated staff is moving forward with submitting the package to Code Development. Chief Greg Andersen stated there are currently several very active packages in Code Development right now, and the hope is to get the package in the queue and moving forward. Chief Greg Andersen confirmed all new members will receive a copy of the proposed regulatory package. He reiterated that the package still needs to go through executive review and executive staff can make changes because what is done in the committee is advisory.

Chairperson Jeffrey Schwartz confirmed he will disperse the proposed changes.

B. PFAS Extinguishers

Chairperson Jeffrey Schwartz stated this topic was presented in the last meeting. For those who were not a part of that meeting, PFAS extinguishers were discussed to form a work group to develop an informational bulletin. This topic was tabled until the new committee was appointed so the work can begin without interruption. He stated for work groups, they liked to have no more than five members, one representing each discipline of industry, fire service, and manufacturers. The workgroup would meet outside of the advisory committee meetings to develop an informational bulletin for the industry, fire service, and the public.

Chief Greg Andersen provided some background information for new members and stated the OSFM publishes informational bulletins to assist the public and local jurisdictions on issues that are coming up. For PFAS, a new statute was passed that prohibits the use of PFAS unless for specific locations. There is an informational bulletin currently for refineries, however, as PFAS is being phased out there are replacements that are coming out that need to be discussed. He also stated subcommittees are not public meetings. They will come up with proposals and bring them back to the committee where the committee will review.

Chairperson Jeffrey Schwartz stated they are looking for volunteers to join the workgroup. Member Darrell Hefley stated if there isn't already someone from industry, he would be interested in being in the workgroup. Member Randy Rousseau stated he was also interested. Member James Knowles expressed interest in participating in the committee. Member J.R. Nerat and Robert Vasquez also expressed interest. Member Mike Goth stated he would represent the fire service perspective.

Member James Knowles asked if the AES Committee will also be having a similar workgroup. Chief Greg Andersen stated he would like to blend the information into one informational bulletin. This subgroup may be merged with the proposals that come from the AES Committee. Chairperson Jeffrey Schwartz stated this is something that can also be discussed in the next AES Advisory Committee Meeting tomorrow.

Chief Greg Andersen stated the workgroup can work outside of our office and set up their own meetings, or we would be more than happy to help facilitate meetings.

Chairperson Jeffrey Schwartz asked who would like to chair the subcommittee? The chair would be responsible for setting up the

meetings and presenting the proposal to the advisory committee. Member James Knowles asked what the timeline is on this project. Member Darrell Hefley added that there are some issues that push this to come up with something quickly. He thought there was a real concern about getting information out sooner rather than later. Member James Knowles agreed. Chief Greg Andersen stated it would be good to have a proposal ready for the next advisory committee meeting at the end of April. Member Darrell Hefley volunteered to chair the subcommittee. He asked Chairperson Jeffrey Schwartz to provide him the contact information for the workgroup members. Chairperson Jeffrey Schwartz confirmed he will provide that information.

### 3. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

### 4. OPEN FORUM

Chairperson Jeffrey Schwartz stated we are still in the licensing renewal process. Early numbers indicate approximately 1,800 certificate or registration holders have renewed and approximately 475 company licenses have renewed. He stated this is a slight drop from last year indicating some people may not have renewed at all or are no longer working in the industry.

Brice Bennett encouraged all members to reach out if they see any issues arise in the field on the enforcement side.

### 5. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

### 6. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

The next committee meeting is scheduled for April 25, 2023, at 10:00 A.M. (PDT). Chairperson Jeffrey Schwartz stated they will try to have an in-person or hybrid option for the next meeting and will notify the committee members if a conference room is available. A motion to adjourn was made by Member Edie Wade and seconded by Member James Knowles. Motion was carried with a unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting. Chairperson Jeffrey Schwartz adjourned the meeting at 10:39 A.M. (PDT).