



**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
Fire Engineering Division**

P.O. Box 944246
Sacramento, CA 94244-2460
Web Site: <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov>
(916) 445-8200
(916) 445-8458 Fax



**STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S
Automatic Extinguishing Systems Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2008**

Committee Goal: To provide a means of communications between the Offices of the State Fire Marshal, representatives of industry, the public and the fire service; and to seek comments and specific views on proposed regulations and intended future action.

Members Present:

James Parsegian, Program Coordinator-OSFM
Mike Waldron, RA-OSFM
Steve Hart, NAS-IP
Dennis Grubb, Orange Co. Fire Authority
Jim McLaughlin, Lund, Pearson, McLaughlin
Allen Quirk, Paraclete Fire & Safety Inc.
Jim Feld, U.C. Berkeley
Darrell Harguth, Brooks Fire Equipment
Darrell Hefley, Jorgensen & Co.
Chris Gilbert, Simplex Grinnell
Robert Nolan, ASCIP (Schools)
Randy Dysart, Cintas Fire
Fred Benn-Advanced Automatic Sprinkler Inc.
Russell Blair, Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District
David Casey, Department of State Architect
Robert Rowe, FSABSC

Guests

James Carver-EI Segundo Fire

Members Absent:

Stan Smith, Sprinklers Fitters 483
Sam Husoe, National Fire Sprinkler Association
Lorin Neyer, OSHPD
Patrick Chew, City of Roseville Fire Department
Wayne Martin, FPE
Robert Raymer, California Building Industry Association (BIA)
Ken Liming, Insurance Services Office
Craig Voelkert, Amerex Corp.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson James Parsegian @ 10:05 a.m., on January 9, 2008.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcement at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from September 26, 2007, were reviewed and edited. Robert Nolan moved to accept the revised minutes and Darrell Hefley seconded. Minutes were approved.

OLD BUSINESS

1) NFPA 25/TITLE 19 UPDATE

James Carver mentioned that the LAAFMA scheduled meeting has been cancelled several times. As of this date it has not been re-scheduled. He added that he would try to expedite the process to get it re-scheduled in a timely manner. The Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) will participate in the discussion when the meeting is re-scheduled. It was noted that the following topics needed to be discussed:

- a. Guidance in Implementation
- b. Training for the Fire Service
- c. Training in the Use of Forms
- d. Public Information regarding the specifics of the document.

Robert Nolan suggested that most jurisdictions he has spoken with feel that the implementation by the OSFM appears to be working, however, some fine tuning is necessary.

Steve Hart asked about FAQs regarding NFPA 25. James Parsegian informed the Committee that Mike Waldron would be working on putting previously posted bulletins into FAQ format. FAQs will be posted in specific categories with NFPA 25 being the first priority. James Parsegian will forward FAQs to all Committee Members.

Robert Nolan asked about a previously scheduled phone conference call. James Parsegian indicated that the conference call did not happen. James also stated that NFPA Staff Liaison was given the approval to attend the LAAFMA/So Cal FPOs meeting when it takes place.

2) CODE ADOPTION UPDATE

James Parsegian told the Committee that the proposal for NFPA 13, 13R, 13D were withdrawn and placed on hold.

An OSFM Workgroup will be put together to compare requirements in CBC against the requirements of NFPA 13 for the purpose of putting together a comprehensive amendment package. James stated that we had one year to complete the process. The workgroup will be comprised of FPE, Fire Service, industry and OSFM staff.

Steve Hart explained that the amendments would be part of the 2008 Rulemaking Package and would take effect in 2010.

Fred Benn volunteered to work on the workgroup. He brings extensive knowledge regarding NFPA 13D

Steve Hart reminded the committee that 13D & 13R systems are designed for the purpose of life safety and not property protection, although they do perform that function less effectively.

Dennis Grubb expressed concern that even though these systems are designed as Life Safety Systems, he felt that due to reduced requirements for road widths, increased hydrant spacing, etc., it was important that amendments reflect the need for garage sprinklers in residences.

Steve Hart and James Parsegian will work together to create an information bulletin clarifying which documents are in use in California with direction to use the 2007 California Building Code, Chapter 35.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Engineered/Pre-engineered System Forms-Darrell Hefley passed out two handouts, and presented an overview of the development process fore AES Forms 20-22. One handout, developed by Chris Hoiland suggested changes to forms. The second handout consisted of AES Forms completed on 9-28-07, and AES Forms completed on 1-8-08. After much discussion a concensus on what should be included on the final forms was reached. Darrell will make the changes and email them to OSFM Staff. The new forms will be presented to various FPO groups by James Parsegian for input. The AES Advisory Committee will vote on the approved forms at the next meeting.

MITS-Steve Hart presented an overview of the MITS workgroup and its stated goals. During a meeting last year, James Parsegian redirected the thrust of the workgroup into developing a Certification Program in conjunction with the development of a maintenance program. In October 2004 the MITS Workgroup was established. Steve Hart and Chris Gilbert will co-chair the workgroup. They are tasked with re-establishing goals.

2008 Code Hearing in PALM SPRINGS-Fred Benn discussed the hearings in Palm Springs, and opened a discussion of the need to "get the word out" to attend the upcoming meeting in Minneapolis.

Fred advised the Committee that there are travel grants available to fire personnel to help ease the cost. He went on to say that there are nine proposals concerning residential sprinklers on the table. Two of these proposals are sanctioned by the NorCal FPOs.

One of the goals discussed was the attempt to ensure that all residential buildings will

be sprinklered. Much work is necessary to get this adopted in California.

Fred told the group that he would present any proposed amendments to NFPA 13D given to him by January 22.

Fred asked if the Burn Trailer would be available to take to Palm Springs. James Parsegian said he would discuss the matter with Tonya Hoover, ASFM.

NEW BUSINESS

James Carver presented an overview of the proposed L-License being considered in the AES Program. After much discussion, James Parsegian recommended a workgroup to explore the idea, and work out the details. Robert Nolan, James Carver, Randy Dysart, Dennis Grubb, and Dave Casey volunteered to participate on the group.

OPEN FORUM

Some discussion on the use of a verification of service collar to be used on wet chemical pre-engineered systems. No decision reached.

Dennis Grubb raised the question of allowing pre-assembled sprinkler drops, since there is a perceived problem that sprinkler heads are obstructed with glue as a result of this process.

Fred Benn explained that the intention is to ensure that all drops be preassembled in the shop. He stated that more control can be exercised in the shop under supervision. The problem occurs when unsupervised personnel preassemble drops in the field.

No consensus was reached on this topic.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled as following:

Office of the State Fire Marshal
Main Conference Room
1131 S Street
Sacramento, CA 95811
April 23, 2008
10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.