



**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
FIRE ENGINEERING DIVISION**

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**OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
Fire Alarm Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 28, 2015**

COMMITTEE GOAL

To advise the State Fire Marshal on proposed regulations and technical issues by providing views and comments from members of industry, the public, and the fire services.

STAFF

James Parsegian, Supervising DSFM, Chair
DeeDee Garcia, Assistant Program Coordinator

MEMBERS PRESENT

*Walter Brandes, Riverside Fire Department
Shane Clary, Bay Alarm Company
Rick Cortina, Pyro-Comm Systems, Inc.
Wendy Gifford, NEST Labs
Rick Lewis, Rolf Jensen & Associates
Richard Roberts, Honeywell Life Safety
Gary Dunger, Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development
Howard Hopper, Underwriters Laboratories
Ken Quick, Culver City Fire
Patrick Ward, AON Fire Protection Engineering
*via conference line

MEMBERS ABSENT

Bill Hopple, Hopple & Co.
Ray Iverson, Sacramento Metropolitan Fire Department
Jay Levy, Hochiki America
Michael Reeser, Santa Rosa Fire Equipment Services
John Mapes, Foster City Fire Department
Tom Connaughton, Intertek -ETL
Ronald Farr, Underwriters Laboratories Inc. Regulatory Services

GUESTS PRESENT

Ben Ho, Office of the State Fire Marshal
Jarnell Dhalla, Stanford Fire Marshal's Office

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson James Parsegian at 1:10 P.M. on January 28, 2015.

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

DeeDee Garcia conducted a roll call and it was determined that a quorum of members were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Committee members review the minutes of November 18, 2014. Rick Cortina made a motion to approve the minutes and Shane Clary seconded the motion. James Parsegian called for a vote and the minutes were approved unanimously as written.

OLD BUSINESS

1. James asked for an update from the fire alarm replacement panel information bulletin work group. Rick Cortina had no updated and wanted to get input from the committee regarding CFC 907.5.2.3. The group discussed the item and decided to update the information bulletin.
2. James provided the committee with an update on the NFPA 72 update work group lead by Bill Hopple. He reminded if anyone had questions regarding their work group to contact himself or DeeDee.

NEW BUSINESS

1. James explained the new AES Committee certification program work group and the goals of the group. He explained there are three phases within the work group to accomplish the goals.

OPEN FORUM

1. Bill Hopple brought up Potter Electric Signal CO. and their new product, the VSR-AT and how it does not verify that there is any flow. Also, it is not listed with CSFM; however the company website states that the VSR-AT is CSFM listed and UL/FM approved. All agreed to discuss further at the next meeting.
2. Rick Lewis brought up the code adoption cycle, specifically California Building Code Section 907.6.1.1, for the wiring of circuits for high rises and the exceptions. CI cable issue of survivability is not addressed. This adds up to 30-40% to project costs. The justification points to providing survivability, however there are already survivability requirements from NFPA 72. This also includes all buildings, not just Class A on new construction.
3. Rick Lewis conveyed concern regarding 520 Hz in sleeping rooms and the confusion of the intent of 520 Hz and the requirement for it. Chapter 29 reverts to chapter 18 and there is a misinterpretation of what exactly is required from a fire alarm for mild to severe hearing impairment. To some it is being

interpreted as every room needs it. Rick Lewis will write up and submit a Code Interpretation to the process. James Parsegian suggested the idea of going back to the days when code issues went to the various committees for their expertise.

NEXT MEETING

April 28, 2015 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm (Pacific Standard Time) at the Office of the State Fire Marshal, 1131 "S" Street, Sacramento. A conference line and GoTo Meeting will be available.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Update the Smoke Alarm Information Bulletin (James Parsegian to add the exception relating to hardwire, smoke detectors and Smoke Alarms that transmit to a panel)
2. DeeDee will send out the committee procedures to the Fire Alarm Advisory Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned by Chair James Parsegian, at 3:22 pm

Meeting Minutes developed by:
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