



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

P.O. Box 944246
SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2460
(916) 445-8200
Website: www.fire.ca.gov



**OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
Fire Alarm Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 22, 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
Ben Ho, Retired Annuitant

MEMBERS PRESENT

Walter Brandes, Riverside County Fire Department
Rick Cortina, Pyro-Comm Systems, Inc.
*Ronald Farr, Underwriters Laboratories Inc. Regulatory Services
Wendy Gifford, Nest Labs
*Jay Levy, Eaton
Rick Lewis, Sabah International
*Ken Quick, Culver City Fire
Michael Reeser, Santa Rosa Fire Equipment Services
*Pat Ward, AON Fire Protection Engineering
**Via Conference Call*

MEMBERS ABSENT

Shane Clary, Bay Alarm Company
Tom Connaughton, Intertek -ETL
Gary Dunger, Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development
Bill Hopple, Hopple & Co.
Richard Roberts, Honeywell Life Safety

I. **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson James Parsegian at 10:06 AM on September 22, 2015.

II. **ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS**

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

III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Committee members review the minutes of June 18, 2015. Michael Reeser made a motion to approve the minutes. Rick Cortina seconded the motion. Wendy Gifford asked for clarification regarding UL developing a test standard for AB1411 related to clothes dryers. James Parsegian called for a vote and the minutes were approved unanimously with correction as noted.

IV. **OLD BUSINESS**

1. James began the discussion with SB 1394 implementation. The next and final deadline is January 1, 2016. Ken Quick had a question of the impact on the re-sale of homes that only require one smoke detector and asked for clarification due to the new law that is in effect. James explained that because this is a new statute, it affects these homes as well. He also explained that if there are any listings that do not have the additional statement about SB 1394 compliance they will need to do a technical revision or they will be removed from the website.
2. The next item was Information Bulletin 15-002 regarding fire sprinkler testing. James stated that the office was moving forward with approval for posting to the web. This Information Bulletin will contain information on best practices for the flowing of water during required testing for fire protection systems.

Action Item: DeeDee will provide a copy of the Information Bulletin to the committee when it is available.

V. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. The first item of new business was committee appointments. James advised the committee that some of the appointments would be expiring and we would be needing re-appointment request letters if the committee members would like to continue serving.

Action Item: DeeDee is to send an email to the members advising them of the next steps to for re-appointment.

2. The next item on the agenda was NFPA 72 adoption. James asked for volunteers from the committee to look at the code amendments and confirm the amendments are in the correct location in NFPA 72. 2015 edition. Rick Lewis and Michael Reeser volunteered. Wendy Gifford mentioned how NFPA 720 will be merged into NFPA 72 and asked if this will have an impact on the code adoption process for California. Rick Cortina and James explained that this will only affect installation and the OSFM will be tasked with the 2019 code cycle adoption.

3. James stated that the regulation package for sprinkler fitter certification is moving forward and was currently on Chief Hoover's desk. The next step is the public comment period and from there it will move on to the Office of Administrative Law. James briefly explained the regulations to the committee. There was discussion around the table to ensure understanding of the regulations. He advised that a copy of the regulations will be sent to the stakeholders during the public comment period. Pat Ward had a question about a possible issue with contractors getting workers who aren't trained. James confirmed that that issue has been handled in the regulations. Pat also asked about 13D regulations and James explained that they have been excluded; however, 13 & 13R are included.
4. Code Interpretations were the next item on the agenda. James asked Rick Lewis to discuss the first pertaining to Information Bulletin 15-001. Rick began discussing visual alarm wiring in restrooms for Group R-2 occupancies. The committee discussed what the intent of a visual alarm that is not in an occupancy as well as the intent of the pre-wire. They also discussed various issues they have heard from industry as well as the cost issue to pre-wire and who should be responsible for the infrastructure for ADA compliance. James asked for volunteers to clarify the interpretation language for 09-005 and 15-001. He felt that by having people from various positions in the industry they would make the bulletin clear for everyone. Rick Lewis, Rick Cortina, Ken Quick and Jay Levy volunteered for the IB 15-001 workgroup.

The second code interpretation was for heat detectors in condominiums. The question was asked if a system dies, are you required to replace the system even though they are now non-required systems. The committee discussed code Section 901.4.2 and the history of this issue which originated in Redondo Beach. Ben noticed that the code interpretation request came from a local deputy not the fire marshal or fire chief which violates OSFM policy. The committee decided to refer the code interpretation request back to the local authority having jurisdiction with guidance from Section 901.4.2.

VI. OPEN FORUM

1. Rick Cortina brought up the topic of mass notification systems. Certain manufacturers build speakers and amplifiers for exterior areas that are tied into the fire alarm system. He wants to know how they could become listed and what category they would be under as there is no current category that fits. James explained that they can apply for a listing and our office would review the test report and decide which standard they need to be tested to and they would be able to create a new category in-house if needed. Ben discussed how the BML Program looks at products and whether or not it connects to a control panel. The committee discussed UL 2572 and various scenarios affected by this topic. Rick confirmed the next steps he needed to take to assist in getting the speakers listed
2. Ken Quick asked if there was going to be a correlation between NFPA 72 Chapter 29 and how would the local fire authorities get the updates. James confirmed that he will ask the Code Development and Analysis Division to include all of the building departments in the State of the changes.

VII. NEXT MEETING

February 3, 2016 from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM (Pacific Standard Time) at the the Hilton Palm Springs. A conference line and GoTo Meeting will be available.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Rick Cortina. Wendy Gifford seconded the motion. A vote was taken and all were in favor of the motion. The meeting adjourned by Chair James Parsegian, at 11:38 AM.

Meeting Minutes developed by:
DeeDee Garcia, BML Assistant Program Coordinator
DeeDee.Garcia@fire.ca.gov

DRAFT