



OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Fire Alarm Advisory Committee

February 5, 2020 Meeting Minutes

HILTON PALM SPRINGS

400 East Tahquitz Canyon Way

Palm Springs, California 92262

2 p.m.- 5 p.m. (Pacific Daylight Time)

COMMITTEE GOAL

To provide a means of communication between the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM), representatives of industry and fire service, and the public to seek comments and specific views on proposed regulations and intended future action.

OSFM STAFF

David Castillo, Chairperson, OSFM

Michael Richwine, OSFM

Daniel Berlant, OSFM

Al Adams, OSFM

Greg Andersen, OSFM

Ben Ho, OSFM

Jinaki Bahati, OSFM

Victor Wong, OSFM

Kevin Chan, OSFM

MEMBERS PRESENT

Nanci Timmins

Jay Levy

Richard Roberts

Sagiv Weiss-Ishai

Rick Lewis

Shane Clary

Rick Cortina

John Guhl

Wendy Gifford

MEMBERS ATTENDING VIA TELECONFERENCE

Andrew Thul

David Meyers

MEMBERS ABSENT

Howard Hopper

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/ANNOUNCEMENT

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson David Castillo at 2:10 p.m. (Pacific Daylight Time).

- A. Welcome and Logistics briefing
- B. ROLL CALL / Determine Quorum
Roll call was taken by Jinaki Bahati. Chairperson David Castillo determined that a quorum of Committee members was present. All individuals present and, on the telephone, introduced themselves.
- C. Approval of draft meeting minutes from September 12, 2019 meeting.
After the Committee members reviewed the minutes, a motion and a second were made to approve the minutes. The motion was unanimously approved, and the minutes were approved.
- D. Announcements/Updates.
 - Chief Adams informed the Committee that the Fire Engineering and Investigations Division, Building Materials Listing Program has added the following staff: Jinaki Bahati, Associate Governmental Program Analyst and Victor Wong, Mechanical Engineer.
 - Chief Adams also announced David Castillo has been promoted to Supervising Mechanical Engineer.
 - Chief Richwine thanked the Committee for their dedication and contribution to the Committee's work.

2. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Building Materials Listing Program Fee Increase (Title 19, Division 1, Chapter 1.5, Article 7).
Chief Adams and Chair Castillo informed the Committee that the BML Program Listing Fee will be increased due to the additional staffing and that the program has not had a fee increase in approximately 30 years. They anticipated the effective date of January 2021.
- B. BML Program and the Educational Webinar
Chair Castillo addressed items 2B, 3A, and 3D simultaneously by announcing the plan for OSFM to develop and implement online live training which includes the currently posted BML Program Educational Webinar, and the soon to be developed OSFM Listings On-Line Training Webinar and the OSFM Laboratory Accreditation Program Webinar.

Richard Roberts explained to the committee that OSHA is responsible for accrediting NRTL's on the National level and David explained that OSFM is responsible for accrediting laboratories for their programs.

3. NEW BUSINESS

- A. OSFM Laboratory Accreditation
This item was addressed in item 2B in Old Business.
- B. Nuisance Alarm Listings Implementation Plan
OSFM has not adopted the newest edition of UL 217/UL 268, but will list products to the current standard with note the product also complies with the newest edition of UL217/268.
- C. GovMotus Update
Chair Castillo explained that Vickie Sakamoto has been tasked to coordinate the requirements of the BML Program with GovMotus Software so that BML can use GovMotus as the prime BML Processing Program. Ben Ho explained that GovMotus will allow all BML tasks to be performed online that includes online payments.
- D. OSFM Listings Online Training
This item was addressed in item 2B in Old Business.
- E. Update on the status of UL Standard 2524 In-building 2-Way Emergency Radio Communication Enhancement Systems
Sagiv Weiss-Ishai explained that AHJ's are having problems approving UL 2524 products because they are not OSFM listed. Sagiv suggested the committee put something together so the OSFM can list these products in the BML Program.
- F. 2019 California Building Code (CBC), Section 1010.1.9.13 item 5 – Clarify the “dedicated LINES” – are these intended to be Copper Phone Lines (POTS)? Is more than one line required? Can cellular technology be used?
Committee determined this should be submitted to the Code Interpretation Committee.
- G. Discussion about applicable NFPA 72 Edition in the next 2022 CBC/CFC Code Cycle: Will it be 2019 Edition, or will it be the 2022 Edition of NFPA 72 which is supposed to be published in August 2021?
Chief Andersen stated that the goal is to adopt the 2022 edition if published by the deadline date. If not published by the deadline date, the currently published edition would be adopted.
- H. Discussion regarding CBC 907.2.9.3 Group R-2 college and university building interpretation regarding: “Operated by” required smoke alarms in dwelling units and sleeping units in Group R-2 occupancies operated by a college or university for student or staff housing shall be interconnected with the fire alarm system in accordance with NFPA 72.
This is model code language. This is a code interpretation issue. This issue should be submitted to the Code Interpretation Committee.
- I. Visible Alarms vs. Visual Alarm appliances – Match NFPA 72 CBC 907.5.2.3 Visible alarms. Visible alarm notification appliances shall be

provided in accordance with Sections 907.5.2.3.1 through 907.5.2.3.4.
The next code cycle must address the issue of Visible versus Visual in the next code cycle.

OPEN FORUM

- A. Shane Clary brought the issue that pipe fitters now need to be certified through CSFM. AHJ's are saying that CSLB C-10 license can no longer touch the inspectors test valve to test the fire alarm system. AHJ's are stating that you need a CSLB C-16 license to open the valves.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting was scheduled and was cancelled due to COVID 19 pandemic.