



# STATE FIRE MARSHAL General Fireworks Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes – February 23, 2022

VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM  
Office of the State Fire Marshal, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
715 P Street, Sacramento, California 95814

## MEMBERS PRESENT

Gary Brown, Pyro Spectaculars  
Ian Gilfillan, Pyro Spectaculars North  
Linda Haas-Kreman, Phantom Fireworks  
Kevin Crews, Volt Live  
Julie Heckman, American Pyrotechnics Association  
Dennis Revell, Revell Communications  
Tad Trout, TNT Fireworks  
Megan Quinn, Corona Fire Department  
Mark Holthaus, Friends of Amateur Rocketry  
John Newman, Friends of Amateur Rocketry

## MEMBERS ABSENT

Gregory McCanless, Jake's Fireworks  
Sherry Souza, J & M Displays  
Kevin Kelley, Disney Entertainment  
Dennis King, MP Associates  
Allen Hogue, Anaheim Fire Department  
Reggie Johnson, Los Angeles County Fire Department  
Mike Buck (alternate), Fulcrum Advocates

## OSFM STAFF

Al Adams, Chairperson, OSFM  
Caleb Phillips, Co-Chairperson, OSFM  
Vikkie Franklin, OSFM  
Bryan Gouge, OSFM  
Ramiro Rodriguez, OSFM

## PUBLIC GUESTS

Eric Elias, Operator

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

#### A. Welcome

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Al Adams at 09:15 A.M. PDT on February 23, 2022.

#### B. Roll Call/Determine Quorum

Roll call was conducted by Yevonne Costa and Chairperson Al Adams determined that a quorum of members was established at 09:20 A.M. PDT.

#### C. Approval of Minutes

Chairperson Al Adams asked for approval of the Minutes of the August 04th, 2021 meeting.

**It was moved by Member Dennis Revell to approve the minutes; motion seconded by Member Gary Brown. Motion was unanimously approved at 09:25 A.M. PDT.**

#### D. Announcements

Chairperson Al Adams thanked the committee for their participation. He then informed the group that Chief Vickie Sakamoto as well as Chief Joe Konefal had left the Division and that he will be retiring within the coming months. He stated Chief Joe Konefal has retired, and Chief Vickie Sakamoto has taken a position with Fire and Life Safety. He went on to introduce Caleb Phillips as the new Fireworks Program Coordinator. Chairperson Al Adams stated they are moving through the process of hiring new arson investigators. He then asked Chief Bryan Gouge if an update could be given regarding the hiring of the new investigators. Chief Bryan Gouge explained to the committee that we had recently hired an excellent candidate from Maui Police Department, Investigator Gershom Slonim and we are expected to hire another four investigators soon.

### 2. OLD BUSINESS

#### A. Fee Schedule Regulations Update

Chairperson Al Adams gave an update regarding the Fireworks Proposed Fee Schedule Regulations. He stated that the package has been submitted to Code Development Division to be completed and sent to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL). Approval is not accepted until after the renewal period in 2022. Therefore, no changes will take place until the renewal period in 2023.

#### B. Fireworks Regulations Update

Chairperson Al Adams stated the package is ready to move forward and we are currently developing the Initial Statement of Reason (ISOR) which he would like to see completed in June of 2022.

### c. GOVmotus Update

The Fire Engineering & Investigations manager, Vikkie Franklin gave an update regarding the changes to be expected within GOVmotus regarding the Retail Booth Application. She went on to tell the committee that batch payments would be accepted beginning on or around March 12<sup>th</sup>. And that the AHJ information would be able to be revised as well. She advised the committee that the developer has found that Google Chrome is the only supported platform to use GOVmotus.

### d. Emerging Technologies Workgroup

Chairperson Al Adams introduced the topic of Emerging Technology as it pertains to metal racks, fiberglass tubing and strapping used for aerial display shows. There was a short discussion amongst the committee members. Member Julie Heckman stated that there are no written criteria when it comes to acceptable performance standards per the American Pyrotechnics Association. After much discussion, Chairperson Al Adams stated that our office will be taking a long, hard look at this issue in the upcoming future. Chairperson Al Adams stated each specific issue, racking system, tubing and strapping needs to be evaluated independently.

## 3. NEW BUSINESS

Items raised by the committee as new business are finding other avenues of gaining new pyrotechnic operators. Additionally, continuing to combat the importation of illegal fireworks into jurisdictions that do not allow any fireworks, while also making sure only Safe and Sane are sold within the state. Chairperson Al Adams stated the enforcement of illegal fireworks needs to become a year-round endeavor instead of seasonal.

## 4. OPEN FORUM

Nothing stated.

## 5. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments or questions.

## 6. SCHEDULE FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

No future Committee meeting was scheduled.

## 7. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Al Adams asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**It was moved by Member Julie Heckman to adjourn the meeting; motion seconded by Member Kevin Crews. Chairperson Al Adams adjourned the meeting at 12:36 P.M. PDT.**