



OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
Fire Alarm Advisory Committee

MEETING MINUTES

February 3, 2021
Virtual Meeting via TEAMS
2251 Harvard Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, California 95815
10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time (PDT)

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
Michael Richwine
Daniel Berlant
Al Adams, OSFM
Greg Andersen
Victor Wong
Jinaki Bahati
Taylor Machado
Kevin Chan
Ben Ho

MEMBERS PRESENT via TEAMS

Nanci Timmins
Jay Levy
Richard Roberts
Sagiv Weiss-Ishai
Rick Lewis
Shane Clary
Rick Cortina
Wendy Gifford
Howard Hopper

MEMBERS ABSENT

Andrew Thul

PUBLIC/GUESTS

Travis Taylor

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/ANNOUNCEMENT

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson David Castillo at 10:06 a.m. PDT.

A. Welcome and Logistics briefing

- Chief Berlant and Chief Richwine provided the welcome introduction and thanked the Committee for their dedication and contribution to the Committee's work. Chief Berlant informed that the Governor has appointed Chief Richwine as State Fire Marshal (SFM), Wendy Collins as Assistant State Fire Marshal and announced that Vickie Sakamoto has returned to the OSFM as Supervising Deputy State Fire Marshal working for the Fire Engineering and Investigations Division.
- Chairperson David Castillo mentioned that all the Committee members' term expired as of October 2020. He informed the Committee Members to submit a request for reappointment letter to the SFM if they are interested in continuing to serve on the Committee. Members will receive a re-appointed letter signed by Chief Richwine.
- Kevin Chan confirmed nominations cannot be submitted via email and must be submitted in writing on official letterhead. Alternates can be proposed, and the requesting letter must state nomination as an alternate.

B. ROLL CALL / Determine Quorum

Roll call was taken by Jinaki Bahati. Chairperson David Castillo determined that we had a quorum. All individuals present, on Teams and on the telephone, introduced themselves.

C. Postponed approval of draft meeting minutes from February 5, 2020 meeting

Committee Members are to send any remarks or changes to Jinaki and there will be a vote to approve the Meeting Minutes at the next meeting.

D. Announcements/Updates.

- Chairperson David Castillo informed the Committee that the Fire Engineering and Investigations Division, Building Materials Listing (BML) Program has added the following staff: Jinaki Bahati, Associate Governmental Program Analyst, Victor Wong, Mechanical Engineer and Taylor Machado, Office Technician.

- Chair David Castillo confirmed with Vickie Sakamoto that GovMotus is scheduled to go live on April 1, 2021. Chief Berlant confirmed online payments will be available through GovMotus.

2. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Building Materials Listing Program Fee Increase (Title 19, Division 1, Chapter 1.5, Article 7)
Chairperson Castillo announced that the BML Program New Listing Fee schedule has been effective since January 1st, 2021.

Chairperson Castillo addressed Member Richard Roberts question regarding the BML process and that any one of the BML team members can be contacted to assist depending on the issue.

- B. BML Program and the Educational Webinar
Chairperson Castillo and Chief Berlant will re-record the Power Point presentation to enhance the BML Fastrack process, payment submittals and GovMotus. Member Richard Roberts recommended BML to track manufacturers' completion of the webinar to help identify submission issues.

3. NEW BUSINESS

- A. FAAC Expired Roster
This item was addressed in item 1.A by Chairperson David Castillo.
- B. New BML Fee
This item was addressed in item 2.A in Old Business.
- C. David Castillo Working Hours
Chair David Castillo informed the Committee that he is retiring and will be working on a reduced schedule for 1-2 days per week. Chief Adams informed the Committee that effective July 1st there will be funding available to hire another mechanical engineer for the BML Program.

Victor Wong confirmed the correct BML email address for the Committee as Member Wendy Gifford mentioned an issue of undeliverable emails to the BML inbox.

OPEN FORUM

- A. Member Richard Roberts brought up an issue about creating a new mandatory BML listing for In-Building Emergency Responder Communication Enhancement Systems. Member Sagiv Weiss-Ishai mentioned that the UL Standard 2524-2A is in the 2021 International Fire Code and will be effective only in California on July 1, 2023. A discussion

took place and members Jay Levy and Sagiv Weiss-Ishai stated that it should be optional to be listed with the OSFM.

Member Jay Levy brought up the issue about the conflict of the California Fire Code and Federal Communication Commission (FCC) regulations. Member Wendy Gifford inquired about possible that the BML Program can changes to Title 19 and the revision process. Ben Ho stated that the BML Program cannot make changes to Title 19, and only the State Fire Marshal can grant the decision for the OSFM to make changes through the regulatory process.

- B. Member Sagiv Weiss-Ishai asked the Committee for their opinions regarding smoke alarms operated by a college or university for student or staff housing, should they be mandatory to be system detected, either addressable or conventional.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson David Castillo adjourned the meeting at 12:02 pm PDT.