



OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
Fire Alarm Advisory Committee

MEETING MINUTES

February 2, 2022
HILTON PALM SPRINGS
400 East Tahquitz Canyon Way
Palm Springs, California 92262
3 p.m. - 5 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

Victor Wong, Chairperson
Wendy Collins
Andrew Henning
Daniel Berlant
Al Adams
Greg Andersen
Jinaki Bahati
Taylor Machado
Damon Lam
Kevin Chan
Ben Ho

MEMBERS PRESENT

Nanci Timmins - Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development
Jay Levy - California Automatic Fire Alarm Association
Rick Lewis - Saba International
Shane Clary - Bay Alarm Company
Rick Cortina - Apple Valley Communications
Wendy Gifford – Google Nest Laboratories
Travis Tyler - University of Southern California
Oscar Salgado – Los Angeles Fire Department

MEMBERS PRESENT via TEAMS

Sagiv Weiss-Ishai - San Francisco Fire Department

David Myers - CAL FIRE Riverside County Fire Department

Richard Roberts - National Electrical Manufacturers Association

MEMBERS ABSENT

Howard Hopper - Underwriters Laboratories

PUBLIC/GUESTS

David Castillo

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/ANNOUNCEMENT

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Victor Wong at 3:13 p.m. PDT.

- A. Welcome and Logistics briefing
 - Victor Wong provided the welcome introduction.

- B. ROLL CALL / Determine Quorum

Roll call was taken by Damon Lam. Victor Wong determined that we had a quorum. All attendees present, on Teams and on the telephone, introduced themselves. Chief Berlant and Chief Adams welcomed all attendees to the meeting. Chief Adams gave a brief update of what to expect for the launch of GOVmotus and current division changes. Chief Andersen informed the committee that the proposal for the 2022 codes were approved and will become effective next January. The 2022 version of NFPA 72 was adopted and will also be included in this package.

- C. Approval of draft meeting minutes from May 12, 2021, meeting.

Member Jay Levy motioned to approve the minutes and member Shane Clary seconded the motion. Eight out of eleven members voted in approval of the minutes with no further amendments.

- D. Approval of draft meeting minutes from October 6, 2021, meeting.

Member Shane Clary motioned to approve the minutes and member Wendy Gifford seconded the motion. Eight out of eleven members voted in approval of the minutes with no further amendments.

- E. Announcements/Updates

Chairperson Victor Wong expanded on the update of GOVmotus going live March 1st. Chief Berlant reminded the committee that all feedback is welcomed.

2. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Update report from R-2 Student Housing Smoke Detection Task Group.
Member Sagiv Weiss-Ishai reported back to the committee the task group's proposed text change to modify the exceptions. Further explanation was given of the group's rationale to the proposed change as mandatory instead of a choice. Member Jay Levy motioned to discuss further. Member Shane Clary second the motion.
Member Richard Roberts informed the committee that the 2021 Edition of the IFC has a new requirement that smoke alarms must produce a low frequency signal when installed in R-2 occupancies.
Member Sagiv Weiss-Ishai request to have the verbiage "In new" added to the proposed text as a potential resolution to clarify if it applies to new buildings. Member Rick Lewis motioned to vote on the proposed text as-is prior to the revised text proposal. Six out of eleven members voted in approval of the proposed text as-is currently presented. Member Sagiv Weiss-Ishai will resend the final language to Chief Andersen for review.
- B. Update report from Title-19 Interconnection Task Group.
Member Rick Lewis reported back to the committee that the task group came up with proposed language change to add to the existing exception to address the concerns of unapproved smoke alarms. Member Wendy Gifford motioned to discuss further, and member Richard Roberts seconded the motion. As representative of NEMA, member Richard Roberts further explained the intent of the submitted recommendation for additional language and is in support of the task group's proposed language to add to the exceptions. Chairperson Victor Wong called for a vote to move the proposal forward. Eleven out of eleven members voted in approval of the proposal.

3. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Plans, permits and inspection requirements – Rick Cortina:
- 1. Dropping, Rehangng, Replacing Bad Fire Alarm Devices**
Member Rick Cortina request the committee's input regarding requirements for permits and plans for fire alarm device repairs and/or replacements. Member Sagiv Weiss-Ishai provided his input on the requirements of building permits, fire permits, and when they're not required.
 - 2. Requirements for "Strobes" in all occupiable and non-occupiable spaces.**
Member Rick Cortina revisited this matter with member Sagiv Weiss-Ishai as a previous topic of discussion. Chairperson Victor Wong confirmed a vote is not necessary as this can be a future agenda item. Member Sagiv Weiss-Ishai will amend the language to the new codes proposal to share with his task group to review and discuss at the next meeting.

3. Upgrade from a “Horn/Strobe” to Voice System - That does not require a fire alarm panel replacement.

Member Rick Cortina requested the committee’s input on whether adding a voice panel to replace power supply outputs constitute for a new control panel system. Member Sagiv Weiss-Ishai shared his input that it would be considered a new system due to voice system compatibility.

4. DSA CO Detection Requirements

Member Rick Cortina will send out the attachment regarding the DSA CO Detection for the committee to review for further discussion at the next meeting.

OPEN FORUM

- A. Member Shane Clary posed the question regarding the adoption of the 2022 Edition of the NFPA and when it is expected to be published. Chief Andersen confirmed it will be published by July 1, 2023.
- B. Chairperson Victor Wong informed the committee that a doodle poll will be sent for the next meeting to be held potentially in May.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Victor Wong adjourned the meeting a 4:53 P.M. PDT