



OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
Fire Alarm Advisory Committee

MEETING MINUTES

August 10, 2022

Office of the State Fire Marshal
715 P Street
Sacramento, California 95814
9 a.m. - 11 a.m. Pacific Daylight Time (PDT)

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

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
Greg Andersen
Jinaki Bahati
Taylor Machado
Damon Lam

MEMBERS PRESENT via Teams

Nanci Timmins – Department of Health Care Access and Information
Jay Levy - California Automatic Fire Alarm Association
Rick Cortina - Apple Valley Communications
Travis Tyler - University of Southern California
Sagiv Weiss-Ishai - San Francisco Fire Department
David Myers - CAL FIRE Riverside County Fire Department
Richard Roberts - National Electrical Manufacturers Association
Howard Hopper - Underwriter Laboratories

MEMBERS ABSENT

Wendy Gifford – Google Nest Laboratories
Rick Lewis – Sabah International
Shane Clary - Bay Alarm Company
James Carver – Public/End User/Consultant

PUBLIC/GUESTS

Darryl Engel – Intertek Testing Services
Scott Corrin – Southern California Fire Prevention Officers
Vidal Garcia – Los Angeles City Fire Department

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/ANNOUNCEMENT

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Victor Wong at 9:03 a.m. PDT.

- A. Welcome and Logistics briefing
Chairperson Victor Wong provided the welcome introduction.
- B. ROLL CALL / Determine Quorum
Roll call was taken by Taylor Machado. Chairperson Victor Wong determined that we had a quorum. All attendees present, on Teams and on the telephone, introduced themselves. Chief Andersen welcomed all attendees to the meeting and informed the committee of his new role as Division Chief of Fire Engineering and Investigations Division. He also stated he is remaining as the Chief of Code Development and Analysis until the position is filled. Chief Andersen announced Cortney Walker, the new Staff Services Manager for the division and that Crystal Sujeski is now the acting Supervisor for Code Development and Analysis Division. Chairperson Victor Wong informed the committee of new committee member James Carver.
- C. Approval of draft meeting minutes from February 2, 2022, meeting.
Member Sagiv Weiss-Ishai brought up the language for item 2(a) and requested to resend the final language to Chief Andersen for review. Member Richard Roberts motioned to approve the minutes and member Sagiv seconded the motion. Eight out of twelve members voted in approval of the minutes with the added note from Member Sagiv to resend to Chief Andersen.
- D. Announcements/Updates
Chairperson Victor Wong welcomed and introduced Cortney Walker, the new Staff Services Manager for the Division. He updated the committee regarding the language for Title 19 and that the package is being prepared to send to Code Development and Analysis Division and then to Office of Administrative Law (OAL) and will provide updates as needed. The committee was updated on GOVMOTUS regarding feedback received and the ongoing efforts to resolve current technical issues.

2. OLD BUSINESS

- A. None

3. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Requirements for where notification devices are installed – Rick Cortina**

Member Rick Cortina and Member Sagiv Weiss-Ishai updated the committee regarding the code interpretation for section 907.5.2.3.1 and the language that was edited to be clearer. They would like to at least have it interpreted the same as in the code interpretation provided by Member Rick Cortina and allow the Code Interpretation Committee to review and approve.

- B. **CFC 907.2.10.6 Code Interpretation – Sagiv Weiss-Ishai**

Member Sagiv Weiss-Ishai explained the recommended code interpretation for this section for smoke alarms in combination with strobe devices that have battery backup. After further discussion, Member Richard Roberts suggested adding this item to the next meeting's agenda for when more committee members are present to discuss. Member Sagiv forwarded the code interpretation to the committee for further review as requested by Member Howard Hopper.

- C. **Supply Chain Issues – Jay Levy**

Member Jay Levy further explained the issue regarding six and eight zone panel products and inquired if OSFM can put out some information to the inspectors on this issue. Chairperson Victor Wong will investigate the appropriate ways to get this information out and will consult with Chief Greg Andersen.

- D. **Ionization Smoke Alarm Inquiry-Victor Wong**

Chairperson Victor Wong informed the committee of his review of the smoke alarm task force report. He asked the committee if there are any updates or feedback regarding the ion versus photoelectric technology and the upcoming UL 217 standard. Member Howard Hopper suggest having jurisdictions review their ordinances to see if they may wish to update any references on alarm technology, regarding new listing requirements. He suggested having this topic added as an agenda item for the next meeting.

OPEN FORUM

- A. Chairperson Victor Wong asked the committee for their feedback regarding an inquiry received from Southern California Fire Prevention Officers (SoCAL FPO). The product allows smoke alarms to be semi or fully recessed on the wall or ceiling. This product is not listed with Building Materials Listing Program. Member Howard Hopper suggests looking at the product listing's installation instructions and test report. Scott Corrin from the public, provided further information on the product and brand name, which is called C-Less. He asked the committee for feedback as to whether this should be pursued further to make it an accessory to a smoke alarm in the BML Program. Members Richard Roberts and Jay Levy both agree the product would need to be tested and cross listed first.
- B. Chairperson Victor Wong informed the committee that a doodle poll will be sent for the next meeting that may potentially be held at the upcoming California Automatic Fire Alarm Association (CAFAA) Annual Conference in Palm Springs.
- C. Member Sagiv Weiss-Ishai informed the committee there is the 27th Annual State Agency General Meeting on October 6, 2022, held at the Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) office in Sacramento, California. He will send the information to Chairperson Victor Wong to provide to the committee.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Victor Wong adjourned the meeting a 10:36 A.M. PDT