
PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, July 15th, 2025, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Hybrid Committee Meeting



Meeting Location:

Office of the State Fire Marshal
5th Floor, OSFM McKittrick Conference Room 512
37800 Kilroy Airport Way, Long Beach, Ca 90806

MEMBERS PRESENT

Robert Vasquez, California Association of Life Safety and Fire Equipment (CAL SAFE)
Edie Wade, Brooks Equipment
Kimberly Golding, NAFED
Chad Murbach, Jorgensen Company
Isaac DeFee, Cintas Corporation
Rebecca Leda, Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District
Matthew McCarrick, Code Red Fire Inc.
Eric Stessel, Contra Costa County Fire Department
Jamie Knowles, Amerex

MEMBERS ABSENT

J.R. Nerat, Presto
Garth Embree (Alternate), Amerex

GUESTS PRESENT

Greg Rogers, NFPA

OSFM STAFF

Terence Liszewski, Chairperson, OSFM
Brice Bennett, OSFM
Cortney Walker, OSFM
Jeffrey Schwartz, OSFM
Patricia Rock, OSFM
Adam Stewart, OSFM
Chris Dale, OSFM
Thomas Setnan, OSFM

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. Welcome and Logistics Briefing

Chairperson Terence Liszewski called the meeting to order at 9:05 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time (PDT). Logistics briefing was provided by Chairperson Terence Liszewski.

B. Committee Member Introductions and Roll Call

Roll call was conducted by Adam Stewart and determined that a quorum (9 of 10) of members was present.

C. Introductions of Non-Committee Members

All attendees introduced themselves.

D. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes – April 15th, 2025

Chairperson Terence Liszewski asked for approval of the minutes for the April 15th, 2025, meeting. It was moved by Member Edie Wade to approve of the minutes as presented; motion seconded by Member Issac DeFee. Motion was carried out with a unanimous vote in favor of approval of the April meeting minutes as presented.

E. Announcements/Division Updates

Chief Brice Bennett started the division update by thanking everyone for their continuing participation in the Committee Meetings. Chief Bennett mentioned in recent news and media about two big events that occurred since the last Committee meeting. The first being the largest fireworks seizure in state history that occurred in the city of Commerce. The second being the unfortunate tragedy that occurred recently in Esparto. Chief Bennett stated that the Arson and Bomb Unit within Fire Engineering and Investigation is highly involved in both events. Chief Bennett mentioned that since both events are ongoing investigation, he would not be able to answer any current questions about those two events and informed Members and the public that information will come out when appropriate, from the appropriate sources.

Chief Brice Bennett also mentioned that there has been ongoing movement with staff within the division. Chief Bennett stated that the division has not named a new division Chief yet but should before the next Committee meeting. He also mentioned a few other staff members that have either moved on in their careers or retired. Chief Bennett stated that OSFM is actively in the process of filling those positions.

2. OLD BUSINESS

A. Committee Membership Update

Chairperson Terence Liszewski stated that Member Eric Stessel was not at the last Committee meeting as a brand-new Member and wanted to give Member Stessel a chance to introduce himself to the group.

Member Eric Stessel introduced himself and gave a short bio of himself to the group.

B. NFPA 10 Work Group Update

Chairperson Terence Liszewski stated that he was informed by Member J.R. Nerat that NFPA 10 should have a current update soon and wanted the Committee's thoughts on comparing this version to the latest current version.

Member Jamie Knowles stated that the newest version of NFPA 10 has passed this past June and that the new language is currently on NFPA's website. Member Knowles informed the Committee that the new language can be used and that the document will be published in the fall. Member Knowles deferred thoughts to Greg Rogers of NFPA, to confirm that we can move forward.

Public Guest Greg Rogers stated that Member Jamie Knowles was correct. Guest Rogers mentioned that he could get a rough date for the Committee when the book is released, which he believed will be late fall or early winter.

Chairperson Terence Liszewski stated that his goal is to try and catch all multiple cycles of NFPA 10, rolling California Building Code, California Fire Code and the International Code Council's together.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. Fire Extinguisher Nameplates

There was no further discussion on this topic. This topic was tabled till the next Committee meeting due to Member J.R. Nerat's absence from the meeting. Member Jamie Knowles and Chairperson Terence Liszewski both mentioned tabling the topic since this topic was brought to the Committee by Member J.R. Nerat in the previous Committee meeting and both felt he needed to be involved in the discussion. All Members agreed on tabling the discussion.

B. Compliance Engine Reports

Member Robert Vasquez mentioned to the Committee that the compliance engine is really pushing the fire extinguisher report in California. Member Vasquez stated that he wanted to continue mentioning to the Committee about this topic and that he will continue to monitor and report on the compliance engine's use of terminology regarding "state reports" for fire extinguishers. Member Vasquez stated that he does not know what they are going to look for but at some point, really soon, it is going to be brought to everyone's attention, and they are using the State Fire Marshal as their fall back for doing so.

Chief Brice Bennett asked Member Vasquez if he had any examples of such stage reports?

Member Robert Vasquez stated that they will not provide anything when requested and that all reports can be found on the Office of the State Fire Marshal's website.

Member Issac DeFee asked Member Robert Vasquez if they have pushed back on any of the reports or forms that Member Vasquez has uploaded?

Member Robert Vasquez stated that he has not been getting much pushback. The only real issue he is having is the terminology of the reports that are generated when put into the system.

Chief Brice Bennett stated that OSFM will contact them and make sure they are not misusing OSFM's terminology. Chief Bennett mentioned he will get back with the Committee with more information on the topic.

Member Robert Vasquez stated that since looking into this matter more, he has noticed that many of the letters coming from the AHJ's or FPO's are not actually coming from them but actually been "rubber stamped" and sent through the compliance engine. Member Vasquez mentioned that most AHJ's and FPO's don't even know that the reports are being generated.

Member Issac DeFee stated to his understanding that whatever is submitted through the compliance engine is probably fine as long as the AHJ can use it for what they are

trying to work on. The compliance engine is just going to track whether or not something was uploaded.

C. Translators for Pearson Vue Exams

Chairperson Terence Liszewski stated that in the previous AES Committee meeting, it was mentioned Pearson Vue offers translation services to individuals. Chairperson Liszewski wanted the Fire Extinguisher industry to know that those same services are available to them as well.

Cortney Walker (OSFM) stated that from all discussions regarding the ability to obtain a translator, Pearson Vue only allows translators through a 3rd party translation service that we request through them. Cortney Walker explained a thorough process and associated costs for requesting a translator.

4. OPEN FORUM

Chairperson Terence Liszewski opened the floor for an open forum.

Member Rebbecca Leda asked Member Jamie Knowles if he or Member J.R Nerat could provide an example of an extinguisher nameplate, that meets the criteria from the document that was sent to all Committee Members. Member Leda asked if an example could be emailed to the Committee as guidance on what they are looking for.

Member Jamie Knowles stated that he and Member J.R. Nerat would supply an example to the Committee before the next Committee meeting.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairperson Terence Liszewski opened the floor for public comment.

There was no public comment.

6. UPCOMING MEETING DATES FOR 2025

A. October 14th, 2025, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM Pacific Daylight Time (PDT)

Office of the State Fire Marshal

715 P Street, Sacramento, Ca 95814

2nd Floor, Room 2-201

7. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

A vote to adjourn the meeting was made unanimous by all Committee Members. Chairperson Terence Liszewski adjourned the meeting at 9:37 a.m. (PDT).

This notice and copies of the written materials have been posted on the Office of the State Fire Marshal website <https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/>. For information concerning the Committee meeting, please email the Fire Extinguisher Program inbox at fe@fire.ca.gov. Any written reports being provided to the Committee members in advance of the public meeting will also be available to the public upon request.

In accordance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, reasonable accommodations are available. Request for reasonable accommodations should be made at least five (5) working days prior to the meeting date. To request reasonable accommodations, including documents in alternative formats, please contact the Fire Extinguisher Program inbox at fe@fire.ca.gov.