
PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, October 14th, 2025, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Hybrid Committee Meeting



Meeting Location:

Office of the State Fire Marshal

715 P Street, Sacramento, Ca 95814
2nd Floor, Room 2-201

Meeting ID: 845 0158 5423

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
J.R. Nerat, Presto

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jamie Knowles, Amerex

GUESTS PRESENT

Steve Paxton, Pye-Baker Fire & Safety
Jacqueline Wilmot, Brooks Equipment

OSFM STAFF

Terence Liszewski, Chairperson, OSFM
Andrew Henning, OSFM
Brice Bennett, OSFM
Cortney Walker, OSFM
Larry Godbout, 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 9:00 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 – July 15th, 2025

Chairperson Terence Liszewski asked for approval of the minutes for the July 15th, 2025, meeting. It was moved by Member Robert Vasquez to approve of the minutes as presented; motion seconded by Member Rebecca Leda. Motion was carried out with a unanimous vote in favor of approval of the July meeting minutes as presented.

E. Announcements/Division Updates

Chief Brice Bennett started the division update by thanking everyone for being at the meeting. Chief Bennett introduced Larry Godbout, who is the new SSM1 to Fire Engineering & Investigations. Chief Bennett stated that Larry will be working alongside Cortney Walker in the division. Chief Bennett announced that the Office of the State Fire Marshal is hiring additional legal counsel to expedite the regulations adoption process, which has been delayed. Chief Bennett also mentioned that the division is going to be filling a few vacancies shortly. One of those vacancies will be a new coordinator to the Flame Retardant Program, due to Deputy Setter retiring.

2. OLD BUSINESS

A. **NFPA 10 Work Group**

Chairperson Terence Liszewski touched on the NFPA10 workgroup, stating that the previous workgroup was tasked to compare NFPA 10 to Title 19. Chairperson Liszewski mentioned that the next workgroup will be to adopt NFPA 10 for inspections, testing and maintenance. The licensure portion will remain in Title 19, but unique to California.

Robert Vasquez asked what was going to be the plan to help educate the local authorities on NFPA 10, because he feels that they struggle to follow most standard laws already.

Chairperson Liszewski stated that he is working on a training plan to present to multiple organizations in the state for fire prevention officers. Chairperson Liszewski mentioned having the training in a more formal meeting similar to the committee meetings.

Member Rebecca Leda offered to coordinate training for fire prevention officers in both northern and southern regions.

Member J.R. Nerat mentioned that the new edition of NFPA 10, 2026, will be released soon, and the task group will check Title 19 for consistency with the 2022 edition.

B. **Fire Extinguisher Nameplates**

Chairperson Terence Liszewski stated that Member J.R. Nerat was going to speak to the committee about fire extinguisher nameplates.

Member J.R. Nerat stated that he is the chair for a task group for the UL, ULC standards, which are the fire extinguisher standards, and one of the tasks that the group has looked at, is the requirements for fire extinguisher nameplates. Member Nerat discussed the need to simplify fire extinguisher nameplates, which have become cluttered with excessive information and multiple languages. He explained that the original purpose of nameplates was to help operators select and use extinguishers correctly, but now the plates contain redundant information, including GHS, SDS, and shipping details, which is counterproductive. The task group aims to establish minimum requirements for nameplate content, potentially using QR codes for additional information, and Member Nerat requested feedback from the committee to assist in this effort. Member Nerat mentioned focusing on standardizing fire extinguisher nameplate information to improve user-friendliness, particularly addressing language redundancy and the potential use of illustrations. Member Nerat shared historical context, noting that illustrations were added in 1982 to help non-English speakers understand fire extinguisher operation, based on 1978 novice fire tests that demonstrated the effectiveness of visual instructions.

Member Rebecca Leda asked Member J.R. Nerat if he is looking to just simplify the extinguisher nameplates.

Member J.R. Nerat stated that was correct.

Member Kimberly Golding asked Member J.R. Nerat in past studies, did illustrations on extinguisher nameplates help users better than just having narratives.

Member J.R. Nerat stated that was correct.

Chief Brice Bennett mentioned while he was doing time as a public information officer for the department, ran into a similar problem, where our fire station messages were not getting across the language barrier in emergent situations. Chief Bennett stated they started to turn to infographics, which are pictorials, which he stated that the department found great success in. Chief Bennett suggested to Member Nerat to look into something of that nature as well.

Member J.R. Nerat finished by asking the committee that if they have any thoughts, questions, ideas, or any additional information to email him directly.

C. Compliance Engine Reports

Chairperson Terence Liszewski stated that he and Chief Bennett met with the compliance engine staff to review their requirements. The group determined that while compliance engine reports are not mandatory under state law or Title 19, cities can require them if they choose to do so.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. Fire Extinguisher Concern Applications

Chairperson Terence Liszewski stated that earlier this year, he had 54% of all fire extinguisher concern license inspections delayed for multiple reasons. He reminded the committee and emphasized the need for applicants to be well-prepared and ready for inspections once they submit their applications.

4. OPEN FORUM

Chairperson Terence Liszewski opened the floor for an open forum.
There was no discussion for open forum.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairperson Terence Liszewski opened the floor for public comment.

Jacqueline Wilmot introduced herself as the new Director of Industry Relations at Brooks Safety Solutions, sharing her extensive background in fire protection engineering and research.

Chief Brice Bennett announced changes to future advisory committee meetings, proposing to group AES and portable fire extinguisher meetings on the same day starting in January to improve efficiency and reduce conflicts.

6. UPCOMING MEETING DATES FOR 2026

- A. January 28th, 2026, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM Pacific Daylight Time (PDT)
Office of the State Fire Marshal
5th Floor, OSFM McKittrick Conference Room 512
37800 Kilroy Airport Way, Long Beach, Ca 90806

7. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Member Edie Wade and seconded by Member Robert Vasquez. Motion was carried with a unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting. Chairperson Terence Liszewski adjourned the meeting at 9:41 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 Terence Liszewski at terence.liszewski@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 Terence Liszewski at terence.liszewski@fire.ca.gov.