
FLAME RETARDANT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting Minutes – Thursday, July 23rd, 2026, 1:35PM – 1:45 PM PST
Public Committee Meeting



Meeting Location:

Office of the State Fire Marshal
3780 Kilroy Airport Way, 5th Floor, McKittrick Conference (Room 512)
Long Beach, CA 90806

Meeting ID: 874 9430 0279

MEMBERS' PRESENT

Jason Friedrich, Engineering Manager, QAI Laboratories
Donny Vasquez, Business Owner, Made in the Shade Tent Rentals
Cori Leffler, Office Manager, FireTect, Alternate for Kathy Newman
Brian Lobner, Research and Development Manager, Snyder Manufacturing

MEMBERS ABSENT

Almeda Hall, Fire Prevention Specialist III, Fort Irwin Fire Department
Riley Munson, Fire Inspector, City of Victorville
Elizabeth McDowell, Senior Fire Protection Officer, Sacramento City Fire Department
Bobby Brown, Director of Operations, SGS North America, Inc.
Brian Dement, Vice President, Diversified Testing Labs
Kathy Newman, CEO, FireTect
Jonathan Ramos, Project Manager, BCT Entertainment

OSFM STAFF

Brice Bennett, Committee Chairperson
Andrew Henning
Jeffrey Schwartz
Jennifer Reiss
Cortney Walker
Chris Dale
Thomas Setnan
Galileo Atalig
Michael Huang
Wanda Albritten

PUBLIC GUESTS

Andrew Rodgers
Loren Ross
Gary Morrison

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. Welcome and Logistics Briefing.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Brice Bennett at 1:35 P.M. PDT on July 23, 2026, Attendees were informed of meeting logistics and etiquette.

This advisory committee will conduct its meetings in accordance with the open meeting requirements of the Bagley-Keen Act. Committee members are requested to keep their cameras on during the meeting. To avoid audio interference, participants should mute their microphones when not speaking and state their name before speaking for the record and meeting minutes.

B. Committee Member Introductions and Roll Call.

Wanda Albritten conducted the roll call it was determined that a quorum was not present, with only five of the ten members in attendance.

The meeting proceeded for informational purposes only.

C. Introduction of Non-Committee Members.

D. Approval of Meeting Minutes.

A quorum was not present for the meeting. The Meeting Minutes from October 29, 2025 (Attachment 1), January 27, 2025 (Attachment 2), and April 23, 2026 (Attachment 3) were not approved and will be presented at the next meeting.

E. Announcements.

The Office of the State Fire Marshal discussed plans to expand the Committee's charter and considered scheduling future meetings earlier in the day to better accommodate East Coast participants.

Chairperson Bennett acknowledged the Committee members for their participation, and noted the difficulty in establishing a meeting time that benefits all members. He also mentioned that work group would be meeting with Deputy Reiss to continue discussing applicator license and related items and potential updates to the regulations.

Chief Brice Bennett acknowledged the present committee members for taking the time to participate in the Flame-Retardant Advisory Committee Meeting and Workgroup. Chief Bennett announced to the work groups and meeting with Deputy Reiss on the items regarding applicator and adjusting the regulation to update it.

2. OLD BUSINESS

A. Chapter 8 Regulations Update.

The committee also reviewed upcoming dates to Chapter 8 regulations and discussed possible changes to General and Limited applicator and licensing requirements for the applicator license and certifications.

B. Individual Chemical Applicators vs Company Applicators.

A work group meeting on these topics is scheduled for the following Wednesday. Deputy Reiss stated that currently the General and Limited Applicator licenses are currently tied to the Flame-Retardant Applicator Concern (company). So, when an individual leaves the company, they cannot take their certificates to work under. This will help the unions, or the Movie Industry, of the Theatrical Industry that may not be directly to a specific company

3. NEW BUSINESS

Introduction of new member Brian Lobner who has joined the Flame-Retardant Program. He was employed with (NASA) now he's employed with Snyder Manufacturing and is replacing John Kardos.

4. OPEN FORUM

Chairperson Brice Bennett passed to Deputy Reiss opened the floor to Committee Members Donny Vasques Stated no comment at this time.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Andrew Rodgers – No comment at this time and just wanted to learn more about this industry

Loren Ross – No comment currently

Gary Morrison - is from UCSF, no comment wants to know the process

6. UPCOMING MEETING DATES FOR 2026

Tuesday, October 27, 2026, 9:00AM -12:00PM PST

Office of the State Fire Marshal

715 P Street 2nd Floor Conference Room 2-310,
Sacramento, CA 95814

7. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Brice Bennett Announced no motion to adjourn. We will simply adjourn this was an informational meeting at 1:45 P.M. PST.