

**UTAH STATE FIRE PREVENTION BOARD  
VIRTUAL MEETING  
January 10, 2023 Meeting Minutes  
APPROVED**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

David Olsen, Board Chair  
Chris Dawson  
Joe Decker  
Craig Humphreys  
Chris Kimball

Jared Larson  
Derek Maxfield  
Frank Park  
Patrick Tomasino

**BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED**

Michael Phillips, Vice Chair  
Brett Ostler

**STAFF PRESENT**

Ted Black, State Fire Marshal  
Jon Ritchie, Chief Deputy Fire Marshal  
Michael Gadd, Assistant Attorney General  
Jana DeMille, Board Secretary

**OTHERS**

Members of the public and the fire service were in attendance at this meeting. The attendance log is kept with the full record of the meeting.

**Item #1,** Board meeting called to order by Board Chair David Olsen. The meeting started at 8:30 A.M., over Google Meet, and at the State Fire Marshal's Office. Board Member Roll Call – quorum present.

**Item #2,** Annual Open Meeting training for Board Members, by Michael Gadd, Attorney, representing the Fire Marshal Office. Mr. Gadd covered the following requirements of open public meetings:

- Notice
- Location
- Conduct of Meetings (Open and Closed)
- Emergencies
- Recordkeeping
- Enforcement

**Item #3,** Approval of the November 8, 2022 board meeting minutes. Motion made by Frank Park to approve the minutes; seconded by Craig Humphreys. The motion passed unanimously.

**Item #4,** Report to the Board by Chief Scott Spencer, Chair, Utah Fire Service Certification Council.

- Continue to stay busy with testing and certifications
- Failed skills – continue to review these areas to see if we need to improve or clarify anything
- Our council considers standards to apply state-wide. We have looked at ladder skills and firefighter 1 exam evolutions, and we are changing standards for technical rescue.
- We discussed who should be signing off on training records. It was determined that it should be a chief officer, a chief, or a training officer. They can sign off on a certification without being certified at that level.

- The AHJ should assign a safety officer to help with testing. Additional safety officers can be assigned at the discretion of the testers.
- For pumper and aerial tests, we reduced the ratio to 1 tester for every 6 students per apparatus
- We received an application from Southwest Technical College in Cedar City for a non-affiliated firefighter training program. We are currently working with them.
- Working on NFPA 1403

**Item #5,** Report to the Board by Brad Wardle, Director, Utah Fire & Rescue Academy.

- Confirmed board members received the Annual Report and Strategic and Operating Plans
- Winter Fire School is next week. There are 740 students attending.
- NFPA 1403 standard continues to be worked on by UFRA. A Utah Live Fire Training Standard has been put together and it will be presented to the State Chiefs at their business meeting next week. If the chiefs approve, it will go to the Certification Council the following week for their ratification. We will then start building a curriculum. This standard will be presented to the Fire Prevention Board at the March meeting and it will be a custom-built program that addresses the needs of Utah.

**Item #6,** Legislative status of the 2021 International Fire Code, Ted Black, Utah State Fire Marshal.

- When reviewing the code, it was discovered that NFPA 1403 had been adopted as law without a specific edition date. This means that whenever NFPA 1403 is updated, it automatically becomes part of Utah law and it applies whenever there is this training. The requirements cannot be met, as this standard doesn't differentiate between a small rural department and the biggest department in the country. We believe this would be better as a standard and are proposing this be taken out of the law. The standard will then be modified by the Certification Council to meet the needs of Utah.
- Representative Tom Peterson will be running the Fire Code.
- Many things are happening in the legislative session. FM Black encouraged all to participate in the Fire Service Joint Council. The meeting is available virtually. Contact David Larsen or Ted Black to be part of that meeting. Meetings are generally every Thursday.

**Item #7,** Approval to changes in Chapter 7 of the IFC, Ted Black, Utah State Fire Marshal (see attachment #1). (Attachment #1 was distributed to the Board prior to this meeting.)

- The proposal is that if a pyrotechnic license is suspended by another regulatory agency, it would also be suspended by the Utah State Fire Marshal's Office until there is a resolution with the other agency.
- Motion made by Patrick Tomasino to adopt the proposed changes in Chapter 7 of the IFC. Seconded by Chris Kimball. The vote was unanimously in favor and the motion carried.

**Item #8,** Approval to changes in Chapter 4 of the IFC, Ted Black, Utah State Fire Marshal (see attachment #2). (Attachment #2 was distributed to the Board prior to this meeting.)

- This proposed change was requested to help meet the needs of working with special-needs children in schools. The proposal is that in a special-needs classroom, the notification is changed to a simple notification just for the teachers, and in buildings that are sprinkled and alarmed, the teachers would not have to evacuate. The class would be able to shelter in place until such time they are directed by someone on scene whether they do or do not have to evacuate. There is a lot of data showing that the sprinkler and alarm systems in schools make this a viable option. These classrooms would be required to have an exit directly to the outside. Any requests to use this option must be approved by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

- The next part of this proposed change is in response to the concern of active shooter(s). The proposal is that teachers may delay evacuation upon fire alarm activation for up to 60 seconds when certain conditions are met. Again, the building must have approved fire sprinkler and alarm systems. Other conditions are spelled out in the proposed change.
- Motion made by Joe Decker to approve and adopt these changes to Chapter 4 of the IFC. Seconded by Frank Park. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

**Item #9,** Approval of the Board to conduct the March 7, 2023, Fire Prevention Board meeting virtually.

- Motion made by Chris Kimball to continue holding meetings with a virtual option. Chris Dawson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor and the motion carried.

**Item #10, Old Business:**

- Ted Black, State Fire Marshal, reminded everyone that State law states that in-home daycares must comply with Administrative Rule R710-8, the daycare rules created by the Fire Prevention Board. Those rules specifically say that the maximum number of children in a family/in-home daycare is sixteen (16). Board member Humphreys added that there has been discussion about “bonus children” (referred to on Health & Human Services webpage) who do not have to be counted among the allowed 16 children. According to the rule, the count of 16 children includes all children in the daycare. The rule does not recognize the “bonus children” exception.

**Item #11,** New Business: None

**Item #12,** Public Comment (limit to 3 minutes)

- This will be on all future agendas and will allow time for public comment. Comments made during this time will not need to be on the agenda prior to the meeting. Comment time will be limited to 3 minutes per member of the public wishing to address the Board.

**Item #13,** Next meeting is Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at the State Fire Marshal’s Office and virtually.

- Motion to adjourn made by Craig Humphreys, seconded by Derek Maxfield. Meeting adjourned.