

**UTAH STATE FIRE PREVENTION BOARD
VIRTUAL MEETING
July 12 Meeting Minutes
APPROVED**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

David Olsen, Board Chair
Michael Phillips, Vice Chair
Chris Dawson
Joseph Decker
Craig Humphreys

Chris Kimball
Derek Maxfield
Brett Ostler
Frank Park
Patrick Tomasino

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Jared Larson

STAFF PRESENT

Ted Black, State Fire Marshal
Jon Ritchie, Chief Deputy Fire Marshal
Anthony Hale, Assistant Attorney General
Jana DeMille, Board Secretary
Keith Claybaker
Boyd Cook

Shane Cook
Andrew McCormick
Kelly Snow
Sheri Stevens
Mike Young

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, Approval of the March 11 board meeting minutes. Motion made by Frank Park to approve the minutes; seconded by Patrick Tomasino. Motion passed.

Item #3, Report to the Board by Chief Scott Spencer, Chair, Utah Fire Service Certification Council.

- Last meeting of the council was May 18.
- Still a lot of testing going on in the state, both affiliated and non-affiliated. From Jan – Mar 2022, there were over 790 individual tests. Comparing that to last 3 years, 477 in 2021, 609 in 2020, and 444 in 2019 during the same time period. Certification staff is staying very busy.
- West Valley Fire Academy is a non-affiliated training facility. At this point, they no longer have a contract with West Valley City Fire Department to use their facilities or apparatus. It was necessary to revoke their certification/accreditation until they can secure a facility for their training and testing. We hope this is a temporary situation.
- When doing ADO testing with different departments, we are often sharing apparatus with each other and this has raised some concerns. It is now recommended that the lending department have a representative present to watch and assure their apparatus is being used correctly and no damage is being caused to the apparatus.
- Evolution testing for the 2021 edition technical rescue operations and technician level. Looking at doing that with combined skills evolution.

- Had a discussion on “Train the Tester” for technical rescue skills and many questions were raised. There will be additional discussion at our next meeting.
- All water-rescue training has been suspended until the new updates are implemented. There will be further discussion on this at our next meeting.
- Discussion on 2021 edition of Technical Rescue Standard. Discussion on having a new format separating out awareness operations of technician – swift water, ice, and surface water. Would like to have basic competency, more advanced, and then technician levels.
- Updating standards on vehicle extrication, fire investigator and wildland.
- Working to make sure we have the correct number of people at our test sites. We need to have 1 tester per 6 students.
- New guidelines for investigations on reports of cheating. We have a standard operating guideline to follow for this so everyone will be treated the same.
- Textbook tracking with the QR Code system seems to be working OK overall. We are working out some glitches.
- Next meeting is July 20 at 10 am, at the Fire Academy.

Item #4, Report to the Board by Bradley Wardle, Director, Utah Fire and Rescue Academy.

- UFRA is on track and on budget. Will give a full report in the fall.
- Organizational change in senior staff:
 - Dave Owens has moved from being Assistant Director to being a Program Manager.
 - Gil Rodriguez is now an Assistant Director over Logistics
 - Mark McElreath is now Assistant Director over Operations Division
- Had our first Fire Dynamics class in the spring. It was a big success.
- Working on a new high-rise class and hope to have it out before Winter Fire School. We plan to have this class at Winter Fire School as well.
- In the process of retrofitting our original Mobile Command Training Center. Also buying a program for the Career Departments.
- We had a pump panel prop at Winter Fire School and it was a success. State Fire Marshal’s Office has purchased two of these props for us. Great asset to use throughout the State.
- Winter Fire School is scheduled for January 20-21, 2023.
- National Association of Fire Training Directors will be hosted in Utah for the first time. It will be at the Zermott Hotel, September 27-29, 2022. Fire Prevention Board members will receive an invitation in August.

Item #5, Brief the Board on Restore Hyper Wellness and Oxygen Therapy Devices, Fire Marshals Association of Utah. Don Buckley, FMAU, reported.

There are facilities in several Utah jurisdictions that are using bag-style hyperbaric chambers. These chambers do not meet NFPA 99 chapter 14 standards. The Fire Marshals Association is looking for direction on how to address this situation. Do we enforce NFPA 99 or not? Only 11 other states are enforcing this. There have been some adverse incidents with these soft-sided zipper bags. To our knowledge, the health department is not looking into these. Additional points:

- There was a meeting with the State of Georgia and NFPA presented on this. They are split on the soft sided chambers. Dan DeVoogd of Unified Fire attended that meeting.
- At this point in time, Dan DeVoogd (Unified) is not allowing these chambers in Midvale or Riverton locations. Don Buckley (Draper Fire) has asked locations within his jurisdiction to not use their chambers until there is clear direction.

- State Fire Marshal Ted Black commented. These chambers are either hyperbaric chambers that are code-compliant or they are not. If they are not a legitimate hyperbaric chamber then they are a device that is creating an oxidizer in a space and they would need to meet all the requirements for storage and use for an oxidizer in a B Occupancy. They would also have to be a situation where people can self-rescue and meet all of the exiting requirements once they are in these things. There are several issues with these. SFM Black recommends appointing a committee to research and provide information in order to establish a definitive statement on these chambers.
- Chair Olsen has also had experience with these chambers in his community. He concurs with SFM Black. He also agrees with having a committee review this. Request was made to Don Buckley to ask the Fire Marshals Association to facilitate a committee.
- Brad Larson, Unified Fire, commented that their Deputy Fire Marshal Dan DeVoogd has done extensive research on this topic. They have found that these soft-shell hyperbaric chambers do not meet ANSI standards, and the experts around the country are adamantly opposed to these chambers. FM DeVoogd also recorded much of the conference held in Georgia and he would be happy to share it with the Fire Marshals Association.
- FM Don Buckley expressed agreement.

Item #6, Update on H.B.15 Child Care Amendments, Ted Black, Utah State Fire Marshal.

There was some language in HB15 that was interpreted by the Health Department as giving them the ability to increase the number of children in home daycares. In a meeting with the Representative who ran the bill, the Health Department, and our attorney, it was clarified that the requirement for the number of children allowed in a home daycare is in statute and cannot be changed by rule. So, if this comes up that a home can be licensed for up to 24 children in certain circumstances, that is not correct. The statute remains the **maximum of 16 children** in an in-home daycare and that has not changed. A letter went out to cities erroneously stating that the number had been changed to 24. If you see that letter, or if the question comes up, the answer is no and the maximum number is 16. This will also be mentioned in the Fire Marshals meeting.

Chair Olsen asked if communities can adopt a more stringent standard. SFM Black stated that is under debate right now. There is a section in the code that says that. The desire of the Health Department is that communities not do that as there is a daycare shortage. SFM Black will provide more information as it becomes available.

Item #7, Presentation by the code analysis committee on the adoption of the 2021 IFC. Presentation by Scott Adams.

Members of the Code Committee and the State Fire Marshal's Office met last week and finalized the proposed changes and amendments to the fire code. A copy was sent to all and is filed with the meeting minutes. Mr. Adams reviewed the amendments.

- Boyd Cook, SFMO – change needed on LP Gas Code reference. Should be NFPA 54 Edition 2021; NFPA 58 Edition 2023. Boyd also asked if NFPA 1192 needs to be included. SFM Ted Black to check on that and let Scott Adams know.
- SFM Ted Black – The process from here is the Fire Prevention Board makes a recommendation via letter to the Business and Labor Committee for their September meeting. During that meeting we make a presentation and ask them to support the bill.

Item #8, Recommendation to the Utah State Legislature, Business and Labor committee on the adoption of the 2021 IFC. Motion made by Frank Park to recommend adoption of the 2021 IFC as presented by Scott Adams on behalf of the Code Analysis Committee. Motion seconded by Chris Kimball. All voted in favor and motion passed.

Item #9, Codify changes to incarceration facilities.

SFM Ted Black: The new Utah State Prison has recently been completed. Through this 5-year process there were many things discussed. What codes were applicable, did NFPA in certain circumstances have more weight than the IFC, if it was required in code but not general practice in Utah should we continue with it, etc. A lot of changes were made. There will likely be an expansion to the State Prison and the Gunnison Prison, as well as changes and remodels. Rather than going through this code process again and again, SFM Black recommends establishing a committee to get a list of changes that can be codified for prison facilities in the state of Utah. Fire Marshal Black pointed out that Pat Tomasino, a member of the Fire Prevention Board, was the building official at the prison project, and Mike Young from the SFMO, was the Fire Marshal on the prison project.

Chair Olsen agreed with Ted Black's recommendation and requested a motion.

Motion made by Mike Phillips to create a committee to codify changes for prison facilities in the state of Utah, and that said committee be chaired by Pat Tomasino with members to be chosen by Mr. Tomasino. Derek Maxfield seconded the motion. All voted in favor, with Pat Tomasino excusing himself from the vote. Motion passed. Mr. Tomasino did state he was agreeable to this appointment.

Item #10, Approval by the Board to conduct the September 2022 Fire Prevention Board meeting virtually. Motion made by Chris Kimball, with second by Pat Tomasino. All voted in favor and motion passed.

Item #11, Old Business – None

Item #12, New Business – None

Item #13, Next Board Meeting September 13, 2022, beginning 8:30 am at the Utah State Fire Marshal's office, 410 W 9800 S, Suite #372, Sandy, Utah 84070. This meeting will be in person and virtual.

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Joe Decker, with second by Frank Park.