



Fire Marshal's Association of Minnesota

POST INDICATOR



Quarterly Newsletter

December 2004

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Bob James

It is hard for me to believe, but I am about to end my first term as President of the Fire Marshals Association of Minnesota. The last two years has been full of many events and changes. Many THANKS to the fine work the FMAM Board has completed during this time and for all of your support and assistance as members.

You will notice a few changes at your next few meetings, starting with the scheduled December 8th meeting at Bloomington Fire Station 1. First, this will be the last FMAM meeting that will be located in Bloomington. Our new home for the 2005 meetings will be New Brighten Center and direction to the meeting will be provided. This change, which was request of some members, is supported by the board and will open the meeting for easier access from the North. Thank you to the City of New Brighten for opening their building to us. Please note that IAAI and FMAM will continue to share our schedule and this facility.

The second change, which is scheduled for the this coming meeting, will be to provide everyone time to bring up issues, comments, new products or approaches to help do our jobs better. The approach will be that during the business meeting a scheduled "Open Microphone" time will be provided. This is

your time to address the membership with anything that you feel needs attention. The idea is that many of us run into the same things, both good and bad, and if you would like to share with the group your experience, we want to give you the time. Watch the schedule and if we need additional time or if anyone would like to cover a specific topic, please contact someone on the board to insure that we have proper time allotted.

Third item I would like to highlight is how FMAM gets involved in the Fire Prevention issues within the State and how our voices can be heard. In this issue of the Post Indicator I would like you to watch for few items. I have added a page on all the current, committees, boards, task group. ect. that FMAM is asked to participate on. This is a very important function of our association and continues to be the best way we can stay involved. I have added this sheet for two reasons – 1. to see if any of the positions may interest you for the future, and 2. to show just how many we are active on. Please look at the list and return a copy to any board member with your areas of interest. I am hoping to get a list of names to work from as the groups develop openings.

Also, you will see an up-coming activity I feel

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Presidents Message	page 1	August Board Meeting Minutes	page 2
September Membership Mtg Minutes	page 4		

provides a great opportunity – Fire Service Day at the Capitol. Please fill out the enclosed application and plan on attending this year’s event on March 3, 2005. I would like to see a strong FMAM showing at this event. To show our support and to identify all the FMAM members, I would like to see everyone attach a FMAM pin to the collar on the 2005 shirts. See the application for further information. Please contact a board member with any additional questions.

Sorry about the lengthy President report this time and I hope everyone has a chance to make the meeting on Wednesday December 8, 2004. Bob James

UPDATE

Acting New Hampshire State Fire Marshal Bill Degnan asked that the following message be sent to all members of the National Association of State Fire Marshals. The information is being shared with you should you encounter this model of heat detector in any building you inspect.

It has been brought to Mr. Degnan's attention that the CHEMTRONICS Model 603 fixed heat detector has had numerous instances where the electrical terminals were separated from the back of the unit. Because the terminals themselves remained connected in series with the zone circuit, no trouble was detected by the alarm panel. However, because of the separation, no fire alarm would be transmitted in the event of a fire.

He has contacted CPSC, and there is presently no recall. They will be investigating.

Please contact Bill at bdegnan@safety.state.nh.us if you need Additional information or have knowledge of this problem.

Bob Dahm, Bureau Chief
MN State Fire Marshal Division
444 Cedar Street, Suite 145
St. Paul, MN 55101-5145
Phone: 651-215-0505
Fax: 651-215-0541
Email: Robert.Dahm@state.mn.us
Web: www.fire.state.mn.us
MN State Fire Marshal Division - Established 1905

Fire Marshal’s Association of Minnesota Board Meeting August 11, 2004

Present: Bob James, Phil Owens, Robbie Floyd, Vance Swisher, Butch Gervais, John Powers, Jon Nisja, Bill Calder, and Jerry Rosendahl

The meeting was held at the Fire Museum in Minneapolis.

President Bob James called the meeting to order at 9:20.

Motions to accept the May 10, 2004 Board Meeting Minutes as amended adding Vance as present, by Butch Gervais and 2nd by Vance Swisher, motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

John Powers handed out the financial report and discussed 2005 proposed budget. Motion by Jon Nisja and 2nd by Vance Swisher to accept treasurer’s report, motion passed unanimously.

Current paid membership is 196 for 2004.

The Board discussed the possibility of credit cards with a \$2000.00 limit for the President, Treasurer, Secretary, and possibly training coordinator.

The Board also discussed merchandise sales and storage costs. Some concern over the shipping costs and storage of current merchandise. Sales are slow and the merchandise we are storing should be pulled and kept with a board member and brought to meetings. Any new merchandise can be ordered online. Possible discount sale on the merchandise we are currently holding at the next meeting.

PUBLIC EDUCATION REPORT: Bill Calder reported that Governor’s Day at the Fair will be August 27, 2004. Fire Prevention Week is October 3-9, slogan this year “Test Your Smoke Alarms”. February 2005 will be the Public Education Conference, more details to be forthcoming.

TRAINING/EDUCAION:

Phil is scheduling training for the September meeting on Fire Extinguishing System by Don Holton.

The board discussed a class on filling O2 tanks in patient’s rooms and areas other than a specified room.

Jon Nisja is scheduling training “Fire and Life Safety in Health Care Facilities” and “Fire and Life Safety in Detention and Correctional Facilities” for the end of November

10,000 Lakes and FMAM will jointly hold a Fire Sprinkler Seminar on October 21st and 22nd in Maplewood.

Fire Alarm Seminar will be held in Bloomington on September 30th. This class was previously held in St. Cloud and had a good turn out.

The 2003 IFC seminar was attended by 74 people, created approximately \$2,500.00 in profit for FMAM.

LEGISLATION: Three or four potential items for legislation: (1) Sprinkler Plan Review moved from Building Code Division to State Fire Marshal Division – both work and fees, (2) All State Buildings to be sprinklered, (3) Dedicated account to the State Fire Marshal Division sprinkler team, (4) Requiring building being rebuilt after a fire loss be brought up to current codes, *although no language as of yet.*

Code hearings on whether all R’s to be sprinklered; discussion has been revolving around residential sprinklers in single-family homes. The SFMD will facilitate meetings/discussions for Residential Sprinklers Systems in R’s and where they are needed. **Note: FMAM did send Chris Cahill to the code hearings to ensure that this was put in the 2003 codes.**

CERTIFICATION: Phil Owens will be putting a group of people together to write the Inspector 3

certification tests. The pass/fail ratio from the other tests has been good. The recertification process is going well. We need to a close watch on the trading of certifications.

STATE FIRE MARSHAL’S REPORT: The State Fire Marshal Division has a \$565,000 short fall. The operations of the division although decreased have not gone away. Positions left vacant will remain that way including the loss of two investigators, sprinkler plan review, three residential inspectors and Connie’s position. No budget bill was passed to help offset the short fall and no special session. The Commissioner’s Office is looking at the Minnesota Statute mandates and cutting or reducing services that are not directed by law, the difference between shall and may. Fire Investigator will be trained on conducting follow-ups for Day Care Inspections. Investigations will be continued but prioritizing needs.

The Board discussed what we could do as a membership to support the State Fire Marshal Division and to keep remaining services intact. The Board agreed that we need to represent it’s members throughout the State of Minnesota and need to find out exactly what the out-state Fire Marshal’s need and how they would like the board to represent them.

OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Code Updates:
1305 is winding down
1306 is still an active group – discussion on the square footage of commercial buildings, 2000 is too small 8500 is too big. Exempt buildings such as salt sheds, garages, etc.
Elevator Code: Check with Steve Zaccard for updates in next post indicator
The Chief Code Committee is still meeting, discussions on sprinklers and looking at Amendments.

Bob James reported that we will need to send a representative to the ICC hearings, we will need to find someone interested in representing FMAM.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Twins Games went well, we had a good showing.

Bob James has asked Gene to check out the ICC Regional Groups and report back to the Board to make a determination if we as FMAM are interested in joining.

Any By-Law or Constitution changes will need to be brought forth at the December meeting, to ensure that we can propose any changes and vote in March at the Annual Membership Meeting.

An automatic email message will be sent out to the members two weeks prior to the meeting for notification. The Post Indicator will be sent out no later than the Monday prior to the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Election of President, Secretary, and one board seat will be held in March.

New letterhead will be needed with the Mission Statement and logos.

Respectfully Submitted:
Robbie Floyd, Secretary

FIRE & SMOKE DAMPER RECALL

Please visit the State Fire Marshal Web site at: www.fire.state.mn.us and click on the Fire / Smoke Damper Recall - Follow Up Notice link under the Special Notices section of the main SFM page.

Bob Dahm, Bureau Chief
MN State Fire Marshal Division
444 Cedar Street, Suite 145
St. Paul, MN 55101-5145
Phone: 651-215-0505
Fax: 651-215-0541
Email: Robert.Dahm@state.mn.us
Web: www.fire.state.mn.us
MN State Fire Marshal Division - Established 1905
Celebrating 100 Years of Public Safety Service

**Fire Marshal's Association of Minnesota
MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Meeting Minutes – September 8, 2004**

CALL TO ORDER: President Bob James called the meeting to order at 1:50pm at the Bloomington Fire Station.

President James informed the members that State Fire Marshal Rosendahl and Deputy Commissioner Mary Ellis would like to address the membership.

STATE FIRE MARSHAL’S REPORT: State Fire Marshal Jerry Rosendahl and Deputy Commissioner Mary Ellis addressed the members and provided an update on the State Fire Marshal’s office and the Department of Public Safety. The 2006/07 Budget is currently being worked on. At this point there will be an estimated deficit anywhere between four million and one billion dollars. The Commissioner of Public Safety’s Office has no specific priorities regarding the State Fire Marshal Division, however they have been researching the statutes and are only required to provide the serviced mandated by the statutes. This will be a continuing struggle to define the services provided by the State Fire Marshal Division within the budget. The State Fire Marshal’s Office will make every attempt to keep the current services available.

Fire deaths in Minnesota are at 25.

TREASURER’S REPORT: John Powers reported that we currently have \$21, 029.94. Motion by Robbie Floyd and 2nd by Kip LaMotte to approve the treasurer’s report, motion passed unanimously. The board has been working on the 2005 Budget.

Motion to approve the March 10, 2004 minutes by Pat Sheehan and 2nd by Bill Calder, motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve the May 09, 2004 minutes by John Swanson and 2nd by Lyle Felsch, motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS:

PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Bill Calder passed the floor to Dan Bernardy from the State Fire Marshal's Division. Dan thanked the members for supporting Governor's Day at the Fair. Again it was a successful event, a total of 472 volunteers in 11 areas. 1740 children went through the smoke house.

"Test Your Smoke Detector" is this years theme for Fire Prevention Week. We need to go back to the basics for the children. Upcoming events can be found on the State Fire Marshal's web page. There are 5000 smoke alarm batteries available contact Dan by phone or email.

The Fire and Life Safety Educator 1 is currently being taught at the Anoka/Hennepin College and at various State Fire Schools. Six or seven people have already received their certification.

The PACE car is being phased out, they have purchased a 15'x15' Sparky Hopper and will be displayed at the Chief's Conference.

We need to get more members involved in the Pub Ed Committee, anyone interested?

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON FIRE

PREVENTION AND CONTROL: The Council is looking at legislation regarding the State Fire Marshal Tax, building code related issues, and Fire Prevention Day at the Fair.

TRAINING: If you have any good ideas on what training you would like to have contact Phil. Current and Upcoming Classes include:

Sprinkler Design Class, FMAM joint sponsor with 10,000 Lakes Chapter.

Basic Fire Alarm Class in Bloomington, same as the one offered in St. Cloud.

Life Safety Code for Health Care Facilities and Correctional Facilities

Building Officials Conference in January.

CERTIFICATION REPORT: Phil Owens reported that he will be setting up a committee to write the test for Inspector III, but would like a formal motion to get started. Motion by Jon Nisja

and 2nd by Vance Swisher for FMAM to support write the Inspector III Certification test.

LEGISLATION: See Post Indicator.

RESIDENTIAL SPRINKLER TASK FORCE:

On hold for now. Wirsbo is no longer making residential sprinkler systems.

CODE COMMITTEE: Sub-committee is still reviewing amendments. 1306 is still being debated, square footage (2000, 5000, 3500?), parking garages, salt sheds, etc. The Building Codes Division has the information on which jurisdictions have adopted 1306.

ELEVATOR CODE AD. COMMITTEE:

Possible amendment to exempt elevator pits and shafts from sprinklers.

MERCHANDISE: The Board is looking at holding a sale to liquidate some of the merchandise.

SOCIAL EVENTS: John Powers reported that we purchased 50 tickets to the TWINS Game and sold 47. The FMAM Board suggested a committee be organized to arrange social outings for the members a couple of times a year. Anyone interested in being a committee member let one of the board members know.

ICC: FMAM has been asked if we would be interested in joining Region 3 of the ICC, Gene Dugal will be looking into that option.

NEW BUSINESS:

FOR THE GOOD OF THE MEMBERSHIP:

Elections will be held in March for President, Secretary, and one Board seat, anyone interested should contact a board member.

Reminder to be proactive in the supporting the State Fire Marshal's Division, send letters of support to your legislators and the Commissioner of Public Safety.

Respectfully submitted,
Robbie Floyd, Secretary

MSFCA State Fire Code Sub-Committee Meeting Notice and Assignment

The next Meeting will be on Friday, December 10th from **9:00 am to Noon.**

Maple Grove Government Center-Mayors Conference Room-183

Members: Please RSVP regrets only.

Guests: Please RSVP only if you will attend.

Members: Your assignment if you should choose to accept it:)

Using the top 11 most important issues as voted on by the sub-committee (Fire Code Rankings-1); compare the issues against the 2003 IFC and the 2003 NFPA 1. Which document does a better job, which is easier to use and understand?

Please email me your comments by NOON on December 9th, so I can correlate the answers and have them ready for our sub-committee meeting the next morning. Thanks, Marilyn

Directions:

From 694/94, traveling west

- 1. Exit on Hemlock Lane / Co. Rd 61; go north**
- 2. Travel 1/4 mile on Hemlock to Elm Creek, turn left**
- 3. Follow Elm Creek Blvd, 1/2 mile to Main Street, turn right**
- 4. Go 4 blocks to Arbor Lakes Parkway (4-way stop), turn left**
- 5. Go 1/4 mile to main driveway, turn right into parking lot.**

From 94 West, traveling east

- 1. Exit on Weaver Lake Road; go east towards downtown**
- 2. Pass the Community Center on right hand side**
- 3. On Main Street, turn right**
- 4. On Arbor Lakes Parkway, turn right**
- 5. Go 1/4 mile to main driveway, turn right into parking lot.**



State Fire Marshal Fire / Arson Investigators



Effective November 1, 2004

To Request State Fire Marshal Division
Fire / Arson Investigators

Contact the Minnesota State Duty Officer at:

Metro Area: 651-649-5451
Greater Minnesota: 800-422-0798



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
Oct. 22, 2004
www.iccsafe.org

Contact: Jennifer Gibson
1-800-214-4321, ext. 224

Fire service boosts representation on International Code Council Board

Members of the International Code Council showed their support for building safety and fire service representatives working together to improve public safety when they elected one new director and reelected two others from the fire service ranks.

Kevin Scott was elected to a three-year term on the International Code Council Board of Directors. Scott is Fire Marshal and Battalion Chief for the Kern County, Calif., Fire Department. A 28-year veteran of the fire service, Scott manages and directs public education, plan reviews and inspections. He is past Chairman of the Board for the International Fire Code Institute and has been actively involved in code development for more than a decade. Scott also is an instructor for the International Code Council, the International Fire Code Institute and the California State Fire Marshal's Office.

Adolf Zubia was reelected to a three-year term on the International Code Council Board of Directors. Zubia is Chief of the Las Cruces, N.M., Fire Department. He was first elected to the Board in 2003. An 18-year veteran of fire services, Zubia is responsible for management and administration of Las Cruces' fire and emergency services, including the Fire Marshal's office. He currently serves as President of the New Mexico Fire Chief's Association and is a board member of the Fire and Life Safety Section of IAFC. Zubia also was instrument in creating the New Mexico Fire Marshals Association, an International Code Council chapter, and served as its president for five years.

Ed Berkel also was reelected to a three-year term on the International Code Council Board of Directors. Berkel is Fire Marshal for the Mehlville, Mo., Fire Protection District. He was first elected to the International Code Council Board in 2002. A fire marshal for nearly 20 years, Berkel oversees the work of fire inspectors and conducts plan reviews and inspections on major construction projects. He is an active member of the International Fire Marshal Association, the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) and the Missouri Association of Building Officials and Inspectors. Berkel also is a member and past President of the Fire Marshals Association of Missouri and the Greater St. Louis Metropolitan Area Fire Marshals Association.

Others elected or reelected to the International Code Council Board of Directors include John Darnall, C.B.O, Assistant Director of Development Services for the city of Tumwater, Wash.; John LaTorra, Manager of Building and Inspection for the city of Redwood City, Calif.; Ron Lynn, Building Official, Clark County, Nev.; and Bill Dupler, Building Official, Chesterfield County, Va.

The International Code Council, a membership association dedicated to building safety and fire prevention, develops the codes used to construct residential and commercial buildings, including homes and schools. Most U.S. cities, counties and states that adopt codes choose the International Codes developed by the International Code Council.

###

EDITORS' NOTE: Photos of International Code Council Board members are available at www.iccsafe.org/news/icc_photos.html



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
Oct. 22, 2004
www.iccsafe.org

Contact: Jennifer Gibson
1-800-214-4321, ext. 224

International Code Council elects directors, officers

The membership of the International Code Council elected directors to its Board at the organization's recent Annual Conference. The Board of Directors also appointed new officers.

"The board has a good mix of new and returning members that enhances their professional knowledge and leadership skills," said International Code Council CEO James Lee Witt. "I am excited about working with the board to further our efforts to build better and safer communities."

Frank Hodge was named President of the International Code Council Board of Directors. He is the Director of Building and Fire Codes for the town of Hilton Head Island, S.C. Hodge also is a master code professional and a certified building official. He has served on the International Code Council Board of Directors since 1999.

The International Code Council's new Vice President is **Henry Green**. Green is the Executive Director of the Bureau of Construction Codes for the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth. He was elected to the International Code Council Board in 2002 and previously served on the Board from 1994 to 1998.

Wally Bailey was appointed Secretary/Treasurer of the International Code Council Board. He is the Director of Development and Construction for the city of Fort Smith, Ark. A certified building official, Bailey has served on the International Code Council Board since 2000.

Three Board members were reelected to the International Code Council Board of Directors. They are **Ed Berkel, Bill Dupler and Adolf Zubia**. Berkel is Fire Marshal for the Mehlville, Mo., Fire Protection District and was first elected to the Board in 2002. Dupler is a Building Official for Chesterfield County, Va. Zubia, Fire Chief for Las Cruces, N.M., is a certified fire code inspector and was first elected to the International Code Council Board in 2003.

International Code Council members elected four new representatives to the Board of Directors. They are **John Darnall, John LaTorra, Ron Lynn and Kevin Scott**.

A certified building official, Darnall is the Assistant Director of Development Services for the city of Tumwater, Wash. LaTorra is the Manager of Building and Inspection for the city of Redwood City, Calif. Lynn is a building official in Clark County, Nev. Scott is the Fire Marshal/Battalion Chief for the Kern County, Calif., Fire Department and past chairman of the Board of the International Fire Code Institute.

The International Code Council Board of Directors also includes: **Terry Cobb**, C.B.O., Director of the Department of Codes Administration for Nashville and Davidson County, Tenn.; **Bill Duck**, C.B.O., Chief of Inspections and Code Enforcement for the city of Columbus, Ga.; **Gerald George**, C.B.O., Chief Building Official for the Boulder, Colo., Land Use Department, Building Safety and Inspection Services Division; **Dorothy “Dottie” Harris**, Deputy Secretary of State for the State of New York; **Greg Johnson**, Building Inspector for the city of St. Paul, Minn.; **James (Tim) Ryan**, C.B.O., Codes Administrator for Overland Park, Kan.; and **Steven Shapiro**, C.B.O., Director of Codes Compliance for the city of Hampton, Va.

The International Code Council, a membership association dedicated to building safety and fire prevention, develops the codes used to construct residential and commercial buildings, including homes and schools. Most U.S. cities, counties and states that adopt codes choose the International Codes developed by the International Code Council.

###

EDITORS’ NOTE: Photos of International Code Council Board members are available on www.iccsafe.org/news/icc_photos.html



Fire Marshals Association of Minnesota 2005

The following are the areas of interest and committees that current FMAM members are actively working on. If you see an area or specific committee you would like to be considered for in the future, please fill out the following information.

- ❑ **Code Development:**
 - ❑ MSFCA Code Committee: Three Positions
 - ❑ Building Conservation Code: One Position
 - ❑ Building Code: 1306: One Position
 - ❑ Building Code: 1305: Two Positions
 - ❑ Elevator Code: One Position
 - ❑ Existing Buildings Code: One Position
 - ❑ International Residential Code Committee

- ❑ **Sprinkler System Related Groups:**
 - ❑ Residential Sprinkler Task Force: Two Positions
 - ❑ Sprinkler Advisory: One Position
 - ❑ Sprinkler Advisory 2: One Position

- ❑ **Training/Education:**
 - ❑ UM Annual Building Officials Conference: Currently Four Positions.

- ❑ **Representatives:**
 - ❑ Governor's Council: Primary Position / Secondary Alternate Position
 - ❑ Minnesota Code Officials (MNCO): One Position
 - ❑ Certification/Professional Qualifications: One Position
 - ❑ State Fair: One Position
 - ❑ Public Education Representative to the FMAM Board:
 - ❑ Legislative Member on the Joint Fire Service: One Position

- ❑ **FMAM Board Members.**
 - ❑ Board Member
 - ❑ Secretary
 - ❑ Treasure

- ❑ **FMAM Training:**
 - ❑ Instructor
 - ❑ Site Coordinator
 - ❑ Quarterly Education Assistant
 - ❑ Post Indicator Editor Assistant

Please return this form with your areas of possible involvement marked and the following contact information.

Name:

Title:

Address:

Contact Telephone Number:

E-mail Address:

Thank you in advance for your interest and concern for fire safety in Minnesota.

General Membership Meeting
December 8, 2004
12:30pm
Bloomington Fire Station 1

Educational Portion: Grant Writing