



**Fire Marshal's Advisory Board Meeting
Conference Call
Meeting Minutes**

**State Fire Marshal's Office
221 S. Central Aveune
Pierre, SD**

**February 21, 2020
9:30 AM**

Introductions: Board members and others in attendance introduced themselves.

Call to Order & Roll Call: Chairman Doug Hinkle called the meeting to order, and a quorum was present.

Board Members on Conference Line: Mike Roemmich, Mike Harstad, Calen Meningas, Brian Bowker, Rick Gustad.

Department of Public Safety Staff Present: Doug Hinkle, Glenda Marks, and Paul Merriman (by phone).

Approval of December 20, 2019 Meeting Minutes: Motion by Mike Roemmich, second by Rick Gustad, to approve minutes from the December 20, 2019, Fire Marshal's Advisory Board Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Legislative Update (Doug Hinkle): HB 1029: An act to make an appropriation for costs related to suppression of wildfires in the state and to declare an emergency. (This is an every year cost to backfill the cost of combating wildfires in the Black Hills)

HB 1142: An Act to include post-traumatic stress disorder as a compensation injury for purposes of workers' compensation. (This is being done as a pilot program through the Municipal League and they plan to roll it out statewide).

HB 1288: An Act to review certain provisions regarding emergency management. (For counties to qualify for state financial assistance a disaster has to be declared by the Governor. Expenses related to ambulance, fire districts, and other areas shall be included in the amount spent).

HB1293: An Act to make an appropriation to upgrade the state radio infrastructure system and to declare an emergency. (This puts \$5,141,021 into the 4 year upgrade plan).

SB 56: An Act to authorize the collection of certain search and rescue service costs. (Allows fire departments to recover up to \$1,000 for search and rescue costs in a national park, national forest or state park).

SB 164: An Act to revise the penalties and provisions regarding approaching stopped vehicles. (This increases the distance you must pull over to 300 feet and increases the fine to \$270.).

SCR 604: A Concurrent Resolution, Recognizing June as move over awareness month and urging drivers to slow down or move over to stopped vehicles.

Fire Marshal's Office Updates: Doug Hinkle and Paul Merriman discussed the Joint Fire Council Meeting held January 10, and the SD Fire Instructors Conference held January 11-12, in Pierre.

Paul Merriman briefed the group on recent large fires occurring in Hot Springs and Brookings. The explosion in Brookings resulted in one fatality. Both investigations continue.

Paul Merriman also reported that was the first fire death recorded by the office in 2020.

Member Updates: Rick Gustad mentioned he planned to attend a web conference on the post-traumatic stress disorder compensation bill.

Brian Bowker provided an update on fire figures that he is researching from the insurance industry and plans to provide a report at a later meeting of the board.

Mike Harstad made a point to commend board member Mike Roemmich for putting on a great class at the annual SD Fire Instructors Conference.

Next Meeting Date: The next meeting of the Fire Marshal's Advisory Board will be tentatively scheduled for April. The date, time, and location of the meeting will be announced.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Brian Bowker. Second was made by Mike Harstad, that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried unanimously.