



**Fire Marshal's Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
State Fire Marshal's Office
221 S. Central Aveune
Pierre, SD**

**June 29, 2022
9:30 AM**

Call to Order & Roll Call:

The meeting was called to order and a quorum was present.

Board Members on Conference Line:

Calen Meningas, Brian Bowker, Rick Gustad

Others Joining on meeting or by phone:

No others joined the meeting or by phone call.

Department of Public Safety Staff Present:

Doug Hinkle, Glenda Marks, and Paul Merriman.

Approval of Meeting Minutes – February 8, 2022:

A motion to approve minutes was made by Brian Bowker. The motion was seconded by Rick Gustad. There were no questions or edits and minutes were approved.

Fire Marshal's Office Updates:

- Paul Merriman reported on the status of the Governor's special appropriation in support of the fire service in SD. Project agreements have been sent out to the Rapid City Fire Department and the South Dakota Firefighters Association for review and signature. The third element of the appropriation includes the funding and development of a state level media campaign targeted at firefighter recruitment and retention.
- Doug Hinkle provided an update on State Fire School. Attendance numbers were about average again this year according to figures provided by the SDFFA. Fire school will be held at Lake Area Technical College, in Watertown, next year.
- Paul Merriman and Doug Hinkle discussed sales, licensing, and enforcement activities related to fireworks. SFMO deputies were in the field conducting inspections to make certain only consumer fireworks were being offered for sale. SFMO through collaboration with the SD Division of Criminal Investigation and the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms is working to stop the importing of and use of illegal fireworks into SD.

Member Updates:

Brian Bowker discussed loss statistics and the impact of recent storms across the state.

Calen Maningas asked for some clarifications on the funding of the RC Training Tower project. He also expressed appreciation for the proposed project.

Rick Gustad provided additional figures and updates from State Fire School and told the group that a contract to hold fire school at LATC in Watertown over the next three years was in process.

Next Meeting Date:

The next meeting of the Fire Marshal's Advisory Board will be scheduled for the fall. The date, time, and location of the meeting will be announced.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn was made by Brian Bowker. Second was made by Calen Meningas, Motion carried unanimously.