



**Fire Marshal's Advisory Board Meeting Minutes  
State Fire Marshal's Office  
221 S Central Ave  
Pierre SD 57501**

**August 2, 2023  
9:30 A.M.**

**Call to Order & Roll Call:**

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

**Board Members on Conference Line:**

Mike Harstad, Michael Roemmich, Brian Bowker, Rick Gustad, Calen Meningas.

**Department of Public Safety Staff Present:**

Doug Hinkle, Glenda Marks and Paul Merriman.

**Approval of February 2, 2023 Meeting Minutes:**

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mike Harstad. The motion was seconded by Brian Bowker. There were no comments or edits and minutes were approved.

**Fire Marshal's Office Updates:**

Paul Merriman and Doug Hinkle discussed the SD Volunteer Firefighter PPE Grant Program in detail. The discussion included a run through of all grant guidance documents, covered purchases allowed under the grant, department eligibility requirements, application process, and associated program deadlines. Grant applications will be scored based on need by a review committee made up of members of the SDFFA, State Fire Marshal's Office, and the SD Fire Service.

**Member Updates:**

Brian Bowker indicated the grant was timely due to inflation and increased cost of purchasing gear and believed that VFD's would be very appreciative of the grant. Mike Roemmich reported that it has been quiet in the Aberdeen area in regard to fire activity. Recent rainfall and wet conditions have kept rural fire calls down. Rick Gustad discussed the upcoming SDFFA Fall Conference and Membership Meeting. Registration should be opening up soon for the conference. The SD Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service would be held at the end of the conference weekend on October 1.

Mike Harstad reported that supply chain issues are improving. Fire apparatus manufacturers are eagerly awaiting NFPA 1900 standard updates which will put all

requirements for the design, performance, and acceptance criteria, and testing of fire apparatus in one location.

Calen Maningas updated the group on the status of the new training tower being constructed in Rapid City.

**Next Meeting Date:**

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

**Adjournment:**

Meeting was adjourned.