



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
LANSING

MARLON I. BROWN, DPA  
DIRECTOR

## MINUTES

### State Fire Safety Board Regular Meeting

Delta Twp. Fire Department – Station 1 Training Room  
811 N. Canal Road, Lansing, MI 48917  
Thursday, March 14, 2024  
1:30 p.m.

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Julie Bulson, Representing Hospital Administrators  
Steven Densmore, Representing Fire Departments in the Lower Peninsula  
Randall Halstead, Liquefied Petroleum or Flammable Compressed Gas Industry  
Kenneth Herbart, Chair, Representing Registered Architects  
Ruth Ann Knapp, Representing School Board Administrators/Members  
Andrew Marceau, Representing Fire Departments in the Lower Peninsula  
Tavis Millerov, Representing Fire Departments in the Lower Peninsula  
Patrick Phelan, Representing the Professional Engineers  
Kevin Sehlmeier, State Fire Marshal, Ex-Officio Member  
Robert Williams, Representing the Building Trades  
Ora Wolf, Representing the Flammable Liquids Industry

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Timothy Dockerty, Representing Owners of Adult Foster Care Facilities  
Jeramie Morris, Vice Chair, Representing the Chemical Manufacturing Industry  
Richard Prestage, Representing the Nursing Home Industry  
Dylan Rogers, Representing Places of Public Assemblage  
Brian Talvensaari, Representing Fire Departments in the Upper Peninsula  
David Williams, Representing the Licensed Electrical Contractors

#### **OTHER BUREAU ATTENDEES:**

Nicole Cavanagh, LARA/BFS, Fireworks Analyst  
Macie Smith, LARA/BFS, MI Prevention Analyst, Recording Secretary  
Dakota Curns, LARA/BFS, Training Division Departmental Technician  
Mauricio Barrera, LARA/BFS, Public Assembly Fire Safety Inspector  
Jordyn Hanses, LARA/BFS, Student Assistant

#### **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

None

- I. **CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:** The State Fire Safety Board meeting was called to order at 1:53 p.m. Chairperson Kenneth Herbart led everyone in the pledge of allegiance. Roll call was taken by recording secretary, Macie Smith. A quorum was determined present.

**II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

**24-03-01**

A **MOTION** was made by **Board Member Ruth Ann Knapp** and seconded by **Board Member Julie Bulson** to approve the meeting agenda March 14, 2024, as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**24-03-02**

A **MOTION** was made by **Board Member Ora Wolf** and seconded by **Board Member Randall Halstead** to approve the meeting minutes from November 30, 2023, as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

**V. STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT:**

- a. **Public Assemblage Ad Hoc Committee:** The Fire Marshal stated in the November 2023 meeting the SFSB board approved a Public Assemblage Ad Hoc Committee. He shared the committee met in March 2024, and is looking at proposed legislation, and opt-in/opt-out options for communities.
- b. **Fatal Fire Update:** As of March 13, 2024, a total of 37 deaths in 35 residential fires. This is a 13% increase in fatal fire deaths and a 25% increase in fatal fires year-to-date as compared to the 2017-2023 average. 65% of victims are reported to be between the ages of 40-79, 30% reported as disabled, 11% reported on oxygen.
- c. **MI Prevention Update:** Currently, there are approximately 718 fire departments partnering with MI Prevention and we are seeing an increase in other partners that want to get involved, including Safe Albion. The Fire Marshal also shared that the State of Michigan MI Prevention team has hired four part time contract employees.
- d. **Wednesday Wrap Up:** The next monthly virtual meeting hosted by the Fire Marshal is scheduled for April 17, 2024, at 4:00 pm.
- e. **Board Members Reappointed:**
  - a. **The following board members have been reappointed for another term:**
    - Steven Densmore, Representing Fire Departments in the Lower Peninsula
    - Kenneth Herbart, Chair, Representing Registered Architects
    - Andrew Marceau, Representing Fire Departments in the Lower Peninsula
    - Patrick Phelan, Representing the Professional Engineers
  - b. **The Appointments Office is seeking a replacement for:**

- Dylan Rogers, Representing Places of Public Assemblage (**Note:** Dylan Rogers is not seeking reappointment.)

- f. **BFS Staffing Update:** The Fire Marshal shared the following staffing updates:
- Hollie Metts last day at BFS was December 8, 2023.
  - Macie Smith was promoted into a Department Analyst position with MI Prevention on December 11, 2023.
  - Ashtyn Prater has been hired as an Environmental Engineer for Storage Tanks, she started on December 11, 2023.
  - Ryan Byrne has been promoted to Supervisor of the Gaylord Region/Fire Marshal Division, starting on December 11, 2023.
  - Dakota Curns has been hired as a Departmental Technician with the Fire Fighter Training Division, she started on February 19, 2024.

## VI. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

Fire Marshal Sehlmeier shared updates on the following bills:

- [SB 328](#): Smoke alarms - certain battery and power source standards for certain smoke alarm devices; require. Creates new act. (Note: Would require a sealed battery.)
  - Passed by Senate.
  - Referred to the House Committee on Regulatory Reform on 10/24/23.
  - Passed out of Committee on 2/27/24 and placed on Second Reading.
- [HB 4688](#): Labor: collective bargaining; minimum staffing levels within a bargaining unit; make a mandatory subject of bargaining. Amends secs. 11 & 15 of [1947 PA 336](#) (MCL [423.211](#) & [423.215](#)).
  - Has not passed House or Senate.
- [SB 503](#): Fireworks: licensing; moratorium on transferring the location of a consumer fireworks certificate during June and July of each year; remove. Amends sec. 4 of [2011 PA 256](#) (MCL [28.454](#)).
  - Has not passed House or Senate.
- [SB 249](#) (Hertel): Health occupations: emergency medical services personnel; examinations for certain emergency medical services personnel; modify and require certain notices from education program sponsors. Amends secs. 20904, 20912, 20950, 20952 & 20954 of [1978 PA 368](#) (MCL [333.20904](#) et seq.). (MI Only Paramedic License)
  - Has passed Senate.
  - Referred to House Committee on Health Policy on 11/2/23.
  - Bill was rereferred to the House Government Operations Committee. The legislation had a hearing on 3/13/24.

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- a. **2024 Meeting Locations:** Meeting room(s) and locations for the June 13, September 12, and December 12 meetings still need to be confirmed. Board Member Robert Williams shared a suggested meeting location in the Lansing area. Chairman Kenneth Herbart asked BFS Staff Member, Macie Smith to reach out to the location to see if they had a room available. Macie will follow up on this.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. **Fireworks Appeal:** Nicole Cavanagh gave an overview of the following appeal file. The board discussed the appeal before calling the appeal to order. The board's decision will be mailed to the appellant.
  - i. **Citation #23-00038:** Chairperson Herbert called the fireworks appeal to order at 2:50 pm. The board was asked to either uphold the Fire Marshal's decision and deny the appeal, or to grant the appeal and overturn the Fire Marshal's decision.

Total Votes: Uphold/Deny: 10, Grant/Overturn: 0, Absent: 6. The board ruled to uphold the Fire Marshal's decision and deny the appeal of Citation #23-00038. The appeal adjourned at 2:55 pm.

**IX. STATE FIRE SAFETY BOARD COMMENT:**

**Board Member Ruth Ann Knapp** shared the MHSAA did a nice job at the Corunna vs. Saginaw Arthur Hill High School basketball game. The tickets were limited, venue was well managed, and aisles were clear. She also shared that the Saginaw Fire Department is expecting a new fire engine for the first time in several years. The department is hoping to lead the 2024 Memorial Day parade with the new engine.

**Board Member Tavis Millerov** shared childcare licensing rules are coming up for rewrite. In the documentation shared with him, it is noted a member from State Fire Safety Board should be represented on the childcare licensing rules update committee. The Fire Marshal noted they have not requested a representative from the State Fire Safety Board yet. But it should be coming, and therefore this should be discussed at this meeting and agreed upon as to who will represent the board on the childcare rules update committee.

**24-03-03**

A **MOTION** was made by **Board Member Steven Densmore** and seconded by **Board Member Andrew Marceau** to appoint Tavis Millerov as the representative of the State Fire Safety Board, and Robert Williams as an alternate, in meetings for updating the childcare licensing rules. **Abstention: Fire Marshal Kevin Sehmeyer.**  
**MOTION CARRIED.**

**X. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING:**

**24-03-04**

A **MOTION** was made by **Board Member Robert Williams** and seconded by **Board Member Andrew Marceau** to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.** The meeting adjourned at 3:06 pm.

**Next Meeting:**

Thursday, June 13, 2024 at 1:30 pm

Location Pending.

Agenda Items Due: Thursday, May 30, 2024, by 5:00 pm

**APPROVED:** State Fire Safety Board Regular Meeting 9/12/24 (Motion 24-09-02)