



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
Michigan Occupational Safety & Health Administration
(MIOSHA)

STEVEN H. HILFINGER
DIRECTOR

**MIOSHA General Industry Safety Standard
GI Part 74 Fire Fighting Advisory Committee Meeting**

September 22, 2011, 9:00 A.M.
State Secondary Complex, 7150 Harris Drive, Lansing, Michigan, 48909
General Office Building, Conference Room G

MEETING MINUTES

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brian Blomstrom..... Greenville Dept. of Public Safety
Richard Clark Grand Rapids Fire Dept. & Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union
Daniel Dawe..... West Bloomfield Fire Dept. & Michigan Professional Fire Fighters
Union
Patrick DuVall Plainfield Fire Dept.
Joseph Grutza..... MI LARA Bureau of Fire Services
Eva Hatt Retired MIOSHA General Industry Safety & Health Manager
James Rose..... Michigan State Firemen's Association

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Michael Brink City of Madison Heights Fire Dept.
Keith Crawford City of Flint Fire Dept.
Richard Mahaney Mahaney Loss Prevention Services
David Peterson Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs

MIOSHA STAFF PRESENT:

Daniel Dykstra Standards Section
Lee J. Kueppers..... Consultation, Education, and Training Division
Debbie Merryfield..... Standards Section
Mary Slocum..... General Industry Safety & Health Division
Robin Spaulding..... General Industry Safety & Health Division

Agenda Item #1. Call to Order

The September 22, 2011 GI Part 74 Fire Fighting advisory committee meeting was called to order by Co-Chair James Rose. Mr. Rose welcomed everyone. A quorum of advisory committee members was present.

Agenda Item #2 Review and Approval of August 25, 2011 Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Brian Blomstrom and seconded by Mr. Richard Clark to accept the minutes as written. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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Agenda Item #3a Status of memo to NFPA regarding 1999/2009 editions of NFPA 1901

The committee had asked that a letter be drafted to NFPA requesting detailed information on the differences between the 1999 and 2009 editions of NFPA 1901. Mr. Joe Grutza stated that he spoke with State Fire Marshall Ron Farr regarding a comparison of these editions. Mr. Farr will be attending the October 24, 2011 advisory committee meeting to answer questions pertaining to the differences between the two editions.

Agenda Item #3b Status of draft appendix on officer training requirements

Mr. Grutza provided the committee with a draft fire fighter training requirements document and the group discussed the advantages of providing such a document as guidance in the form of an appendix to GI Part 74. After extensive discussion the group determined that training requirements should be broken down into three columns: All Employees Exposed to the Hazard; Company Officer; Incident/Scene Commander. Ms. Eva Hatt suggested that an asterisk be added to the bottom of the table stating that the appendix identifies minimum training recommendations where applicable.

Advisory committee members will review the draft document and email Mr. Grutza comments and corrections by October 10, 2011. Mr. Grutza and Mr. Clark will incorporate suggested changes into the draft document.

Agenda Item #3c Continue review of rules beginning with Rule 7461

The committee reviewed suggestions in an email from Mr. Richard Mahaney regarding Rule 7451. Specifically, Mr. Mahaney would like to require the use of a safety officer at emergency scenes. The group expressed concern that mandating a safety officer is not practical, especially in smaller communities. Currently, the safety officer roll is encompassed by the incident commander until he or she appoints someone else. The group does not want to make any changes to Rule 7451.

Committee reviewed Rule 7461(1). Mr. Daniel Dawe asked how long inspection records must be kept. Ms. Eva Hatt stated that the current standard does not give a minimum retention period for inspection records unless a repair or replacement is made. The committee determined that including a retention period for inspection records would reduce the burden for employers by allowing inspection records to be purged after 24 months. A motion was made by Mr. Blomstrom and seconded by Mr. Clark to change Rule 7461(1) to read as follows:

“All of the following items of the fire apparatus, if so equipped, shall be inspected for proper operation and for defects at least once a month:

- (a) Windshield washers and wipers.
- (b) Defroster and heater.
- (c) Head, tail, stop, backup, and flasher lights.
- (d) Backup alarm.
- (e) Horn and siren.
- (f) Slip-resistant steps and platforms.
- (g) Tires, rims, and suspension system.
- (h) Steering mechanism.
- (i) Braking system.
- (j) Operational controls.

Inspection records shall be maintained **for a minimum period of 24 months** for the apparatus.” **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The committee reviewed Rules 7461(2) through (4) and determined no changes were needed.

Committee reviewed Rule 7461(5). To be consistent with the change recommended to Rule 7461(1), a motion was made by Mr. Patrick DuVall and seconded by Mr. Blomstrom to change Rule 7461(5) to read as follows:

“All portable equipment that is carried on a fire apparatus shall be inspected for operation and for defects at least monthly and within 24 hours after any use. Inspection records shall be maintained for a minimum period of 24 months for portable equipment.” **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The committee reviewed Rules 7461(6) and (7) and determined no changes were needed.

The committee reviewed Rule 7463. Mr. DuVall expressed concern over the use of natural fiber ropes and the use of ropes for purposes other than life safety ropes. A motion was made by Mr. Blomstrom and seconded by Mr. Patrick DuVall to change the title of Rule 7463 to read as follows:

“R 408.17463. General utility ropes, life safety ropes, harnesses, and hardware.” **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The committee reviewed Rule 7463(1). The committee would like a comparison of the differences between the 1995 and 2006 editions of NFPA 1983 with regards to life ropes. **Mr. Dawe, Mr. Rose and Mr. Michael Brink will review these NFPA standards and the group will readdress Rule 7463(1) at the October advisory committee meeting.**

The committee reviewed Rules 7463(2) and determined no changes were needed.

The committee reviewed Rule 7463(3). To be consistent with language in General Industry Safety Standard Part 49, Slings, a motion was made by Mr. DuVall and seconded by Mr. Clark to change Rule 7463(3) to read as follows:

“(3) Natural fiber ropes shall be inspected visually after each use for all the following conditions:

(a) Externally for abrasions, cut or broken fibers, decay, burns, lack of strength, softness, variation in size or roundness of the strands, and for mildew or mold.

(b) Internally annually, by separating the strands at 3-foot intervals, for broken fibers, presence of grit, mildew or mold, color change of the fibers, or powdering and short, loose fibers.” **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The committee reviewed Rule 7463(4). To be consistent with language in General Industry Safety Standard Part 49, Slings, a motion was made by Mr. DuVall and seconded by Mr. Clark to change Rule 7463(4) to read as follows:

“(4) A natural fiber rope that has any of the conditions described in subrule (3)(a) and (b) of this rule shall be replaced or repaired.” **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The committee reviewed Rules 7463(5) through (6) and determined no changes were needed.

Agenda Item #4 – Public Comment

There were no visitors or public comment.

Agenda Item #5 – Next Meeting Date

Dates and locations for upcoming GI Part 74 advisory committee meetings:

Monday, October 24, 2011 from 9:00am to 12:00pm in the General Office Building, Conference Room G

Wednesday, December 14, 2011 from 9:00am to 12:00pm in the MIOSHA Management and Technical Service Laboratory Conference Room.

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Agenda Item #6 Adjournment

With no further business before the advisory committee, the meeting was adjourned.