



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

ORLENE HAWKS
DIRECTOR

MINUTES
State Fire Safety Board Meeting
Thursday, March 18, 2021
1:00 p.m.

Via Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83180420287?pwd=Um1jREJzYTVnSWZMK1EvM2YxY0ZqUT09>

Password: ss939n

Phone: 216-706-7075

Conference Code: 394127

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Julie Bulson, Representing Hospital Administrators
Steven Densmore, Representing Fire Departments in the Lower Peninsula
Kenneth Herbart, Chair, Representing Registered Architects
Tina Kerr, Representing School Board Administrators/Members
Paul Korte, Representing the Nursing Home Industry
Andrew Marceau, Representing Fire Departments in the Lower Peninsula
Tavis Millerov, Representing Fire Departments in the Lower Peninsula
Jeramie Morris, Vice Chair, Representing the Chemical Manufacturing Industry
Patrick Phelan, Representing the Professional Engineers
Dylan Rogers, Representing Places of Public Assemblage
Kevin Sehlmeier, State Fire Marshal/Director, Ex-Officio Member
David Williams, Representing the Licensed Electrical Contractors
Robert Williams, Representing the Building Trades

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Lindsey Haley, Representing Owners of Adult Foster Care Facilities
Randall Halstead, Liquefied Petroleum or Flammable Compressed Gas Industry
Kenneth Letts, Representing the Flammable Liquids Industry
Brian Talvensaari, Representing Fire Departments in the Upper Peninsula

OTHER BUREAU ATTENDEES:

Hollie Metts, LARA/BFS, Executive Secretary

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Unknown

I. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:

The State Fire Safety Board meeting was called to order at 1:06 p.m. Chairman Kenneth Herbart lead all attendees in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and read a virtual meeting introduction advising of the procedures for the meeting, public comment, and the steps that

would be taken if the meeting were disconnected. Roll call was taken by executive secretary, Hollie Metts. A quorum was determined present.

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

21-3-01

A **MOTION** was made by **Board Member Robert Williams** and seconded by **Board Member Jeramie Morris** to approve the meeting agenda for March 18, 2021, as presented.

A roll call vote was taken:

- Board Member Bulson – Support
- Board Member Densmore – Support
- Board Member Haley – Absent
- Board Member Halstead – Absent
- Chairman Herbart – Support
- Board Member Kerr – Support
- Board Member Korte – Support
- Board Member Letts - Absent
- Board Member Marceau – Support
- Board Member Millerov – Support
- Board Member Morris – Support
- Board Member Phelan – Support
- Board Member Rogers – Support
- Fire Marshal Sehlmeier - Support
- Board Member Talvensaari - Absent
- Board Member D. Williams - Support
- Board Member R. Williams – Support

Total Votes: Support 13, Opposed 0, Abstain 0, Absent 4. **MOTION CARRIED.**

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

21-3-02

A **MOTION** was made by **Board Member Robert Williams** and seconded by **Board Member Julie Bulson** to approve the meeting minutes from January 21, 2021, as presented.

A roll call vote was taken:

- Board Member Bulson – Support
- Board Member Densmore – Support
- Board Member Haley – Absent
- Board Member Halstead – Absent
- Chairman Herbart – Support
- Board Member Kerr – Support
- Board Member Korte – Support
- Board Member Letts - Absent
- Board Member Marceau – Support
- Board Member Millerov – Support
- Board Member Morris – Support
- Board Member Phelan – Support
- Board Member Rogers – Support
- Fire Marshal Sehlmeier - Support
- Board Member Talvensaari - Absent
- Board Member D. Williams - Support

Board Member R. Williams – Support

Total Votes: Support 13, Opposed 0, Abstain 0, Absent 4. **MOTION CARRIED.**

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

V. STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT:

- a. **Bureau Update:** Bureau staff will continue to work remotely through May 1, 2021. The State of Michigan is currently looking at options to allow staff to continue working remotely. Virtual meetings may also continue through March 30, 2021.
- b. **2020 NFIRS Report:** The Fire Marshal gave an overview of the 2020 NFIRS report. A handout was provided to each of the board members.
- c. **Fatal Fires:** To date, there have been 32 fire fatalities in 29 fires in Michigan. These fatalities were all civilians in residential occupancies.
- d. **MI Prevention Update:**
 - i. **Data and Trends:** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier discussed the trends that MI Prevention and the Michigan Fire Inspectors Society have identified by analyzing the fatal fire data. For more information, visit the MI Prevention app or www.MFIS.org.
 - ii. **Training Videos:** MI Prevention is in the process of developing training videos for firefighters and caregivers to educate them on how to better help those with disabilities.
- e. **Cancer Presumption:** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier recently learned that two cancer presumption bills have been introduced (House Bill 4171 - Rep. Allor and House Bill 4172 - Rep. Yaroch) to include volunteer/part-time and retired fire fighters and expanded the list of covered cancers.
- f. **House Bill 4382 (Smoke Alarms):** This bill would eliminate 9-volt smoke alarms. Consumers would only be able to buy smoke alarms with 10-year lithium-ion batteries.

VI. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

- a. **House Bill 4792 (unattended fueling):** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier shared that this bill was reintroduced in the new session.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. **NFIRS Report 2020:** Covered under the State Fire Marshal's report.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

None.

IX. STATE FIRE SAFETY BOARD COMMENT:

Board Member Julie Bulson: Encouraged board members to get their COVID-19 vaccines. She shared the hospitals have seen an increase in cases (variants).

X. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING:

21-3-03

A **MOTION** was made by **Board Member Robert Williams** and seconded by **Board Member Dylan Rogers** to adjourn the meeting. A roll call vote was taken:

Board Member Bulson – Support
Board Member Densmore – Support
Board Member Haley – Absent
Board Member Halstead – Absent
Chairman Herbart – Support
Board Member Kerr – Support
Board Member Korte – Support
Board Member Letts - Absent
Board Member Marceau – Support
Board Member Millerov – Support
Board Member Morris – Support
Board Member Phelan – Support
Board Member Rogers – Support
Fire Marshal Sehlmeier - Support
Board Member Talvensaari - Absent
Board Member D. Williams - Support
Board Member R. Williams – Support

Total Votes: Support 13, Opposed 0, Abstain 0, Absent 4. **MOTION CARRIED.** The meeting adjourned at 1:41 pm.

Next Regular Meeting:

Thursday, June 17, 2021 at 1:00 pm

Location: In-person or virtual meeting to be determined

APPROVED: June 17, 2021 Regular Meeting (motion #21-6-02).