



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
LANSING

ORLENE HAWKS  
DIRECTOR

**MINUTES**  
**State Fire Safety Board Meeting**  
Thursday, June 17, 2021  
1:00 p.m.

**Via Zoom Meeting:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83866287447?pwd=WUx3M1UxdXBCZEJrUloxUU5zeWpOUT09>

Password: 0cgD76

Phone: 216-706-7075 / Conference Code: 394127

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Randall Halstead, Liquefied Petroleum or Flammable Compressed Gas Industry  
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  
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:**

Julie Bulson, Representing Hospital Administrators  
Steven Densmore, Representing Fire Departments in the Lower Peninsula  
Lindsey Haley, Representing Owners of Adult Foster Care Facilities  
Kenneth Letts, Representing the Flammable Liquids Industry  
Patrick Phelan, Representing the Professional Engineers  
Brian Talvensaari, Representing Fire Departments in the Upper Peninsula

**OTHER BUREAU ATTENDEES:**

Hollie Metts, LARA/BFS, Executive Secretary

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Courtney Pendleton, Deputy Director, LARA  
Bryan Modelski, Deputy Operations Officer, LARA

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:**

The State Fire Safety Board meeting was called to order at 1:07 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:

### 21-6-01

A **MOTION** was made by **Board Member Andrew Marceau** and seconded by **Board Member Jeramie Morris** to approve the meeting agenda for June 17, 2021, as presented.

A roll call vote was taken:

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

Total Votes: Support 11, Opposed 0, Abstain 0, Absent 6. **MOTION CARRIED.**

## III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

### 21-6-02

A **MOTION** was made by **Board Member Jeramie Morris** and seconded by **Board Member David Williams** to approve the meeting minutes from March 18, 2021, as presented. A roll call vote was taken:

- Board Member Bulson – Absent
- Board Member Densmore – Absent
- Board Member Haley – Absent
- Board Member Halstead – Support
- Chairman Herbart – Support
- Board Member Kerr – Support
- Board Member Korte – Support
- Board Member Letts - Absent
- Board Member Marceau – Support
- Board Member Millerov – Support
- Vice Chairman Morris – Support
- Board Member Phelan – Absent
- Board Member Rogers – Support
- Fire Marshal Sehlmeier - Support
- Board Member Talvensaaari - Absent

Board Member D. Williams - Support  
Board Member R. Williams – Support

Total Votes: Support 11, Opposed 0, Abstain 0, Absent 6. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

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

- a. **LARA Introductions:** Fire Marshal Sehmeyer opened the State Fire Marshal's report with introducing LARA Deputy Director Courtney Pendleton and LARA Deputy Operations Officer Bryan Modelski to the board. On behalf of LARA Director Orlene Hawks, Deputy Director Pendleton thanked the board members for their service, expertise, and commitment to the department, to the bureau and to the entire fire service. She also provided an overview of LARA. Board Members Marceau and R. Williams expressed their appreciation to Deputy Director Pendleton for the great work done by the bureau staff and MI Prevention.
- b. **Bureau Updates:** Virtual meetings are scheduled to continue through July 12, 2021. The State of Michigan Office of the State Employer continues to consider remote work options and will release details regarding remote work plans to all staff in the near future. The Fire Marshal also shared recent staffing updates with the board, to include backfilling the State Administrative Manager position that oversees the Plan Review, Field Services, and Storage Tanks Operations, a FOIA technician, and a Certification Specialist in the Fire Fighter Training Division.
- c. **MI Prevention Updates:**
  - i. **Fatal Fires:** The Fire Marshal thanked Board Members Marceau and R. Williams for expressing their appreciation for MI Prevention to Deputy Director Pendleton. To date, there have been 59 fire fatalities in 54 fires in Michigan. These fatalities were all civilians in residential occupancies.
  - ii. **Training Videos:** MI Prevention is developing training videos for firefighters and caregivers to educate them on how to better help those with disabilities.
  - iii. **Sonic Alert Alarms:** MI Prevention is also working with a Michigan-based company called Sonic Alert, which specializes in alarms and bed shakers for those with disabilities.
  - iv. **Expiring Terms:** Fire Marshal Sehmeyer shared that the following board members terms are expiring on July 15, 2021: Lindsey Haley, Tina Kerr, Paul Korte, Ken Letts, and Robert Williams. He thanked them for their service and shared how they can reapply to the board if interested.

**VI. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:**

- a. **House Bill 4077 (unattended fueling):** Fire Marshal Sehmeyer shared that this bill will allow for unattended fueling in Michigan without an attendant in place. It was introduced last session and passed the House and the Senate; however, it was later vetoed by the governor. The bill was reintroduced in this session.
- b. **HB 4171 and HB 4172 (Cancer Presumption for Firefighters):** Fire Marshal Sehmeyer clarified that this bill would apply to all firefighters in the State.

- c. **HB 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.

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS:**

None.

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

None.

**X. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING:**

**21-6-03**

A **MOTION** was made by **Board Member Jeramie Morris** and seconded by **Board Member Tina Kerr** to adjourn the meeting. A roll call vote was taken:

Board Member Bulson – Absent  
Board Member Densmore – Absent  
Board Member Haley – Absent  
Board Member Halstead – Support  
Chairman Herbart – Support  
Board Member Kerr – Support  
Board Member Korte – Support  
Board Member Letts - Absent  
Board Member Marceau – Support  
Board Member Millerov – Support  
Vice Chairman Morris – Support  
Board Member Phelan – Absent  
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 11, Opposed 0, Abstain 0, Absent 6. **MOTION CARRIED.** The meeting adjourned at 1:49 p.m.

**Next Regular Meeting:**

Thursday, September 16, 2021 at 1:00 pm  
Location: To be determined

**APPROVED:** October 21, 2021 Regular Meeting (Motion #21-10-02).