



METROPOLITAN FIRE MARSHAL'S ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES

Date: December 9, 2009

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 10:00 AM

Guests: Lance Kemper, Insurance Construction Specialists
Scott Edwards, Steamatic of St. Louis

Attendees:

NAME	REPRESENTING	NAME	REPRESENTING
Roger Herin	Monarch FPD	Chris Gaut	NFSA
John Bennett	Guarantee Elect.	Mike Henke	Potter Electric
Ken Schneider	Sprinkler Fitters 268	Anthony Lancia	AGC of St. Louis
Paul Mercurio	Clayton FD	Marc Ulses	Frontenac FD
Ed Berkel	Mehlville FPD	Art Oestereich	Creve Coeur FPD
Dave Nichols	Monarch FPD	Teresa Cross	Mehlville FPD
Steve Gettemeier	Florissant Valley FPD	Roger Morris	Monarch FPD
Jim McKay	Monarch FPD	Mark Heberlein	Missouri State Fire Marshal
Darryl Zastrow	Spanish Lake FPD	Barry West	Missouri State Fire Marshal
Steve Bierman	Steamatic of St. Louis	Harlen Hunter	ICS
Rick Oster	Butler Durrell Security	Greg Breher	Mehlville FPD
Denis Drozkowski	Maryland Heights FPD	Russ Todd	City of Maplewood
Dennis Woods	City of Creve Coeur	Tony Simpson	St. Louis County
Dan Flynn	Firestoppers	Terry DeGuentz	Jerry Wessels
Bill Fox	Shrewsbury FD	Wally Miller	St. Louis FSA
Michael Mahler	Sprinkler Fitters 268	John LaVenture	St. Louis FSA

Treasurer's Report: Beginning balance \$6,571.46; Ending balance \$5,713.38. Approved by vote.

Secretary's Report:

Minutes of Last Meeting: Approved by vote.

New Members:

1st Reading: (none)

2nd Reading: (none)

Membership Report: Approved by vote.

As of December 7, 2009:	Regular	76
	Associate	41
	Honorary	1
	Honorary Life	1
	1 st Reading	0
	2 nd Reading	0
	Total	119

Program/Presentation: Anthony Lancia gave a short presentation on the AGC's Permit Locator program, and made it available for viewing throughout the meeting and lunch.

Communications: Thank-you letter from Bill Karabas of the Emergency Communication Commission for our efforts in the passage of Proposition E-911.

Paul Mercurio met with Jack Fisher, St. Louis County Plumbing Dept. Chief. Plumbing code review is complete; it addresses 13D sprinkler systems; Jack will support residential sprinklers.

Committee Reports:

Fire Chiefs: John LaVenture – Bill Fox stated that the member survey was handed out; the Backstoppers fundraising was discussed. In our meeting, the MFMA donation to Backstoppers was discussed

Education Committee: Steve Gettemeier or John LaVenture – Steve mentioned planning for a one-day training event, which was brought up last meeting – discussion ensued. The consensus was to focus on residential sprinklers and to partner with other groups for a 1-day seminar sometime in April. A committee will be appointed.

State Fire Marshals: Roger Herin – Conference is developing – theme will be light-weight construction; reservations are available at Tan-Tar-A.

State ICC Chapter (MABFO): Steve Gettemeier reported that he attended the last meeting, and that there is not much progress. He submitted minutes from that meeting.

MABOI: Jerry Wessels – They are setting the schedule for next year’s seminars and would like suggestions for classes. It was commented that MABOI has a good schedule, and variety of class subjects.

ICC: Ed Berkel – Ed discussed the code development process, and stated that the current cycle is a transitional plan. There will be less steps; final action hearings will be in Dallas this spring for most of the codes, and in Charlotte NC this coming fall for the rest.

Jefferson County Fire Marshals Assoc.: Lloyd Montgomery – No report.

Laclede Gas: Ron Chac – No report.

Missouri American Water: Ben Von Harz – No Report. Ed Berkel stated that Ameren UE is changing transformers from flush (underground) to above ground, and have obstructed some fire hydrants with the above ground transformers.

St. Louis Sprinkler Alliance: Wally Miller – The HBA had their meeting at Sprinkler Fitters 268 hall yesterday (December 8, 2009), and witnessed a side-by-side burn. Wally stated that 5 or 6 sprinkler contractors have joined HBA. Most of the questions asked by HBA members were about cost. Much discussion (in our meeting) ensued.

AAGSL: MJ Vance – No report.

Code Review: Steve Gettemeier or John LaVenture – Still on IRC.

BCRC: Roger Herin – Lightweight construction issue is still on the table – Roger and Steve Gettemeier met with HBA to work out a solution, but couldn’t do so. HBA suggested that County wait until after the final action hearings in May. Paul Mercurio suggested that MFMA should go to the St. Louis County Building Commission regarding the sunset provision of the residential sprinkler mandatory option – discussion ensued, and the consensus was to move forward with this.

MCRC: Paul Mercurio –Mechanical Code to go to Building Commission in January.

Old Business:

By-Laws: Roger Herin – All corrections have been made, and by-laws will be posted on the website soon. Paul Mercurio stated that he has reviewed the ICC requirements and it appears our revised by-laws are compliant.

New Business:

Election of Officers: There were no nominations from the floor. The existing Officers were elected by acclamation.

Roundtable: A letter from ISO was discussed. The letter indicates that jurisdictions omitting residential sprinklers from their code adoptions will be penalized one ISO class. A member stated that he had verified this with our local ISO representative. Discussion ensued.

Barry West stated that legislation is being drafted regarding licensing of fire equipment companies. Paul Mercurio state that HB 1275 is also being introduced to register all sprinkler contractors with the Missouri State Fire Marshal's office. Discussion ensued.

Bill Fox stated that legislation is being introduced to add a "sunset" provision to the recently passed E-911 legislation. Call your legislators to oppose this.

Good of the Order: Roger Herin reminded the membership of last meeting's discussion regarding education for the home building and real estate sales industry regarding residential sprinklers.

Announcements: Wally Miller presented the St. Louis Fire Sprinkler Alliance Platinum Sprinkler Service Award to Roger Herin. The recipient is an individual who excelled in the promotion and awareness of automatic fire sprinklers. Roger earned this award by devoted many hours educating and promoting the benefits of sprinkles throughout the community. He contributed his personal time to attend the 2012 ICC code hearings to support residential sprinklers. Roger serves on the St. Louis County Building Code Review Committee and encouraged sprinkler adoption in local building codes.

Next Meeting: 9:00 AM January 13, 2010 at Kirkwood Community Center, 111 Geyer Road, Kirkwood, MO 63122.

Adjournment: 11:45 – then lunch was served.

Respectfully Submitted:

Roger N. Herin, Secretary