[South Dakota Department of Public Safety](http://dps.sd.gov/default.aspx)

**Fire Marshal’s Advisory Board Meeting**

**Tuesday, October 28, 2014**

**10:30 AM - 2 PM CDT**

**St. Joseph’s Indian School**

**Chamberlain, SD**

**Board members present:** Richard Broderick, Rick Gustad, Jerry Diamond.

**Board members absent:** Michael Harstad, Jim Strain.

**Fire Marshal Staff Present:**  Glenda Marks, Doug Hinkle, Paul Merriman.

**Call to Order & Roll Call:**

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 AM CST by Paul Merriman. Roll call taken and a quorum was present.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

Motion to approve April 29, 2014 meeting minutes.

Moved by: Rick Gustad

Seconded: Richard Broderick

Discussion: None

Minutes approved unanimously.

**Fire Marshal Updates:**

Doug Hinkle and Paul Merriman provided updates on the South Dakota Smoke Alarm Grant Program, state certified firefighter course curriculums, and introduced a draft version of the new South Dakota Fire Chiefs Handbook.

Paul Merriman asked board members to review the draft version of the chiefs handbook and provide comments and suggestions.

**National Volunteer Fire Council Membership:**

Rick Gustad provided an overview of the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) and its functions. The NVFC administers a wide array of programs to assist fire departments, firefighters, EMS personnel, and emergency responders. These programs address issues ranging from health and safety, recruitment and retention, fire department capacity, to fire prevention. The NVFC provides resources, programs, and advocacy for first responders across the nation.

The South Dakota Firefighters Association represents fire departments in South Dakota through NVFC membership. Rick Gustad will work with the association and provide an update on recent NVFC activities at the next meeting of the FMAB.

**Open Discussion:**

Board members discussed fire department response and billing procedures, firefighter training records, and incentives to encourage firefighter certification. The Fire Marshal’s Office will be working with the South Dakota Firefighters Association on an initiative to recognize newly certified firefighters and provide assistance with attendance at state fire school. The FMAB will continue to work with the various fire constituencies throughout the state to promote and incentivize firefighter training and certification.

**Next Meeting Date/Adjournment:**

The next meeting of the FMAB will be January 16, 2015 in Pierre.

**Other Business/Open Discussion:**

**Next Meeting Date:**

Next meeting date will be determined at the call of the Chair.