



**Fire Marshal's Advisory Board Meeting  
Tuesday, April 29, 2014  
10 am - 2 pm CDT  
St. Joseph's Indian School  
Chamberlain, SD**

**In attendance:**

Board Members - Richard Broderick, Michael Harstad, Jim Strain, Rick Gustad, Jerry Diamond.  
DPS Fire Marshal's Office - Glenda Marks, Doug Hinkle, Paul Merriman.

**Meeting Minutes:**

Call to order and roll call – Paul Merriman

**Wildland Fire Season Outlook/Update:**

Jim Strain discussed recent wildland fire activity, and provided an overview of the upcoming fire season. The National Weather Service forecasts weather patterns similar to last years, calling for more moisture and cooler than average temperatures throughout the spring/summer.

The SD Division of Wildland Fire in a joint agreement with the Dept. of Corrections, hired two new crew bosses to oversee DOC fire line resources.

The SD Division of Wildland Fire will be setting up the annual meeting with the Office of Emergency Management regarding fire incident planning.

Mr. Strain also mentioned that the SD School of Mines Weather Service Institute will no longer be in operation after July 1, 2014. However, Fire Meteorologist, Darin Clabo will be available for assistance.

**State Fire School 2014 Update:**

Rick Gustad provided an overview of state fire school. The school was held April 3-5 in Aberdeen, much earlier than the normal June date. Rick explained it was a chance to try something different in an approach to increase attendance figures. Rick reported that the school was successful, with nearly 500 in attendance.

Rick also laid out the plan for the next few years, with Pierre hosting in 2015, Minnehaha County Fire Chiefs hosting in Sioux Falls 2016, with 2017, 2018, 2019 being held in Mitchell at Mitchell Area Vo-tech.

**Fire Marshal Updates:**

Paul Merriman and Doug Hinkle discussed the recent notice of board appointments to make sure all had been received, distributed DPS annual reports to all board members, reviewed the joint agreement between DPS/WLF regarding the structural fire protection & mobilization plan, and informed the board of upcoming events and other office items to include the annual SD Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators Conference May 5 & 6 in Sioux Falls, updates on the fireworks

application process, annual fire department certification process, and pre-planning events for the 2015 Sturgis Bike Rally.

Doug Hinkle and Paul Merriman also briefed the board on initiatives regarding firefighter certification and firefighter safety that the fire marshal's office and the SD Firefighters Board will be working on jointly.

**Other Business/Open Discussion:**

Rick Gustad discussed the possibility of putting together a packet or guide book for first time fire chiefs, possibly offering a class that could be held at state fire school for newly appointed chiefs. This will be researched and discussed further with the SD Fire Chiefs Association and moved forward.

Mike Harstad discussed the ISO – Public Protection Classification Process and the positive changes that they experienced during their most recent review. Jerry Diamond commented on the importance of that process and what it means to the community.

Rich Broderick would like to consider putting together a host site for various webinars and training resources that all fire departments could contribute to as well as access for training.

**Next Meeting Date:**

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