



Fire Marshal's Advisory Board Meeting
Tuesday April 30,
10-2 pm CDT
Department of Public Safety Building – 2nd Floor Conference Room

In attendance:

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

Meeting Minutes:

Call to order and roll call – Paul Merriman

Rick Gustad introduced a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. The motion was seconded by Michael Harstad and the minutes were approved.

Fire Marshal's Office Updates:

Paul Merriman, reported on the Independent Insurance Agents of South Dakota Service Corporation Grant. The grant will provide a matching grant award of \$750 to each of the current 13 Firefighter Essentials Grantees. IIASD will be contacting agent members shortly to coordinate awards.

Doug Hinkle, and Paul Merriman, updated the board on the South Dakota Firefighter Age Demographics Study. The collection of data will continue throughout the annual fire department certification process. Rick Gustad discussed tracking similar trends for state fire school attendees through their registration program. The board would like to keep the topic of demographics and firefighter trends a long term agenda item.

Jim Strain lead a discussion on ammonium nitrate storage in light of the West Fertilizer Company explosion in Texas. We will continue to work through the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the State Emergency Response Commission to make sure South Dakota Fire Departments are notified of any bulk storage or production facilities in their response areas. The board would also like to keep this as an agenda item for the next meeting.

Doug Hinkle, and Paul Merriman, discussed the Draft South Dakota School Safety Plan. Will continue to work with partner agencies throughout the plan development process and report to the board upon completion. Rich Broderick discussed the ACAMS process and has been an active participant in some of the school reviews in the Rapid City area. Paul Merriman gave an overview of the current school fire inspection process to the board.

Rick Gustad informed the board that the registration program for State Fire School in Belle Fourche is up and running. Rick also talked about the South Dakota Firefighters Association Scholarship which provides \$500 to a fire department that has not attended State Fire School in recent years or maybe ever attended. Doug Hinkle and Paul Merriman mentioned that the Fire Marshal's Office has been researching various scholarship programs in other states.

Other Business/Open Discussion:

Paul Merriman updated the board on the Certified Fire Investigator Program. Deputy Fire Marshal Steve Harford has submitted his application for testing to the International Association of Arson Investigators.

The board discussed the outcome of several bills of interest from the 2013 Legislative Session. Jim Strain thanked Monica Kolby with the Rapid City Fire Department for her assistance in gathering information on chinese lanterns and exploding targets.

Richard Broderick attended an NFPA meeting in Chicago and passed along congratulations to the South Dakota Fire Service for their efforts in defeating SB93.

Michael Harstad discussed the Assistance to Firefighter Grants Process. In addition to some of the successes they have had in Minnehaha County, Michael outlined concerns such as accountability and follow through on the part of FEMA, and frustration for many departments as the number of awards issued in South Dakota has been decreasing. Rick Gustad provided information on a mentoring program through the National Volunteer Fire Council that assists fire departments in the AFG process.

Next Meeting Date:

Next meeting will be held Tuesday July 30, 2013, at 10-2pm at Rosenbauer America, Lyons, SD.