

VIRGINIA FIRE SERVICES BOARD
Committee on Fire Prevention & Control Agenda
Thursday, April 14, 2016

A meeting of the Virginia Fire Services Board Burn Building Committee was held in Staunton, Virginia at 10am. Robby Dawson led the discussion.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Walter Bailey – Chair – Virginia State Firefighter’s Association
Ron Reynolds – Acting - Virginia State Fire Marshal
James “Robby” Dawson – Fire Prevention Association
David Layman - Virginia Fire Chiefs Association
Bettie Reeves-Nobles – General Public

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

John Ainslie –Virginia Board of Housing & Community Development

AGENCY MEMBERS PRESENT

Brook Pittinger	Glen Dean	Dave Jolly
Melvin Carter	Mohamed Abbamin	

GUESTS PRESENT

Ed Rhodes	Perry Weller	Charles Singleton
Mike Ayers	Carol Rhodes	

CHANGES IN THE AGENDA

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 - A. Unfinished Business
 - a. N/A
2. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. **Review:** Fire and Building Codes - update and adoption schedule.
 - B. **Discussion:** Memorandum of Understanding between the Fire Services Board and the Board of Housing.
 - C. **Discussion:** Proposed Statewide Fire Prevention Code amendments
 - D. **VDFP Executive Director Update:** State Fire Marshal’s Position.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments made.

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMITTEE CHAIR

Robby Dawson thanked everyone for their attendance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No Unfinished Business

NEW BUSINESS

Topic: Review: Fire and Building Codes - update and adoption schedule.

Motion: N/A.

Topic Discussion: Robby Dawson explained the process. He added that a NOIRA – notice of regulatory action is initiated, public commenting is followed, and lastly, public hearing is held. Anyone can submit code changes. Mr. Dawson added that the current process is not clearly defined for the establishment of workgroups, their activities, or membership. The following information was provided;

Public Hearing: The public hearing is scheduled for July 18, 2016 – which involves participation from VFSB and BHCD.

Motion Action: N/A.

Topic: Memorandum of Understanding between the Fire Services Board and the Board of Housing.

Motion: N/A

Topic Discussion: Robby Dawson cited that the current MOU/MOA states that the BHCD shall notify VFSB notice of intended regulatory action, prior to publishing. This step was not taken prior to the March 21 BHCD meeting where the NOIRA was approved.

Mr. Dawson stated VFSB has not been formally notified of the current code development process or established meeting schedule by BHCD. It was further discussed that the MOA should be amended to include all activities related to code development.

Moreover, the group cited that the development of statewide fire prevention code should be removed from the DHCD/BHCD. When the SFMO was transferred to VDFP, the authority of statewide code development did not transfer out. Additional discussion will be brought up on this matter at a later date.

Chairman Bailey will be reaching out to Anthony Clatterbuck, chairman of the Board of Housing, to begin discussing the MOU revision.

Vote: N/A

Motion Action: N/A

Topic: Discussion: Proposed Statewide Fire Prevention Code amendments

Motion: N/A

Topic Discussion: There was a discussion on “consensus” as it relates to code amendments. Mr. Dawson indicated that he was informed during one of the previous meetings that if, even one individual disagrees on an amendment – there are no consensus for a specific code change. This has not been formally documented in any DHCD process to date.

The definition of “consensus” needs to be established.

Vote: N/A

Motion Action: N/A

Topic: VDVP Executive Director Update: State Fire Marshal’s Position.

Motion: N/A

Topic Discussion: Chief Carter stated that the agency will be doing a national level recruitment for the State Fire Marshal’s position. He indicated that Deputy Fire Marshal, Ron Reynolds will be the interim State Fire Marshal.

Vote: N/A

Motion Action: N/A

ADJOURNMENT

The subcommittee adjourned at 11:35am.

Clerk of the Committee

REVIEWED BY:



Brenda Scaife
Director of Administration

Thursday, April 14, 2016

Date

Enclosures:

1. MOA – BHCD/VFSB