

Southern California Fire Prevention Officer's
FIRE CODE COMMITTEE
January 6, 2005

In Attendance:

Janet Baylor	Anaheim Fire
Laura Blaul	Orange County Fire
Mark Dossett	San Diego Fire & Rescue
Christina Jamison	Ventura County Fire
Ken Krause	LA City Fire
Kevin Scott	Kern County Fire

State Code Status

Discussion of BSC January agenda – state agency reports on status of building code adoption. Some Commission seekers received interviews, including Christina, Steve Jensen and Jim Langhorne. Unknown if those endorsed by CalChiefs (NFPA supporters) received interviews.

Annual Report and start 2005 Goals/Budget

- Review of our annual report submitted in December.
- Draft of goals for upcoming year (Committee and General membership), which will be shared with Board and CalChiefs at Dixon meeting.
 - i. Improve communication with CalChiefs
 - ii. Increase membership in order to improve networking and sharing of info/ability to speak as one voice.
 - iii. Incorporate training for Operations into Fire Service Education curriculum (construction, smoke control, interface with systems, etc.).
 - iv. Fire Prevention Week
 - v. Assist with development of new State codes; develop local amendment package and model ordinance.
 - vi. Hydrogen Highway
 - vii. WUI Regs
 - viii. CalBO
 - ix. Partner agency relationships
 - x. Legislation – SFM, local FPO Chpts, CAFAA, NFSA/AFSA, NFPA, ICC, CSFA

CPR Report

- Mark reviewed the entire report via a search for SFM/OSFM, Fire Marshal(l) and OSHPD (15 pages of report) - distributed.
 - i. Report doesn't specifically mention elimination of the OSFM but moves them to Homeland Security and/or getting other

- responsibilities. “Considerations” provided in an attachment discussed potential problems with elimination of OSFM (309).
- ii. Only area that we have strong feelings about, relative to OSFM , is limiting authority of the office by transferring reg writers to another agency – they need the practical experience and direct contact/communication with office and local staff to draft effective regs. Need more details on what would replace the BSC to comment.
- iii. We’ll watch for legislation in order to better analyze and render an opinion/recommendation.
- League’s paper limits the issue to building code only, no mention of fire code. Otherwise, there’s agreement with all their statements, which lend strong support for the IBC.

RCFE Regs for SB 1896 – 120 public comment period (adopted Nov 18, 2004)

- Add onto sentence in Scope (415A.1) clarifying that bedridden is limited to one (in case the user doesn’t start with 904....”and housing no more than one bedridden client”.
- Revise 904.2.10, new exception 2, to clarify not limited to one client...”not more than one bedridden client...”
- Revise 904.2.10.1 to include specific provisions (in this case exceptions to sprinkler coverage don’t apply unless AHJ says ok) rather than cite sections of NFPA 13D and 13R to prevent need to correlate when edition changes.

Other Status Updates

- Engineer Title Act
Wes Arvin will participate in hearings today in Sacto, representing CA FPOs in support of retaining PE status for Fire Protection engineers.
- Legislation. Group working to bring back legislation for sprinkler protection in residential board & cares. Meeting this week with opposition (Protection Advocacy, et.al) and John Haberek and Jim Gross (OCFA lobbyist). Awaiting report and any action items. Sac City being asked to sponsor and approach Debra Ortiz to author bill.
- NorCal RCFE Guidelines. Will wait for final draft prior to reviewing and provided comments.
- Hydrogen Highway. Report submitted to Governor and awaiting direction.
- State NFPA 25 Project and Code Process
- ICC Code Monograph for 2004/5 code development cycle – Feb 22 in Cinn, Ohio. ICC Code Coordinating Committee is meeting next week to review work of Code Action Committee and other proposals and make recommendation to the IAFC Fire & Life Safety Committee. Ken will be attending as a member and brought up a few issues:
 - i. Proposal to eliminate sprinklers from balconies ‘cause NFPA 13-R doesn’t require....can’t support because another section requires sprinklers if you BBQ and don’t want an enforcement nightmare.

Another proposal adds decks to requirement for protection - support.

- ii. Oppose proposal to allow 13R in building up to 4 stories above grade (regardless of number below grade).
- iii. Metal hydride storage systems for hydrogen. Need more info on safety of containers to ensure there is no safety issue.
- iv. Add smoke control system to high rise? Anyone used in a fire situation? Need info!

Roundtable

- Public Schools. DSA only reviews construction plans and gives CO only when school is complete, not on individual buildings...lots of buildings already occupied and some are not in compliance (kids on 2nd floor with only one exit). Inspector of Record only looks at structural (typically no background in occ requirements). Some jurds get called for some aspects (eg, fire alarm) and take the opportunity to walk entire site and note corrections needed...compliance is not an issue. If don't get called during construction, find during annual and problem...monitor at this time (statewide problem...may take legislation).