



**State Fire Advisory Board Summary**  
**November 18, 2022**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**PEMA Headquarters, Room 112,**  
**Harrisburg, PA**

**I. Call to Order**

- Charles McGarvey, Acting Fire Commissioner called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**II. Roll Call**

- Charles McGarvey, Acting State Fire Commissioner
- Art Martynuska, Region 2 Firefighter
- Joseph C Mitchell, Region 3 Firefighter
- Bruce Trego, Region 4 Firefighter
- Sam Aungst, Region 5 Firefighter
- Jeffrey Jumper, Region 6 Firefighter
- Frank J. Zangari, Region 7 Firefighter
- Timothy Knapp, Region 8 Firefighter
- Tom O'Donnell, Region 9 Firefighter
- Jeremy Warkessel, IAFF Local 302 President
- Robert Brooks, PA Professional Firefighters Association President
- Steve Bair, PA Fire and Emergency Services Institute President
- David Padfield, PEMA Director
- Aaron M. Rhone, Department of Health EMS Director
- Adam Andrews, PA Association of Fire Equipment Distributors
- Nathan P. Silcox, PA State Association of Township Commissioners
- Sean Harris, Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee Executive Director
- Mike Hillman, House Democratic Exec Dir of the Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness
- Jerry Ozog, PFESI Executive Director
- Jeff Gaba, Senate Democratic Executive Director of Veterans Affairs Emergency Preparedness Committee
- Marissa Howl, House Democratic Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee
- Tom Gramling, PA State Association of Boroughs

Also in attendance were the following staff from the Office of the State Fire Commissioner's Office and PEMA

- Tom Cook, Assistant Fire Commissioner
- Robin Snyder, Secretary
- Mark Wineland, Wester Field Supervisor
- Douglas Snyder, Eastern Field Supervisor
- Tracie Young-Brungard, Recruitment and Retention Program Manager
- Letitia Sinclair, Grant and Loan Program Manager
- Christine Ludes, Administrative Officer

- David Smyth, Assistant Administrator at State Fire Academy Administrator
- Michael McBride, Acting Certification Manager
- Westburn Majors, PEMA Legislative and Policy Director
- Kristin Faust, PEMA Director of Intergovernmental Affairs
- Jeff Boyle, PEMA Deputy Director
- Ruth Miller, PEMA Communications Director
- Nicole Bordinaro, PEMA Attorney
- Isaac Gaylord, PEMA Assistant Counsel
- Josh Maus, PEMA Deputy Chief Counsel

### **III. Opening Remarks**

- Commissioner McGarvey welcomed all to the inaugural meeting of the Pennsylvania State Fire Advisory Board.

### **IV. Introductions**

### **V. Overview of the 911 Advisory Board by the Deputy Director of the Bureau of 911 at PEMA**

### **VI. Discussion of proposed By-Laws for the State Fire Advisory Board**

- Majority vote would equal majority plus one.
- No vote at this meeting because revisions are required.

### **VII. Discussion regarding future grants administered by the Office of the State Fire Commissioner Act 104 of 2022 – Wesburn Majors**

- Act 74 established only \$500,000 for both programs
  - Capital Grant Program for Municipal Fire Departments (7385)
  - Capital Grant Program for Emergency Trainings (7385.2)
- Concerns with the staff available to administer these grants

### **VIII. Future Agenda Items**

- Relief Funding Reform
- Registry of Fire Companies and Departments
  - Municipalities validate
- Establishing committees
  - Firefighter Cancer
  - Firefighter Injuries
  - Recruitment/Retention

### **IX. Future Meeting Dates**

- February, 2023
- May, 2023
- September, 2023
- November 2023

### **X. New Business**

- None

### **XI. Other Business/Public comment/Closing Remarks**

- End Date for submitting grant applications

- Contact list of departments for each region – we do not have a master list of fire companies through out the Commonwealth
- Crediting only one department for listing certified firefighters as incentive for training
- Tax credit for those who do not own a home in the municipality they serve.
- Please take part in the survey that will be sent to you from Melissa Piper – this will help us develop our strategic plan for the office.

**XII. Adjournment**

- Meeting adjourned at 11:22 a.m.