



**Minutes of the Meeting of the  
Fire Service Membership Council Governing Committee**

**Thursday, December 19, 2019  
1:30 p.m. EST**

**“Founded by Members to Serve our Members . . .  
Benefitting Communities Worldwide”**

<b>FSMC Governing Committee Members</b>	<b>Representing</b>	<b>Present</b>
Gary West -- Chair -- National Fire Sprinkler Association, Nashville, TN	NASFM	X
Randy Metz -- Vice Chair -- Carlsbad Fire Department, CA	IAFC:W	X
Fulton Cochran -- Clark County Fire Department, NV (Ret.)	ICC	X
Andy King -- Franklin Fire Department, TN	IAFC:SE	
Brian Sloat -- City of Fayetteville, AR	IAFC:SW	
Michael Desrochers -- State of Vermont Division of Fire Safety	NASFM	X
Joe McElvaney -- The Hiller Companies, Inc.	ICC	
TBD -- Appointment Pending --	IAFC:C	
Rick Boisvert -- Brighton Area Fire Authority, MI	IAFC:GL	X
Coy Porter -- Utah State Fire Marshal's Office	NASFM	X
Steve Swarthout -- Riverside County Fire Department, CA	ICC	X
Kelly Nicoello -- Underwriters Laboratories, TX	NASFM	X
Kara Gerczynski -- Elizabeth Fire Protection District, CO	IAFC:MV	X
Christine Reed -- Central County Fire Department, CA	ICC	X
Robert Buxton -- Hudson Fire Department, NH	IAFC:NE	
Joseph Fahd, Jr. -- Cohoes Fire Department, NY	IAFC:E	X
Timothy Diehl -- Global Fire Protection Group	ICC	X
Adolf Zubia -- A to Z Fire & Code Consulting, LLC, NM	ICC	X

<b>International Code Council (ICC) Staff and Liaisons</b>	<b>Present</b>
Angie Wiese -- ICC Director, FSMC Liaison to the ICC BOD -- Fire Safety Manager, St. Paul, MN	X
Karl Fippinger -- Vice President, Fire & Disaster Mitigation -- ICC	X
Dave Nichols -- Senior Regional Manager, Government Relations -- ICC	X

<b>Members/Guests Joining by Teleconference</b>	<b>Present</b>
Michael Kocab -- Captain - Willoughby (OH) Fire Department	X
Robby Dawson -- Southeast Regional Director -- NFPA	X
Page Dougherty -- Fire Protection Engineer II, Thornton (CO) Fire Department	X

FSMC Governing Committee Teleconference Meeting Agenda:

- 1) Call to Order/Roll Call/Welcome guests (West/Fippinger)
  - a) Note: If you would like your attendance noted and you are not a standing invitee, please email [kfippinger@iccsafe.org](mailto:kfippinger@iccsafe.org) and CC [dnichols@iccsafe.org](mailto:dnichols@iccsafe.org)
- 2) Opening Remarks from the Chair (West)
  - a) Time has flown by this year. This group has had lots of accomplishments. I'd like to thank all of you for your hard work and I'm looking forward to what we'll do next year.
- 3) Additions or Corrections to the Agenda
  - a) None
- 4) Approval of Minutes
  - a) November 21, 2019 Webex
    - i) Motion to accept: Adolf Zubia; Second: Randy Metz; Discussion: None; Approved unanimously
- 5) Reports from Officers (West/Metz)
  - a) Director Wiese
    - i) The [ICC Winter Board Meeting](#) was held December 5-6, 2019 in Barbados. This was the first international meeting of the Code Council board.
      - (1) In Barbados, code adoptions are the easy part. Code enforcement is the issue and the country isn't there yet. It was good for the board to hear their situation.
      - ii) Part of the board's agenda was to approve committees, including the Fire Code Action Committee (FCAC). As an overall statement the board expressed interest in getting new blood on to committees, particularly emerging leaders and others.
        - (1) The board directed the Codes and Standards Committee to nominate a good mix of new and seasoned people and not to miss opportunities for mentorship or succession planning.
        - (2) 5 seats were not ready to be appointed for FCAC during our board meeting. Those will be appointed during our next board teleconference in January.
      - iii) Chief Zubia voiced concern over the upcoming revisions to the ICC/IAFC MOU. Karl explained that the issue(s) the board is addressing with FCAC is not connected to the upcoming revisions to the ICC/IAFC MOU and provided examples of how the MOU will be enhanced to mutually benefit both organizations.
    - b) Chair's Report - Chief West
      - i) It is the Fire Service Membership Council's job to look after important things like nominations to FCAC and our agreements with other organizations. These are in a good place and I appreciate the discussion of these topics.
      - ii) We're going into a busy legislative season. Will talk about that later in the agenda. I appreciate Angie's help engaging on the high-rise fire sprinkler issue in Minneapolis.
    - c) Vice Chair's Report - Chief Metz
      - i) No report

- d) Staff liaison (Fippinger)
  - i) December 2-4, 2019 met with Austin (TX) Fire Department to discuss and offer assistance with their upcoming adoption of the International Wildland-Urban Interface Code (IWUIC)
    - (1) Also met with Nim Kidd, Chief of Texas Emergency Management
  - ii) December 9-10, 2019 represented the Code Council at the Truman Fire Forum Workgroup event in Washington, DC.
    - (1) The [Truman Fire Forum Report](#) was released on December 9<sup>th</sup>.
    - (2) The top five recommendations that are considered the most important strategies for meeting the needs, demands, and expectations of the fire service are:
      - (a) Integrate fire prevention and public education into the regular operations of the fire department.
      - (b) Use data, research, and science as a basis for improving fire prevention.
      - (c) Marry modern solutions with modern challenges and problems.
      - (d) Find new ways to leverage fire prevention safety efforts.
      - (e) Tell the fire prevention story.
    - (3) The Truman Fire Forum Workgroup worked prioritized the remaining 18 issues. Of those, here are how issues important to the Code Council and FSMC were prioritized:
      - (a) #11 - Define the role of the fire service community in wildland fire - emphasis has been on structural fires. Wider recognition of the wildfire problem.
      - (b) #15 - Educate the public on the importance of codes and standards and adopt them without change
      - (c) #18 - Involvement of the fire service in the fire and building code process and follow up adoption.
  - iii) December 10, 2019 represented the Code Council at the Congressional Fire Services Institute (CFSI) National Advisory Committee meeting
    - (1) The Code Council co-sponsored two of three resolutions adopted by the CFSI board of directors.
      - (a) [Copyright Protection for Code and Standards](#)
      - (b) [Smoke Alarms](#)
    - (2) A third resolution was also passed for [Home Fire Sprinklers](#)
  - iv) December 16, 2019 participated in the FSMC Emerging Issues and Trends Workgroup call.
  - v) December 18, 2019 represented the Code Council for the California State Fire Marshal's Office Chapter 7A WUI Task Group call.
  - vi) Vision 20/20 Update

- (1) Symposium 6 will be held February 17-20 in Murfreesboro, TN. Registration is open at [www.strategicfire.org](http://www.strategicfire.org).
  - (2) Released [evaluation report](#) covering over a decade of progress. Working with Vision 20/20 to consider a review of Strategy 5: Prevention Codes and Standards since much has changed over the past 5+ years since the findings for this section were published.
- vii) IAFC Update
- (1) Met with Chief O'Brian and Interim Executive Director, Rob Brown to discuss ICC/IAFC MOU on Monday December 16<sup>th</sup>. Revised draft to be sent to IAFC for discussion.
  - (2) Participated in Fire & Life Safety Section (FLSS) monthly call on December 18th
- 6) Reports from Special Committees
- a) Update on Ad-Hoc Committee on Building Safety and Security (Metz)
    - i) Had a check-in and update call this month to follow up from the in-person meeting in Minneapolis.
    - ii) Work groups continue to work on putting things together. Continuing to shape the project and deliverables.
    - iii) A handful of people on the committee are doing the majority of the work. We are working to address that. For example, Coy Porter is on the committee and is contributing a lot to the effort.
- 7) Unfinished Business
- a) 2019 Work Group Updates
    - i) Chairman's Project (West/Metz)
      - (1) Since Chief King is not able to join us today, I'll be combining his membership report into my report.
      - (2) We recently learned of some interesting numbers from ICC:
        - (a) Of the ICC's 8,591 primary contacts representing Governmental members, 1,824 (21%) have the word "fire" in their title or organization name.
        - (b) Of the ICC's 15,284 voting members, 3,853 (25%) have the word "fire" in their title or organization name.
      - (3) These numbers reflect that the fire service comprises roughly one quarter of the ICC's voting members.
        - (a) Kelly Nicoletto: Is the Vote the Code campaign aimed at the fire service at all?  
Chief West: It's a broad brush, bigger issue than just the fire service.
        - (b) Karl noted that the Vote the Code materials were included as an appendix to the November 2019 FSMC minutes for reference.
        - (c) Chief Metz reminded the group that CDP Access is often looking at only less than 100 or so voting members online. We need to help push this at the state level to get the word out.

- ii) Training and Education (Gerczynski)
  - (1) Reorganizing the committee and adding some new folks. Thanks to Rick Boisvert for showing interest in joining the committee. If FSMC members or other interested parties would like to join the committee, please contact me at: [kara@elizabethfire.org](mailto:kara@elizabethfire.org)
  - (2) Louisiana Fire Marshal, Butch Browning has agreed to come on board for the ICC annual conference to present on the Hard Rock Hotel structural collapse in New Orleans.
  - (3) Looking forward to moving forward with emerging issues from Mike Desrochers' group.
- iii) Member Recruitment (King)
  - (1) See Chairman's Project report above.
- iv) Public Awareness (Reed)
  - (1) Hoping to have the construction site fire safety document out by our January meeting.
  - (2) Received the emerging issue form for from Mike Desrochers for comment. Will get that in front of the committee and back to Mike.
  - (3) Like Kara's group, we are reorganizing our committee for 2020. If members or other interested parties are interested in joining the committee, please email Chief Reed at: [creed@ccfd.org](mailto:creed@ccfd.org).
  - (4) We may want to consider a targeted email to solicit new members for FSMC committees during next month's meeting.
- v) Emerging Issues and Trends (Desrochers)
  - (1) Held a committee meeting on Monday December 16, 2019. Reviewed six new issues:
    - (a) Carbon monoxide in existing hotels
    - (b) Firefighter cancer
    - (c) Peer support - suicide prevention
    - (d) Solar panels
    - (e) Ultra-low NOx water heaters and potential fire hazards
    - (f) Energy code-related air tight construction
- 8) New Business
  - a) Chief West and Karl offered an overview of current legislation begin tracked by the Code Council, National Fire Sprinkler Association and the [Congressional Fire Services Institute](#).
    - i) Chief Metz commented that the Cal Chiefs legislative committee is reviewing state legislation for all things fire. Affordable housing units mandate is a big issue. Also looking at how accessory dwelling units affect fire department access and fire protection.
  - b) Fire Marshal Desrochers, chair of the FSMC Nominating Committee, reported that the committee is comprised of himself, Chief Reed, and Tim Diehl.
    - i) Nominations were requested following the November meeting of the FSMC Governing

Committee. Chiefs West and Metz expressed interest in continuing as chair and vice chair of the FSMC. No other nominations or applications were received.

- ii) Fire Marshal Desrochers made a motion to re-elect Chief West and Chief Metz to their positions as chair and vice chair. The motion was seconded by Christine Reed.
  - (1) Discussion: Chief Zubia commented that he approved, but another member of the governing committee should have made the motion.
  - (2) Chief Metz commented that he and Chief West deferred to Fire Marshal Desrochers as Chair of the Nominating Committee to conduct the vote.
  - (3) Result: The motion passed unanimously. Congratulations to Chief West and Chief Metz for being re-elected chair and vice chair of the Fire Service Membership Council.

9) Next Meeting

- a) Thursday, January 16, 2020 @ 1:30 p.m. EST

10) Questions/Comments from the Audience

- a) None heard

11) Good of the Order

- a) Congratulations and a sincere thank you to those members transitioning off the FSMC Governing Committee. Thank you for your support and contributions.

12) Adjourn

- a) Motion: Chief Zubia; Second: Chief Reed; Discussion: None; Result: Passed unanimously

Gary West, Chair  
2019 FSMC Governing Committee

Randy Metz, Vice-Chair  
2019 FSMC Governing Committee

**2020 FSMC Meeting Schedule**

Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
16	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
WebEx	WebEx	WebEx	DC	WebEx	WebEx	WebEx	WebEx	WebEx	ABM	WebEx	WebEx

For questions or additional information, contact:

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