



Georgia Fire Sprinkler Association

P.O. Box 661 Grayson, GA 30017

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 13, 2007

The February meeting was held at the Marriott Perimeter Center at 10:30 AM on Tuesday, February 13, 2007. Jeff Trew opened the meeting by requesting prayer followed by welcoming our guest speaker Dave LeBlanc of Tyco Fire and Building Products.

Approval of Minutes: The meeting minutes from the January meeting had been previously emailed to the membership and were available at the welcome table. They were accepted.

Treasurer's Report: John Pahr was not present. The checking account balance was \$11,736.08.

Executive Director's Report / Georgia State Fire Marshal: Billy Wood. Billy and Bobby attended a 120-3-3 meeting and, along with Bob Griffith, an Advisory Council meeting. Billy asked Dwayne to outline the results of the Advisory Council meeting. Dwayne reported of the Council's intent to recommend the following to the Commissioner: 1) Clarify and tighten the Regulations to require inspectors to operate only under the Contractor to whom the inspector is licensed under. 2) Revise the concept of the apprentice inspector's license and incorporate some form of practical testing to prove competency. The practical testing would be done at the State Training facility in Forsyth, using the equipment which was previously used at Gwinnett Tech for apprenticeship training. 3) Waivers for inspectors would continue to be reviewed on a case by case basis, reviewing progress made with NICET testing. 4) NICET Certification may be required, where in the past the only requirement was to pass the elements necessary for a NICET level 3. 5) Enforcing the \$250 penalty for those who submitted their application after January 1. The Insurance Commissioner recently fined a company \$2000 for illegal activity last year. 6) The creation of a flow chart outlining the process of how the State will handle complaints. 7) The revision to the complaint form provided by the State.

Dwayne reviewed the results of the 2006 training classes at Forsyth and discussed plans for the 2007 classes. He also reviewed the results of the 120-3-3 meeting and will work on a report.

Codes and Standards: Harry Alexander. Harry spoke with Tommy McCullers with the Gwinnett County Fire Services about fire hose valves in tenant finish projects. Gwinnett County will be requiring the valves be supplied from adjacent systems. Harry asked for legal council regarding the removal of inspection tags because of non-payment. Scott Zucker suggested wording the contract to say you have the right to withhold the tag until payment is received, if you think this is the incentive to be paid. Scott also suggested communicating with the AHJ.

Harry also spoke with Mr. J.W. Holbrook, the chief building official with the City of Cummings. Mr. Holbrook is adamant if you add or relocate 20 or more sprinklers you will pressure test the system. Harry asked Mr. Holbrook for a copy of the code and is waiting for a response. Mike Saade said there is nothing in the State Regulations which would require this.



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Ask the Attorney: Scott Zucker distributed information titled “Paper the Project”. Document the facts and conditions as they arise to all necessary parties. Letters, facsimiles or emails are sufficient. Scott just finished a case where the sub-contractor got hammered because they did not document delays.

Regarding single family construction, Senate Bill 65 is being talked about now and will change the payments on single family real estate to contractors. The proposed lien waiver, which the property owner will have to sign, states the contractor has paid everyone. This bill is not good for residential contractors. This will be posted in the “members only” section on the GFSA web site.

Scott suggested we let everyone know in advance the meetings are being recorded.

Scott also said to let him know if anyone has questions and he will do his best to attend.

Scholarship / Essay Contest / Education: Asa reported on the need for a topic for the 2007 Essay Contest and we will ask the membership for ideas. Bob Hodge reviewed the topics and speakers for the July training at Forsyth. Dwayne suggested we push for more industry and contractor attendance at the training.

Membership: Jeff welcomed Ryan Lundy with ITW BuildX as a new member.

Apprenticeship Training: Banks reviewed the progress of the current class and reminded everyone that new classes will be starting in September. In August we will be asking if you would consider enrolling your apprentices or young field personnel. All of the information is on line.

Open Forum: Jeff welcomed the visiting fire officials and reminded everyone “continuing professional development” certificates are available on the welcome table for those who attend the meeting. These will allow for one hour of credit for renewing NICET certification.

AFSA Liaison: Bob Hodge: The AFSA is now accepting applications for the national Apprenticeship competition. All information is on the AFSA web site.

SFPE: Jeff Trew noted the SFPE offered the GFSA a free booth at the March 6 seminar at the Gwinnett Civic Center. Registration forms are available for seminar participants or vendors to display products.

Activities: Jeff reminded everyone of the summer outing on June 15-17 at the Brasstown Valley Resort. Registration forms will be emailed and posted on the web site. The Memorial Golf Tournament is confirmed at Laurel Springs on October 15, 2007. Adam Owens will be the point person for the Golf Tournament.

Old Business: None.



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New Business: Renewal notices were emailed and available at the welcome table. The cut off date has past. Jeff reported on the efforts of Camden County is attempting to draft a residential ordinance. The fire officials are asking for donations of residential devices.

Mike Saade of the Georgia State Financing & Investment Commission, the agency which oversees construction for State facilities, reminded everyone the COC holder is responsible by law for the drawings which are submitted to any AHJ. The majority of the drawings which are being submitted are not meeting the requirements of the NFPA standards and Mike is asking COC holders to take a serious look at all drawings submitted for AHJ review. Dwayne reminded everyone of the hydraulic design requirements for using flexible drops. Mike cautioned contractors to read the literature on extended coverage sprinklers. The light hazard listing may not apply when sprinklers are spaced at 20 x 20. A discussion followed.

Program:

Dave LeBlanc, director of engineered systems with Tyco Fire Products, presented details on Quell Technology titled “The application of performance based design principles to water based suppression systems.” Dave provided details on the Quell system, a fully engineered system, and details on the testing at UL. Dave provided details on some of the over fifteen full scale fire tests and the fire modeling done.

Quell is not really a system but a design methodology. Quell is applied by using different components. The system is specified by the owner or engineer. Because it is a design methodology which is not yet recognized by NFPA 13, the AHJ must be consulted for each proposed application.

A contractor must be licensed by Tyco in order to offer the Quell technology. The reason is the design of these systems is very complicated. Contractors who practice the Quell technology must have their estimators and designers trained by Tyco and are required to have a licensed registered PE on staff. The contractor will invest a lot in the bid process because in order to determine how many systems are on the job, you have to design the project.

A key for the designer is to have a tool such as Tyco’s FTP program which allows them to predict water transit time and time to full system pressure prior to installing the system. Water delivery time is considered to be met when the system is up to design pressure.

This type of performance based design or a system “engineered for a purpose” may be more common in the future.

Business Practice Exchange Information: No report.

Adjournment



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Location: MARIOTT

Date: 2-13-07

| Name | Company | Phone |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. <u>Billy Wood</u> | <u>GFSA</u> | |
| 2. <u>Jeff Quilley</u> | <u>Alpharetta Fire</u> | |
| 3. <u>Bobby McCounghe</u> | <u>ATLANTA SPRINKLER</u> | <u>678 730 4312</u> |
| 4. <u>David Morris</u> | <u>Alpharetta Fire</u> | <u>678-297-6274</u> |
| 5. <u>Rich Rutherford</u> | <u>ALPHA FIRE PROT.</u> | <u>706 262 9971</u> |
| 6. <u>ERIC LITSCHNER</u> | <u>ACCURATE FIRE</u> | <u>770-466-4888</u> |
| 7. <u>Jeff Traw</u> | <u>Vitins Supply Net</u> | <u>404 210 0131</u> |
| 8. <u>FLOYD THOMAS</u> | <u>Reliable</u> | <u>770-931-9700</u> |
| 9. <u>STEVE ABBOTT</u> | <u>AT+T SPRINKLER</u> | <u>770-474-7282</u> |
| 10. <u>Paul Bonnell</u> | <u>Sunstates fab</u> | <u>770-312-7871</u> |
| 11. <u>NORMAN PRICE</u> | <u>CLASSIC</u> | <u>678 977 9804</u> |
| 12. <u>Scott Downey</u> | <u>CHALLENGE FIRE PROT.</u> | <u>770-682-0692</u> |
| 13. <u>ADAM PICKETT</u> | <u>INTERIOR FIRE PROT.</u> | <u>770-831-7978</u> |
| 14. <u>JIM FARRIS</u> | <u>HM SUPPLY</u> | |
| 15. <u>BOB GRIFFITH</u> | <u>WSC</u> | <u>7-2426673</u> |
| 16. <u>Scott Zucker</u> | <u>William & Zucker</u> | <u>404-354-4626</u> |
| 17. <u>Bob Hogan</u> | <u>AMES</u> | <u>770-596-1200</u> |
| 18. <u>DWAYNE GARRISS</u> | <u>SFMD</u> | <u>404-657-1168</u> |
| 19. <u>Sherrie Clark</u> | <u>SFMD</u> | <u>404 656 0418</u> |
| 20. <u>Joe Miller (Haly) (BANKS)</u> | <u>AFFORDABLE FIRE</u> | <u>770-460-5962</u> |
| 21. <u>MIKE SAADIE</u> | <u>GFSFIC</u> | <u>404-463-5688</u> |
| 22. <u>JAN ELLISON</u> | <u>DEKALB FMD</u> | <u>404-341-4963</u> |
| 23. <u>HARRY ALEXANDER</u> | <u>STATE SPRINKLER</u> | <u>770-740-0531</u> |



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| Name | Company | Phone |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 24. Mitch Brevill | Amul Star | |
| 25. ASA TUTTEN | HRS Systems Inc | 770 934 8423 |
| 26. Anthony Spencer | BlazeMaster | 678 863 3678 |
| 27. SAM BEALIS | SMB&A | 770 491 0610 |
| 28. Dave LeBlanc | Tyco F&B prod | 401 369 0551 |
| 29. CHARLES GRINOLE | METRO FIRE PROT | 678 947 5998 |
| 30. DON W. WILLIAMS | GFBF | (404) 446-8031 |
| 31. RYAN LUNDY | ITW BULDEX | (404) 695-5924 |
| 32. PAPA WATSON | HD Supply | 770 414-1217 |
| 33. JIM FARRIP | HY SUPPLY | 770-414-1212 |
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