



Georgia Fire Sprinkler Association

P.O. Box 661 Grayson, GA 30017

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

The March meeting was held at the Marriott Perimeter Center at 10:30 AM on Tuesday, March 13, 2007. Jeff Trew opened the meeting by requesting prayer followed by welcoming our guest speaker Ryan Lundy of ITW Buildex and Dan Morgan and Megan Atherton from DRI. Jeff let everyone know the meeting was being recorded for the purpose of accurate meeting minutes.

Approval of Minutes: The meeting minutes from the February meeting had been previously emailed to the membership and were available at the welcome table. The minutes of the February were not accepted based on some in attendance not having time to read them.

Treasurer's Report: John Pahr \$21,345.79 plus checks. John asked everyone to please submit your dues as soon as possible.

Executive Director's Report: Billy Wood attended an advisory council meeting on February 27 specifically to review affidavits sent in by inspectors. About 50% of the affidavits were rejected. Billy suggested we keep training on top of our priority lists to prevent us from running out of sources for design and inspection.

On Saturday, April 21, the Boy Scouts are having a "Scout Blast" at the Gwinnett County fairgrounds and they are asking the GFSA to display the sprinkler demonstration trailer. Please contact Billy if you would like to volunteer to demonstrate the trailer.

Other activity which will be in need of volunteers is the July Fire Safety Symposium, the August US Fire Marshal's Association Convention (expecting about 100 people) and the August International Fire Chief's Association (expecting about 15,000 people), both of which will be in Atlanta and both of which the State has asked us to participate in. The State has asked for our support and we don't want to let them down. We are a model State regarding our industries relationship with the Fire Marshal's Office.

Jeff asked to discuss the GFSA's involvement with the training classes at the State's Fire Safety Symposium in July. Dwayne had previously indicated the involvement from the fire officials may not be as high as it was in 2006. Bob Hodge pointed out the possibility of an AFSA Chapter grant for this activity. Scott Donnelly said it is fine to help the State but with the condensed amount of contractors on the north side of Atlanta and nearer to the Reliable office, it may better serve our industry to have the training at the Reliable office. The end result of the discussion was to poll the member and non-member contractors throughout the State and ask which date would be preferable and how many would attend. Jeff is writing a letter to the State offering for the GFSA to donate the material and labor to install the necessary training equipment at the State training facility in Forsyth.

Dwayne said the State is intending to adopt the latest version of the NFPA standards.

The GFSA's booth at the SFPE conference was well attended. Jeff thanked the SFPE for offering the booth at no cost.



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Codes and Standards: Harry Alexander researched the requirements for testing partial systems and is intending to contact Mr. Holbrook in Forsyth County and present him with the requirements directly out of the standard.

Harry asked for everyone to provide comments on a letter to be sent to various municipalities around the State with the intention of starting an accumulation of the code amendments each of the municipalities has. The letter requests 1) any adopted ordinances concerning fire sprinklers, 2) any properly adopted rules and regulations for the particular jurisdiction, 3) any specific forms for plan submittal, 4) plan review or permit fees, 5) contact information for plan review and inspection, and 6) special inspection procedures.

Harry is seeking clarification from Cobb County whether an inspection is required for threaded system. Cobb's printed procedures imply an inspection is required for all piping.

Earlier in the month, Bobby McCullough sent an email to sprinkler contractors requesting suggestions on how to respond to a local fire official's request for the options available now that NFPA 20 has severely restricted the use of the main relief valve. Please email Bobby if you have a suggestion.

Alden Spencer reported that earlier in the year Cobb County was drafting a single family ordinance which included the retrofit for dormitories. This ended up failing at the County Commission two weeks ago. One of the big issues was the price per square foot. The same thing happened recently in Tennessee where contractors who really didn't want to do the work were offering prices two to three times higher than the going rate on residential properties, which caused the home builders to go to the State with their lobbyists and ask to re-write the State codes to allow plumbers to do the work. In Georgia plumbers can already install residential systems. If sprinkler contractors inflate a quote for residential systems the trend may be for an increase in installations by plumbing contractors.

Jeff reported on an article in World Plumbing Review which reported on an Oregon program which is geared to training plumbers and promotes the profit center of offering plumbing based sprinkler system.

A discussion took place about various residential issues.

The issue was brought up regarding Cherokee County and their current plan review process. Cherokee is sending all sprinkler submittals, including tenant finish projects, to Rolf Jenson & Associates for review. One contractor has waited seven weeks for a plan review for a 36 head add and relocate project, turning uprights to pendants. Most employees at the County are very friendly and helpful but said their hands are tied and the issue must be taken up with the County Director, who does not respond to property owners or contractors. According to House Bill 1385, which was passed last year, if Cherokee (or any municipality) requires a permit they are supposed to, with few exceptions, provide a letter to you stating they will have the plan review complete within 30 business days. If they cannot provide this service, they have to inform you in writing and this gives you the opportunity to get a third party review, and they have to accept that review.

Discussions followed on photo identification for inspectors and COC holders, the revised complaint form from the State, the definition of a full time employee and a licensed COC holder and the enforcement of the same, and the enforcement of the Site Supervision Certificate.



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Ask the Attorney: No questions.

Essay Contest: Three topics have been suggested and will be presented to the Board for a decision.

New Member: Adco Fire Protection has joined as a new member.

Apprenticeship: Banks reminded everyone the new classes will begin in September.

Old Business: If you would like to attend the Summer Outing, registration forms are on the welcome table and on the web site.

New Business: Make sure your dues are paid for printing of the directory. Jeff shared new information regarding an issue concerning the springs inside Combraco DDC valves which does not permit the valve to obtain full flow. This causes the valve to lose its USC certification. Dwight asked about having an additional golf tournament listed on the web site. The Board had previously decided not to open up the site to this because of the maintenance of the web site.

Program: Ryan Lundy, the national account sale representative for the south east or ITW Buildex gave a presentation on their products, which includes Sammy Screws and Speedy Products. Ryan outlined current and new products, included anchors for concrete, steel and wood, as well as the installation of the same. This included the swivel attachment, which self taps into wood or steel, and, by over torquing, will snap and allow for a 17 degree angle, allowing the hanger rod to remain straight and vertical in many cases. Ryan explained how the pole tool, which is in various lengths from 6' to 24', can assist in the installation of most vertical Sammy Screws.

Georgia State Fire Marshal: Regarding the July Symposium in Forsyth, Dwayne Garriss discussed the GFSA hosting a round table discussion with various AHJs on local ordinances. This is scheduled on Thursday, July 18, from 9:30 to 12:00. This is an excellent opportunity for contractors and AHJs to educate each other.

Business Practice Exchange Information: No Report

Door prizes were given to Dan Morgan, Asa Tuten and Charles Grindle.

The meeting was adjourned approximately 12:10 PM.



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Location: MARRIOTT

Date: 3-13-07

Name	Company	Phone
1. <u>Billy Ward</u>	<u>GFSA</u>	<u>404 226 8304</u>
2. <u>Jeff Trow</u>	<u>Viking Supply Nct</u>	<u>404 210 0131</u>
3. <u>BOBBY McCUNOUGH</u>	<u>ATLANTA SPRINKLER</u>	<u>678 730 4312</u>
4. <u>Brad Baswell</u>	<u>Sunstates fab</u>	<u>770-312-7871</u>
5. <u>Alida Sp...</u>	<u>TYCO FIRE</u>	<u>770 946 0054</u>
6. <u>ERIC LITSCHAUER</u>	<u>ACCURATE FIRE</u>	<u>770-488-4888</u>
7. <u>Randy Harrington</u>	<u>ACCURATE FIRE</u>	<u>770-466-4888</u>
8. <u>Dan Morgan</u>	<u>DRI</u>	<u>770-916-1080</u>
9. <u>Megan Atherton</u>	<u>DRI</u>	<u>770-916-1080</u>
10. <u>ADAM PICKETT</u>	<u>INTERIOR FIRE PROTECTION</u>	<u>770-831-7978</u>
11. <u>Floyd Thomas</u>	<u>Reliable</u>	<u>770-931-9200</u>
12. <u>Tim Furr</u>	<u>HI7 SUPPLY</u>	<u>770-414-1272</u>
13. <u>RALPH WATSON</u>	<u>HI7 SUPPLY</u>	<u>"</u>
14. <u>JOHN PAHR</u>	<u>AMERICAN FAB</u>	<u>678 232-9495</u>
15. <u>Mitch Beul</u>	<u>AmiStar</u>	<u>205-821-0974</u>
16. <u>Stephen Duckworth</u>	<u>Repro Sales of Ga</u>	<u>678-873-0679</u>
17. <u>HARRY ALEXANDER</u>	<u>STATS Spr</u>	<u>770-740-0531</u>
18. <u>BANKS HALEY</u>	<u>AFFORDABLE FIRE</u>	<u>770-734-0061</u>
19. <u>Scott DONNELLY</u>	<u>CHALLENGE FIRE</u>	<u>770-681-0692</u>
20. <u>DON W. WILLIAMS</u>	<u>GA. FF. BURN F</u>	<u>404 320-6223</u>
21. <u>Asa Tuton</u>	<u>HRS Systems</u>	<u>770-934-8423</u>
22. <u>RYAN LUNDY</u>	<u>I/W BUILDEX</u>	<u>(404)695-5924</u>
23. <u>BILL McRAE</u>	<u>PROTECH FIRE</u>	<u>770/843-3973</u>



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Name	Company	Phone
24. ADAM OWENS	VIKING	628-350-8702
25. NIGHT KIKER	KEK DESIGN	906-429-0029
26. Sherie Clark	State Fire Marshal	404-656/0918
27. Gary Singleton	AMERICAN FABRICATION	678-201-5317
28. CHARLES BRINOLE	METRO FIRE PROTECTION	678-947-5992
29. DWAYNE GARRISS	SFMO	404-657-1168
30. SHERRIE CLARK	STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE	404-656-0418
31. BRANDON FOLSE	AFP	770-734-0001
32. JOSH STEPHENS	AFP	770-734-0001
33. Don Carlness	ORR	404-316-0816
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