



# Maryland Fire Chiefs Association

## Safety and Health Committee

### Minutes of meeting held February 28, 2024

The Safety and Health Committee of the Maryland Fire Chiefs Association held a meeting on February 28, 2024, at 1920 hours, via Zoom. Members of the committee present were:

David Lewis, Chairman  
Dick Devore  
Dave Black  
Joe Chornock

My apologies to those who tried to join in but were unable. I have been using my UMGC Zoom account but recently lost access to that account. I had those that I could reach move over to my personal account, but I know that left a few people out of the meeting.

The special edition of Back Step Talks was released on February 27. I have already received several positive notes concerning this edition. Thanks to those who developed the content for this special issue.

This committee meeting was scheduled to discuss the status of articles for the April issue of Back Step Talks. The following topics and writing assignments were identified at our January meeting. Most of the content has already been written (highlighted) so we are well ahead of this issue.

- Overview of the LSI#9 goals – Dave Reid
- Honoring our fallen – NFFF service in May, Maryland LODD's in 2023 – Dave Reid
- Guest article – Joe Chornock to ask Billy G to write something for us.
- Department actions in the event of an LODD (including MSFA Trustees, LAST support, and PSOB requirements – John Long
- What's Really Killing Our Firefighters – Dave Lewis to contact Lexipol for permission to reprint an article posted on their website (they have approved)
- Overview of the Everyone Goes Home program – Dave Lewis
- Encourage a Culture of Self Reporting so everyone learns – Jon Johnson
- Reduce the risk of cancer and cardiovascular disease through high dietary fiber – Rhonda Cohen
- Near-Miss reporting as an opportunity to learn – Dave Black

The committee discussed whether there was a need to write articles on recent incidents - alternative fueled vehicles (Los Angeles incident) and responding to gas leaks (Loudon County incident). It was decided that there were some sensitive issues involving these incidents and we should not engage in Monday morning quarterbacking them until formal communications is released from the jurisdictions effected.

The upcoming schedule for committee actions is:

March 10 – Inputs due for April issue

March 21 – Draft released to committee for review

March 25 – Meet by Zoom to review April draft

April 1 – Release of Back Step Talks

April 22 – Committee meeting to begin planning for July newsletter

The committee will meet again (via Zoom) on Monday, March 25, at 7pm. We will be moving the meeting to the MFCA Zoom account.

Maryland Fire Chiefs is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87093065545?pwd=SVc1eERQXVRZDJVQkk2R1BEcHh4dz09>

Meeting ID: 870 9306 5545

Passcode: 890937

Thanks again for everyone's continued support and participation.

The meeting was adjourned at 1945 hours.

Submitted by: David Lewis, Chairman