



# Maryland Fire Chiefs Association

## Safety and Health Committee

### Minutes of meeting held March 31, 2026

The Safety and Health Committee of the Maryland Fire Chiefs Association met on March 31, 2026, via Zoom.

Members of the committee present were

David Lewis, Chairman  
Christopher Caisse  
Joe Chornock  
Dick Devore  
David Reid  
Pete Mellits

The meeting was scheduled to review the final draft of the April edition of Back Step Talks. Comments were collected, and the final draft was revised for publication on April 1.

The committee discussed what actions should be taken for the future of Back Step Talks. We have released 32 editions of the newsletter, and it is getting national-level distribution. There were some questions about how much it is actually read. There is no way to actually measure readership and the impact we are making. However, feedback from some readers states that the content of our newsletter is valuable. We can only hope that we are reaching a large group of responders and leaders.

When we first started, the goal was to produce a newsletter of two to three pages. We have exceeded that goal, with most issues being 10-12 pages. For future issues, the committee decided to reduce the number of articles to 3 or 4 to bring the page count down. Having too long of a newsletter may cause some readers to turn away without reading the entire issue.

The committee started a discussion on what should be covered in the July issue. After tossing around several ideas, we decided to hold that decision for the next meeting. All committee members are encouraged to attend and be prepared to discuss ideas for the next issue.

We will meet next on Monday, April 13, at 7 pm, via Zoom. The meeting link for this meeting is:

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

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84431641403?pwd=iKSajnpXn2gni5tDnXKV1ppTutOpei.1>

Meeting ID: 844 3164 1403

Passcode: 090381

Thanks to all committee members for your continued support.

Submitted by: David Lewis, Chairman