

**STATE FIRE PREVENTION COMMISSION
MINUTES
Public Hearing on Amendments to
COMAR 29.06.01 State Fire Prevention Code
March 31, 2025**

Members present: Edward S. Tochterman, Chairman
Caroll Spriggs, Vice Chairman
Mark Hopkins
Jerred Johnson
Ephraim Siff
Eric Smothers

Absent: Randy Sanger
Daniel Stevens

Vacancy: Washington-Metro Area/Industry

The Fire Prevention Commission held a public hearing on March 31, 2025, at the Laurel Municipal Center, 8103 Sandy Spring Road, Laurel, Prince George's County.

Chairman Tochterman called the hearing to order. The pledge of allegiance was recited

Also present at the meeting were Chief Fire Protection Engineer Kenneth Bush with Office of the State Fire Marshal and Terin Hopkins with the National Fire Sprinkler Association.

Due to a conflict in the publication dates in the *Maryland Register*, today's hearing is the second on proposed amendments to the State Fire Prevention Code and to adopt the 2024 editions of *NFPA 101 Life Safety Code* and *NFPA 1 Fire Code*.

The Chairman invited anyone wishing to testify or asks questions to place their name and contact information on the sign-in sheet. No one responded. The meeting was paused until 10:10 a.m. to allow time for anyone to sign-in.

The Chairman acknowledged the only written public comment was the letter previously received from Terin Hopkins. In response to a procedural inquiry, Chairman Tochterman noted that it would not be appropriate for the Commission members to discuss possible options after the public hearing. Having a quorum, any discussion of options would need to be held in open public and not be held off the record in a closed session. The Commission will take a formal vote on the amendments at its April 17th regular meeting which will be held at the Laurel Municipal Center.

There being no further questions, comments, or testimony, motion by Vice Chairman Spriggs, second by Commissioner Hopkins, and unanimously carried to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 10:14 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
(as summarized from transcript provided by eScribers),



Heidi Ritchie, Secretary