SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

MEETING MINUTES
Hosted by City of Sebastopol Fire Department
Sebastopol Station 1 - May 12, 2010
Meeting begins at 9:30

Attendance:
- Bill Braga, SFD/REDCOM
- Bob Uboldi, Kenwood
- Bruce Varner, Santa Rosa
- Chuck Absheer, Cal Fire
- Dan Northern, Forestville
- Dick Luttrell, REDCOM
- Doug Williams, Rincon Valley
- Larry Anderson, Petaluma
- John Zanzi, Sebastopol
- Kent Coxon, SCEMS
- Tony Walls, Fire Safe Sonoma
- Jack Rosevear, Rohnert Park
- John Lantz, Geyserville
- Paul Pigoni, Geyserville
- Randy Collins, Healdsburg
- Sean Grinnell, Bodega Bay
- Erne Loveless, Cal Fire
- Peter Van Fleet, Glen Ellen
- Andy Pforsich, Gold Ridge
- Mark Aston, SCDFES
- John Evans, CHP
- Sean Sullivan, SLS

Call to Order:
- Chief Collins called the meeting to order at 9:38 am

Host Chief Introduction:
- Made by Chief Zanzi

Approval of Minutes:
- Motioned by Chief Williams seconded by Chief Pforsich, approved unanimously.

President's Report:
- The presentation from County regarding information on 700 MH radio system and strategic radio plan has been postponed and will be re-scheduled for the June meeting.

Treasurer’s Report as of January 31st 2010:

- Chiefs Checking Account: $2,191.72 (As of 4/30/10)
- W&O Fund 7 Month CD: $115,980.89 (As of 4/13/10)
- W&O Checking Account: $17,646.84 (As of 4/30/10)

Total: $135,819.45
• A reminder that the SCFCA Dues for 2010 are due.

Correspondence: None

Presentations:

• Radio System Strategic Plan/700 MHz System: Rescheduled for the June Meeting.

Committee Reports: (Share what was not included in any minutes that have already been published)

• Training Section: Chief Treanor – MAD Drill went well.

• Prevention Section: Chief Zanzi – Last meeting April 21st. Presentation on photovoltaic systems. County Wide adoption of the fire code is moving along. FPOs are looking a county wide system for marking hydrants and water systems.

• Operations Section: Chief Lantz – Next meeting May 17, 2010 at 10:00 at the Santa Rosa Tower.

• District Chiefs: Chief Northern - Next meeting May 27th at the Villa Restaurant, 3901 Montgomery Drive. Hosted by Rincon Valley. RSVP to Rincon Valley by May 21.

• Volunteer FF Association: Chief Collins – No meeting since the joint meeting in April.

• REDCOM: Director Luttrell / Reese/Braga – REDCOM is ready to fire season. DOAG Meeting scheduled for May 25th is a night meeting. Dinner at 6 pm meeting at 7 pm.

• CAD Group: Chief Williams – No meetings since the last Chiefs Meeting, next meeting in about a month.

• Cal EMA Operational Area: Chief Williams – There will be a Region 2 meeting in Dublin on May 14th. With Chief Abshear retiring a replacement will be appointed by Chief Williams with input from the SCFCA Eboard. A Zone Chief’s meeting has been scheduled for May 26, 2010 at 9:00 am in Windsor. Region 2 has been split into two division with Marvin Howard being assigned to the north division. The CICCS Workshop will be held on June 15, 2010 in 10:00 at the Petaluma Community Center.

• County DES: Chief Aston – The latest STL list with certifications has been sent out by Chief Aston on behalf of the CICCS Peer Review Committee. Any questions should be sent to Chief Aston by email, maston@sonoma-county.org.

• EMCC: Kent Coxon – Next meeting will be on July 26, 2010. SCSO Henry 1 has put together a helicopter safety and orientation day on May 19, 2010, from 13:00 to 15:30 at Kaiser Air ramp, 2240 Airport Blvd. Several local helicopters will be present. Next week is EMS week there will be an event at Benzinger Winery.

Chief Zanzi – Memorial Hospital has been re-designated as a trauma center. The new MCI Plan is out for comments. Dean Anderson will be working on more clearly defining the role EMCC at the County level.

• Legislative: Chief Collins – There may be a need to send a letter, from the SCFCA, supporting the DL-70 Legislation. Chief Collins will draft the letter and send it at the appropriate time.
**Grants:** Chief Zanzi – The Gang of 5 will be meeting in the first week of June to discuss the disbursement of the Homeland Security Grant Funds. They plan to refine the process of submitting requests to focus on established priorities that are County wide. After further discussion Chief Collins summarized that spending 30K for mapping with the remainder to be spent on narrow banding radios, station paging and pagers was the preference of the SCFCA. The Radio Committee, under the DOAG, will look at the pager options, two tone vs. five tone.

**SRJC Advisory:** Chiefs Williams and Collins – JC has been able to keep all of its Fire Technology degree programs.

**CHP Liaison:** Officer Evans – Everything is going well. Currently working on the Burn Run to be held on May 14, 2010.

**Red Cross:** Roger Doncaster – No Report

**Marin Chiefs Liaison:** Chief Northern – No Report

**Old Business:**

- **Update on the Fire Chief's Web Site:** Chiefs Zanzi and Abshear are waiting for Mike Johnson SRS, to get back with information regarding the cost of upgrades.

- **Active Status Keeping - STL and STLT:** Up for a vote to accept the concept as presented at the April meeting. Motion by Chief Pforsich second by Chief Varner, approved unanimously.

**New Business:**

- **Chief Collins:** Discussed the possibility of submitting a County wide AFG Grant to address the pager, radio and station alerting needs due to the narrow banding issue. There are AFG Grants that have been successful in this area and an previous grant written for Sonoma County is available as a sample. Funding would be needed to support the grant writing process due to time constraints. A decision was made to utilize Bill Braga and Dick Luttrell to write the grant. Funds to support the grant writing process will be shared by all agencies. The grant will not be written with a specific vendor or model in mind. The Department of Fire and Emergency Services will be the sponsoring agency should the grant be successful.

**Improving Efficiency:**

- New agenda item to discuss issues in which we can save money or improve efficiency by sharing ideas or resources between agencies.

  Chief Grinnell: Bodega Bay has signed an agreement for Administrative Services with Windsor Fire District.

  Chief Collins: Zone 6 is considering a Battalion 6 Concept similar to Zone 7.

  Chief Williams: Still interested in considering a County wide fire agency JPA.

**Customer Service:**

- **Kent Coxon:** Napa County is withdrawing from the EMS Region (Costal Valley EMS). Coastal Valley is going to the Board to re-form as a JPA and will no longer be part of Sonoma County Health Department.
• **Chief Collins:** The Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) Design Criteria Manual is out for public comment. The document is online and should be of interest to fire agencies in the area where the train will travel.

• **Chief Rosevear:** Introduced Tony Walls Chair of Fire Safe Sonoma. Fire Safe Sonoma is finishing a draft of the Community Wildland Protection Plan (CWPP) and will be submitting it to the Chiefs for input near the end of May. Prior comments by the Chief’s have been added to the new draft. Fire Safe Sonoma will be added as a regular Committee Report at the SCFCA Meetings.

• **Bill Braga:** On behalf of REDCOM a reimbursement has been requested under SB 90 Brown Act Postings. The total reimbursement should amount to $12,153.00 which will go into REDCOM reserves. Any other agencies interested the applications should be aware that they are due May 20, 2010.

**Good of the Order**

• **Chuck Abshear** – Cal Fire is developing a course, similar to what is being done in Marin County, for local agencies regarding how to interface with Cal Fire Aircraft and Handcrews. No update on filling Battalion 1410. Chuck will be retiring at the end of the month, thanking everyone for keeping Cal Fire in the loop and please extend that to his successor. No updates on the Volunteer Grant program.

• **Erne Loveless:** No current hiring list for Battalion Chiefs. Cal Fire may move someone within the unit into that position for the summer and wait for a new list to be established in the fall. Erne’s replacement should occur by the end of May.

• **Chief Collins:** Expressed appreciation to Erne and Chuck on behalf of the SCFCA for all their support of the Sonoma County Fire Service over the years.

• **Larry Anderson and Treanor** have expressed interest for the Zone Chief position in Zone 9. Chief Anderson agreed to be the Zone 9 Chief and Chief Treanor will be the alternate.

**Closed Session (if necessary) - None**

**Next Meeting:** June 9, 2010 – Hosted by Sonoma Valley Fire & Rescue Authority