



SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

March 2011 Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

Hosted by Healdsburg Fire Department

March 9, 2011, 9:30 am.

Attendance:

Name	Department/Agency	Name	Department/Agency
Randy Collins	SRJC	Bob Uboldi	Kenwood
Dan Northern	Forestville	Ray Mulas	Schell Vista
Sean Grinnell	Bodega Bay	Mark Aston	County Fire
Dick Luttrell	REDCOM	Frank Treanor	Rancho Adobe
Bill Braga	Sebastopol/REDCOM	Kent Coxen	EMS Agency
Jason Jenkins	Cloverdale	Ryan Kilgore	CHP
Gary Duignan	Red Cross	Mike Jones	Santa Rosa
John Lantz	Rincon Valley	Robert MacIntyre	County Fire
Ron Collier	Windsor	Will Horne	Mayacamas
Steve Adams	Healdsburg	Matt Marshall	EMS Agency
Phil Garcia	Sonoma Valley	Andy Pforsich	Gold Ridge/Bennett Val
Peter Van Fleet	Glen Ellen		

Call to Order at: 09:30

Host Chief Introduction: Chief Steve Adams thanked everybody for coming and welcomed all to the greatest city in the county.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Chief Treanor to approved the minutes of February 9, 2011. Chief Garcia seconded the motion. Chief Collins called for the vote, all in favor.

President's Report: Chief Collins welcomed our newest members: Ryan Kilgore from CHP, Mike Jones from Santa Rosa and Jason Jenkins from Cloverdale. Chief Collins reminded the group of the opportunity at the end of the month for training on two subjects that are in line with our 2011 goal of succession planning. LAFCO and the State legislative process taught by Chiefs Williams and Collier, respectively. Please let him know at rcollins@santarosa.edu if you wish to attend. Chief Northern reiterated the intent is to bring succession planning to your Captains and BC's.

Treasurer's Report:

- Chiefs Checking Account: \$ 1,615.18 as of 3-8-11
- W&O Checking: \$17,666.88 as of 1-31-11
- W&O 7 Month CD: \$116,448.36 as of 2-9-11

Reminder: Sec/Treas Grinnell asked for some help with the design of a new policy for dispersal of Widows and Orphans fund's to include catastrophic injuries. Chief Treanor volunteered to help.

Correspondence:

- Flyer for the first workshop was sent out

Presentations: None

Committee Reports:

CHP Liaison – Officer Ryan Kilgore thanked the group for all the help getting and keeping the roads cleared during the storms and for assisting with traffic control as well. Officer Kilgore went on to report that many officers have less than a year of service – please be patient as they learn the area and our ways of getting things done. There are no issues now and please let us know if anything happens. Chief Lantz mentioned the new apparatus placeman policy. Officer Kilgore was not aware, but Chief Collins said he would forward the new policy to him. As an FYI audio and video recording happens in all cars. It's not required but it will activate when going code-3. Chief Pforsich mentioned the fire service standpoint, is to close it off, and CHP starts with the desire to get traffic moving. CHP has to notify the Governor's Office when they stop a freeway.

Training Section – Chief Collins, no meeting since last meeting.

Operations Section – Chief Lantz next meeting is April 12th from 10:30 to 12. The Ops group is working on the STL refresher scheduled March 30. The focus will be integrating the 2010 updates.

Prevention Section – Chief MacIntyre reported the revised fire code is all done. The biggest change was driveways were increased from 10 feet to 12 feet wide. A sub-committee is working on the revised guidelines. Steve M. is working on the integration with the Chiefs website. Chief Collier reported on his involvement with the Fire Pals program which was put on by Butte County. Several skits with lots of music- the kids love it. The FPO's are looking to bring it here and are looking for direction from this group. Chief Treanor asked if the format could be used here. **A)** It could but it would be better to fund the theater group that currently does it, maybe once a year and move it around to different locations. Many ideas were discussed about how to get it here.

President Collins directed the FPO group to pursue grants in order to bring it here. Chief Pforsich reminded the group via Annie Murphy-Springer's proposal that public TV could be used as a means to reach out to a wider audience.

District Chiefs – Chief Northern- The next meeting of the SCFDA will be March 24 at Schell Vista FPD. Please RSVP to Charlene Virts at RVFPD. Carol Giovanato from City of Sonoma will speak about outside vendors for financial services.

Volunteer FF Association – Chief Horne apologized for being gone for a while. The single biggest project now is the annual signing of the contract (which has been revised this year) with the County. Some boards are having issues with the new contract such as overlap of boundaries and who gets paid for the response. Chief Horne also commented on the generational differences since he has been gone from the refinery for five years. The new generation of young people; everything comes from the cell phone, open book tests they took but could not pass the test, just amazed at the horrible attitudes and so much change in five years' time.

Chief Aston added the new agreement is pretty much the same, but it does open the door for number of menu items the Volunteer Company could sign up for. Stipends for all responses for within county fire CSA-40 area have been added.

REDCOM – Director Luttrell – reported they are preparing for fire season with increased training including ROSS refresher training. A survey is in process now so keep an eye out for it but most should have seen it by now. If you have any issues with REDCOM please let us know. I look forward to any comments. There is anticipation a new member will join soon so stay tuned. The RECOM Board meeting is tomorrow with the main focus the budget which has become rather complex. Bill Braga added the goal was to present two options but ended up with eight. The focus is on option 6a that shows flat increases for next year. Chief Garcia commented that with the addition of Petaluma, it was assumed that it would be more of a flat increase. Chief Northern explained that we have gone flat for several years and the increases are needed. Chief Treanor thanked to Director Luttrell for all the work. Chief Treanor inquired about REDCOM's relationship with AMR and was it a contract for services-but as a not for profit **A)** yes as confirmed by Director Luttrell. Chief Treanor asked what would happen if Rohnert Park was brought in? **A)** We do medical already answered Director Luttrell so the increase in call volume for fire would be 936 calls for fire. Petaluma, on the other hand would bring 5200 calls a year or 13 calls a day increase in volume.

Director Luttrell further reported the office expansion project has stalled. REDCOM has enough money for only one project or the other-that being to expand the dispatch area or the office space. Chief Treanor asked what the cost per dispatch was. **A)** It's a very involved answer but the fee is based on call volume...but there are many other factors as well. It is \$32 a call on top of the base fee as currently being used.

Chief Lantz added the radio group still expects an April 4th deadline for narrow banding as planned. We are however still waiting for the final Cal Fire load, but who in turn is waiting for the Feds. Bill Braga added the pager grant is still in the works and that is good news. Chief Adams asked if any testing on the narrowband channels would occur. Chief Lantz said the audio level is affected, but output is still the same, and testing is the works, no date yet.

Chief Collier asked Chief Jenkins if Cloverdale would be in or out of REDCOM. Chief Jenkins said it's still a cover issue and would like to have Control Two repeated. We simply cannot hear all the radio traffic, but cost is a consideration as well and would not rule joining out. Director Luttrell reported that coverage increases are in the works but it will not happen overnight.

CAD Group –Chief Collier reported about the recent meeting. Petaluma has one subdivision being used as a pilot program. John Lantz shared there have been problems with address at apartment complexes and the difficulties being experienced with the CAD being unable to differentiate between them. CAD group is considering several options and working with many other agencies. It's an Intergraph issue...numbers versus individual addresses are the issue. Mobile home parks are an issue as well. Chief Collier cautioned the group that GIS is charging for everything and there are no more free rides. Chief Aston reported on having set up a web based Firehouse reporting system with a dedicated server with an auto-populating feature with the CAD system. The server is offered by the county he is looking for partnerships with other agencies Reporting can be done from any computer with internet access. Chief Garcia offered the services Mark Freeman and Spencer Andreas; they were instrumental in Sonoma's program and thanked the county to open the door to the program. Chief Aston also said that cost should not be much more that your annual licenses.

OES Operational Area – Chief Northern indicated CICC updates. Chief Aston said the group had no applications to review and will extend the deadline to accept to May (we probably need to do a better job next year to remind folks of the application deadlines – including STL's). A STL refresher class is being offered on March 30 with a flyer to come out soon. System status will show inactive or not and STL's will need to contact Chief Aston or OES Op area coordinator. We are trying to work with Ops group for some SOP revisions to streamline the process. Another revision under consideration is that STL's attend a refresher course and it does not just have to be one in this county. Chief Adams asked if a reminder could be sent out. Stating is up and running on the website but we are still working the bugs out of the system.

County Fire – Chief Aston said thank you to Chief's Northern, Pforsich, and MacIntyre for their help with the testing process for the Op's Chief position. County had 44 applicants, 17 went to the assessment center first day, six candidates were invited to the second assessment center and two candidates were sent to back ground. April is the desired start date. Eleanor will return to her previous assignment as training officer with a big thanks from Chief Aston said a big thank to her for filling in. Chief Northern expressed the same sentiment

and expressed it for the whole group. Chief Aston reported they were successful in obtaining an interface engine for Lakeville through a Fire Act grant. Sonoma and Mendocino CAO's are looking at some regional resource savings potentials. Chief MacIntyre added we are in the draft phase of a fire mitigation fee ordinance, and asked the group if a county wide fee mitigation assessment was favored. Yes, the group was interested. Chief Collier said Windsor has a lot of experience with mitigation fees, one of only one or two in the County. Since the greatest impact would be to districts, it was agreed to have the Districts association be the lead with reports to this group.

Fire Districts have met with the Supervisors for financial relief on many subjects.

REDCOM plans on bring forward a tax measure for 2012 said Chief Northern.

Chief MacIntyre said the Building official notification system is in place, call REDCOM id needed and they will call the "on-call" official who will then assess the building and tag it if necessary. The company officer has the discretion but if in doubt have REDCOM contact the PRMD person on call.

Lastly- a reminder- the recent code changed to allow people in an area with a municipal water company or a tender system can be signed off on the above ground storage as not needed.

EMCC – Kent Coxen said the next meeting will be April 25. This organization will receive notice from the Chair of EMCC to confirm the representatives to the committee. The 2nd item is the advanced EMT program is moving forward and EMS is working with the college. It will take about 6 months for development of the curriculum and part of it will be online. Chief Collins added if online – it's likely to be a yearlong process going through the JC. He also advised the group that if they have staff enrolled in any of the Online fire classes at work to use caution since the JC system records the specific IP address, so more than one student using a work computer causes the system to suspect collusion which results in the student's work being flagged. Kent introduced Matt Marshall, an Intern in the office. Matt will work on the BLS cardiac care program and AED records. Kent was asked if the office would be moving. He was told they were moving in June, to public health – more to come.

Legislation – Chief Collier reported this year is going to make or break fire districts. RDA might go away, but it will be long legal battle. Much discussion took place regarding the some of the ideas the state is pushing down on districts.

Grants – Chief Collier reported that OTS reimbursed Windsor. OTS wants a photo op and all purchased items will be tracked as a Windsor fixed asset.

SRJC Advisory – Chief Collins reported the next meeting is April 7th at 10am. The Fire program has been fortunate to add a few classes due to the way funds are allocated to designated Training Centers like exist at the JC. He is working to get live fire training back in the academy and going to a turnout rental service to be compliant with NFPA 1971. the cost per semester would be \$300-\$400. That's a good deal many said. SRJC fees are about \$780 while many others are charging much more. Chief Collins said thank you to those that helped get the engine from San Jose. Chief Jenkins asked if in regard to FSTEP/CFSTES classes pre-req's are enforced. **A) Yes, we are required in order to maintain SF accreditation.**

Red Cross – Chief Duignan Ret, reported that Red Cross had a few call outs. Chief Duignan reminded us all to let him know of any issues. There will be CPR training at the SR Vets Hall this Saturday.

Marin Chiefs Liaison – Chief Williams and Collins attended the installation dinner on Feb 27th where Fred Bunker and the Marin/Sonoma TO's were recognized for their contributions to fire training.

Fire Safe Sonoma – Chief MacIntyre reminded the group the Chippers Ahoy program is up and running (flyers distributed). There is plenty of chipping money to spend. Low income qualifiers can be helped. Fire Safe Sonoma is working on road side grant funds. Let us know if you have any areas that need clearing. The CWPP (Wildfire Protection Plan) is being worked on. Chief Collins asked if there is a deadline from input from

this group. Chief MacIntyre said the plan is off to get pro edits, will be reviewed by Fire Safe Sonoma and then back out to districts and cities for input.

Old Business:

- Chief Annie Murphy-Springer Ret. President Collins said the E board took the matter up and recommended a donation of \$100. Chief Aston moved and Chief Pforsich seconded, no one objected, motion passed.

New Business:

- none

Customer Service: None

Improved efficiencies - See Chief Aston's report above – NFIRS link to County server.

Good of the order:

- Chief Treanor asked about ICS-100-200-300. Who has to take it? **A)** 100, 200, NIMS 700, is the requirement for all of us and then some.
- Chief MacIntyre informed the group that the code college would be held at Healdsburg Fire the focus would be on occupancy types and discuss on various topics related to codes, building needs, etc. Wednesday night, starts at 6:30.
- Ron Coleman will receive an award at the CSFA conference.
- Chief Collier said that Windsor and Rincon Valley are partnering up under a formal agreement. The Central Fire Authority will be an administrative JPA. The legal documents are being drafted the Boards will have the chance to approve or not. Doug Williams will be the Chief and Ron Collier will be a Battalion Chief. The Central Fire Authority will combine all policies and SOGS.
- Chad Costa has accepted a job with Petaluma Fire. WFPD is one captain down we might not fill it, money is an issue right now. We are spending reserves to maintain current staffing and might not go on strike teams or fill vacancies. We are trying to decide how to provide the same level of service without the same level of funding.
- December 30th Ron Collier retires from Windsor Fire District. He asked that a party is not held.

Closed Session: None

Adjourned: 1200

Next Meeting: April 13th – Hosted by Gold Ridge Fire Dist. Night meeting – no dinner.