



SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

MEETING MINUTES

Hosted by Petaluma Fire @ Lucchessi Center

January 11, 2012, 9:30 am.

Attendance:

Randy Collins	SRJC	Sean Grinnell	Bodega Bay
Mark Aston	County Fire	Eric Hoffmann	Cal Fire
Tim Streblov	Cal Fire	John Marty	Rohnert Park
Dick Luttrell	REDCOM	Phil Garcia	Sonoma Valley
Dean Anderson	SLS/AMR	John Lantz	Central
Doug Williams	Central	Ray Mulas	Schell-Vista
Bill Braga	Sebastopol	Bob Uboldi	Kenwood
Tony Gossner	Santa Rosa	Larry Anderson	Petaluma
Bill Shubin	Santa Rosa	Ed Buonaccorsi	Santa Rosa
Darrin DeCarli	Gold Ridge	Dan Northern	Forestville
Loren Davis	Mountain	Max Ming	Forestville
Wilbert Horne	Mayacamas	Caerleon Safford	Fire safe Sonoma
Marvin Howard	Cal EMA	Cary Fergus	Petaluma
David Coggeshall	GGs Network	Peter Van Fleet	Glen Ellen
Gary Duignan	Red Cross/FRV	Bill Murray	Glen Ellen
Ken Wagner	Retired	Christopher Helgren	County Fire
Bob Barr	CHP	Ryan Kilgore	CHP
Linda Collister	Healdsburg	Steve Adams	Healdsburg

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 09:48 by former President Collins; the gavel was passed to President elect Eric Hoffmann who then presided over the meeting. President Hoffmann thanked former President Collins for his service.

Host Chief Introduction: President Hoffman thanked Chief Anderson who then welcomed everyone to Petaluma. Logistical issues were pointed out. Chief Anderson introduced Suzy Terry and Debra Fish who made this event possible. We have to be out of here by 1:20.

Approval of Minutes: Chief Williams moved to approve the minutes, second by Chief Streblov. All were in favor and none were opposed.

President's Report: President Hoffmann reported that outgoing President Collins will report later. President Hoffmann had nothing to report but said he really appreciates the opportunity. This group provides great leadership for this county.

Treasurer's Report:

- Checking: \$396.17
- W/O Interest checking: \$15,666.76
- W/O CD: \$116,781.39

President Hoffmann asked for a point of order-Do we need a motion to approve the treasurers report? **A)** No, just a report was the answer given.

Correspondence:

- Dennis Smiley, Manager, Tele-Communications Bureau

Presentations: Disaster recovery – Open technology. David Coggeshall from Golden State Safety Network (please go to www.comopview.org/ggsn for the power point presentation)

Chief Marvin Howard introduced David Coggeshall and provided a little background to the group of the program currently underway in Marin County. East Bay MUD and others are using the technology. The technology provides a common operating picture-a user friendly internet based map for sharing situational awareness among public and private safety organizations during large scale incidents that require significant coordination of emergency response resources.

David Coggeshall said that he started the program with others. It is browser based software without extra cost other software programs to run it. It is open based software to help agencies format data for individual needs. The basic program is free, but each agency has the ability to tailor the information to suite individual agency needs. Current programs, today's power point, and much more can be found at the following website- <http://comopview.org/ggsn>.

Chief Howard added it is great tool for logistical data in real time. Director Luttrell if the program has a UASI tie in? **A) No**. Chief Davis asked if an engine were dispatched to a remote area can the information be 'download and go' or does it only work in real time? **A) Yes and No**. Part of this program offers an experimental low cost computer with a WiFi router that can connect to the internet through a cell phone. The program offers real time changes while doing windshield assessments-an example was provided.

Mr. Coggeshall said that everything we do goes into the public benefit database but individual agencies still need to do a lot of work. Local area FEMA is going to fund. Other counties can piggy back. Chief Northern asked if the assessor's parcel number application can go to the EOC? **A) Yes**.

President Hoffmann thanked Chief Howard and Mr. Coggeshall.

Committee Reports

Operations & Training Section: No report

CHP Liaison: (taken out of order) Officer Ryan Kilgore introduced himself and Bob Barr. No report was given but they advised us to let them know if we need their help. It is the wish of CHP that there be no on scene disagreements. Let the Supervisor know and they will try and work it out with you. B/C Darin DeCarli asked about holding some basic traffic safety classed. **A)** Please let them know when, and they will come out and help, low key and informal. Bruce Varner added; this type of program/relationship that we have here is very rare in the country, kudos to us all.

Prevention Section: FPO Fergus asked/stated that Director Collins will give brief presentation later.

District Chiefs: Chief Northern said the next meeting is January 26, 2012. One item for discussion will be the number of meetings to be held in 2012 and the election of the officers for 2012.

Volunteer FF Association: Chief Horne reported that not much is going on. A closed meeting is coming up next week and they will also elect new officers.

CAD Group: Chief Williams reported the next meeting is pending, no report otherwise.

Cal E-M-A Operational Area: Chief Williams said the spring meeting for region II is set for May. Chief Howard added that the realignment of Cal EMA might be better in the long run. The following changes will occur: Gary Humfries will become the Region IV Chief; Lorenzo Gigliotti will be the Deputy Chief for USAR. The apparatus program will still receive funding, region IV to get the replacements.

County Fire: Chief Aston announced the promotion of Eleanor Rattliff to Training Captain. Chief Aston introduced Christopher Helgren-Emergency Manager for County Fire and Sonoma County. Mr. Helgren said the earlier question regarding the UASI was interesting in that Sonoma County is now part of the approval authority in our area. We could have more say in future issues. Mr. Helgren also said that Orange County Law enforcement is using a similar program as was presented for the use of iPads.

Chief Aston will attend a UASI meeting tomorrow and will keep us informed.

Chief Aston reported on VFC activities: It should be an interesting year: Looking to build three new stations (hopefully); SOC is about half complete and moving forward; and the Lakeville engine is almost complete.

EMCC: Chairman Dean Anderson reported- the last meeting was in November. The biggest project was to reappoint representatives to the committee. The next meeting will be at the end of month. The other hot topic is EMS agency fees, caused by the loss of funding brought on by the break-up of the coastal valleys EMS region. EMCC has appointed two ad hoc committees: one is looking at state regulations, and the other is looking at funding and budget needs.

Legislation: Chief Aston said a lot is coming forward (as the silly season has begun). The rumor is they might not do a lot of legislation this year. Pension reform is a hot topic.

Grants: Chief Anderson said that the AFG is on the fourth round and 25 CA departments have been awarded but none in Sonoma. Novato did receive a grant. Please remember that only the designated contact will receive the notice via email (once). HR-3753 will grant up to \$100,000.00 per fire station for gender appropriate facilities.

SRJC Advisory: Director Collins thanked everyone who attended the graduation last week thank you. A new academy started the next day. Driver-Operator 1Aa and one 1B are coming up next semester.

Red Cross: Gary Duignan said that they had couple of call outs for fires. Gary also relayed that Roger apologizes for not being here himself.

Marin Chiefs Liaison: No report.

Fire Safe Sonoma: Caerleon Safford reported: Chippers ahoy is over, no more money. The program chipped 655 properties for 1,000 acres. 49% of respondents said they would have done this, 33% might have and 18% would not have if no funding was available. Fire Safe is looking for option to keep this going in the future-money seems to be going away at the same time a different ideology is coming forward. We need to look for own money. Fire Safe still has roadside hazards money. It is earmarked for areas with high mortality. An arborist is looking at SOD areas and getting gross dead tree counts and then they will prioritize the areas for treatment. Tomorrow is the annual planning meeting. Robert MacIntyre will become the next president. Chief Hoffmann added there will be a rating criterion and that they are looking for trees that will pose a problem to access and egress.

Cal Fire: Chief Streblov reported there is no expected budget cuts expected. The 76 million in cuts expected looks like this: cutting five dozer units in the state, air base consolidation, one benefit of the dozer cuts is that equipment will not leave assigned areas. Of the six dozers in our area we might lose one. They might have to reallocate existing resources. The vegetation management program is restored.

Many things depend on the November ballot measure passing, if not then a ten percent budget cut or 60 million hit. B/C Kim Thompson retired and B/C George Gonzales will take his spot on Feb 6. The issues with the former hiring process for B/C's was solved and new BC list is out now. The unit has ten B/C spots to fill. The B/C and D/C pay disparity was solved. Helicopters are switching to winches instead of the long lines for rescue purposes. The high definition camera on St. Helena should be up by the start of fire season and because of all the good weather the Cloverdale station should be completed very soon.

Old Business-

- **SRA Fees-**Director Collins said this committee will meet after this meeting. The committee is expected to work with Wes Chesbro's for a better written and competing legislation to SRA fees. Chief Streblov added the BOE is meeting today. The current fee will allow for the \$35 reduction for those properties in a fire district. Chief Streblov will keep us in the loop. Chief Treanor asked if it is still fire prevention fee? Yes, but the as soon as the first bill hits you can expect a lawsuit. Bills expected to go out in 3 or 4 months. Chief Hoffmann added that a 45 day public comment period opens if decisions are made today. This fee might add 9-10 million to the budget. Chief Howard added that 7 million is needed just to process the bills.
- **New EMS Agency Fees-**See EMCC
- **AB 1387 (Formerly AB210)-201 rights-** No report
- **2012 Goals-** Director Collins confirmed everyone had a copy of the goals for 2012 and said they were available on the website as well. The lead contact person was also named: Mission- Chief Northern; Improving efficiencies- Chief Williams; REDCOM- Chief Anderson; Legislative- Chief Aston; Survivor fund- Chief Grinnell; Section Coordination- Chief Adams. President Hoffmann asked for a motion to approve: Chief McCormick moved to accept the 2012 goals, Chief Treanor 2nd. No further discussion was had. President Hoffmann called for the vote, all were in favor and none were opposed.

New Business-

- None

Improving Efficiencies:

- Chief Garcia mentioned that as of February 1st, Sonoma City will officially be under contract with the Valley of the Moon for fire services. Chief Garcia added that the labor group is excited and there was no community opposition.

Customer Service/Good of the Order:

- Chief Northern said that his son's (firefighter/medic with San Rafael) department is piloting an iPhone app that will read the file for life (and others) and it might use a bar code system.
- Chief Grinnell mentioned the TOT advertising grant program open to fire agencies in the unincorporated areas of the county.
- Bill Braga-John Lantz-Dick Luttrell- attended a radio meeting. Narrow-banding of REDCOM might occur in June. Denis Smiley's letter for new radio tech rates from the SO (see correspondence) new program. Simulcast of two and four coming soon. Pagers are working today and are likely to work when REDCOM is narrow-banded.
- Chief Braga-a concern for radio was brought up. Occidental is using a command channel in their area. The radio group was asked to bring it up here. The concern is they can impact other resources and responses. Chief Streblov said that even in winter Cal fire is still responsible for wildland fire control issues.
- Chief Howard-January 26 at 1:30pm. A hazmat workshop, (a forum for all haz mat program managers) will be held in the SO's ready room; There will also be an emergency managers webinar and video conferencing on February 9th, it is for training and op area readiness, if interested please contact Chief Howard.
- Chief Hoffmann said that PGand E is under mandate to provide pipe line training. Petaluma will host this training during the week of April 9. A flyer will come out later.

- Bruce Varner – Chair of electronics safety committee said that the standard on portable radios will deal with the remote microphone failure issue. It appears the new mic will not fail, but some components are the same (and they fail there). Comments open in the summer time. Mr. Varner will let us know for sure when comments are accepted. Most instruction manuals say do not expose to environments over 100 degrees. A standard alarm sound is expected across the industry for PASS units expected in August.

REDCOM: Director Luttrell reminded everyone about the Board meeting next week. Chief Northern added this is an important meeting as we discuss the future of REDCOM. REDCOM operates under a JPA with a private vendor that may or may not receive future contracts which will affect REDCOM. It is time to make plans for the future. We need to keep this moving and we cannot afford the alternative. We need to separate the operation of REDCOM from the vulnerability of the franchise contract. Please all attend.

Closed Session:

Next Meeting: Windsor FPD-station 21

Adjourned: Chief Hoffmann asked for and received a motion to adjourn from Chief Treanor and seconded by Chief Streblow, all were in favor and no one was opposed. 11:45