



SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION MEETING

MEETING MINUTES
April 18th 2018 at 9:30 AM
Hosted By Goldridge

Attendance:

Steve Akre	Sonoma Valley	Aaron Abbott	REDCOM
Dave Francheschi	Forestville	Victor Lauria	Consultant
Mike Mickelson	Wilmar	Rob Cassidy	Russian River
Bill Braga	Sebastopol	Brian Masterson	Rohnert Park
Tony Gossner	Santa Rosa	Doug Williams	Retired
Randy Collins	SRJC ARTP	Loren Davis	Mountain
Doug Butler	CVEMS	Shepley Schroth-Cary	Gold Ridge
James Williams	Sonoma County	Kirk Van Wormer	CALFIRE
Sean Grinnell	Bodega Bay	Jason Boaz	Healdsburg
Dan George	GV/BV	Craig Jungimer	Consultant

Call to Order: Chief Boaz called the meeting to order at 0932 and lead the pledge.

Host Chief Intro: Chief George welcomed the group apologized for the renovations in progress and explained logistics

President's Report: No report. Chief Masterson introduced Craig Jungimer and Victor Lauria who are from ICMA and are conducting an assessment of Rohnert Park. They briefly explained the review process they perform. Chief Masterson also shared they recently received their ladder truck and will begin training next month.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Motion was made by Chief Braga & seconded by Chief George. Unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report submitted by Hans showed the following balances.

Chiefs General Fund:	\$5,915.19
Survivors Fund:	\$108,031.31
OP's/TO's Fund:	\$19,510.22
FPO General Fund:	\$3,370.78
FPO Safety Trailer:	\$7,606.90
Career Succession:	\$4,637.28
FITF	\$2,245.09
Safety Pals Gen. Fund:	\$42,155.31
Safety Pals Trailer:	\$2,500.00
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	\$195,972.08

Correspondence: Chief Boaz shared we received an invitation to the Survivor's Fund on May 24. He added he is working with BRYX (a station notification system) to give a presentation at a future meeting. Randy shared we have the USDA scheduled to present on their loan program at the May meeting.

Presentations:

Randy conducted a short presentation on the FFI Certification test process. Some of the important points included:

- Schedule will depend on number of candidates. If just a few, they will test with current FFI academy which is 4 separate dates. If there is a larger number, they will be tested during the week following the end of the academy (a max of 5 days but probably less depending upon how prepared they are and the total number).
- Candidates will need to provide their own PPE and SCBA
- Candidates need to be thoroughly familiar with all 67 skills and material (as found in IFSTA or JB textbooks)
- Chief will need to sign statement attesting the candidate is ready for the test and that identifies procedures if failures occur
- Students will have to pre-register on-line for EVALs.net & the written exam (cost are \$35 & \$18 respectively)
- Written exam is 160 questions with 3 hours provided to complete
- Skills exam tests for 17 skills (10 are fixed, 7 chosen randomly by SFT)
- Candidates are videoed using EVALs to verify performance. Must wait in staging area until called to perform the skill
- For failures on the written, candidates have two opportunities to re-take (only the module failed). If a third failure occurs, candidate must re-train in the module failed and obtain an approval letter from SFT
- For failures on the skills, like the written, candidates have two opportunities to re-take (only the module failed) and must re-train and obtain approval letter if they fail both.
- Upon successful completion of the testing, candidates will be provided a SFT FFI Task Book to complete
- While SRJC is ready to offer FFII cert testing, because SFT has not been authorized by IFSAC/Pro-Board to do so, we will wait to offer that course once this occurs. In the meantime, a chief can still sign off FFII, they just will not get the IFSAC & Pro-Board seals.

Old Business:

- **Peer Support:** No report

New Business:

D-RiSC/Red Flag Warnings: Chief Gossner began by sharing it stands for *Disaster Readiness for Safer Communities* and is a joint effort by the League, OES, CPFF, Fire Districts, Cal Chiefs & CSFA. They are the group that is pushing for the \$87m being asked to pre-position and \$13m to update ROSS. The idea is to create a system that is pre-active rather than being reactive. He added we will need to be thoughtful since with \$50k cost for a S/T for each 24 hour period, it will not go far (in the Cedar Fire Blue Ribbon report, \$400m was requested). Their website is located at www.d-risc.org and is used by Santa Rosa as primary information source for the media, lawmakers and coalition partners. In addition, it also serve as their advocacy portal for sending grassroots communications to lawmakers and the governor through the "Take Action" page, which will also enable visitors to send a letter-to-the-editor to their local newspapers. By going to the website you can get sign up for updates and get information on the facts of the campaign, who is in the coalition and read different articles and Op Ed pieces that have been published.

Chief George shared that Region II will be meeting to look for a grass roots fix to get resources on the road quicker. Director Abbott had some questions regarding how this will interface with dispatch centers. Chief George share he has also been asked what they are doing different for Red Flag days and indicated we need to be proactive and share what we are doing with the public. He indicated Marin agreed to up alarm assignments on these days but we will need to find our own balance. Chief Akre shared getting crews out to patrol in the high risk areas on these days should be a component of this. Director Abbott shared a bit of the challenges with implementing this but they may be able to include it in the fire priority dispatch protocols they hope to have in place by July. A broader conversation about doing this in concert with each other as well as outside agencies (Law, PG&E, etc) evolved. Randy suggested putting together a sub-committee including all stakeholders to develop a policy. Chief Van Wormer reminder the group that we need to consider the by-product of throwing more engines at a fire (needing more overhead) and that vegetation management is also a huge part of this. Chief Williams reminded the group that with their Veg management Ord., the mechanism is already in place and the problem is a lack of funding to implement. He will be going to the BOS in June to discuss implementing a pilot program for veg, mgt. Chief Mickelson reminded the group we used to staff a T/F or S/T to respond on Red Flag days. Chief Akre suggested adding Chris Godley as a regular attendee. After a prolonged discussion, it was agreed to establish *Resiliency and Recovery Update* as a standing agenda item with Jim Colangelo as the reporter and for a subcommittee, Chief Gossner said he will begin the process with the input of Chief's George & Andreis.

Standing Committee Reports:

- **Training/OP's:** No meeting since last Chiefs meeting. Although Chief George suggested having them sponsor a FFBOR class.
- **FPO's:** Chief Boaz shared (on behalf of Chief Collister) they are working on obtaining social media information from all agencies so they can develop another route to send out information in an emergency. They are conducting COPE a training at today's meeting. Chief Gossner reminded the group that he is happy to share their materials but is not in a position to have staff conduct training outside of the City
- **Fire Districts:** Chief George shared their next meeting is Thursday April 26 and the presentation will be on implementing a veg management inspection program. Chief Akre reported there was good representation from Sonoma County at the District's convention in Monterey last week and on Oct 22, & 23, they will be holding a Leadership class for aspiring Chief Officers in Sacramento
- **Volunteer Fire Companies:** Chief Mickelson shared the meeting is tonight at Wilmar and the fund raiser to help FF's who lost homes in the fires raised \$26K.

Ad-Hoc Committee Reports:

- **Fire EMS Committee:** Chief Akre shared the workgroup met last Monday and has become smaller (but fire remains well represented). Chris Thomas is facilitating and the current focus is to extend the existing franchise agreement with that item going to the BOS May 8. He added that Cal Chiefs has been very supportive and has dedicated \$10K to the Triton Group to help craft an ordinance that is favorable to us. He may come back with an agenda item for future funding for this if it becomes necessary. Chief Gossner encouraged folks to attend the May 8 BOS meeting.
- **Fire Recovery/AAR:** Chief Gossner reported Santa Rosa is in the process of selecting a vendor for their AAR. Costs have come back between \$80- \$180k.
- **County Alerting System:** Chief Gossner also reported that the current focus is on developing a policy. At the same time, a meeting date has been set for May 8 at 9:30 on alert mechanisms in the conference room at the County Fire complex. Chief Masterson raised the issue that, if we are having these discussions, we have to recognize we will need the funding to support them. To that end, we should replicate what the library board did with the 1/8th cent sales tax and we need to act while the public support exists. Chief Gossner said there are some state measures being proposed to accomplish some of the same goals. Randy suggested using some of our funding to support such an effort. A broader conversation about the politics and logistics of implementing such a tax followed. Chief Gossner reminded the group Santa Rosa is examining the use of I-PAWS for alerting

REDCOM: Director Abbott shared the following:

- Fire Priority Dispatch training begins next month with the system hopefully up by July
- He reminded all to get their "All-Call" coding done by the May 1 deadline
- He also thanked the group for their support during Dispatch Telecommunication week.
- Save Lives Sonoma received a \$20k grant to implement pulse point and they will be integrating it into the CAD. There will also be a public outreach component to promote the program and identify AED locations. Doug Butler shared they have an AED registration which will help with this.
- He was reminded by the downed plane exercise being held today, that it would be very helpful if for future trainings, REDCOM is included so there is a dispatch component can be added and to contact either himself or Sophia.
- Brenda Baccagulupe (pardon the spelling) is their new Admin Assistant

Closed Session: There was no closed session.

Good of the Order:

- Chief Van Wormer shared fire season staffing is a moving target but as for now, they have adopted 4 staffing levels. Level 1- winter, Level 2 - one engine per battalion, Level 3 - one engine per station and Level 4, full staffing. At the end of May, they will go to Level 3. The copter will go in service June 16.
- Chief Davis shared they had what they thought was a structure fire which turned out to be a grow house at night. He has also promoted Jeff Lemelin as Assistant Chief
- Chief Akre shared in Region 3, Kenwood is spec'ing out a Type I, Schell Vista a Type III and SVFRA a Type VI. Schell Vista has also promoted two Captains.
- Chief George reported BV is participating in the RV MMR and GR just got a Type III
- Chief Gossner shared he thought it would be beneficial to have PG & E present to this group (will happen in June). He thanked the group for stepping up with mutual aid for the Swift Water Rescue response to Mendocino County. He also shared Bill Shubin has retired and Scott Westrope has taken his place
- Doug Butler shared the EMCC meeting is next Monday at the Water Agency & bike event season is upon us.
- Randy invited the members to attend the FFI graduation on May 4th at 1000 at the PSTC and their Advisory Committee meeting follows at 1 with lunch provided. He added that there has been some chaos at the JC but it will not impact the delivery of classes. He added they will be offering a S-219 class in concert with Zone 6 and if agencies have staff who meet Ignition Coach MQ's (have taken S-219, 234, Instructor IA & IB and qualified as a Single Resource Boss), he could use them for the burn days.
- Chief Braga reminded folks the Apple Blossom parade is this Saturday and invited everyone to attend.
- Chief Boaz shared the next Fire Advisory Committee meeting is tomorrow at 9 and Healdsburg's substation is going through the design review process. Chief Collister will be teaching a FRO class on May 6 and 13 for free to Zone 6 and a small fee for others. He also plans on holding an S-390 class later this year. They also hope to take delivery of their Type VI next month.

Meeting Adjourned: At 1204

Next Meeting: May 9 at Sebastopol

Respectfully Submitted: April 19, 2018

Randy Collins,
SCFCA Secretary