



SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION MEETING

MEETING MINUTES
Feb 13th 2019 at 9:30 AM
Hosted By Windsor

ATTENDANCE

Aaron Abbott	REDCOM	Steve Akre	SVFRA
James Salvante	Costal Valleys EMS	Mike Bates	RPDPS
Randy Collins	SRJC ARTP	Daren Bellach	Kenwood
Jeff Schach	Petaluma	Bill Braga	Sebastopol
Mike Bates	Rohnert Park	Dan George	Gold Ridge
Ron Lunardi	Occidental	James Williams	Sonoma County
Mark Heine	RV/Windsor	Kemplen Robbins	Santa Rosa
Ron Busch	RV/Windsor	Ray Mulas	Schell Vista
Dave Franceschi	Forestville	Mike Elson	Windsor/RV
Rob Cassady	Russian River	Mark Courson	OES
Mike Mickelson	Wilmar	Zach Hamill	Sonoma County
Kirk Van Wormer	CALFIRE	Tony Gossner	Santa Rosa
Shana Jones	CALFIRE	Ron Busch	Windsor/RV
Doug Williams	SMART	Mike Nicholls	Cazadero
Spenser Andreis	SVFRA	Paul Fleckenstein	CALFIRE
Cyndi Foreman	Windsor/RV	Tim Mattos	RPDPS
Robert Johnson	Windsor/RV	Mark Dunn	Windsor/RV
Jason Boaz	Healdsburg	James Cooper	Red Cross
Natalie Henry	Red Cross	Matt Gustafson	Windsor/RV

Call to Order: Chief Boaz began the meeting at 0931, reflected on being glad to see a large crowd and led the pledge

Host Chief Introduction: Chief Heine welcomed the group

Presidents Report: Chief Boaz reported he would save his remarks for the SLG agenda item.

Approval of Minutes/Changes to the Agenda: The item on Law Enforcement notification was removed due to the absence of Chief Bullard. With that change, a motion to accept the change to the agenda and the Jan. minutes was made by Chief Heine. Second by Chiefs Akre. Unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report submitted by Hans was as follows:

Chiefs General Fund:	\$3,452.61
Survivors Fund:	\$105,896.31
OP's/TO's Fund:	\$20,873.79
FPO Safety Trailer:	\$7,681.90
Career Succession:	\$2,719.09
FPO General Fund:	\$2,940.77
FITF	\$2,048.05
Safety Pals Gen. Fund:	\$41,435.32
Safety Pals Trailer:	<u>\$2,500.00</u>
	\$189,547.84

Correspondence: Chief Boaz shared an email from Capt. Stornetta requesting participation in a procession Feb 14 to honor pilot Jennifer Topper who died in a copter crash while transporting a Medivac patient in Ohio. Randy shared he received notice of the Hazard Mitigation Grant opportunity that has been posted to the website and Pam at the Petaluma Elks asked for RSVPs by March 2 for the FF Appreciation night dinner March 7. Chief Andreis shared that the services for Cloverdale Police Chief Steve Kramer will be held next week.

Presentations:

- James Cooper & Natalie Henry from the Sonoma chapter of the Red Cross spoke to the services they provide after fires and distributed flyers with that information (in attachments on the website). He also spoke to their smoke detector program, which includes 10 year units provided to anyone in need. Their goal is to distribute 600 in 2019. They are happy to partner with fire agencies and provide free detectors to us (within limits). Any questions feel free to contact him at: james.cooper@redcross.org . As the Disaster Services Coordinator, Natalie spoke to their preparedness programs and interest in partnering with us to perform community outreach, particularly with at risk groups. Her contact info is: Natalie.henry@redcross.org
- Doug Williams reported on behalf of Chief McGill from SMART. He wanted to share that if there are any SMART issues, he is available to meet with our membership. They are also receptive to conducting any joint training. He can be reached at:

Old Business: None

New Business:

- **Cardiac Arrest Incidents.** Deferred due to Chief Bullard's absence

Standing Committee Reports:

- **Strategic Leadership Group:** Chief Boaz opened the item by sharing a few observations about transparency, as well as the integrity and availability of the SLG members. He reminded the group who the SLG reps are and expressed his frustration with the perceived lack of trust and attacks that have occurred. He ended by reminding the group of the Fire Chief's Association mission and values. Chief Bellach commented that while he does not feel there are trust issues, he can see why some are concerned about transparency and agreed we need to communicate better.

Chief Heine reported that the latest SLG update has been posted to the website and spoke to the huge volume of work they had done to support the VFC's and stabilize their situation with County going away. Several proposals were submitted that provided a solution and one on one meetings were held with each Supervisor to address their concerns. While he felt it was positive to see the BOS committed to continuing to support the fire community, it was disappointing as there is currently no longer a clear path forward. It is therefore critical for us to get back in unison as the perception of the BOS is that we are not united and that is a dangerous position to be in. To that end, now is the time to contact the SLG if you have any issues and to work on improving ourselves as well as our communications. The immediate goal is to have a viable plan to bring back to the BOS in March, stressed the need to walk out of today's meeting in lockstep and reach out to labor. He ended by sharing if we do not get in unison, it will very likely be business as usual.

Chief Boaz opened the floor to comments. Russian River had a question regarding how funding requests are processed. Chief Akre reminded the group that the goal of the BOS was to avoid any service level reductions and if a problem exists, it needs to be shared with the SLG. Chief Heine reminded everyone he is always available and is receptive to hearing any other ideas or plans from the group.

A lengthy discussion with numerous questions followed which concluded with Chief Heine stating we as a group need to be 100% behind the sales tax measure. Chief Boaz asked for a show of hands of those present who was supportive of the SLG's membership, current work and moving forward. All hands rose, showing a unanimous vote.

After a short break, Commander Bates introduced his new boss new Chief Tim Mattos. A round of applause followed.

- **Regional Zone Reports:** Chief Boaz asked for and received the following reports from the Zones:
Zone 1: No report
Zone 2: No report.
Zone 3: Chief Bellach reported they have two new Directors. Chief Akre shared they will be hiring soon
Zone 4: No report
Zone 5: Chief Lunardi reported they met two weeks ago and are working on developing a plan for an "enhanced" Region 5, which was reinforced by Chief Franceschi.
Zone 6: No report

Zone 7: Chief Heine shared they are in the last phase of the LAFCO process which is the Public Protest. He indicated the goal is to remain below the 25% threshold.

Zone 8: Chief George reported they met last week.

Zone 9: Chief Schach reported on recent promotions and the search for a regional training officer for the zone.

- **Training/OP's:** Chief Andreis reported the Draw Down policy has been approved by the DOAG and will be posted on the website. The ST/Overhead refresher class has been scheduled for May 29. Chief George shared without County personnel, they are looking for help filling ICS positions when the forward command post in Graton is opened during flood conditions.
- **FPO's:** Kemplen Robbins spoke to their goals for 2019, which includes: Level II Inspector Classes in the fall, performing the code adoption process (including consistent WUI provisions) and developing a standardized reporting template for State occupancies (schools, high rises, etc.). The CWPP is on-going and they are working to have a template available for use by local agencies soon. They also hope to conduct more FITF training and develop a Juvenile Fire-setter Program. Cyndi Foreman shared she has is working with Chief Van Wormer to develop pre-attack maps and are meeting monthly. They are also working with Nor-Cal to help meet the mandatory requirements to report inspection activities.
- **Fire Districts:** No report
- **Volunteer Fire Companies:** Chief Mickelson shared his comments were covered under the SLG report.

Ad-Hoc Committee Reports:

- **Fire EMS Committee:** Chief Akre shared there has been a big shift since the last meeting after which Director Robinson's paused the EMS ordinance process. It's scheduled to restart on 2/19 and in the format of parallel tracks for the ordinance and RFP process. There is also a lot occurring at the State level in the legal arena with the OAL. Chief Heine reflected it would not be in anyone's interest to get litigious but work collaboratively. Chief Akre reminded everyone that he represents this group on the committee and can be contacted at any time. Director Robinson will be hosting a meeting to explain her position next week. Chief Akre reported at the last EMCC meeting, they endorsed their desire to complete the Ordinance process before the RFP moves forward. .
- **County Alerting System/NIXILE Criteria for Fire Agencies:** Zach Hamill shared they have been meeting monthly to standardize the alerting system in the County and have a number of goals to complete before fire season. One of which is training IC's on how to request alerts. NIXILE is moving forward, will have 3 levels of notification (1 – General Info, 2 – Low Urgency & 3 – High Urgency) and he is looking for feedback from this group (see enclosed NIXILE handout). He also cautioned that sending notifications out of your jurisdiction can result in your alert privileges being revoked as had occurred with CHP. In response to Chief Akre's question, he shared they are working on a hazard mitigation grant to fund sirens.
- **Sonoma OP Area Up-Staffing Plan:** Chief George shared he believes all invoices have been paid and on Feb 27, he and Chief Gossner will be attending a Mutual Aid Summit at OES and they are looking for input from this group.

REDCOM: Director Abbott reported their draft budget goes to the Board tomorrow, is fairly neutral and they expect the cost per call to remain the same. He shared they had their first Ad-Hoc meeting with Marin exploring the possibility of providing dispatch services. The next step will likely be hiring a consultant to help with this process.

Closed Session: None

Good of the Order:

- Chief Van Wormer shared Sam Lazurus is the new Battalion 1410.
- Chief Jones shared they expect to have Todd's replacement on board by the next meeting.
- Chief Courson reported he thinks they will have a new Chief soon.
- Chief Williams (James) shared they have begun implementing vegetation management with the districts.
- Rob Cassady shared 2 new medics will start next week and they will be receiving a new ambulance
- Chief Fleckenstein reported on the support they have received from County Parks and homeowner groups to conduct control burns
- Cazadero has moved to annex 50% of the Fort Ross district and will be moving forward with Timber Cove.
- Zach Hamill shared they will be changing their patch.
- Chief George shared they are still covering LEXIPOL & dispatch costs.

- Chief Heine reported they recently promoted Ron Busch, Robert Johnson, Mike Elson and Mark Dunn as new BC's and Sid Andreis, Shawn Johnson, Keith Muelheim and Mike Stornetta as Captains. They will also be conducting hiring for 15 Firefighters in March off the CAL-JAC FCTC list.
- Chief Williams shared he is always receptive to SMART inquiries
- Chief Boaz inquired about sharing the Fire District Associations info on the website. There were no objections.

Adjournment: President Boaz adjourned the meeting at 12:09

Next Meeting: March 13th, Healdsburg

Respectfully Submitted: February 15, 2019

Randy Collins,
SCFCA Secretary