

## Sonoma County Fire Districts' Association

June 5, 2020

Greetings;

It has been 80 days since the shelter in place order was issued. This order has saved lives but has also caused economic hardship.

The Sonoma County Fire Districts' Association has been monitoring fire service activities from that shelter in place perspective. We have depended on reports and information from our Fire Service Working Group member and have been watching the legislation activities in Sacramento.

We sent a letter to Dr. Duncan, EMSA opposing the attempt to write the fire service out of the ambulance portion of our services to our citizens

After not attaining the required 66.67% in the March election, we were expecting dialog on another campaign, one with an organized PAC and some money behind it. Before we could get that far into dialog, the virus closed the door on that. It now appears that with people out of work, cities contemplating their own tax measures, and the time crunch exacerbated by COVID 19, getting a successful measure on the November ballot would not be possible.

In terms of physical meetings, I checked with the Fire Districts Association of California in Sacramento and their response was only virtual meetings for the foreseeable future. That is my position as well. My reasoning springs from deep regard for the health of our membership, the fact that many of our members are in the age group that could have the worst outcome to contracting the disease and there would also be a liability issue if we ignored the disease and conducted the meeting and someone became ill.

With all that uplifting information, we ask where do we go from here? We canceled the April meeting and I encouraged anyone who would like a virtual meeting to send me an email. I received no responses. Our next meeting is scheduled for July. The agenda items would be to nominate a Vice President for next year, reports from FSWG, FAIRA, FASAS, we would have no presentation, discuss a meeting schedule that may include more frequent meetings and we would discuss where we go from here. This would be a ZOOM meeting. An email would be sent out prior to the meeting inviting your attendance. In the interest of efficiency, we would like you to discuss at your June or July meeting and



nominate an attendee from your district who will have the authority to vote on your behalf on action items at the meeting. This would improve the flow of the meeting.

If you are interested in this type of meeting, please communicate with me and we will set it up. If there is not enough interest, then we will send out a call for nominations and communicate the choices back to you by email.

We believe that the October meeting will be a virtual meeting as well for the above stated reasons. The October meeting would be the meeting that you would vote on the new VP. This VP position would need to be a DIRECTOR not a Chief Officer.

As always, if you have ideas or concerns, please email or call me and we will discuss them.

May you, your families and your firefighters stay healthy and know that we pray for all of you.

Sincerely,

Frank Treanor

Steve Akre

Sean Grinnell