

# SONOMA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

*Minutes of the April 26, 2018 meeting*

*Gold Ridge Fire Protection District*

*Sebastopol*

## ATTENDANCE:

*Bennett Valley:* Deborah Rogers, Arnie Tognozzi, Leslie McCormick

*Bodega Bay Fire:* Dave Kruppa

*Cazadero CSD:* None

*Cloverdale:* Carol Giovanatto (Pigoni) and Guest

*Forestville:* None

*Geyserville:* Paul Bernier, Fred Peterson

*Glen Ellen:* Bob Norrbom, Sr., Steve Perry

*Gold Ridge:* Dan George, Dominic Carinalli, Bob Gloeckner, Chris Tachouet, Joe Peterson, Steve Petrucci, Charlie Lachman, and Mike Doyle

*Graton:* None.

*Kenwood:* Daren Bellach, Dennis McIntosh, Bob Ubaldi,

*Monte Rio:* Dan Fein

*North Sonoma Coast FPD:* Leigh Mueller

*Rancho Adobe:* Mark Hemmendinger, Michael Gadoua

*Rincon Valley:* Mark Heine, Bob Pintane and Guest, Darrel Mead & Guest, Gary So

*Roseland:* None

*Russian River:* Bill Jackson and Guest

*Sebastopol:* Jack Piccinini

*SCFDA Secty/Treasurer:* Lisa Guerrero

*Schell-Vista:* Ken Finn, Bob Ubaldi, Robin Woods, Staci McCambridge, Ray Mulas

*Sonoma County Fire:* None

*CalFire LNU:* None

*Sonoma LAFCO:* Mark Bramfitt

*Timber Cove:* None

*Sonoma Valley FRA:* None

*Windsor:* Frank Treanor

*Other Guests:* Jim Colangelo

*Guest Speaker:* Steve Mosiurchak, Senior Fire Inspector

## CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

- The meeting was called to order by President Dan George at 7:30 p.m.
- President Dan George thanked the Board of Directors from Gold Ridge, the association and the Explorers for hosting and thanked everyone for coming.
- Self Introductions

## TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Secretary Lisa Guerrero gave the Treasurer's Report. The Balance in account as of 03/31/18 is \$6,952.46.
- President Dan George also mentioned the annual audit committee still needs to get together to review the bank account. Fred Peterson stated he talk with John Hamann from Geyserville and set up date to review. This will be done by the next meeting in July.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **FDAC/EBA:** President Dan George mentioned he attended the conference in Monterey. It was the largest attendance they have had. He also mentioned if you have an opportunity to attend next year, you should go and he believes it may be in Monterey again.
- **LAFCO:** Mark Bramfitt stated that the committee just approved the Geyserville & Knights Valley Annexation. Mark Bramfitt also mentioned they are working on the Schell-Vista annexation, and next they will be working on Mountain, Rincon Valley, Bennett Valley and Windsor.

Mark Bramfitt mentioned that the LAFCO Commission will hold a public hearing for their FY 2018-2019 LAFCO Final Budget and Fee Schedule. The increase will be around 7.2%, and the commission will adopt the final budget at the June 2018 meeting

**POLITICAL ACTION:** Frank Treanor mentioned the SAR tax which is illegal and obnoxious, and on April 18, 2018 the Senate Governance and Finance committee will hear Senate Bill 1044 which will permanently repeal the State Responsibility Fire Prevention Fee and clear refunds to everyone who has had to pay this unfair tax in the past. Frank Treanor gave an update on the following Fire Report Bills:

- Assembly Bill 1920, which would make it a misdemeanor for a person to impersonate search and rescue personnel. Note: approved by the Assembly and now moves to the Senate for consideration
- Assembly Bill 2414, which would allow an income tax credit for the installation of an attic vent closure in a residential property. Note: approved by Assembly Rev & Tax Committee and now moves to the Assembly Appropriations Committee for consideration
- Assembly Bill 2641, would authorize the Bureau of Cannabis Control to issue temporary event license. This bill was amended to prohibit the Bureau from issuing such a license unless the local jurisdiction in which the event will be held has

approved the event. The bill will be heard next week before the Assembly Business & Professions Committee

- Assembly Bill 2961, would require local EMS agency to submit data to EMSA to calculate the average ambulance patient offload time. The bill passed the Assembly Health Committee and now moves to the Assembly Appropriations Committee for consideration.
  - Senate Bill 833, would provide for a red alert system designed to issue and coordinate alerts following an evacuation order. The bill heads to the Senate Appropriations Committee for consideration.
  - Senate Bill 901, has been amended to require wildlife mitigation plans prepared by utility companies to include policies and procedures to de-energize its electrical lines.
  - Senate Bill 1088, has been amended to require OES to adopt standards for reducing risks from major events. The standards would include model policies for implementation by local governments regarding defensible space and action to be undertaken by electrical, gas or water companies to reduce the risk of fire occurring during a major event.
- o **FAIRA:** See Below
  - o **FASIS:** Carol Giovanatto (Pagini) mentioned the March 29<sup>th</sup> FASIS board meeting. This meeting was a two (2) part meeting, which included a Strategic Planning Session to develop goals for 2018/19 & 2019/20 and the Quarterly Meeting. Three specific goals were set for Bickmore Services:
    - Potential for consolidation of services with FAIRA and/or for Bickmore to offer expanded services for Property and Liability coverage (if FAIRA is not interested in consolidation). Main focus to be streamlined administrative services and lower costs by combining agencies. Bickmore was also to reach out to EBA.
    - Increase focus on Wellness Programs for Physical and Mental Health.
    - Review providing Ancillary Programs such as Lexipol and Labor Resources consultancy services.

The quarterly meeting included the reporting of the Workers Comp claims increased 25% in prior year and is trending up in current year. Preliminary rates for next year projected at 4.4% (safety) 4.9% non-safety. Specific District rates have been sent. The contract with Bickmore was renewed through 2023 at an average increase of 2.4 % per year. Bickmore and the Board to continue discussion on First Responder Support Network. A Presentation was made by West Coast Trama Retreat Center.

Next FASIS meeting is in June.

A question was asked about the increase in Workers Comp, and why? Carol will find out and report next meeting.

- ***FIRE SERVICE STUDY UPDATE:*** Jim Colangelo reported on the Advisory Council working to approve a program \$100,000 own set of valuation criteria. Jim Colangelo mentioned that they are still working on a planning group, and how to deal with agencies that are not sub sustainable. He also mentioned that he will need support at the next board meeting. Jim Colangelo spoke about the three (3) level plans. These three (3) different levels consist of a Gold, Silver and Bronze plan that provides staffing at different levels.
  - **Bronze:** While the Silver Plan represents the work of the entire Planning Group, the Bronze Plan has been developed primarily by me. I've attempted to distribute the approximately \$2.3 million in continuing funding that the FSAC now has throughout the Regions. In order to equally distribute this amount among the Regions, each Region would receive about \$330,000. Unfortunately, that is not enough money to fund a single full-time fire fighter. This means that an equitable distribution would result in only Stipend Firefighters being distributed throughout the Regions. In attempting to do this, it became apparent that \$2.3 million worth of Stipend Fire Fighters was not an effective use of this money.
  - **Silver:** This is where the majority of the Planning Group's work has been focused. Based on input from each Region, and further fine tuning by the Planning Group members, this service plan has been developed to provide an improved level of staffing throughout the County. An important aspect of this plan is to significantly increase ALS staffing throughout the County. Although Paramedics are identified at some stations, the intent is to have ALS staffed engines at each station that is staffed. Where a paramedic is not specifically identified, it is the intent to have an Engineer as a paramedic at that station.
  - **Gold:** This plan is simply based on staffing every existing station (including garages and barns) with a Firefighter, Paramedic, Engineer and Captain in order to meet NFPA Standards. (As an example, this options would have 16 full-time staff within the Fort Ross area.) Obviously, this would be an inefficient use of tax money. Your input on which stations in your Region should be staffed at this level would be very helpful.
- **Stations:** We have identified potential new stations, stations that currently exist but would need improvement to accommodate 24/7 staffing, and stations that should be moved to provide better coverage than currently exists. They are color coded on the spreadsheet with a legend at the bottom.

Dan George stated that he will have Lisa Guerrero forward the spreadsheet showing the three (3) plan levels.

Fred Peterson from Geyserville stated it seems we muddled the waters when you add the city funding. Could you show this broken out? Jim Colangelo stated it is broken out at the bottom of the spreadsheet. Dan George mentioned that they are trying to find the balance to support the city and come up with a better service.

Discussion ensued.

#### **PROGRAM:**

President Dan George introduced Steve Mosiurchak Santa Rosa Fire Inspector with Sonoma County FES - Vegetation Management Ordinance.

- Steve Mosiurchak prepared a power point presentation that talked about Sonoma County Vegetation Management Program. The presentation talked about: A variety of Codes and Regulations govern building and vegetation in the State Responsibility Area (SRA).

#### **(Power Point Presentation-attached)**

- Public Resource code 4290 and 4291 – Require homeowners to create a firebreak around homes - Defensible Space
- The California Fire Code – Addresses maintenance on buildings
- Sonoma County Code Ordinance 13A – Applies on unimproved and improved parcels zoned for five acres or less in unincorporated areas of Sonoma County in area selected by the Board of Supervisors and the Sonoma County Fire Chief
- Inspection and Abatement Processes
- Implementation: Hearings
- Implementation: Abatement

\*For questions or more information contact: Sonoma County Fire Marshal , James Williams

Phone: (707) 565-1154

Email: [James.Williams@sonoma-county.org](mailto:James.Williams@sonoma-county.org)

President Dan George mentioned an email he received from Marshall Turbeville in regards to Hazard Abatement Enforcement. President Dan George stated you should talk with your Fire Chiefs in the District about supporting this program. Ernie Loveless asked if the County Code 13A is a pilot program. Steve Mosiurchak stated yes and no. It's an ordinance and enforceable. The purpose of the pilot program was just to see how it goes. Since it's a county ordinance that gives you an enforceable policy to use in your district. Steve Mosiurchak also mentioned the chipper program the county has been using for about 4 years. Discussion ensued

**OLD BUSINESS:** The July 27, 2017 SCFDA Meeting Minutes: Upon motion by Ernie Loveless, seconded by Ray Mulas, the minutes from the 7/27/17 SCFDA meeting were approved. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:** The January 25, 2018 SCFDA Meeting Minutes: Upon motion by Fred Peterson, seconded by Michael Gadoua, the minutes from the 1/25/18 SCFDA meeting were approved. Motion carried.

President Dan George mentioned that the California Fire Officials are seeking \$100 million in Wildfire Prep. About \$87 million would reimburse local governments for the costs to pre-position fire resources in high risk areas and \$13 million would pay for improved communications technology. There will be a meeting on May 10<sup>th</sup> in Santa Rosa to see how we can help each other, and the County Fire Chiefs are working on this.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:** None

**NEXT MEETING:**

- The next Regular Meeting will be held July 26, 2018 and will be hosted by Windsor Fire.

**ADJOURN:** A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. was made by Ray Mulas. The motion was seconded by Joe Peterson and passed unanimously.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa Guerrero, SCFDA Secretary/Treasurer*

*Minutes Approved:* \_\_\_\_\_ *Date:* \_\_\_\_\_  
*SCFDA Board President*