SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION MEETING
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
June 10, 2020 at 9:30 AM
Conference Call In

ATTENDANCE

Daren Bellach  Kenwood  Mark Heine  Sonoma County Fire District
Bill Bullard  Graton  Spencer Andreis  Sonoma Valley Fire & Rescue
Marshall Tuberville  Geyerville  Bonnie Plakos  North Coast Fire
Jeff Schach  Petaluma  Shepley Schroth-Cary  NBF/Gold Ridge
Ben Nicholls  CALFIRE  James Williams  Sonoma County
Scott Westrope  Santa Rosa  Steve Akre  Sonoma Valley Fire & Rescue
Matt Epstein  DCRFD  Mike Mickelson  North Bay Fire
Dave Franceschi  Forestville  KT McNulty  REDCOM
Jason Boaz  Healdsburg  Tony Gossner  Santa Rosa
Doug Williams  SMART  Brian Henricksen  AMR
Shawna Jones  CALFIRE  Ray Mulas  Schell Vista
James Salvante  Coastal Valley EMS  Dean Anderson  AMR
Ron Lunardi  Occidental  Nick Silva  Lakeville
Mike Nichols  Cazadero  Bill Braga  Sebastopol
Jim Wikman  PG&E  Sean Grinnell  Bodega Bay

Call to Order: Chief Boaz began the meeting at 0937 and led the pledge.

Pledge of Allegiance: Chief Boaz

Host Chief Introduction: Chief Boaz welcomed everyone on the Conference Call

Presidents Report: None

Changes to the Agenda: Add a presentation from PG&E on SIPT Teams

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes. Motion by Sean Grinnell, 2nd; James Williams All AYE

Treasurer’s Report: Submitted Hans reported the following:

- Chiefs General Fund: $3,286.88
- Survivors Fund: $105,896.31
- OP’s/TO’s Fund: $5,507.92
- TO’s Command Grant: $25,000.00
- FPO Safety Trailer: $10,381.90
- Career Succession: $875.64
- FPO General Fund: $2998.20
- Youth Fire Setter Fund: $1,041.53
- FITF: $1,888.49
- Safety Pals Gen. Fund: $31770.47
- Safety Pals Trailer: $2,500.00

Total: $191,147.34
**Correspondence:** We did receive a correspondence from Barbie Robinson dated May 19\(^{th}\), 2020 in response to a letter that the Chiefs Association had written to her in regards on how the RFP process was going. The Chiefs Association signed a letter stating that we did not think the electronic survey was a good substitution for the process. Barbie responded that she did receive our letter was happy with how the survey was working and going to schedule an online meeting.

Chief Boaz signed a letter in behalf to Dr. Davis Duncan in regards to the removal of the Chapter 13 regulations.

**Presentation:** Sam Wallis from the County Alert and Warnings did a PPT presentation on alert and warnings. Phone Warnings, (Nixle, SoCo Alert, Federal Emergency Alerts). Expanding NOAA Weather radio alerts. Radio grants and coverage extensions. SoCo Alert comes with a cost. Better to go big on evacuation alerts. Improvements overall on all platforms. Improved GeoFencing with more control. Use of high and low sirens.

PG&E – Jim Wickman did a PPT presentation on Safety & Infrastructure Protection Teams (SIPT). Deliver fire and medical standby services for high risk PG&E work and protect Assets. SIPT is not a fire dept. and engines are not IA. Supports PG&E with fire protection standby work, Medical responses at the work site, Fire patrols on PG&E properties and fuel hazard reduction. They will mop up PG&E assets and provide PSPS support and observations. Self-dispatching is prohibited at all times.

**Old Business:** COVID-19 County Update-Chief Gossner reported 671 cases, 297 active. Antibody testing is available through the County results with-in 7 days. Shelter in place order is still in effect. Wear masks! James Salvante also reported Monday and Thursday meetings have been pushed back to 0900hrs, not to conflict with the operational Monday meeting. Looking into creating more antibody testing sites throughout the County.

RFP and LAFCO Update-Chief Heine reported the RFP process has been going backwards for many months. The meetings have been good meeting. COVID caused this process to come to a stop. The electronic survey was done and concerns about how the dialog would be captured. A new stake holder conference meeting was held last Monday and stake holders were able to submit commits. We are now back to a robust stake holder approach. James Salvante stated he did receive a copy of the commits recorded with-in the survey and he would send it out to the entire stake holder group.

LAFACO Sphere of Influence process has been impacted with COVID. Last week’s May meeting was canceled due to electronic problems and scheduled to have a July meeting.

**New Business:** OES up staffing-Chief Gossner reported we up staffed an OES ST. last Tuesday in anticipation of protests and the Andy Lopez Birthday celebration. 4 T-1 OES Engines and 1 T-1 local Government engine. The ST was released by midnight with no issues or activity. Chief Gossner thanked everyone that participated.

**Standing Committee Reports:**

*Fire Service Working Group:* Since the Measure G defeat, the Group has not been given any direction from the Board of Supervisors.

*SMART:* Doug Williams reported operationally things are static. Reduced schedule and low passenger loadings. The Windsor extension is underway and is still a year out until completion.

*Regional Zone Reports:* Chief Boaz asked for and received the following reports

**C ALFIRE: **Chief Jones reported Fire Season is here! Staffing one engine per station. Approval to bring on all crews by June 29\(^{th}\). Burn permits will be suspended on Monday. Working on documentation and procedures for large fires and COVID. Chief Nichols reported dispatch resources have been augmented. Medium Dispatch will give you 4 engines, 2 dozers, 1 copter, 2 tankers and 2 crews. High Dispatch will you get 8 engines, 3 dozers, 1 copter, 3 tankers and 2 crews. Total of 7 crews in the unit. More handline construction for engine companies on smaller incidents this year. Identify and make known the ICP locations and track your resources to have a clean transfer/ unified command. If you leave equipment or have damaged equipment on the scene, tie in with the IC before you leave to create a paper trail of where equipment needs to go. Chief Bullard asked if there was going to be a communications plan update for this year. Per Chief Nichols the frequency load has not yet gone out. Chief Tuberville is working on the Pre Attack maps and should be out in a draft form soon.
Zone 3: Chief Akre reported Sonoma Valley Fires reorganization is moving forward and going smooth and set to go live July 1st as the Sonoma Valley Fire District. A few big retirements coming up for 3 Officers and will forward out that information as we get closer to those dates.

Zone 4: Chief Plakos reported they changed Zone Chiefs. Chief Lynn of Timber Cove is the new Zone Chief. New Engine 4483 will be in service in about 2 weeks.

Zone 5: No report

Zone 6: Chief Epstein reported Dry Creek received a FEMA grant to purchase some equipment. They will standing up an ALS QRV in Zone 6 and working Sonoma County Fire for staffing it.

Zone 7: Chief Heine reported the annexation of the Russian River Fire District has been approved with a July 1st go live date. Personnel have been cross staffing all stations until July 1st. EMT’s are in a training program now to support the ambulances. They have been asked by the Forestville Fire District Board to start the annexation process, plan on submitting the application to LAFCO in September.

Zone 8: No report

Zone 9: Chief Schach reported they had an operational meeting with Northbay/Gold Ridge, Marin County Fire and Cal Fire a few days ago.

OES: No report

Training OP’s: No report

FPO’s: No report

Fire Districts: Chief Akre reported the Districts Association will be putting out a letter to advise everyone on what is going on. Looking at the July meeting to be a virtual call. More to follow.

Volunteer Fire Companies: No report

Vegetation Management: Chief Williams reported he went to the Board yesterday and they approved the amendments to Chapter 13A to remove the zoning for parcels over 5 acres. Looking at approx. 2,400 inspections this year. Virtual community meetings on June 17, 18 and 25 from 6:30 and 7:30 and June 20 and 27 from 10:00 to 11:00. The Board asked for packets of information for their Districts. Inspections should be getting started the week of June 22nd. Training for the inspectors will be on this coming Friday, Saturday and the 16th. The 5 Acre and more for removal will not start until July 24th. 30 days after the ordinance goes into effect. AG properties (land) will be exempt from the ordinance. Structures on these properties will be inspected.

Ad-Hoc Committee Reports:

Fire/EMS: No report

County Alerting System: No report

Sonoma OP Area Up-Staffing Plan: No report

REDCOM: KT McNulty reported Tango Tango equipment has been installed which will turn your cell phone into a radio. REDCOM has 30 licenses. If anyone is interested in the beta testing contact Kenny. Mobile Responder that moves the MDC to a tablet platform should be in next week. Tablet Command has a $20,000.00 short fall for funding due to software issues.

Closed Session: None
**Good of the Order:** Chris Godley stated we are looking at an increase in cases of COVID due to the opening up of the State. Over the next weeks they will be identifying on how they will deal with PSPS in the future and the impact it may have.

**Adjournment:** @ 1123hrs.

**Next Meeting:** July 8th at RPPS

Respectfully Submitted,

Daren Bellach  
SCFCA Secretary