



Sonoma County Fire Chiefs Association Training/Operations Officers Section

MEETING MINUTES March 13, 2018

Attendance:

Randy Collins	SRJC	Gina Peterson	Sonoma County
Steve Suter	Santa Rosa	Dave Cornelsson	Windsor/RV
Justin Fox	Bodega Bay	Spenser Andreis	SVFRA
Sophia Kittila	REDCOM	Darren DeCarli	GR/BV
Ryan Lantz	Russian River	Mark Gradek	CALFIRE
Matt Eggleston	Forestville	Brian Cyr	SVFRA
Nicole Henriksen	AMR	Matt Gloeckner	SRFD

- I. **Call to Order:** Chief Andreis called the meeting to order at 09.05
- II. **Self-Introductions:** Self-intro's were made.
- III. **Changes to the Agenda:** Chief Andreis asked if there were any changes. There were none.
- IV. **Approval of the Minutes:** A motion to approve the January minutes was made by Chief DeCarli, second by Chief Petersen. Unanimous vote. Randy reported that the balance in our checking account as reported by Hans is \$19,098.22.
- V. **Presentations:** None
- VI. **Liaison Reports:**
 - A. **Chiefs:** Randy shared the following from the last Chief's meeting:
 - A presentation on peer support by Local 1401 President Tim Aboudara who is heading up the Peer Support program for SR. He described himself as an accidental behaviorist in mental health and identified it the number 1 problem in the industry with 1-1/2 individuals lost for every one lost to LODD & cancer. One website that covers much of the activities they perform can be found at:www.firestrong.com.
 - The group also adopted their goals for 2018 (see attachment to these minutes)
 - **FPO's:** Chief DeCarli shared they are developing a sub-group to work on the emergency alert system. They are also working on a County-wide weed abatement ordinance.
 - C. **Marin TO's/OP's:** Randy attended last Tuesday's meeting and reported on the following:
 - Their USAR team was deployed to Montecito. Trend was to use the regional teams due to their smaller size and mobility given the challenges faced with the mud. They are looking to add members to the team.
 - Their STL/Overhead refresher class has been scheduled for May 15 with lecture in the AM and exercises in the PM. Considering conducting an evacuation exercise using their digital maps

- Wildland Mayday policy has been developed and is being reviewed by Curtis Brown with CalFire (draft policy included in the attachment for these minutes)
- They have a draft PPE policy that they are looking for feedback (see attachments also)
- Waiting to hear if the grant for their Ballistic PPE has been funded

D. CALFIRE: Chief Gradek shared they are now dispatching for Lake County which has doubled their call volume. They are going to have a hard date for the start of fire season instead of having moving ones. Pushing VMP programs. They are also working on replacing their Huey's with Blackhawks which deliver four times as much water and will ultimately have night flying capability. In response to Chief Andreis questions, The Lake County Red frequency is still being kept.

E. NBIMT: Chief Gradek shared there will be a three day exercise for the team March 21-23 at Sears Point

F. CICC: Chief Andreis reminded the group this year's CICC meeting would probably occur on April 11 or 12 (TBD). Randy added that the latest Qualification Guide (2018) will be voted on by STEAC at their April meeting.

G. Fire Tech Advisory: Randy shared the following:

- The 93rd FFI academy began Feb 5 and is in their 6th week. Graduation is May 4th and Chief Welch from Mill Valley will be giving the speech.
- For FFI candidates who complete their training at outside agencies and come to us for the Cert test only, we will be requiring their Chief to complete a "Statement of Understanding" attesting to them being prepared to take the test and the implications if they fail.
- A \$187K grant proposal for a Draeger Phase II Prop has been submitted which thanks to letters of support by the Marin and Sonoma Chief's he is hopeful of receiving. He also shared submitting a number of smaller grants for a wide variety of forcible entry props.
- In response to concerns expressed by agencies of the fall Vol. Fire Skills course being a prerequisite for the spring one, he has changed the course to be modular allowing them to be taken in any sequence. It has resulted in the courses being re-numbered Fire 107.1 & 107.2.
- SFT Classes running this semester include: DOIA & IB, S-290 which finished last weekend, CO 2E (Wildland Inc Ops), CO 2C (Inves/Insp) and Instructor I. S-219 will be scheduled in June once a date for the Warm Springs Dam burn is established. All are being run regardless of enrollment in an effort to serve local fire agencies. I have made arrangements with SFT to deliver a RIO class for this group on June 19, an Ethical leadership class on June 20 and a Skills Evaluator class on either June 18 or 21. All will be in Windsor.

H. REDCOM: Sophia shared they celebrated their 15th anniversary on Jan 27. Dispatcher Appreciation Week is April 11 with a lunch being sponsored by Windsor Fire. They have 4 people in training so you should start hearing new voices on the radio.

VII. Old Business:

A. 2018 Goals Discussion/Adoption: Chief Andreis reviewed the following draft goals:

- Review of Deployments (see below)

- Continue to maintain training calendar on the website (on-going handled by Randy)
- Continue liaisons with Chiefs, Marin & FPO
- Host a RIO & Ethics course (scheduled for June 19 & 20)
- Encourage the concept of zone drills
- Host a STL/Overhead refresher course (Scheduled for April 23rd)
- Work with FPO's to pursue common terminology and procedures for evacuation
- Recognize staff achievements at the Chief's Installation luncheon
- Implement a single "All-Call" page. Chief Andreis shared this is done and he is urging individual agencies to modify their paging equipment in-house by May 1.
- Develop a Tactical Response to Conflagrations course – to be included in the STL Overhead refresher course
- Develop a Tactical Response to Mass Shootings course. After a brief discussion, Chief DeCarli agreed to chair this for Captain Suter who is being transferred back to the line
- Develop Drawn Down protocols: Chief Andreis shared he will be reaching out to the Zone Chiefs for their feedback to find out what their min. drawdown levels are, draft a policy for the Chief's review and then send to the DOAG

Motion to adopt the goals as presented was made by Chief DeCarli, second by Chief Andreis. Unanimous vote.

B. Drawdown Procedures: (discussed under goals above)

C. Zone Drills: Chief Andreis began by encouraging each region to host a drill. Chief Peterson spoke of the efforts being made to scheduled one for Zone 9. He encouraged folks not to be discouraged if they do not receive participation from other zones.

D. 2018 STL/Overhead Refresher: Chief Andreis indicated it has been scheduled for April 23rd at the UFO building. Laptops or smart devices will be needed for the mapping component. For those who cannot make this date, Marin Co.'s will be on May 15 (RSVP to Mark Brown at Marin Co).

VIII. New Business:

A. Co-Sponsorship Smoke Coalition Class: Chief Suter spoke to the benefits of the class which is on March 23rd. He is looking for some financial support from this group. A motion was made by Chief Cornelsson to approve up to \$1500. Second by Chief DeCarli. Unanimous vote.

B. OP's/TO's By-Laws Revision: Chief Andreis shared the background. Chief DeCarli suggested amending the By Laws section 3.4 to include at the end of the section; "The Secretary position may filled by an Associate or Honorary member at the pleasure of the President" which would allow Randy to continue to serve as Secretary in his current capacity. A motion was made by Chief DeCarli and second by Chief Peterson to make the change. Unanimous vote. Randy reminded the group that per Section 8.1 of the By-Laws, the matter could only be introduced at this meeting and voted on at the May meeting. The group agreed to repeat the vote as taken in May.

C. 2017 Deployment Review: Chief Andreis began by circulating the list of those due to for their refresher training. He went on to speak to his perspective on the review from the 30K foot level.

Sophia shared an overview of all deployments for the year (too extensive to be listed here which did not including the October incidents). A few problems were discussed including a

deployment to the Creek Fire with an equipment breakdown leading to a cascade of events resulting in losing track of a STL trainee. Sophia will look into it. From July – November, 11 ST were filled (not including our Oct events) and approx. 120 overhead positions were deployed. A conversation on deployments and folks signing up but being unavailable followed. Chief Cornelsson reminded the group that in reality these stats are higher if you consider those resources participating in the ABH process. Chief Andreis expressed his interest in making a presentation to the Chiefs on this topic later in the year.

IX. Good of the Order:

- Captain Suter suggested hosting a class on the Ghost Ship Fire after seeing it at Firehouse World.
- Matt indicated Forestville is pushing Zone drills
- Ryan indicated they are working to host a water rescue and extrication class. They are also recruiting for a FF/Medic
- Chief DeCarli shared Zone 8 has put in a FIREACT grant for a Tower in Zone 8.
- Capt. Suter shared they just completed the Trench Rescue and are in the midst of a Haz-Tech/Spec class
- Nicole shared she is new to AMR in the county (is from Contra-Costa) and is interested in working to promote interoperability
- Sophia will be on vacation for three weeks and encouraged folks to contact Ken if they need anything
- Chief Cornelsson shared Windsor and Rincon Valley have a new Fire Chief. Chief Mark Heine retired from Novato FD earlier this year and has taken over for Chief Jack Piccinini. Windsor and Rincon Valley are again pursuing consolidation. LAFCO has been asked to initiate the MSR. It will not include Mountain Fire District at this time. Response ESZ's have been updated and a test run is being conducted. The intention is to reduce the number of ESZ's, create consistent deployments throughout both RV and Windsor and to reduce the resource commitment responding from the City and to stretch our deployments up into the Mountain Fire District to provide a better, safer service for both our fire crews and the citizens
- Justin Fox shared they will be considering a MSR
- Chief Cyr shared they are conducting refresher classes for large animal rescue.
- Chief Peterson shared they completed a Confined Space Technician and auto extrication class recently.
- Chief Andreis indicated they are talking with Mayacamas to assist them as they were severely impacted by the fires. They have also purchased a trailer to transport rescue equipment.

X. Adjournment: Chief Andreis adjourned the meeting at 10:30

Next meeting: May 8th 2018 at the SRFDTT.

Respectfully submitted March 14th 2018
Randy Collins