



Sonoma County Fire Chiefs Association

Training/Operations Officers Section

MEETING MINUTES Sept 8, 2015

Attendance:

Randy Collins	SRJC	Mark Basque	SRFD
Matt Dahl	SRFD	Wes Kitchel	DES
Dave Cornelsson	CSC Fire	Jack Piccinini	SRFD
Jeff Lemelin	Mountain	Tom Knecht	CalFire
Sophia Betts	REDCOM	Mark Gradek	CalFire
Kirk Van Wormer	CalFire	Greg Martin	DES

- I. **Call to Order:** Chief Piccinini called the meeting to order for Pres. Cornelssen at 0909.
- II. **Self-Introductions:** With some new faces, Jack had everyone introduce themselves.
- III. **Changes to the Agenda:** Jack asked that “Emergency Button” and “Meeting Schedule” be added under New Business.
- IV. **Approval of the Minutes:** Motion to approve by Wes, seconded by Jack, unanimous vote. Randy reported our balance is \$16,990.91 with no activity over the last month. \$6k of that amount is still encumbered to SFT for the RIO class
- V. **Presentation:** None
- VI. **Liaison Reports:**
 - A. **Chiefs:** Jack reported attending and shared the following items of interest: There was a discussion of the Chief’s modifying their meeting schedule and a spin-off discussion on how the sub-groups meeting frequency followed. There was also a discussion about the use of Emergency buttons on portables (more to come under New Business). They will hold their 2016 planning session on November 4 at Penngrove in place of their normal November meeting. The date is a week earlier due to the Veteran’s Day holiday. The other item that dominated a good deal of the meeting is the draft CVEMS Patient Care Records policy which will require all agencies to complete a report of the contact activities they have with a patient regardless of the extent of that contact (BLS, Put-Back’s etc). The concern was the huge amount of paperwork that will be generated and the redundancy. In the end a subcommittee with Chief Freeman and Matt Dahl was formed to work on the matter. Matt reported they have since met and the outcome was to make the PCR’s a recommendation (a policy word change from “Shall” to “should”). In the meantime, the “rip-sheets” most BLS folks use will be acceptable. Jack also shared that there was a discussion on this group (OP’s/TO’s) having a greater emphasis on training.
 - B. **FPO’s:** Randy reported he attended their meeting on the 19th and shared the following:
 - The FITF will be offering an Investigation IB class in December following the Investigation IA class being offered through the JC the weekend of Dec 4 & 11.

- After finding increased use of large CO-2 cylinders they will be developing a campaign to educate local businesses on the fire code requirements. They will also reach out to the Building Officials and have a short presentation at the NOR-CAL FPO meeting they are hosting this month in Petaluma.
- Fire Safe Sonoma is being handled by Marsha at DES in Roberta's absence.
- I shared the not to exceed \$2000 for classes commitment we made to the FPO's at our last meeting.
- They are hosting a *RCFE* class on Sept 24 and a *Statutes and Regulations* class on Sept 25 (location TBA)
- Next Safety Pal's presentations will be Nov 5 & 6 in Sonoma Valley
- Scheduling a retirement breakfast for Roberta at Bennett Valley GC, date, TBA

C. Marin TO's: No report

D. Marin OP's: No report. Jack asked if someone could attend in his absence (there were no takers).

E. CALFIRE: Mark shared they have seen unprecedented fire behavior due to the drought conditions. He added due to the Governor's appearance at the Rocky fire, more funding has been allocated for resources. He added right now, fuel moistures are critically low.

F. NBIMT: Jack P. reported they have not met as they do not train in the summer but did almost get deployed to the Wragg fire.

G. CICC: No report from Jack Thomas although they still have been receiving applications for line EMTs

H. Fire Tech Advisory: Randy shared the following:

- Due to the increase in Fire Academy hours and the new SFT MQ's for staff, they will only be offering a single Intensive academy next spring instead of two with the intent of using that time to focus on training staff and fine tuning the certification testing process.
- They are implementing a program called EVALs.net with this academy which is an on-line system allowing videos of student skill's performances to be uploaded to an on-line accounts. The goal is to develop model videos of all the skills the students are will be responsible for so they can view them as practice guides and then have academy staff video the students during testing to provide a permanent record. If they fail, it will also provide a clear example of the areas they need to improve on. If anyone is interested on how the system works, the vendor will be conducting a training on Dec 3 at the PSTC.
- The stand-alone practice test course for FFI has been written and is going through the approvals process as we speak. The next step is to write the stand alone course for FFII.
- Speaking of curriculum, all of the new courses for Company Officer have been completed and are going through the review process.
- The next Fire Tech Advisory meeting will be on Thursday November 5 at 1000.

I. REDCOM: Sophia reported they have been very busy with all the requests from Region. They have 5 trainees and would welcome any feedback on their performance

VII. Old Business:

A. Goals

1. **SFT Update Class:** Randy reminded the group of the class which is Oct 23. If you took this class several years ago, you do not need this one. It is a repeat. Contact Rachel at 836-2906 if you wish to attend

VIII. New Business:

- A. Meeting Schedules (Taken out of order):** Jack reported on the discussion that occurred at the Chief's meeting and how we had shared to them that we had gone to every other month. With issues like fire season and our difficulties pulling off a MAD drill and meeting other training needs, is there a better way to schedule our activities. Wes spoke to the problems we have with our plates being full already. A long discussion followed with a number of views with the outcome to stay with our current schedule. Marshall made a motion for the group to direct the E-Board to come up with one or two training activities to recommend to the Chiefs at their Planning session on Nov 4. Second by Dave. Unanimous vote.
- B. By-Laws Revision (from Old Business):** Randy circulated a copy of the draft By-Laws that had been amended to reflect our meeting times. After a short discussion, a motion was made by Matt, second by Wes. Unanimous vote.
- B. Nominating Committee:** In accordance with the new By-Laws, Dave gave a brief background on how Officers are appointed for this group. Under the existing slate, Jack will be President and Randy has agreed to stay on as Secretary so we only need a VP. Wes promptly nominated Greg Martin as VP. Unless someone else comes forward, this will represent the slate to be voted on at the November meeting.
- C. Emergency Button Use on MDC's and Portables:** Jack reported this was brought up at the last Chief's meeting and passed down to us to develop some protocols. Because it was raised by Petaluma and there was no Petaluma rep present, it was suggested the matter be tabled. Sophia indicated that REDCOM currently does not have the hardware to make the use of them a reality. Jeff shared that he can provide Marin's policy. Mark Basque reported the REDCOM radio group brought this up a few years ago and it was found there can be a lot of other impacts when it is implemented. Randy recommended we appoint Dave Kahn at Petaluma as a Chair to head a subcommittee on this project. Mark B and Sophia agreed to participate. Mark also suggested a rep from the radio shop be included. Randy said he will contact Dave and advise of this development.

IX. Good of the Order:

Greg: Volunteer Fire Skills is starting soon and has grown popular with 32 enrolled.

Wes: Reported they are sending a team to Urban Shield this year.

Jack: SR is holding a BC's exam and will be conducting live burns.

X. Adjournment:

Jack adjourned the meeting at 10.21

Next meeting: November 10, 2015 at the SRFDTT.

Respectfully submitted, Sept 8, 2015
Randy Collins