

SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION



MEETING MINUTES July 14, 2010 Hosted by: Rohnert Park DPS

Attendance:

Bill Braga	SFD/REDCOM	Kent Coxon	CVEMS
Mark McCormick	Santa Rosa	Paul Pigoni	Geyserville
Tim Streblov	Cal Fire	Sean Grinnell	Bodega Bay
Eric Hoffman	Cal Fire	Randy Collins	Healdsburg
Dan Northern	Forestville	Bob Uboldi	Kenwood
Dick Luttrell	REDCOM	Peter Van Fleet	Glen Ellen
Doug Williams	Rincon Valley	Caerleon Safford	Fire Safe Sonoma
Frank Treanor	Rancho Adobe		
Mark Aston	Sonoma County		

Call to Order:

- Chief Collins called the meeting to order at 09:40 and asked for a moment of silence for Al Mazza who passed away July 3rd. Al served as Chief of Sonoma for 23 years, Interim Chief for Sausalito Fire Department and Russian River FPD. Al was Mayor and two term Councilmember for the City of Sonoma. Al also served as President of this organization in 1973.

Host Chief Introduction:

- Made by Chief Collins on behalf of Commander John Marty who apologized for missing the meeting due to a previously scheduled vacation.

Approval of Minutes:

- Motion by Chief Doug Williams, seconded by Chief Mark Aston, approved unanimously.

President's Report:

- Chief Randy Collins reported that he is no longer Chief of Healdsburg, but will remain the Administrative Chief of Sotoyome. Congratulations were extended to Chief Dan Northern who agreed to move up in the Chairs and assume the responsibilities of the Vice President due to the recent retirement of Chuck Absear. Thanks were also extended to Chief Sean Grinnell for his willingness to fill in as the new Sec/Treas.
- **Treasurer's Report as of June 30st**, Without mentioning names, Sean reminded the group some dues are delinquent and asked those who fall into this category to remit ASAP.

Chief's Checking Account:	\$ 2,193.37
Widows and Orphans – checking:	\$ 17,651.27
Widows and Orphans – CD:	\$115,808.18

Total Association Funds: \$135,652.82

- **Correspondence:** None

- **Presentations:**

Sonoma County General Services – Sam Ruark- Spoke to the group about Energy efficiency for public facilities and the program offered by the County. The public information brochure is attached to these minutes.

Committee Reports:

- **Training Section:** Chief Treanor – not much since MADD training...Rancho created two buildings; one with a sprinkler and one without, a very good demonstration of what happens when fire starts in a building with and without sprinklers...info available for those that are interested.
- **Prevention Section:** Chief Zanzi – John is on vacation, Chief Williams spoke on his behalf. The Prevention Officers Association held a joint meeting with the Code Officials on 6-23-10. There was a great turn out. Among those who spoke -Tonya Hover, Ronny Coleman, and Rubin Grihalva gave their unique perspectives as well as updates from the State (TH).

The group purchase of code books saved approximately \$10,000.00.

Chief Collins added that after the work last year to modify the Stormwater Discharge Requirements for local fire agencies through the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board's (NCRWQB) permitting process, an effort is being undertaken through the State Fire Marshal's Office to replicate some of these requirements at the Statewide level and he circulated a draft of the proposed scope of work for the working group. If anyone has concerns or comments they would like to add, to contact Fire Marshal Linda Collister at Healdsburg who is representing the fire community (lcollister@ci.healdsburg.ca.us).

Chief McCormick said Santa Rosa was required to address similar issues at their level as well.

Chief William's stated the FPO's regular meeting for July is postponed to the 21st. Lori from Novato is hosting a class on regulations for Bay Area Air Quality District as related to cooking equipment.

- **Operations Section:** Next Monday is meeting July 19th.
- **District Chiefs:** Chief Northern – next meeting is July 22 in Forestville. Rod Dole will discuss tax collections.
- **Volunteer Fire Chief's Association:** Chief Aston reported the Association met on June 9th. He provided updates on the County budget situation and spoke of the progress with the efforts of the steering committee with the Vision project, the re-branding of County Fire, their new patch and the development of a number of SOP's by an SOP Committee Chaired by Eleanor Ratliff. The goal is for the Vision 20/20 plan to go to supervisors in September; and the Standards of Cover (SOC) doc in March. The next meeting is August 11, 7pm at DES. Great attendance at meetings, almost all VFC'S attending.

Randy reminded the group that the joint Dinner meeting at Gold Ridge in October has been changed from the 13th to the 20th due to a scheduling conflict. Mark your calendars.

- **REDCOM:** Dick reminded the group of the importance of maintaining active status for strike teams and ST leaders and that failure to do so may result in departments/individuals being skipped. Randy shared that these same issues were raised at a recent Zone 6 meeting and that the system can expect to have some quirks but that all agencies up should status regardless. After a brief discussion which centered around concerns about agencies who could pre-empt others by statusing later in the week (after others had done so per the policy on Monday), it was the consensus of the group to have the Op's group modify the policy. Mark indicated will speak to Op's.

Dick Luttrell and Bill Braga-reminded the group that narrow banding remains the big concern and the Fire Act grant prepared by them was submitted to FEMA. Bill will work with radio group to coordinate this project but expressed concerns that the cap on his hours will not permit him to devote enough time to the project. Randy shared that in addition to the Radio sub-committee that was formed at last months Meeting; a parallel effort was occurring under the auspices of the *County Radio Strategic Planning and Governance Project* which was meeting simultaneous as this one and being attended by John Lantz. Rather than convene a meeting of this group's Radio Sub-committee, he felt it would be prudent to get an update from John first.

Concern was expressed that with the Jan 1st, 2013 deadline coming soon, we need to make sure we are on the same page as all the other radio groups and should be on similar time frame as the state.

Randy indicated that due to the complexity of this issue (as well as the 700 Mhz project), he agreed with Dick's concern to increase Bill's hours so as to represent the group as needed and conducted a straw pole to find out the level of interest amongst the group to send a letter to the REDCOM board to increase Bill's hours. Almost all present raised their hands. Randy indicated he would ask for a formal vote at the August meeting.

Doug commented on another narrow band issue-radio group met last Monday would like to do a comprehensive study of who has radio licenses, etc, and inventory.

- **CAD Group:** Chief Williams – has not met, waiting on GIS - TAC group meets next Wednesday. Reminder that everyone should have received the newest run book.
- **Cal EMA Operational Area:** Chief Williams– Petaluma hosted a meeting in June...new CCICS regs for July 1st. The matrix has been modified to add Type III capabilities for Sebastopol and Santa Rosa. So far the season has been quite with no call-outs so there has been no live test of the active status system just yet. Doug will go see region two dispatch center 7-15-10...

Chief Streblov added that the new terminology and tactics have been adopted and encouraged the group to review them. Dan added that they have been incorporated into the new IRPG.

- **County Fire:** Chief Aston reported that with the budget in place, purchases can begin for the 2009 Homeland Security grants and that progress is being made with the 2010 grant process. He added that the County was able to close the \$61 million deficit by concessions, furloughs, 246 lay-offs and \$21 million in one time funds so more challenges are anticipated for next year. A committee has been formed to evaluate the way the County operates and examine new ways of governance. He added a County wide burn ban is in place and will remain until fire season closes and the fire code adoption is ready to go to the BOS in September. Filling the Operations position is moving forward but budget has slowed the process. Eleanor will continue in the position until it is filled. NHRA is this weekend and the next steering committee meeting is July 27.
- **EMCC:** Kent Coxen – Next meeting is Monday the 26th at Noon...at EMS...EMT 2010 is in place. Grandfathering is in place for the background issue. EMS still struggling with state registry. DOJ is also very slow. Card printing is also an issue. One of the new things to be aware of is investigations and discipline. Employer has the first shot, but CVEMS should be involved. The Advanced EMT has gathered some interest and they are requesting the use of Homeland Security funds to augment the equipment costs. He added that a draft policy for Fire line Paramedic is almost complete, see Kent if interested. He ended sharing plans to conduct a hospital evacuation exercise on October 4th at the new Kaiser facility before it is occupied. If interested in participating or observing, contact Kent.
- **Legislative:** No report
- **Grants:** No report

- **SRJC Advisory:** Chiefs Williams and Collins – no meeting since last meeting. Fred Bunker has officially retired after over 20 years as the Director of the Fire Technology program and his work was recognized at the BOS's.
- **CHP Liaison:** No Report
- **Red Cross:** No Report
- **Marin Chiefs Liaison:** No Report
- **Fire Safe Sonoma:** Carleon Safford – Chipper is up and running. Carleon encourage input from chiefs for various projects. Two different programs are running at the moment. Really important to put close groups together, e.g. neighborhood area. Randy identified a need for roadside clearing especially since funding is not available. Mark mentioned working with Woolsey's office for hazard reduction with federal money. Carleon due to the work load, she would welcome any assistance with her chipper projects.

Old Business:

Website-no report.

CICCS- Petaluma meeting was held and well attended. Marvin Howard will hold a meeting in Windsor on July 20th at 10 AM to go over changes for the north part of Region II which he covers (John Clary has been assigned to the south part of Region II). Dan indicated the 2010 CICCS Strike Team Leader requirement almost mirrors what the Op's group put together and that we may wish to back out of our own policy and follow the State CICCS requirements.

New Business: None

Improving Efficiency:

Randy- Healdsburg took possession of a new utility and utilized County fleet to install the radios & Code 3 package and they did a good job. Doug reminded us of the success of the code book purchase.

Tim Streblov reminded us that delta camp can do letters and striping, as well as other services.

Customer Service: None reported.

Good of the Order

Randy--Hording-Good article in Press demo...Good comments from Cyndi at RV.

Randy commented that Zone 6 is one month into the Zone six battalion coverage...still a few bugs but working very well...

Closed Session (if necessary) – 11:33

Next Meeting: Rincon Valley (In Windsor) August 11, 2010. Presenter, Bruce Martin Fremont Fire Chief on the Urban Shield Project.

Sonoma County energy watch

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Direct Install services

SCEW, in partnership with the Small Business Energy Alliance, will provide free audits and direct install services to our customers. Lighting retrofit services may be offered at low or no cost. Additional measures may include HVAC tune-ups, lighting sensors, and the installation of "vending machine energy misers"

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The SCEW program may offer rebate for direct install projects. Core program rebates are available projects that reduce natural gas use. Building retrofit measures, including HVAC, boiler, chiller, and other infrastructure improvements which save energy will receive rebates.

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SAVE RESOURCES

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**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL****Fire Engineering Division**

P.O. Box 944246
Sacramento, CA 94244-2460
Web Site: <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov>
(916) 445-8200
(916) 445-8458 Fax

**May 19, 2010**

**California State Fire Marshal
Water Discharge for Fire Protection Task Force
Draft
Scope/Goals/Objectives**

Scope:

The Scope of the Water Discharge for Fire Protection Task Force will be to address state mandated requirements (issues) and to develop Best Management Practices for discharge of "water-based fire protection systems" in conjunction with NFPA-13, NFPA-13R, NFPA-13D, NFPA-14, NFPA-20, NFPA-24, NFPA 25 (2006 California edition), and **American Water Works Association standards**. The Task Force will identify Water Reclamation (re-use and recycle criteria), Environmental Protection (discharge criteria) and those respective regulations (Federal, State and Regional) with a focus on issues relating to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act [CWA]), National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permitting, and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Title-23, CCR [Water Code]).

In addition, the Task Force will bring together the various State Agencies (State Water Resources Control Board, Regional Water Quality Control Boards, State Department of Health, and State Fire Marshal), Local/Regional Fire Departments, Local/Regional Water Purveyors, Fire Protection Associations/Contractors, Building Owners Associations, Environmental Engineers/Contractors, and other interested stakeholders; as identified, to research and review current regulations and policies and identify trends which impact the Fire Protection Community, and to address those concerns which have or may have an impact on current business practices and to develop a Report (white paper) to educate/inform both local government agencies, business/building owners and fire protection industry as to what is required as an operational resolution to the current uncertainty and/or non-awareness of the respective requirements.

Goals:

1. Develop a statewide understanding of Federal Water Pollution Control Act (Clean Water Act [CWA]), National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permitting, and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Title-23, CCR [Water Code]) **pertaining to discharge of "water-based fire protection systems"**.
2. Identify a suite of Best Management Practices, **with stakeholder input**, for fire protection pre-construction (fire flow testing); construction; and **inspection**, testing and maintenance water discharges compatible with NFPA-13, NFPA-13R, NFPA-13D, NFPA-14, NFPA-20, NFPA-24, and NFPA 25 (2006 California edition) and compliance with the Clean Water Act and Water Code.
3. Develop and institute a statewide education program **pertaining to discharge of "water-based fire protection systems"** for all stakeholders within the Water Regulatory Agencies, Regional Water Control Boards, Fire Sprinkler Industry, Fire Service, Community Water Systems, Storm Water Utilities and Statewide and local governments on the Best Management Practices identified and agreed upon by this Task Force.

Objectives:

1. Develop concise overview (overreaching statement) of fire protection water discharges as it pertains to stormwater systems. **(Tabled to next meeting)**
2. **Identify the types of water discharges and water quality concerns from the following activities: 1) Pre-construction; 2) Construction; 3) Inspection, Testing and Maintenance (ITM); and 4) Emergency/accidental system discharges.**
 - a. **Discuss the observable (visible and olfactory) characterization for the types of discharges (What you see and smell and chances of Chlorine in the water)**
 - b. **Discuss potential for laboratory characterization of typical types of discharges.**
3. **Correlate the discharges with the regulations. (What are we doing vs. what we have to do)**
4. **Develop BMPs (Best Management Practices) which assist stormwater agencies to comply with state requirements**
 - a. **Review existing BMP's, such as AWWA, local agency and CASQA**
 - b. **Categorize BMPs into new construction and testing and maintenance**
 - c. **Review the draft BMP's with the stakeholders**
 - d. **List and incorporate stakeholder comments**
 - e. **Prepare draft report**
5. **Prepare Final Report**
6. **Develop a training program**
 - a. **Identify a delivery method**
 - b. **Identify who delivers the training**
 - c. **Identify who funds training program**