



**SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS  
ASSOCIATION MEETING  
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES  
August 12, 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
Bonnie Plakos	North Coast Fire	Jeff Nicks	RPPS
Jeff Schach	Petaluma	Mark Courson	OES
Ben Nicholls	CALFIRE	James Williams	Sonoma County
Steve Akre	Sonoma Valley Fire & Rescue	Devon Gambonini	FPO's
Matt Epstein	DCRFD	Mike Mickelson	North Bay Fire
Dave Franceschi	Forestville	KT McNulty	REDCOM
Tony Gossner	Santa Rosa	Brian Henricksen	AMR
Doug Williams	SMART	Bill Braga	Sebastopol
Ray Mulas	Schell Vista	Sean Grinnell	Bodega Bay
James Salvante	Coastal Valley EMS	Chirs Godley	So. Co. Emergency Mgmt.
Todd Derum	PG&E	Mike Nicholis	Cazadero
Ron Lunardi	Occidental		

**Call to Order:** Chief Heine began the meeting at 0930 and led the pledge.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Chief Heine

**Host Chief Introduction:** Chief Heine welcomed everyone on the Conference Call

**Presidents Report:** Making sure that the Fire Chiefs Assn stands ready to support LAFCO project work, MSR for Zone 6 and SOI recommendations. Working with CAL Chiefs to support legislative actions. Tony Gossner stated that with the County getting 140,000,000. + Via the PG&E settlement funds, Sonoma County Fire Chiefs to discuss this.

**Changes to the Agenda:** None

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion to approve the minutes. Motion by James Williams, 2<sup>nd</sup>; Tony Gossner, All AYE

**Treasurer's Report:** Submitted Hans reported the following:

Chiefs General Fund:	\$3,386.88
Survivors Fund:	\$105,896.31
OP's/TO's Fund:	\$5,607.92
TO's Command Grant	\$25,000.00
FPO Safety Trailer:	\$10,456.90
Career Succession:	\$875.64
FPO General Fund:	\$2980.08
Youth Fire Setter Fund	\$1,041.53
FITF	\$1,913.49
Safety Pals Gen. Fund:	\$23,200.47
Safety Pals Trailer:	\$2,500.00
	<b>\$182,859.02</b>

**Correspondence:** None

**Presentation:** None

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** Chief Heine – Cal Chiefs update: Annual Conference canceled this year due to COVID. Focus for 2020 is statewide EMS issues, pending legislative issues. Engaged in the new Placentia FD not meeting NFPA standards. Many Bills going through right now AB1945 who is defined as a first responder? AB3164 establishes a risk module for wildland urban interface. SB431 requires PUC to have back up power supplies for tele communicators. SB1348 looks at wildland resiliency, training requirements, wildfire prevention. AB1544 community transport to alternate destinations Chief Epstein report on the current propositions. Tribal sports wagering. Tribes looking at having this at their casinos. Prop 15 changing the commercial tax assessment values. Schools to benefit the most. Some funding will be going to public safety as well. Prop 16 reversing affirmative action. Only effects government organizations. Prop 19 changing requirements on transferring property taxes. Prop 20 restricts parole for non-violent offenders. .

Chief Schach – COVID-19 Update: Lessons learned with a positive case FF in the firehouse. (Petaluma FD) Created a recommendation for masking. Not always having to wear a mask in doors, after the positive case in the station they had the shift after and before quarantined for 14 days and required all shifts to wear masks while in a room with anyone in it. After everyone tested negative they went back to their normal masking requirements. Preventing the close contact is the key. All information was given out to all agencies infection disease control officers.

Chief Gossner – Zonehaven Team Update: County was successful in getting a grant from Zonehaven. Zonehaven is a company that provides evacuation planning. The Grant is a two year grant around \$90,000.00 for the entire County. Meeting set up for this Thursday to discuss the project.

#### **Standing Committee Reports:**

**Fire Service Working Group:** Chief Heine reported they will have a meeting this afternoon. Working on looking at all the SOI requests in with LAFCO. First part of September will be a meeting with the Fire AdHoc.

**SMART:** Doug Williams reported SMART is still working on the Windsor extension line. The transition of line from Healdsburg to the County line is at a pending status. Who is going to run the freight trains is still pending. This Saturday and Sunday there is a training scheduled for the Larkspur area. Will be running a special train to the Larkspur station and central Marin so agencies can get an overview of the equipment. Mike Nicholis asked if SMART is installing fiber line between Airport and Windsor. Yes that is the understanding.

**PG & E:** Todd Durum reported that he is the new Public Safety Liaison. Will be focus on the relationship between all agencies and PGE. If anyone needs to contact Todd his info is: [toddderum@pge.com](mailto:toddderum@pge.com) Phone: 916-809-0178

**Sonoma County Emergency Management:** Chris Godley reported Hazard Planning for fire and PSPS is ongoing. Power will most likely get shut down this season. The next few months could get a little bumpy, keep an eye on all your folks. We are going into month six now. This is a long haul. Hopefully we are at the halfway point.

#### **Regional Zone Reports:**

**CALFIRE:** Chief Nichols reported, North East corner of the state is under REDFLAG, as of this last Monday Cal Fire has responded to over 5,000 fires across the state. This is 1,300 fires above average for this year. All north region camps are back online with exception of Antelope Camp. Camp population is continuing to dwindle due to inmates getting released. Copter 5 A Juliet is available at the Sonoma County Airbase.

**Zone 3:** Chief Akre reported last weekend was busy. Commercial structure fire and vegetation fires. Chief Akre thanked all the responding agencies for their help.

**Zone 4** None

**Zone 5:** Chief Lunardi reported that Fort Ross, Cazadero, Occidental and Monte Rio have been discussing options for Region 5. Chief Franceschi reported that the Board voted 5-0 to annex Forestville into Sonoma County Fire District.

**Zone 6:** None

**Zone 7:** Chief Gossner reported they have had 85 homeless related fires. Be aware there a lot of people not living in homes and pay attention.

**Zone 8:** None

**Zone 9:** None

**OES:** Chief Courson reported that the fires state wide are starting to wind down. New Deputy Chief for North Ops will be starting on Monday. (Vernon Brothers) from Kern County.

**Training OP's:** Chief Andreas reported that Tablet Command is moving forward with 52 user licenses. More information in the next couple of weeks. James Salvante asked if there were any changes that needed to be done in regards to FireScope Fire line paramedic process updates. Chief Andreas stated that the only change was a task book being added. Other than that no changes.

**FPO's:** Devon Gambonini reported they will be meeting next Wednesday via Zoom. Safety Pals are not hosting in person PSA's, still working on videos. Hand Washing, Water Safety and Ready Set Go. Youth Fire setter group is meeting tomorrow. With kids at home and not in school there is a higher chance of fire related incidents. Chief Schach asked about Fire Prevention Week this year with COVID, Petaluma will be doing a video on Stop, Drop and Roll. Is anyone else doing anything like this and should we look at doing something through FPO's?

**Fire Districts:** Chief Akre reported they met last week. Have accepted 2 nominations for VP. Fred Peterson and Bill Norton. Elections will take place in October. Made good progress on talks regarding meeting more frequently. All meetings are virtual and looking at doing monthly meetings as needed. FASIS president is retiring, FDAC EBA Steve Covaks will be retiring. The board voted to provide a stipend up to \$500.00 per member for a Life Scan.

**Volunteer Fire Companies:** Chief Mickelson is working with the County to get funding in regards to firefighter Safety issues.

**Vegetation Management:** Chief Williams reported there has been 1,725 inspections have been completed. 2<sup>nd</sup> round of inspections will start next week. Weekly reports will be out to the districts next week. HazMat Tech training starting October 5<sup>th</sup> in Santa Rosa. 17 slots are open at no cost.

#### **Ad-Hoc Committee Reports:**

**Fire/EMS:** No report

**County Alerting System:** No report

**Sonoma OP Area Up-Staffing Plan:** Chief Gossner reported Alameda County Fire Chief David Roacha is retiring. His replacement will be William McDonald who is from Las Vegas Fire. All Strike Teams in region 2 have been sent home. Still have 30 overhead positions out. September is Emergency Preparedness Month. Volunteer and combination agencies AFG Grant for COVID-19 PPE needs is available.

**REDCOM:** KT McNulty reported they received an extension for Tango Tango for the Demo period. Free licenses for EMD EFD mobile field guide applications if interested. Sept CAD and MDC updates for mobile responder.

**Closed Session:** None

**Good of the Order:** Chief Akre reported Sonoma Valley will have 6 internal FF EMT's starting paramedic school. Promoted Trever Smith to Fire Marshal. Board approved 2 new Type 1 engines to purchase with smaller chassis. Thanking Doug Williams for efforts in preparing the new tax roll for the new District. Finance officer position has been filled.

Chief Mulas report Schell Vista is a week out from putting in service a new BME 4x4 Cal Fire spec engine. Captain Matt Garner got an AFG Grant for New SCBA's (30)

Chief Plakos reported in August they put in service a new Type 1. Also looking for a used water tender to purchase. Chief Epstein reported they have received a grant for new SCBA's. Trying to mitigate cancer risks they purchased a new extractor. Purchased a home next to the station and will be creating a training/EOC center.

Chief Gossner reported the promotion of Kemplin Robbins to Assistant Fire Marshal. Paul Lowenthal will be running the Vegetation Management Program. Five firefighters will going through the lateral fire academy in September.

Chief Heine reported Rob Bissordi promotion to Shift Battalion Chief. Mark Dunn to Division Chief of Training and Safety. Open recruitment for FF Medic. Completed the process only ended up with 2 candidates. Beefed up the prevention with a full time inspector and 2 contract inspectors.

Chief Braga reported he is the new contact for the county hotline with COVID complaints for the City of Sebastopol.

Chief Grinnell reported he received an AFG Grant for a new defibrillator. Cal Fire awarded a grant for hose and appliances.

Chief Bullard reported they have a water tender and brush truck available to purchase. Moving forward very slowly with CalPERS and they may be reevaluating the 2.7% @ 57 rates. Carry overs may not be allowed for current PERS employees moving to a different agency.

Chief Schach reported they received a AFG Grant for SCBA's. Petaluma City Council passed a 1% sales tax to be put on the November Ballot. Working with Rancho Adobe to contract oversight for paramedics.

**Adjournment:** @ 11:30AM

**Next Meeting:** September 9th at CHP

Respectfully Submitted,

Daren Bellach  
SCFCA Secretary