



# SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION MEETING

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**April 12<sup>th</sup> 2017 at 9:30 AM**  
**Hosted By Gold Ridge**

**Attendance:**

Shepley Schroth-Cary	GRFD/BVFD	Jason Boaz	Healdsburg
Matt Epstein	Dry Creek Rancheria	Steve Akre	Sonoma Valley
Ken Reese	REDCOM	Dan George	GRFD/BVFD
Dean Anderson	AMR	Loren Davis	Mountain
Darin Bellach	Kenwood	Bill Bullard	Graton
Bill Braga	Sebastopol	Todd Derum	CALFIRE
Al Terrell	Sonoma County	James Salvate	OES
Max Ming	Forestville/RR	Greg Martin	Sonoma County
Al Terrell	Sonoma County	John Evans	CHP
Mike Mickelson	Wilmar	Leonard Thompson	Petaluma
Keith Flood	Santa Rosa	Ray Mulas	Schellville
Mike Bates	RPDPS	Chris Rickert	CALFIRE
Sophia Betts	REDCOM	James Williams	Sonoma County
Doug Williams	Retired	Darrin DiCarli	GRFD/BVFD
James Savante	CVEMS	Rafael Bautista	REACH

**Call to Order:** Chief Derum called the meeting to order at 0934 and asked Chief George to lead the Pledge

**Host Chief Intro/Pledge:** Chief George shared logistics and asked for a show of hands of those who were staying for lunch

**President's Report** Chief Derum shared he did not have a report

**Approval of March Minutes:** Motion was made by Chief Grinnell & seconded by Chief Mulas. Unanimous vote.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's report as submitted by Hans showed the following balances.

Chiefs General Fund:	\$533.52	Survivors Checking:	\$2,901.84
OP's/TO's Fund:	\$17,955.24	Survivors Savings:	\$110,126.77
FPO Dues	\$4,275.00		
	\$22,763.76		\$113,028.61*

\* Note: Survivors Fund owes Chief's Fund \$5,000

**Correspondence:** None to report

**Presentations:** Dean Anderson & James Salvante gave a presentation on *Pulse Point*. Pulse Point is an APP that helps bystanders render CPR and other lifesaving measures prior to the arrival of first responders and also identifies locations of AED's in the vicinity of the incident. One of the challenges is verification of these devices They would like to bring to Sonoma County and are working on extracting data from the CAD to make it work. Chief Derum suggested there may be some value of this group playing a more active role in this process since it serves the entire county. Chief Martin indicated that it is slated as the secondary back-up to REDCOM after St. Helena.

Chief Boaz reminded the group that it is "Dispatch Appreciate Week". A round a applause followed for Ken and Sophia

**Old Business:** Although not agendized, at Chief George's request, James Salvante provided an update on the tablets. He has the cases & brackets in his office but learned that Apple no longer makes the iPad 2 they fit so he is working on returning them. He is now working on getting the updated iPADS and exploring going local to get the cases.

### **New Business:**

- **Communications Unit:** Chief Salvate reported that unit 5152 is treated like any other OES unit but the County has been challenged with staffing. He does have another County who is interested in taking it but has been waiting for the outcome of this meeting. The staffing commitment is 2 personnel for 14 days. He then opened the topic for a broader discussion. Chief George inquired if the unit is also slated to serve as a back-up to REDCOM. Chief Salvate indicated that it is slated to be replaced in the next year or two and when it is retired, could be provided to the County to serve this purpose. Chief Martin shared that it was almost utilized in a recent storm. Chief Boaz indicated there is interest in Zone 6 to cross staff. Chief Salvate indicated he needs a firm commitment by the end of this month so he can be prepared for fire season. He added the reassignment process is fairly simple. In the conversation that followed, a consensus emerged that the unit has a lot of value in the county. Chief Salvate indicated that they contract out to a single entity so if several agencies work together to staff, he will need one agency to serve as the point of contact.
- **Assistance By Hire (ABH):** Chief Derum distributed a handout on the new process that included their policy, directions, spreadsheet, sample invoice and other guidance documents. He went on to indicate they are only interested in hiring "Wet" engines and would like to use a rotational process using the active status system. He applauded the group as the ABH system in this county has worked very well. They do expect participating agencies to meet all the CALOES requirements they would adhere to if they are on a strike team. The biggest change is the billing system. Chief George thanked Todd for his efforts as he feels these changes will improve the system (and wished the Feds would do the same). In response to Chief Davis's question, if you are dispatched as a CALFIRE resource to a Fed fire, you will be covered. Chief Mickelson reminded the group that when dispatched to outside incidents as an ABH, you be sure to tell the Time Unit. Chief Boaz suggested having a copy of the agreement to clarify this. Chief Derum encouraged agencies in this situation to be sure to seek out the CALFIRE rep when you arrive at the incident. He ended by cautioning that once you become a ABH, you are subject to being sent anywhere in the State and not to be "caught off-guard" to this possibility.

### **Standing Committee Reports:**

- **Training/OP's:** No report although Randy shared some changes relative to the rank requirement that had been attached to the new SFT certification tracks (Company Officer, Chief Fire Officer, etc). More specifically that it had been removed and replaced with the term "position". This was done to avoid "Catch 22" situations if an agency required completion of the respective cert to apply for a promotion (i.e. Company Officer cert. to apply for a Captain's position). Chief George briefly reviewed the minutes to the last TO/OP's meeting.
- **FPO's:** Chief Boaz reported for Chief Collister that all the CUPAs are undergoing their State audits this month. They also received a presentation from Talco on residential fire sprinkler upgrade system designed to augment poor water supplies.
- **Fire Districts:** Chief George shared the next meeting is at Russian River on April 27<sup>th</sup> and Supervisor Rabbit is the speaker.
- **Volunteer Fire Companies:** Chief Mickelson reported April 19<sup>th</sup> is the next meeting.

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

- **Fire Advisory Committee:** Chief Thompson reported the following:
  - LEXIPOL was approved for all agencies.
  - Tanya Levin (an Organizational Consultant) will be facilitating a workshop tomorrow. Chief George shared they have been working with her for a couple of months with the goal of developing a consensus. He has arranged for lunch and asked if this group could pick up the costs (\$300) Motion by Chief Ming and second by Chief Thompson to pay for lunch for the workshop. Chief Derum ended by indicating the goals of the group are consistent with the mission of this organization and voiced his support for this process.

**REDCOM:** Ken Reese followed up on the TO's/OP's goal shared by Chief George about implementing MUMs and that they are making progress implementing the changes in the system to accommodate it. He also added that some of their software upgrades promote greater interoperability. Sophia reported that some of their staff are currently at the EMD conference to receive their accreditation award for excellence.

### **Improving Efficiencies:**

#### **Customer Service/Good of the Order:**

- **SRJC:** Randy shared that he has put together a presentation that covers the SFT cert test and application process for the new FFI and has presented to Mendocino and Marin Counties and asked if the group would be

interested. He will present at the June meeting. He also distributed invitations to the academy graduation on May 5 where Jack Piccinini will be the speaker.

- **Chief Mulas:** Shared they have just completed their hiring and are now staffed 24/7
- **Chief Epstein:** Stated they are hosting an ICS 300 class for free April 22 and to contact Gina Peterson.
- **Chief Akre:** Stated they will be going to the Glen Ellen Board to enter into a co-staffing agreement.
- **Chief Bellach:** Shared they also have a collaborative effort to purchase a class A burn trailer with SVFRA
- **Chief George:** Introduced his new BC Sheply Schroth-Cary
- **Chief Bullard:** presented a sample of the Fido bags and for folks to contact him if they are interested. He later added that he had received a letter from FEMA that the deadline to submit reimbursement for the storm disaster declaration is coming up. Chief Terrell also encouraged the group to contact Chris Helgren in his office for questions related to this.
- **Chief Thompson:** They are sponsoring FFBOR training next month for a small fee and the transition with RA is going well
- **Chief Williams:** Shared they have partnered with CALFIRE on vegetation management projects in areas like Camp Meeker and Fitch Mtn.
- **Chief Ming:** Shared their Board will be considering a shared services agreement with Monte Rio tonight
- **Officer Evans:** Reminded the group if you have any issues to contact him or Commander Palacio. He added his son was just picked up by CALFIRE
- **Chief Terrell:** Reminded the group April 27 will be their employee recognition event. He also thanked the group for all there help as he is retiring July 1 after 31 years in the fire service. A round of applause followed.
- **Chief Salvate:** Shared OES has someone in the pike to fill the southern spot and so he is looking forward to not doing double duty. Other positions are also being filled to develop more depth in their organization. He also shared the 2017 rewrite for CICCIS is in process. Look for changes to Type III teams and a new Disaster Inspector position.
- **Chief Davis:** Thanked those who responded to their recent structure fire. They have a Tri-tip and Eggs Breakfast on April 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- **Dean Anderson:** Shared they have started a new deployment April 1<sup>st</sup> which has improved their compliance rates. EMS appreciation week is also coming up the week of the May 21. He is encouraging first aid and "Hands Free CPR" to promote its recognition. The Survivor's reunion is also that week on May 25. He added (later) they will be committing 9 ambulances to the Vineman
- **James Salvante:** The EMT regs are now going to the OAL for review as the comment period has closed. The new MCI plan is on the website and open until June 6<sup>th</sup> for comment. Also posted is their policy on Public AED use. Their next EMCC meeting is scheduled April 24 at the Water Agency.
- **Chief Derum:** Handed out Defensible Space brochures that they will be mailing out (in case you get any questions). He also spoke to developing an "Electronic Bookshelf" of Disaster Plans that his management team can use. On Monday May 8, they anticipate a Gov. Proclamation on Wildfire Awareness and plan to agendize for the BOS meeting.

**Closed Session:** There was no closed session.

**Adjournment:** Chief Derum adjourned the meeting at 11:38

**Next Meeting: May 10<sup>th</sup>, Sebastopol**

Respectfully Submitted: April 12, 2017

Randy Collins,  
SCFCA Secretary