



SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION MEETING

MEETING MINUTES

Aug 9th 2017 at 9:30 AM

Hosted By Coast Guard Two Rock

Attendance:

Jason Boaz	Healdsburg	Steve Akre	SVFRA
Steve Akre	Sonoma Valley	Aaron Abbott	REDCOM
Tony Gossner	Santa Rosa	Sean Grinnell	Bodega Bay
Rafel Bautista	REACH	Dean Anderson	SLS/AMR
Brian Masterson	Rohnert Park	Ray Mulas	Schell Vista
Jack Piccinini	Windsor/RV	James Williams	Sonoma County
Mike Mickelson	Wilmar	Max Ming	Forestville/RR
Bill Braga	Sebastopol	Todd Derum	CALFIRE
Shana Jones	CALFIRE	Dave Kahn	Petaluma
Doug Williams	Retired	Leonard Thompson	Petaluma
Jim Wickham	PG&E	Bill Bullard	Graton
Charles Funkhouser	USCG Two Rock	Randy Collins	SRJC ARTP
Tony Gossner	Santa Rosa	James Salvante	CVEMS
Loren Davis	Mountain		

Call to Order: Chief Derum called the meeting to order at 0934 and turned it over to Chief Funkhouser.

Host Chief Intro/Pledge: Chief Funkhouser welcomed the group, shared logistics and spoke of the active shooter training they are finishing up with. He introduced Base Commander Capt. Flynn who expressed his pleasure to see the group again. Chief Funkhouser ended by inviting the group to stay for lunch and led the pledge.

President's Report Chief Derum shared he has been gone for a few weeks and subsequently did not have a report.

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

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

Chiefs General Fund:	\$143.41	Survivors Checking:	\$2,882.12
OP's/TO's Fund:	\$18,082.22	Survivors Savings:	\$110,157.31
FPO General Fund:	\$3,062.41		
FPO Safety Trailer:	\$6,106.90		
FITF	\$1,720.09		
Career Education:	\$4,472.28		
Safety Pals:	\$11,209.21		
Safety Pals Trailer:	\$2,500.00		
	\$47,566.52		\$113,039.43*

* Note: Survivors Fund owes Chief's Fund \$6,000

Move by Chief Piccinini to approve, second by Chief Grinnell. Unanimous vote. Randy also spoke to receiving a proposal to consider the closing of the Survivors Fund submitted by Hans which Chief Derum indicated he will arrange an E-Board meeting to address.

Correspondence: None

PG&E Presentation: Jim Wickha from PG&E reported to a requirement of the CPUC to reach out to organizations like ours each year and spoke to the training and functional exercises they conduct and extended an invitation to one they will be conducting in SF. He reminded everyone of the First Responder portal on their website and encouraged all to

use it if they are not already doing so. He also spoke to our partnerships including Able One (digging notification service) and that they are happy to participate in safety events we hold. He ended by emphasizing his role is to support all of us and not to hesitate contacting him on his cell at any time. Director Abbott asked if there are response time standards for emergencies. Jim shared how the after-hours dispatching system works including the impact of labor contracts.

REDCOM Presentation: Aaron Abbott gave a presentation on REDCOM which included governance and operations (for a detailed overview of the presentation, please see the PPT enclosed under the attachments portion of the website next to these minutes). Some highlights include:

- Keeping up with the technology (and referenced a Stephen Colbert sketch of how it is easier to order a pizza than call 911)
- Exceeding industry standards for fire and medical dispatch services
- Providing high quality service

Doug Williams spoke to the history of REDCOM and how dispatch was first performed by CDF, the Sheriff's office (funded by Geysers revenue), which began to come under pressure when that revenue stream began to diminish, the need for another model was discussed and eventually led to the formation of REDCOM.

Aaron also spoke to the representation of the Board and the 40 member agencies (mostly all in the County except RP & Cloverdale). The relationship with AMR requires him to develop two budgets; one for AMR (primarily for salaries related to the labor contracts) and another for REDCOM expenditures. He shared most questions he receives are fee related. Fees are:

- Based on a Five Year Average of Dispatched calls
- One call per agency per incident is used (not the number of units that respond to the call)
- Uses the PERCENTAGE of total REDCOM calls to calculate the fee.

He shared his admiration on how it was set up including, use of the Sheriff's facility for minimal costs and an average of \$45.34 per call (Nat'l average is \$50-110 per call). They also have a strategic plan which can be found on their website. They have also obtained approval to purchase mobile dispatch equipment so they can set up in a remote location and have made one of their goals implementing Fire Priority Dispatch Protocols. He also spoke to some of the challenges implementing MUM's including purchasing a \$12k server. Their website is www.REDCOMDispatch.org. In response to a question regarding a "big one" taking out REDCOM & St Helena, it was echoed that the loss of the OES mobile COMM unit created a big void.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Standing Committee Reports:

- **Training/OP's:** Chief Piccinini had no report
- **FPO's:** Chief Boaz shared the Safety PAL's will be receiving \$31K from the Wine Country to the Rescue event
- **Fire Districts:** Chief Mulas shared that Jim Colengo gave an update on the fire study and his office at the last meeting.
- **Volunteer Fire Companies:** Chief Mickelson reported next week is their meeting and he personally thanked the group for their donation
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Ad-Hoc Committee Reports:

- **Fire Advisory Committee:** Chief Thompson shared they are in the information collection mode and have requested finances and goals from each agency. Chief Gossner shared that Sonoma West publishers is looking into doing a story on this so do not be surprised if you are contacted. He emphasize the importance of coming up with a unified voice. Chief Derum shared that he has met with three different agencies since our last meeting and stressed the importance of the roll of this group in the process.
- **Fire EMS Committee:** Chief Akre reported he attended the EMCC meeting where updates on the EMS ordinance were shared and that the County remains committed to having an open process with a goal of having the ordinance in place before the next RFP goes out which may require extending the current franchise agreement. Dr. Millman also reinforced their commitment to having an open process. Chief Kahn added in the near future, renewal of EMT's will occur on-line using Imagetrend.

REDCOM: Director Abbott indicated they will be scheduling a CAD meeting by the end of the month

Improving Efficiencies/Customer Service/Good of the Order:

- Chief Funkhouser encouraged all to stay for lunch
- Chief Akre learned he was reduced on the amount on a FEMA grant from \$7-\$6k for each SCBA's and later learned there is a restoration process if you use a cooperative bid process. Chief Ming inquired if it could be used to obtain additional equipment. He also shared that Medic's on their Type III at the Minerva fire assisted a FF that was struck by a falling limb that led to a very positive outcome for the injured FF. He also spoke to how well Zone III has been working together and thanked adjacent agencies for their cooperation and mutual aid.
- Chief Gossner shared they had received a grant for SCBAs worth in excess of \$700K. He also spoke to two wet hires recently going out that were subsequently cancelled and led to some initial confusion (which will result in some proposed changes that will be vetted next month with the OP's group).
- James Salvante shared the Otter Boxes have not arrived yet
- Chief Williams reported Bodega received a grant for a Water Tender
- Chief Braga shared he received a CALFIRE VFA grant to purchase Turn-outs prompting Chief Piccinini to remind the group that CSFA recently extended their grant process for volunteer related costs.
- Rafael reminded the group that he is looking for LZ information from local agencies which will be sending out a request for information to the group through our Secretary
- Chief Bullard shared he was denied reimbursement costs for the winter storms from FEMA since his staff were volunteers.
- Doug Williams reminded folks next Thursday is the tour of the CHP dispatch facility if you still wish to go, contact him.
- Chief Kahn spoke to the continuing saga of dueling RMS systems (Zoll, Imagetrend, Firehouse) and some of the dilemmas (and frustration) it creates
- Chief Thompson shared the border drop between Petaluma and RA is working well.
- Chief Jones shared all who applied for a VFA grant was funded. She also thanked the group for their participation in the ABH and "Wet" hire system.
- Chief Grinnell thanked those who attended the last Districts Asso. Meeting and have been told that they will be audited by FEMA
- Chief Mulas shared they recently picked up two Volunteers through the CSFA program.
- Chief Ming shared they also received a VFA grant and that an AFG grant for a Type III looks promising. Their Explorer program has also experienced an influx of members.
- Chief Davis shared their fundraiser will be Saturday Sept 9 at the Napa Fairgrounds and they recently recruited a couple of new reserves
- Jim Wickham shared they now data-mine social media for key words such as "gas leak" and "downed lines" to help expedite their response to emergency incident. Chief Gossner asked we he can add key words (yes). Jim said to contact him if you wish to so so
- Chief Boaz thanked all who sent resources to the freeway fires in Geyserville and shared flyers for classes they are offering. He ended by adding they will be hosting the CSFA conference in Healdsburg and include a bar-b-que, live fire training and other classes.
- Chief Akre inquired about our new OES rep is (Dave Franklin, ret. Assist. SF Chief)
- Chief Derum thanked the group for their participation in the ABH system. Chief Piccinini asked if it is possible to use other designator's for out-of-county CALFIRE units to avoid being mistaken for local county resources

Closed Session: There was no closed session.

Adjournment: Chief Derum adjourned the meeting for lunch 11:54 after a motion from Chief's Piccinini and Bullard

Next Meeting: Sept 13th, at CHP

Respectfully Submitted: Aug 9, 2017

Randy Collins,
SCFCA Secretary