



**SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS
ASSOCIATION MEETING
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
February 9, 2022 at 8:30 AM
Zoom**

ATTENDANCE

Daren Bellach	Kenwood Fire	Trevor Collins	Santa Rosa Fire
Tony Gossner	Rancho Adobe Fire	Charles Funkhouser	Coast Guard
Mark Heine	Sonoma County Fire	Devon Gambonini	Santa Rosa Fire
Steve Akre	Sonoma Valley Fire	Bill Bullard	Graton Fire
Robert Johnson	Sonoma County Fire	Darin Decarli	North Bay Fire
KT McNulty	REDCOM	Nick Silva	North Bay Fire
Kelly Bradley	North Bay Fire	Steve Mosiurchak	County of Sonoma
Jason Jenkins	Cloverdale Fire	Steve Herzberg	Bodega Bay Fire
Bill Braga	Sebastopol Fire	Mark Courson	OES
Shepley Schroth-Cary	North Bay Fire	Jeff Schach	Petaluma Fire
Doug Williams	SMART	Scott Westrope	Santa Rosa Fire
Ben Nicholls	CALFIRE	Marshall Tuberville	North Sonoma County Fire
Hans Henneberque		Jeff Justice	RPPS
Chris Godley	So. Co. DES		

Call to Order: Chief Heine began the meeting at 0830 and led the pledge.

Pledge of Allegiance: Chief Heine

Host Chief Introduction: Chief Heine

Presidents Report: Chief Heine reported the Sub Committees have been working very hard on a variety of different things. January 25 the BOS approved the funding agreements and consolidation efforts. The agreement for North County to consolidate with Fitch Mountain and Sotoyome was approved. Sonoma County Fire and Bodega Bay consolidation was approved. The CSA-40, Gold Ridge and North Bay Fire agreement was approved and as well as the Funding agreement for Kenwood Fire. Additionally the IRP agreements with the County was approved. The application for Fitch Mountain and Sotoyome is in with LAFCO as well as the application for Sonoma County Fire to consolidate with Bodega Bay.

Changes to the Agenda: None

Approval of Minutes: Motion: Chief Nicholls, 2nd: TC, Approved

Treasurer's Report: Chief Bellach reported: Hans put out the invoices for the membership. If you did not receive one or the information is incorrect, please contact him. Hans reported that there is only 11 people signed up for the Fire Investigation class in March. There is room for 30. The flier has been posted.

Chief's General Fund \$3,287.17

Survivor's Fund	\$98,396.31
Training Officer's Fund	\$2,052.92
Training Officer's Command Tablets	(\$259.56)
FPO General Fund	\$3,418.85
FPO Fire Safety Trailer Fund	\$11,956.90
FPO Career Succession Fund	\$888.71
FPO Fire Investigation Fund	\$1,951.26
Youth Fire Setter Program	\$1,041.53
Safety Pals General Fund	\$24,165.62
<u>Safety Pals Trailer Fund</u>	<u>\$2,500.00</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	\$149,399.71

Correspondence: None

Presentation: None

Old Business: 2022 Survivor Reunion – Doug Williams reported The Chiefs Association has historically supported this event. This year we are not sure if it will be virtual or in person. The support the Chiefs have given over the years has been appreciated. In the past the Chiefs have supported at the Silver Level (\$1,000.00). Please consider this donation for the 2022 year.

2022 Installation Meeting – Chief Heine reported this event is usually held in January. We have been pushing it back to buy some time due to COVID restrictions. We will be looking at holding the event in March in person or virtual.

New Business: None

Standing Committee Reports:

Fire Service Working Group: Chief Heine reported they did not meet last week. The BOS put the proposed sales tax measure on hold. This most likely will not be revisited until 2023 or 2024. The goal right now is to circle back with the County Administrators Office to make sure that some of the other things that the County has always funded like REDCOM fees, Lexipol fees and Up Staffing. They may be meeting tomorrow. Chief Tuberville added, the vegetation management group with Fire Safe Sonoma is moving along.

SMART: Doug Williams reported there is a lot of discussion at the Board level. One of them is the discussion of pathway extensions. If you want to maintain fire service access, they encourage the fire agencies to be involved. The freight service is also a topic they are discussing. A transition that is occurring is the North Western Pacific Company is going to finish its business and SMART has contracted with Summit Signal and will operate the trains for a few months. There was a meeting last week on how SMART could be used for disasters and they are continuing to have active discussions.

PG & E: None

Regional Zone Reports:

CALFIRE: Chief Nicholls reported that Chief Marcucci is the new Unit Chief. He is from the Santa Clara Unit and will be starting next Monday. The Sierra Youth Center lease agreement is final with Sonoma County to occupy the Youth Center behind Los Guillicos to potentially move the Blue Ridge Crew and a fuels crew long term. This should be online by peak fire season. The Cal Fire Prevention Grants close this afternoon at 3:00PM. The ERC's and fuel moistures are trending towards record highs and lows. There has been an uptake of fires across the unit. On track to hire the seasonal FF's in April for one engine per battalion. Situational awareness, Sunday night Oakridge with the little bit of offshore we had, the RH was 9% through the night.

Zone 3: Chief Akre reported they have added a Fire Captain position in prevention. As a result of this they are doing an internal recruitment. Just announced yesterday they will be hiring two new FF-EMT's and will be putting them through Medic School. Expecting to receive the two new Type 1 Engines later this month. Have received two new Tahoe Utility Vehicles. Last night the Board approved a new policy direction and will began taking a bigger roll with prescribed fires in the Valley. Sonoma Valley, Petaluma and Rancho Adobe are putting on a Captains Academy starting next month. Chief Bellach reported they will be putting out for another fulltime position and possibly doing an internal promotion to Fire Captain.

Zone 4: No report

Zone 5: No report

Zone 6: Chief Jenkins reported the CWPP will go out to Board Members in draft today. This will help for the future in identifying vegetation management priorities. Fuel crews are working in Cloverdale doing some pile burning.

Zone 7: Chief Heine reported they are in the hiring mode for six additional FF-Medic positions. They have a couple of Type 1's and a Type 6 on order. They are working on the Bodega Bay consolidation and should be live July 1st. The LAFCO process should be done in March or April. The bid on the EMS-EOA, RFP process with the County is moving forward, Bids are due March 1st. The work with REACH and the Public Safety Helicopter Program is moving forward and will be starting an educational campaign soon. The new helicopter is at the factory and should be delivered in May and the program should go live around July. Finished the BC and Caption promotional testing and will be moving on to Engineer's soon. Sonoma County Fire District and Rancho Adobe Fire District are having a first meeting to look at consolidation opportunities.

Zone 8: Chief Bullard reported they are partnering with Santa Rosa Fire and offering a Rescue Systems 1 Class. In a Zone 8 meeting they talked about having an interest in creating a call type with REDCOM for cardiac arrest calls. This would be similar to how they have a structure fire call type that is broken down for resources. They would like to have a medical arrest category so they could upgrade and would automatically prompt dispatch for a second engine. Chief Heine added they should check with Chief Andreis, the Ops group have been working on something like this.

Zone 9: Chief Gossner reported they are meeting with Sonoma County Fire District just to see where and how they may fit in with each other. This will obviously start rumors and

is only exploratory. They just finished interviews and will be picking up two new Firefighters soon. Will be having testing for Firefighter-Medics to stand up one ALS Engine. A Fire Chief recruitment will be starting soon. As you know Chief Gossner is the interim Chief for only six months. If you know anyone who may fit this position, please reach out to Chief Gossner. They will be reaching out to all districts and cities around their district to build their relationship.

Chief Schach reported they are conducting a Captain's assessment center for three positions. Thank you all the agencies that have provided evaluators for this process.

OES: Chief Courson reported he will be monitoring the upcoming warming trend. Continuing to move forward with the MARS system (Mutual Aid Reimbursement System). A reminder to everyone, it's a New Year start thinking and looking into completing the 2022 Salary Surveys.

Training OP's: No report

FPO's: Devon Gambonini reported they discussed their goal for the year. They wanted to get some standardization of language with the coded option coming up. There is a few ordinances locally and want to make sure all the agencies in County are on the same page. The group would like to provide additional training for the inspectors, CUPA inspectors and hazard material inspectors. There is a Fire Investigation 1A class coming up in Rohnert Park. There is only 11 registered and they need 40 to put on the class. They will be looking to replace the Fire Safety Trailer. The Soroptimist are working with the FPO's to help fund this. They have found a trailer that would meet all the needs including ADA approved. The cost has increased since they have started this project. The cost is about \$191,000.00

Fire Districts: Chief Akre reported they had a January meeting. They are turning their attention to making sure we get some of those other funds needed (REDCOM fees, Lexipol fees and Up Staffing). Next meeting will be February 24th.

Volunteer Fire Companies: Chief Bradley reported they have received one of their new Type 3 Engines. Two Rock will receive this one and Lakeville should be receiving delivery next. Fort Ross will be getting a used Forrest Service Type 6 Engine in the next few weeks. The North Bay Board President and Chief have been meeting with all the Volunteer Fire Boards on the annexation of North Bay Fire with Gold Ridge Fire. One of the Volunteers from the Wilmar station was diagnosed with brain stem cancer just before the holidays. He is going through treatments. There has been a fundraiser set up for him and he will get the info out to Chief Bellach.

Vegetation Management: Steve Mosiurchak reported they are finishing up one of their phases of grants that has to do with defensible space inspections. This is to encourage property owners to do defensible space and then be eligible for cost recovery. Starting in April or May will be moving forward with the structural hardening component. The Districts that are participating in the DSI fuels enforcement and abatement program should have received an email from Shelly announcing that the new interactive tool to select the parcels that they would like to inspect will be available and can be done for up to five years out. This will relief the burden of the County choosing the areas and allow the Districts to choose. No new news on the Brick Grant and are still in the question and answer phase.

Coastal Valley EMS: No report

Ad-Hoc Committee Reports: No report

Fire/EMS: Chief Akre reported they are trying to stay on top of COVID issues and assisting public health to help support the best orders for all of us. They have been doing a lot of work on testing and the logistics of getting the test kits. Have been working on compliance related issues in regards to service levels. Ambulances are being pulled from outside the core into the core for significant amounts of time. There is a subcommittee of the EMCC put together between both public providers and private providers that are going to take a look compliance issues related to the EOA. Another issue related to this is wall times. The amount of time the ambulances have to wait with patients on their gurneys and remain out of service. This is big at Sutter and effects the two ambulances from Bodega Bay and Guerneville.

DEM: Chris Godley reported we are looking at another dry weather pattern and no rain in the forecast. Anyone with requests for equipment or grant funded needs please contact Chris. They are trying to petition the State to support the new Federal Legislation that would classify Red Flag Warnings the same way that FEMA classifies hurricane warnings. This would allow for additional Federal funding pre fire.

Sonoma OP Area Up-Staffing Plan: Chief Heine reported the Operational Area Coordinators will start meeting again in March. If anyone has issues, concerns or any resources that you're looking to have available for fire season, please reach out to Chief Heine.

REDCOM: KT reported they will be meeting with the REDCOM Board on Thursday.

Closed Session: None

Good of the Order: Chief Nicholls added that Chief Parks will be leaving the unit Monday morning and will be heading to Sacramento to run the aviation and fleet program. He will be missed as the Operations Chief for the unit. They will be hiring on eight Defensible Space Inspectors in the near future. Please reach out to the corresponding Cal Fire BC to coordinate your inspection efforts in the SRA.

Adjournment: @ 0925hrs

Next Meeting: March 9th, Zoom @ 0830hrs
Respectfully Submitted,

Daren Bellach
SCFCA Secretary