

**SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION
MEETING MINUTES**

**Hosted by Windsor FPD, 8200 Old Redwood
February 11th, 2009 0930 HOURS**

Attendance

John Zanzi,	Sebastopol	Andy Pforsich,	Santa Rosa / Gold Ridge
Chuck Abshear,	Cal Fire	Mike Johnson,	Santa Rosa
Frank Treanor,	Rancho Adobe	Mark McCormick,	Santa Rosa
Dan Northern,	Forestville	Mark Aston,	Sonoma County
John Lantz,	Rincon Valley	Phillip Garcia,	Sonoma Vly Fire & Rescue
Fred Bunker,	Santa Rosa JC	Peter Van Fleet	Glen Ellen
Dick Luttrell,	REDCOM	Bob Uboldi,	Kenwood
Rahmin Byrd,	REDCOM	Paul Pigoni,	Geyserville
Steve Francis,	Coastal Vly EMS Agency	Sean Grinnell,	Russian Rvr / Bodega Bay
Dean Anderson,	Sonoma Life Support	Bruce Varner,	Santa Rosa
Doug Williams,	Rincon Valley	Jack Rosevear,	Rohnert Park
John Evans,	CHP		

Call to Order: Chief Zanzi called the meeting to order at 09:38

Host Chief Introduction: Chief Williams welcomed everyone on behalf of Chief Collier, who was attending a station construction meeting.

Approval of Minutes: No changes to minutes as presented. Motion to approve as presented by Chief Williams with a second from Chief Treanor. Approved unanimously.

President's Report: Discussed the Association's strategic planning meeting held at Infineon. The e-board will meet next week to review all information collected and will publish the results.

Treasurer's Report: Chiefs Account Balance = \$2,940.81 (as of January 31st) W&O fund balance = \$132,587.85 (as of January 31st)

Correspondence:

- Chief Zanzi discussed the recent letter sent to SMART (Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit - <http://www.sonomamarintrain.org>) regarding association concerns pertaining to freight transport and weed abatement. SMART staff indicates there is no money available till next year to begin to address these issues. Southern Pacific will be a contractor for transport of freight. The Association's intent is to work cooperatively with SMART to address safety concerns prior to the re-start of freight transport. General concerns relate to the need for training on emergency response issues specific to freight transport as well as other emergency responder concerns about familiarity with equipment (pdf copy of January letter attached).

Presentations:

- **Mark Netherda, Sonoma County Deputy Health Officer:** Presentation regarding the June 2008 First Responder Prophylaxis Drill held in Petaluma. Also attending from County Health were Dawn Flamenco (Community Liaison) and Christine Love (Manager of Public Health Unit). The June 17th 2008 drill was held at a City of Petaluma Fire Station and was designed to test the prophylaxis plan for first responders and their families (the plan uses an average of 4 members in each family). Mark distributed an after-action report. The conclusion is that a fire station is not a good location to conduct emergency responder prophylaxis. The space plan did not work due to inadequate size, difficult traffic flow, and the activities associated with normal emergency response at a fire station. As a result of the drill, County Health concluded a different location would work better and is making necessary arrangements. In the event there is a need to conduct prophylaxis treatments, one site will be used for first responders. County Health will continue to review, adjust, and modify the plan as needed. (pdf summary of presentation attached)
- **Mike Johnson, website development and orientation training for new users:** Mike gave some background on the history and development of the current website. The Fire Prevention Officers (FPO's) started the website a few years ago. After initial success, other groups requested access and inclusion. Input over time has taken the site to where it is today. Mike gave a basic overview and brief training session. Link using "member services" takes you to secure login. If anyone has pictures they would like to submit for the scroll on initial screen – send to Mike Johnson (mjohnson@srcity.org). The system is set up to be able to advise if there are any new posts that you have not seen. It will be refreshed each morning, and members will only receive one email per day advising of updates.

Committee Reports

- **Training Section:** Fred Bunker – Attended yesterday's Training Officer's meeting. Updated on the MAD drill to be conducted in Marin County in mid-May. The drill will focus on a wildland setting. Looked at sponsoring training regarding the FF Bill of Rights. Training Officers looking for a Liaison from the Chief's Association (April 14th – usually second Tuesday of the month, every other month. Usually held in Petaluma, but next meeting will be held in Southern Marin.
- **Prevention Section:** No Report
- **Operations Section:** Chief Lantz – met 12th of last month. Long discussion about Strike Team policies. Meeting cont'd to Feb 23rd at SR tower 10:00 hrs. Intent is to consolidate existing policies in one document. Guidance for Operations Group from e-board will be provided prior to Feb 23rd. Two Strike Team Leader training courses are planned. *(Note: From Chief Lantz on Feb 12th. The February 23rd, 2009 Ops Group meeting has been cancelled. The pending issues to be discussed will be taken up at the next regular Ops Group meeting on March 16th, 2009 – see attached email).*
- **District Chiefs:** Chief Garcia – Next District Association meeting will be held March 26th at the Sonoma Vets auditorium. The state FDAC (Fire Districts Association of California) annual

meeting will be April 16 – 18 in San Diego. The Sonoma County Fire Districts Association is sponsoring an ethics training course for elected officials that meets the requirements of AB 1234 AB 1234 requires this training every two years. It will be a Feb 21st class at Rancho Adobe. A flyer has been circulated and will be posted on the web site.

- **Volunteer FF Association:** Association representative unable to attend. On a related note, Chief Northern observed new attention being focused on issues pertaining to the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) and volunteers. Chief Northern is seeking consistency in application of the interpretations and asked for input from County Chiefs who may be experiencing similar problems.
- **REDCOM:** Dick Luttrell – Introduced REDCOM Supervisor Rahmin Byrd. Dick indicated things are generally going well at REDCOM. Currently reviewing the quality assurance process. Ken Reese was not able to attend but advises the CAD upgrade is on schedule for March 31st. The upgrade will coincide with the implementation of County-wide box numbers. ROSS training for REDCOM employees continues. A series of meetings is underway to examine relocation strategies. Chief Pforsich asked about the PG&E relationship established during times of severe weather. Dick advised it went well last winter and will be continued. Dick indicated PG&E recognizes the value and is looking to apply the model elsewhere
- **CAD Group:** Chief Williams – CAD group has been working on the transition to run maps. Every agency has a local copy with instructions on how to get extra copies. Next meeting is March 10th in Windsor at 09:30 hours. Quality control: when map errors are discovered – send directly to GIS contact. GIS has been very helpful in correcting errors.
- **OES Operational Area:** Chief Williams – No significant activity. CICCIS (California Incident Command Certification System) group will meet this afternoon to reorganize. The current matrix which identifies weekly rotations ends in March, and some minor modifications will be made. Chief Williams is seeking input and comments. REDCOM is sending weekly pages of the prescribed rotation. Chief Northern is working on a more dynamic way to status resources. Chief Northern's concept is to issue a pre-alert for agencies to update their status. This would apply in situations where OES orders are likely to exceed the two pre-designated Strike Teams in the County (due to size or complexity of a going incident). The intent is to expedite the processing of resource orders. REDCOM will still use the established rotational list.

The extreme delay in delayed payments for OES assignments from last fire season may prohibit some jurisdictions from sending resources during fire season. Additional discussion highlighted an overall concern for lack of fire service input into the state budget process. Chief Aston suggested a letter on behalf of local government to legislators regarding the significance of the fiscal impacts from state budget negotiations. Chief Williams suggested getting local officials engaged face to face. Chief McCormick observed that fiscal impacts to local fire jurisdictions are not recognized at the state level. The draft state budget seems to backfill losses to local law enforcement – but not fire. He feels it is an urgent issue to address. McCormick suggests a letter to legislators (Authored by Chief Collier) to be hand-delivered to both Assembly Member Evans and State Senator Wiggins and cc: to Cal Chiefs. The intent is to address local fire

jurisdiction impacts from the proposed VLF (Vehicle License Fee) budget issue only at this time (two attached letters were written and delivered on Feb 11th).

- **County DES:** Chief Aston – The homeland security grant has been approved by the Board of Supervisors. Pager grant still pending. Infineon staffing – DES will be putting out a blanket email requesting interest in participation.
- **EMCC:** Steve Francis – Last meeting Steve discussed problems relating to lack of bed availability in the Area. The lack of bed space has caused ambulances to wait for extended periods to unload (sometimes waiting up to 25 minutes to talk to a nurse). Progress has been made in an effort to get an exemption to allow moving some patients upstairs under certain conditions to improve bed availability. Also - a program is being offered on March 31st in Petaluma addressing lessons learned from Columbine & Virginia Tech. Dave Grossman will present the program. Cost is \$35. A flyer with details is being circulated and will be posted on the web.
- **Legislative:** Chief Collier – No report
- **Grants:** Chief Zanzi – Some grant application periods currently open. Submit ideas to Chief's Zanzi or Aston.
- **SRJC Advisory:** Fred Bunker - would like to make presentation at March meeting regarding both the volunteer academy and the "perishable skills" renewal program. SRJC is seeking grant funding for both programs. Volunteer academy advisory committee set up (Northern, Losh, Elliot, MacIntyre, and Ratliff). Basic academy components will at least include NFPA 1001 requirements, FFI requirements, ICS / SIMMS, blood borne pathogens, etc (looking at presenting in modules). SRJC is awarding scholarships – 2 awards of \$600 each. Recently awarded a scholarship from Winn Smith family - \$400. Accreditation renewal for the SRJC program is coming up. Bunker requested the chiefs association to document their support of the services that SRJC provides. The accreditation committee will commence their review work in the near future. Chief Bunker recently received a letter from Kentfield FPD, Chief Kemp passed away recently. A service is currently scheduled for Feb 28th at Tamalpais cemetery – more info to follow. Chief Collins is the current SRJC liaison for Chiefs Association. Fiscal impacts – the college has directed departments to cut 7% of course offerings. There is a possibility SRJC Public Safety Training Center may cut 3 Fire-related classes.
- **CHP Liaison:** John Evans – Things seem to be working well. Some minor incidents have been resolved at the lower levels. Communications are working well. The CHP contact for interest "Every 15 minute" program is currently Barbara Upton.
- **Red Cross:** Chief Losh – Hero's event coming up in April. Email pending.
- **Marin Chief's Liaison:** Chief Northern – Next Meeting on Feb 19th.

Old Business

New Business

- **OES Op Area Alternate:** e-board met and nominated Chief Rosevear to become a second alternate. Motion from Chief Grinnell, second from Chief Garcia. Unanimously approved.

Customer Service / Good of the order

- Losh: CA FF Association received grant for recruitment – Chief Losh would like to make short presentation at March meeting
- Chief Rosevear: Discussed use of Fire Safe Chipper. Safety orientation training for chipper use is scheduled Saturday February 28th (10:00 to 12:00 hours) at Cal Fire's West College facility – must attend training prior to use in your community.
- Chief Zanzi advises a 1979 Chevy Van is for sale from Sebastopol. \$1500. Also a 1966 Ford F-250 PU – good shape 2X drive is available but needs restoration. Contact Chief Zanzi if interested.

Good of the Order

Closed Session: none – meeting adjourned 11:45

Next Meeting: March 11th Healdsburg