



**SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS
ASSOCIATION MEETING
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**

January 8, 2020 at 9:30 AM
Tu Mole Madre Restaurant

ATTENDANCE

Daren Bellach	Kenwood	Steve Akre	SVFRA
Bill Bullard	Graton	Dean Anderson	AMR
Jeff Schach	Petaluma	Mark Heine	Sonoma County Fire District
Ben Nicholls	CAL FIRE	James Salvante	Coastal Valley EMS
Gino DeGraffenreid	Gold Ridge	Bill Braga	Sebastopol
Matt Epstein	DCRFD	Tony Gossner	Santa Rosa
John Franceschi	SVFRA	Mike Nicholls	Cazadero
Jason Boaz	Healdsburg	Bonnie Plakos	N. Sonoma County
Doug Williams	SMART	James Williams	Sonoma County
Sean Grinnell	Bodega Bay	Mark Courson	OES
Jason Jenkins	Cloverdale	Paul Fleckenstein	CAL FIRE
Dan George	Gold Ridge		

Call to Order: Chief Boaz began the meeting at 0947 and led the pledge.

Host Chief Introduction: Chief Heine welcomed everyone

Presidents Report: No Report.

Changes to the Agenda: No Changes. Chief Boaz reminded that he still had RED FLAGS if anyone still needed them.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes by Chief Akre, second by Chief Heine. Unanimous vote.

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

Chiefs General Fund:	\$2,398 .66
Survivors Fund:	\$105,896.31
OP's/TO's Fund:	\$8,691.92
TO's Command Grant	\$25,000.00
FPO Safety Trailer:	\$8,956.90
Career Succession:	\$1,375.64
FPO General Fund:	\$2,325.35
Youth Fire Setter Fund	\$41.53
FITF	\$1,613.49
Safety Pals Gen. Fund:	\$36,850.47
Safety Pals Trailer:	\$2,500.00
	\$195,652.08

Correspondence: None

Presentation: None

Old Business: None

New Business:

- **Election of 2020 Officers:** Chief Boaz stated the election was done in the December meeting. Chief Boaz – President, Chief Heine – Vice President, Chief Bellach – Secretary and Hans – Treasurer.

Standing Committee Reports:

- **Fire Service Working Group:** Chief Heine shared some topics that the group is working on. Sonoma County Fire District's Sphere of Influence request through LAFCO including agencies in the Russian River Valley area and Bodega Bay. LAFCO expanded to include Bodega, Valley Ford and Bloomfield. They will be working on bringing back a recommendation to LAFCO in early March on what that recommended Sphere looks like.

Focus on Measure G, last polling was done pre Kincade Incident it was polling around 67%. A reminder that 74% of the registered voters are with-in Santa Rosa. City presentations are still on going. Chief Boaz mentioned Healdsburg City Council asked to bring back a resolution after their presentation to vote in support of the Measure.

Chief Heine stated the group is close to bring back to the County a total financing package that would be inclusive to many of the outstanding funding requests from Occidental, Cazadero, Geyserville, Kenwood and Timber Cove.

County wide LAFCO reimbursements. The group is close to reconciling with the County. If you believe that you will be participating in a LAFCO annexation process and having fees, get it in to the working group ASAP

A singular license with Lexipol is being worked on so everyone would be on one single bill. Starting February 1st, all contracts with Lexipol will be reset and be put under one invoice to be paid for by the County.

A RED FLAG contract amendment to cover all risk, all hazard retroactive to cover flood expenses has been delivered to the County.

LAFCO has two current applications for reorganization being processed to go before the commission. (Sonoma County Fire District – Russian River, Bodega Bay and Sonoma Valley Fire – Glen Ellen, Valley of the Moon) As of now LAFCO will not take any Sphere requests for any territory in the CSA40 areas. This request came from the County Administrators Office. Chief Heine stated that he would get a copy of this letter to all agencies.

Chief Boaz opened the floor up to any discussions regarding Fire Service Working Group. Chief Schach asked a question in regards to the 201 Rights and consolidation. Is the County getting involved in 201 issues? Chief Heine advised he did speak with some County personnel in regards to the 201 Rights. This issue will be taken up with CAL Chiefs for further discussion.

- **Regional Zone Reports:** Chief Boaz asked for and received the following reports:
 - **CALFIRE:** Chief Nichols shared they are working on fuel reduction projects on Sharpe Rd. Boggs will be having a new helipad installed for the new copter, possibly next summer. Forestry Crab Feed ticket still on sale, the event will be the first weekend in February.
 - **Zone 3:** Chief Akre reported they are continuing to fill the FF Paramedic spots internally and externally. Currently have 5 conditional offers out. Will be offering internal FF EMT positions.
 - **Zone 4:** Chief Plakos reported they had new volunteers complete their training.
 - **Zone 5:** No report
 - **Zone 6:** Chief Jenkins reported the JPA between Cloverdale and Geyserville is projected to be complete in March. New Volunteers are completing the 22 week academy for a total of 24 Volunteers
 - **Zone 7:** Chief Gossner reported by next December he will have 20 vacancies due to retirements. If the tax measure passes the city will be looking at 40-45 positions. City and County to work on the homeless issues. Chief Heine reported he has 15 new volunteers to help staff the Mountain Station. Station 4 crews will be moved out of the station to remodel it. Station 6 (Mountain) is also having a remodel to build dorm rooms. This year Sonoma County Fire District will be filling the 2nd Deputy Chief position and an EMS BC position.
 - **Zone 8:** Chief Braga shared they had their first meeting of the year. Starting a quarterly Zone 8 training schedule as well as some regional grant opportunities to purchase new portable radios and upgrading SCBA's.
 - Chief George introduced Chief Gino DeGraffenreid as the new A shift BC. Working on an ADA Grant to upgrade stations. Will also be adding some employees due to the new parcel tax passing sometime next year.
 - **Zone 9:** Chief Schach shared that Rancho Adobe passed a vote to ask LAFCO for a Sphere of Influence. Petaluma currently has 6 vacancies for Medic 992. He stated they are having a hard time finding medics due

to a large number of agencies trying to hire. He is noticing a potential medic shortage. They have started their BLS ambulance program, two ambulances in service. There was an open discussion on the potential medic shortage. Chief Boaz asked for this topic to be added to New Business for the next meeting and possibly form a working group.

OES: Chief Coursen reported he will distribute the FIREScope matrix so it can be updated to reflect the recent consolidations in the county It will be due Friday (1-10-2020)

- **Training/OP's:** Chief Boaz reported Spencer said next week's meeting will be an after action report for the Kincadee Incident.
- **FPO's:** No report.
- **Fire Districts:** Chief Akre shared their next meeting is Jan 23rd in Glen Ellen at the London Lodge. FDAC Leadership Course later this month in Modesto. FDAC Annual Conference in Napa March 31st.
- **Volunteer Fire Companies:** No report
- **Vegetation Management:** Chief Williams shared there has been close to 7,000 Vegetation Management Inspections completed. Preparing for next session. The focus for 2020 will be areas in the LRA. Waiting to see if the County has received a \$6.6M grant fund to reduce fuels around homes. The need for County and/or Regional HAZMAT training was identified and finding ways to fund it. Chief Gossner asked where is the County HAZMAT Team in terms of their response when requested. Chief Williams stated, the Team has been at the same level for the last four years. Chief Jenkins stated that he believes we are not launching the team in a timely fashion and there needs to be a better response model and activation.

Ad-Hoc Committee Reports:

- **Fire/EMS:** No report.
- **County Alerting System:** No report
- **Sonoma OP Area Up-Staffing Plan:** Chief George added that the up staffing checks have been sent out. E19.4 – E19.7 for a total of \$250,000.00. There are a few outstanding invoices.

REDCOM: Chief Gossner reported that Aaron has now left as director and KT is acting director until the position is filled.

Closed Session: None

Good of the Order:

- Chief Schach reported that ISO is looking to evaluate all fire agencies this year in Sonoma County. Be on the lookout for a phone call from them.
- Chief Boaz asked everyone if they have any agenda items or ideas for presentations for the New Year to please notify him so we can plan ahead.
- Chief Coursen reported that FEMA will be doing a case study on the 2017 fires.
Chief Gossner reported he will distribute the FIREScope matrix so it can be updated to reflect the recent consolidations in the county It will be due Friday (1-10-2020)
- James Salvante reported new EMS protocols are up on Coastal Valley's website.
- Chief Bullard shared that Graton is trying to figure out the parcel tax Plus \$100.00 amount and is not getting much help from the County, If anyone can help please contact Chief Bullard.

Adjournment: At 11:14

Next Meeting: February 12th Sonoma County Fire District, Windsor

Respectfully Submitted,

Daren Bellach
SCFCA Secretary