



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

**June 8, 2022 at 8:30 AM  
Sonoma Valley Fire District**

**ATTENDANCE**

Daren Bellach	Kenwood Fire	Ray Mulas	Schell Vista Fire
Mark Heine	Sonoma County Fire	Sean Lacy	Sonoma Valley Fire
Devon Gambonini	Santa Rosa Fire	Brian Cleaver	CVEMSA
Steve Akre	Sonoma Valley Fire	Tina Rivera	So. Co. Health Services
Matt Epstein	Dry Creek Fire	Chris Godley	DEM
Jason Boaz	Healdsburg Fire	Gary Johnson	Sonoma Valley Fire
KT McNulty	REDCOM	Brian Cyr	Sonoma Valley Fire
Mark Courson	OES	Steve Herzberg	Sonoma County Fire
Jason Jenkins	Cloverdale Fire	Charles Funkhouser	Coast Guard
Ron Busch	Sonoma County Fire	Ben Nicholls	CALFIRE
Bill Braga	Sebastopol Fire	Trevor Collins	Santa Rosa Fire
Jeff Schach	Petaluma Fire	Ron Lunardi	Occidental Fire
Doug Williams	SMART	Aaron Johnson	RPPS
Mike Marcucci	CALFIRE	Tim Mattos	RPPS
Trevor Smith	Sonoma Valley Fire	Steve Suter	Santa Rosa Fire
Kelly Bradley	North Bay Fire		

**Call to Order:** Chief Heine began the meeting at 8:30am and led the pledge.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Chief Heine

**Host Chief Introduction:** Chief Akre welcomed everyone to the Sonoma Valley

**Presidents Report:** Chief Akre reported on the RDO training class that was held last week. We had a great turnout. A request was made to make sure everyone reviews the All Call policy 18 requesting additional resources. One thing that came up was making sure that everyone's agency is accurately tracked or identified (Station, Resources) in the All Call policy. When reviewing the policy, please make sure your agency is identified correctly. The move up plan will be pushing out soon. This will identify the first 5 units that will need to move up when needed. We do put out pages on Everbridge for resource requests. When you respond to Everbridge do not just hit a 1 for Yes with no additional information. You need to respond with the contact information and resource information. As a reminder when we do a Task Force or Strike Team for local up staffing, remember the whole ST or TF will either stay on ABH or move to CFAA. We will not split this. It will be either/or. Hotels policy, remember if the incident is not supporting this, the SCFCA/Ops area has agreed that hotels will be covered by individual agencies. We want to make sure that there no change in this or opposition to continue this. There is no written policy for this. Chief Busch stated that maybe we should have a policy written so there is no confusion. Remember it is required for overhead positions to have an overhead refresher class every other year to go out of

County. Chief Andreis is the contact for the local CICCS. All documents must be sent to him and not Jack Thomas. The home agency should gather all the required information to send in and do it in one batch per agency. Chief Bellach added, please do not call the RDO directly in regards to up staffing. Only call the REDCOM RDO number 707-565-8695 for this. Chief Heine added in regards to the CALFIRE hand crew situation, there is a more likelihood that ST's may be used as hand line crews this season. Please train your crews for this. Remember this is not a typical 12" scratch-line type training. Chainsaw work and safety are a major issue.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion: Busch, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Akre, All AYE

**Treasurer's Report:** No report

**Correspondence:** None

**Presentation:** Sonoma County Department of Health Services Director Tina Rivera spoke in regards to the agency and what they do. They have over 700 employees and is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest department in Sonoma County. They have several divisions with-in the organization. They have 5 key areas of focus. Children and Family Services, Adult Services, Community Health and Safety, Emergency Medical Preparedness and Disease Control - Clinical Services. The Director is responsible for the policies, programs and goals of the department. They also collaborate between other agencies and departments throughout the County. Chief Akre asked about Measure O funds. He asked if all of the Measure funds had been allocated or was there still funding available. There are still funds available, they will be meeting with the AdHoc to determine where those funds will be allocated.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**Standing Committee Reports:**

**Fire Service Working Group:** Chief Heine reported they met last week and are focused on the initial consolidation efforts taking place with Gold Ridge and the CSA40 agencies as well as Sonoma County Fire District and Rancho Adobe in talk about consolidation. Still engaged with a proposed County wide tax measure and a petition driven ballot measure that would need 50.1% to pass.

Chief Akre added we are continuing to move forward with Lexipol even though the County is not funding it. Sonoma Valley Fire is willing to do the MOU for Lexipol and then invoice each District. Email went out yesterday to all the current subscribers needing numbers and what level of subscription you would like. If anyone is interested in Lexipol please reach out to Chief Akre to get pricing. We are still trying to get the County to fund this as well as REDCOM fees and up staffing fees.

**SMART:** Doug Williams reported that the Board is continuing to look at way to continue ridership and try to grow back some of the numbers that were there prior to the pandemic. Last month Sunday service was re implemented. Starting next week there will be 36 trains a day, an increase of 10. This Sunday they will start with a pilot program offering a special train to bring people back from the Giants games from Larkspur. The

freight system is continuing to be reviewed. He spoke with Chief Busch in regards to the roll that SMART could play in emergency evacuations, this would be limited to where the tracks are. They could move a lot of people quickly. A lot of talks right now to determine what SMART could actually do.

**PG & E:** None

### **Regional Zone Reports:**

**CALFIRE:** Chief Nicholls reported they are continuing to work with KT and Evonne to work on some of the early fire season kinks. For clarification for those who were on the Op Area call Monday, Chief Duncan was talking about investigators coming to state incidents, this was not a Sonoma County problem. As a reminder, if an investigator shows up please check –in with prevention first.

**Zone 3:** Chief Bellach reported he wanted to thank Santa Rosa, Sonoma Valley Fire, CALFIRE and Sonoma County Fire for their response and help with our fatality fire we had last week.

**Zone 4:** No report

**Zone 5:** No report

**Zone 6:** No report

**Zone 7:** Chief Suter reported they have some new hires going through the academy. By mid-summer they should have all three new type 3's up and running. Chief Heine reported they have an academy going on right now with 6 FF-Medics in it. Medic 570 (24 hour ALS) in Windsor and Medic 571 (12 hour ALS) in Forestville have been deployed. These are all staffed through their strategic partnership with Medic Ambulance. They provide the staffing. Medic 574 is a BLS inter hospital transport unit under a Kaiser contract. In backgrounds right now for their new Public Outreach Specialist/PIO. The go live with Bodega Bay ribbon cutting ceremony is this coming Saturday at 10am in Bodega Bay. Bodega Bay station will be 3.0 staffing with a medic. Still in strong discussions with Rancho Adobe Fire for potential consolidation. Looking at a \$2M funding gap. Sonoma County 1 is the radio identifier for the new helicopter. It's a new Euro Copter H 135 twin engine. Its priority missions will be EMS scene response and critical care transport, aerial bucket drops and aerial recon day and night. The copter will be available on OES pre-positioning.

**Zone 8:** No report

**Zone 9:** Chief Schach reported they will be choosing their Emergency Manager today now that the recruitment process has been completed. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend their badge pinning last week. Will be having another badge pinning for new recruits in mid-July.

**OES:** Chief Courson reported they had an IROC training yesterday in Solano County and thought that it would be a good idea for some selected people to attend this training. He

thanked us for the early MA support out of state in New Mexico and Arizona. There will be some FMAG training for Region 2 if anyone is interested.

**Training OP's:** No report

**FPO's:** Devon Gambonini reported they did not have a meeting last month. They will be having a meeting next week with building officials. The topics will be, battery storage systems and high pile storage.

**Fire Districts:** Chief Akre reported we did move to in-person meeting quarterly. The next meeting will be in July and Rancho Adobe Fire District will be hosting the meeting. The in-between months we are still doing Zoom meetings. Yesterday Locks who is a carrier and provides excess coverage for workers compensation insurance. They are the next level next to FASIS who most districts use for their Workers Comp. They voted to fund 8 sessions with First Responders Resiliency throughout the state for public safety members. This is about a \$100,000.00 cost. Each event will be between 100 and 150 people. Behavioral health and resiliency is continuing to gain a lot of traction.

**Volunteer Fire Companies:** Chief Bradley reported they are currently doing joint training with Petaluma and Rancho Adobe on wildland scenarios. This weekend is NASCAR. Areas of impact will be Hwy. 37, Lakeville Hwy. and 121 into Sonoma. Volunteer agencies will be covered for hotels during an out of county response.

**Vegetation Management:** No report

**Coastal Valley EMS:** Brian Cleaver reported that they are working on the tiered response. They have had the AMR contract extension approved by the BOS. The trauma designation of SRMH was also approved. The RFP is scheduled with-in the next 18 months and that information will go out to all stakeholders.

**Ad-Hoc Committee Reports:** No report

**Fire/EMS:** Chief Akre reported they are active with the tiered response task force and how to implement it. Keeping an eye out on wall times and continuing to support agencies that want to start up ALS response.

Doug Williams stated that we had the Survivors Reunion a couple of weeks ago and wanted to thank the SCFCA for their continued support.

**DEM:** Chris Godley reported the EOC is staffed up and will have a big training event over the next 2 months for EOC staff. Alert and Warnings are in place and ready as well as sheltering. Working on Emergency Zones for Ag and livestock. Gearing up for drought. The task force will be expanded in July from 15 members to just over 30. There is a 60% chance we will have another dry winter. This will put us into a drought we have never seen.

Chief Nicholls stated it is very important that the ECC and REDCOM are in the loop on evacuations and everybody is on the same page. Notification must be made to the appropriate centers.

**Sonoma OP Area Up-Staffing Plan:** No report

**REDCOM:** KT reported they have a full IROC course scheduled this month and they were also able to invite CALFIRE. They hired a new supervisor from SF Fire Department, Jasmine Mitchell. They have 3 new dispatchers in backgrounds and promoted 2 new training officers. The REDCOM Executive Director Job should open up today. The committee on tiered response has been meeting. The next step is to create another sub-committee to work on the data. They hope to find data and facts to make informed decisions on tiered response.

**Closed Session:** None

**Good of the Order:** None

**Adjournment:** @ 0945hrs

**Next Meeting:** July 13<sup>th</sup>, Sonoma County Fire District – Station - Forestville, 0830hrs.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daren Bellach  
SCFCA Secretary