



# SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Jan 10<sup>th</sup> 2018 at 9:30 AM**  
**Hosted By Petaluma**

**Attendance:**

James Colangelo	Sonoma County	Rafael Bautista	REACH
Steve Akre	Sonoma Valley	Aaron Abbott	REDCOM
Mike Medeiros	Petaluma	Dave Franceschi	Forestville
Dean Anderson	AMR	Jason Boaz	Healdsburg
Mark Heine	Novato	James Bales	Napa County
Mike Mickelson	Wilmar	Rob Cassidy	Russian River
Bill Braga	Sebastopol	Todd Derum	CALFIRE
Tony Gossner	Santa Rosa	Ray Mulas	Schell Vista
Doug Williams	Retired	Leonard Thompson	Petaluma
Bill Bullard	Graton	Michael Palacio	CHP
Randy Collins	SRJC ARTP	Darren Bellach	Kenwood
James Salvante	CVEMS	Kirk Van Wormer	CALFIRE
Loren Davis	Mountain	James Williams	Sonoma County
Sean Grinnell	Bodega Bay	Dan George	Gold Ridge

**Call to Order:** Chief Derum called the meeting to order at 0947 and asked BC Medeiros to lead the pledge.

**Host Chief Intro/Pledge:** Chief Medeiros welcomed the group on behalf of Chief Thompson, spoke briefly about their shared services agreement with Rancho Adobe and shared the logistics and lunch arrangements.

**President's Report:** Chief Derum spoke to the safety briefing he conducts with his staff every morning which recently has included the mud slides incidents in Montecito, Carpinteria and closer to home, the vehicle accident in Napa County and encouraged the group to use lookouts when responding to these events.

**Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** Motion by Chief George and a second by Chief Grinnell. Unanimous vote.

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

Chiefs General Fund:	\$4,554.41	Survivors Savings:	
OP's/TO's Fund:	\$18,098.22	Survivors Checking:	\$108,098.22
FPO General Fund:	\$2,921.20		
FPO Safety Trailer:	\$6,106.90		
FITF	\$1,720.09		
Career Succession:	\$4,637.28		
Safety Pals:	\$9,930.16		
Safety Pals Trailer:	\$2,500.00		
	\$50,468.26		\$108,098.22

Ret. Chief Williams reminded the group that at this meeting we have historically voted to approve the \$1000 sponsorship we make to the Survivor's Fund event. A motion was made by Chief Akre, second by Chief Bellach. Unanimous vote. Chief Grinnell made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Second by Chief Mulas. Unanimous vote.

**Correspondence:** Randy shared the letter dated Jan 8 from Hans reminding everyone that dues notices were mailed and his request that you designate representatives for each of the groups/sub-groups in your dues applications.

**Presentation:** None

**Old Business:**

- **REDCOM Anniversary Recognition:** Chief Boaz shared that this month is their 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary and arrangements have been made on January 26 from 5-8 to have a catered meal in the Sheriff's training room. Director Abbott indicated the time will allow dispatchers from multiple shifts to participate. Chief Boaz ended by encouraged all agencies to attend.
- **Boundary Drop Follow-up:** Chief Colangelo indicated that he has not has an opportunity to meet with Chief Thompson and will follow-up with him before our next meeting.
- **Review of 2017 Goals:** Chief Derum reviewed the list of goals. All of which were accomplished except a review of our financials and the posting of the Fire Advisory meeting minutes to the website.
- **2018 Goals Discussion Adoption:** Chief Derum began by going down the list that had been generated at the November meeting with the following being discussed:
  - Employee Assistance/Peer Support Programs:** Chief Akre shared he has scheduled a speaker on this topic for the Feb meeting and is examining the feasibility of a program developed by Anguin. Chief Gossner expressed he is working to bring some programs to Santa Rosa and will keep us apprised. Randy shared that the \$150K grant for peer support from the RCU fire fund that we voted to support at the December meeting is moving forward. Chief Boaz suggested changing to "Peer support". Chief Derum spoke to generational differences and how we communicate can impact how our efforts are accepted which we need to be cognizant of. Chief Gossner reinforced this. Chief Medeiros spoke to the importance of this topic and shared a personal story. Chief Grinnell reminded everyone about the services available through the Chaplaincy. Chief Akre shared this topic is also of concern to their insurance carrier which he is a Board member and to that end agreed to assist with this goal (Chief Akre).
  - Better Representation in the EOC.** Chief's Colangelo and George spoke to the validity of this goal. Director Abbott suggested that much of this has to do with information flow and that should be included in the process (Colangelo, George).
  - Being involved in the Emergency Alert System:** Chief Colangelo spoke to the efforts the County is undertaking and that their approach will be to over notify. Chief Boaz shared he has received numerous inquiries about this in his community. To that end, he agreed to serve as a liaison and out-reach along with Chief's Gossner, George Colangelo, BC Medeiros and Director Abbott
  - Improving Repopulation of Fire Areas:** Chief Derum indicated it was laudable and should be kept. Randy suggested passing on to the FPO's. Commander Palicio spoke to the merits and shared a story from his involvement during the recent fires. Chief Derum agreed to participate and Chief Gossner agreed to assign a SR BC
  - Develop Draw-Down Protocols:** Chief's Derum and George agreed we need to pursue and pass to the TO's/OP's section. After some discussion, it was agreed to combine with the Smoke Check/Wind event goal. Director Abbott indicated REDCOM is working on this. To that end Director Abbott & Chief George agreed to work with the OP's section on this.
  - Develop Prevention Measures:** While vague, it was agreed to leave to the FPO's and allow them to develop as they best see fit. James Williams agreed to assist the FPO's and Chief Thompson also assigned the Petaluma Fire Marshal
  - Evacuation of Health Care Facilities:** It was agreed to remove since it is being addressed by others and is a component of the Transportation elements of Emergency Plans.
  - Explore seeking funds to obtain a Mobile COMM Unit:** All spoke to the importance of pursuing it. Chief Gossner suggested pursuing agreements with law agencies to use the existing units. To that end, Chief's Gossner, Van Wormer and Director Abbott agreed to pursue.
  - Career Development:** Chief Derum asked that this be added so as to include having a presentation at each of our meetings of a topic that would have value for our membership. It was agreed that input from all our members and their assistance in arranging speakers would be central in making this happen.

**New Business:**

- **SHSGP Grant Funding Discussion:** Chief Gossner shared this is a State grant of around \$500k our County receives and is more commonly known as "The Gang of Five Grants". Our share is around \$150K and the deadline to submit proposals is Jan 18. Ideas he shared were: making Tac Channels repeatable (or adding

another control channel), repairing parts of the radio system damaged by the fires. After opening it up to the group, the following suggestions were made: Develop Pre-Attack Plans for the county (like what SVFRA used during the fires), providing SCBA's for the County Haz-Mat Team and purchasing fire radios for the law mobile command units so they can be used as mobile COMM units. He asked if you identify any others to respond to him no later than Jan 18.

### **Standing Committee Reports:**

**Training/OP's:** Randy shared the following topics were covered at yesterday's meeting:

- A draft Large Animal Technician Policy was developed by Chief Andreis which should be adopted at the March meeting.
- Chief Andreis has created a draft policy to allow the implementation of an "All Call" page accomplished by creating a "dummy unit" which individual agencies can then program into their equipment. However, how it will be accessed by Cloverdale and Rohnert Park will need to be addressed.
- The group will pursue hosting a class on Heat Related Illness to the STL/Overhead update training as well as a Tac-Com class.
- **FPO's:** No report as they were meeting while this one was taking place.
- **Fire Districts:** Chief George reminded the group the next meeting is Jan 25. The presenter will be the County Auditor with an update on revenue losses due to the fires
- **Volunteer Fire Companies:** Chief Mickelson indicated they are waiting to see what the outcome of the RFP will be. They have also established a fund to help those members who lost homes in the fire.

### **Ad-Hoc Committee Reports:**

- **Fire Advisory Committee:** Chief Thompson suggested we remove this item from the agenda. All concurred
- **Fire EMS Committee:** Chief Akre shared the next meeting is February 9<sup>th</sup> 9:30-11 at the Water Agency. The EMCC meetings are now back on schedule (next meeting on Jan 22). There are a number of draft treatment guidelines they are looking for feedback. He also shared the trainings on the new EMT scope of practice have begun. James Salvante reminded the group that these are required to maintain your certification
- **Fire Recovery/AAR:** It was agreed to we can remove this as a standing agenda item. Chief Gossner said he will be reaching out to Chief Meston to ensure it is comprehensive. He also shared he spent yesterday in Sacramento and learned there is a lot of support from Cal Chiefs and our law makers and lobbied for their help in back-filling the loss of revenue that we experienced as well as using climate change initiatives to our advantage.
- **County Alerting System:** Since this was only recently adopted, there was no report except that Chief Boaz agreed to serve as the chair to head up this goal

**REDCOM:** Chief Abbott shared that they are moving forward with Priority Dispatching and there will be an educational component that they will start in February. He added that with Petaluma's help, the "Emergency" Button" has been installed and they will begin testing soon. He ended by adding that the dispatch fee for the funding for the Districts and VFC has been formalized so they should not receive a bill. City's and Private providers will still be billed (in a clarification emailed 1-11-18, this does not include MDC's and Air Cards).

**Closed Session:** There was no closed session.

### **Good of the Order:**

- Chief Williams thanked everyone who showed up for the BOS event yesterday
- Chief Franchesci reported they received a Type III and are spec'ing out a Water Tender
- Chief Henie introduced himself as the new Chief for RV & Windsor and received a round of applause
- Chief Gossner encouraged the group to read the Blue Ribbon report on the Cedar Fire as they experienced the same issues we did last October. The link is: <https://www.firescope.org/blue-ribbon/BlueRibbonRept.pdf>

- Chief George shared he and Chief Gossner attended the last OES meeting and he learned there has been a 50% reduction in the number of apparatus responding in the California Master Mutual Aid system over the last few years

**Adjournment:** Chief Thompson made a motion to adjourn, second by Chief George at 11:35

**Next Meeting:** February 14<sup>th</sup> at Windsor

Respectfully Submitted: Jan 11, 2018

Randy Collins,  
SCFCA Secretary