



# Sonoma County

# Fire Investigation Task Force

*Fire Prevention Officers Association*

---

**Minutes  
January 2, 2019  
Department of Public Safety, 500 City Hall DR. Rohnert Park, CA**

**CALL TO ORDER:** 10:15 AM

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**COORDINATOR'S COMMENTS:**

**INTRODUCTIONS:** Self Introductions: Devon Gambonini- Petaluma Fire, Kemplen Robbins- Santa Rosa Fire, Samuel Lashley- Santa Rosa Fire, Jason Stayton- Sonoma Valley Fire, Charlie Laird- CALFire, Nick Silva- Lakeville/CHP/NCRIC, Matt Epstein- Dry Creek Rancheria FD, Aron Levin- Windsor/Rincon FD, Linda Collister- Healdsburg

**CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:** N/A

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:** N/A.

**REPORTS:**

- Treasurer's – Current balance is \$2048.05
- Secretary's – None
- Coordinator's – SFM Fire Investigator curriculum retired on December 31, 2018. Reminded the group of the 3 hour training requirement in order to remain active on the FITF team. Training can be obtained by attending classes hosted by FITF, CCAI, CFIttrainer.net, NFA, etc. Proof of training shall be submitted to the FITF coordinator by the April 2019 meeting. He will also email all investigators currently listed on the FITF roster to advise.

**NOMINATIONS FOR FITF COORDINATOR:**

- Ian Hardage nominated and motioned for Ruben Mandujano to continue serving as the FITF coordinator. Linda Collister with the 2<sup>nd</sup>. All members in attendance approved. Ruben will continue to serve as FITF coordinator. (Thanks Ruben!)

**LIAISON REPORTS:**

- Website: Stuart Baker – None, Stuart was not present.
- Chiefs: Randy Collins – Fire Safe Sonoma is renamed Ready, Set, Go. New officers for the Chief's group: Jason Boaz Pres, Steve Akre or Mark Heine as VP, Randy Collins as Secretary and Hans Henneberque as



## Sonoma County

# Fire Investigation Task Force

*Fire Prevention Officers Association*

Treas. EMS ordinance. Chiefs are looking at contributing money to get consulting for that item. Chief's installation luncheon is next Wed Jan 9<sup>th</sup> in Petaluma.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Advisory committee – Report/updates, etc. – No report
- Education/Training Committee – No report
- Surveillance cameras – Cyndi Foreman – No report
- Youth Fire Setter – Kemplen Robbins – Kemplen. Youth Fire Setter training was held. Small group but valuable training. Received editable docs to make it our own. Will begin outreach after meeting next Wed, Jan 9th. Meetings will then move to 9am before FPO meetings.
- Grants – Linda Collister – Nothing in the pipeline for FITF grants. PG&E gave \$50k but that went to Fire Safe Sonoma to update their publications, put towards a website/ social media.

### OLD BUSINESS: None

### NEW BUSINESS:

- Courses at SRCJ Randy Collins (Guest): Fire Investigation Classes? Subsidized by TO's. Need to have 18-20 students in a class for it to fly at SRJC. Fire Investigation 1A Curriculum is available in Fire 61 semester length format but is not offered at this time. There are budget constraints and Chief Collins supports FITF's desire to host classes but wants the group to understand that he supports us attending courses elsewhere as hosting the investigation class could be challenging.

### CALL OUTS/FIRES:

- Linda- Thanksgiving Day. 3 story restaurant with black smoke billowing. HVAC system caught on fire. Older sprinkler system. 1 sprinkler kept the fire in check. Magnolia Manor Fire- RCFE home. 6 non-ambulatory patients. 10 year old noticed smoke, alerted mom, went outside and called 911. Fire in kitchen main hallway. All occupants made it out safely.
- Aron Levin- Fire in Bellevue. Commercial structure on E. Robles. Sprinkler save at a restaurant. Employees were attempting to clean a hood system themselves. Cardboard lit off and sprinklers activated.

### GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- Randy Collins: Recommendation to have someone from FITF present to the chief's installation luncheon.
- Linda Collister- Ready, Set, Go: 3' hardscape recommendation around houses. Healdsburg is looking to make it a standard for their jurisdiction. Ian stated that nationally they may look at a 5' range. Ian cautioned against making it an ordinance because it could lead to enforcement issues later on. Keep it as a recommendation, not making it a standard.
- Ian Hardage- Creek Trail fires



## Sonoma County

# Fire Investigation Task Force

*Fire Prevention Officers Association*

---

- Linda- Firework fire on the 1st on Fitch Mountain. Residents came home and found the fire in their yard.
- Ruben- Wants to go to the chief's group assessing their desire to continue FITF. No call outs in 2018. Wants the chief's support to start using the team for call outs, or maybe it shouldn't exist. Ruben said that people join FITF to go out on investigations. Aron stated that more education should be provided to the group to remind them that the group exists. Lengthy discussion ensued about the usage of FITF and possibly revisiting the procedures and call outs for FITF. Ian stated that Marin Co is having the same challenges. It was discussed to form a committee of folks that want to provide that update to the program to give to the chiefs. Sam Lashley, Jason Stayton & Matt Epstein agreed to be on the committee. Will provide an update to the group in Apr.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 11:42AM

**NEXT MEETING DATE/TIME/LOCATION:** April 3, 2019

**TRAINING:** None

**COMPLETED BY:**

Devon Gambonini