



SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

January 2011 Meeting

Minutes

Hosted by Rancho Adobe Fire Dist
 Penngrove Station
 January 12, 2011, 9:30 am.

Attendance:

Name	Department/Agency	Name	Department/Agency
Randy Collins	SRJC	Mark Aston	County Fire
Dan Northern	Forestville	Ron Collier	Windsor
Sean Grinnell	Bodega Bay	John Marty	Rohnert Park
Bill Braga	Seb/REDCOM	Eric Hoffman	Cal Fire
Dick Luttrell	REDCOM	John Zanzi	Sebastopol
Doug Williams	Rincon Valley	Chuck Abshear	Retired/Cal Fire
John Lantz	Rincon Valley	Bob Uboldi	Kenwood
Frank Treanor	Rancho Adobe	Peter Van Fleet	Glen Ellen
Larry Anderson	Petaluma	Brian Elliot	Coverdale
Andy Pforsich	Goldridge	Caerleon Safford	Fire Safe Sonoma
Dean Anderson	AMR/SLS	Steve Adams	Healdsburg
Phil Garcia	Sonoma Valley	Marvin Howard	Cal EMA

Call to Order: 09:52

Host Chief Introduction: Chief Collins introduced Chief Treanor who welcomed all and wished a Happy New Year to all. Chief Treanor pointed out a few details of the building and was glad to have everyone here.

Approval of Minutes: December 8, 2010. Chief Williams moved to approve the minutes and the motion was seconded by Chief Aston. All were in favor.

President's Report: Chief Collins welcomed the New Year and wished us all happiness in these interesting times.

Treasurer's Report: **1)** As of December 31st, 2010; **2)** Audit (as reported by Chief Treanor) Sean also reminded the group the dues notices have been sent out and are considered payable by the February meeting date

Chiefs Checking Account:	\$1,672.31	As of 12/31/10
W&O Fund 7 Month CD:	\$17,664.38	As of 11/30/10
<u>W&O Checking Account:</u>	<u>\$116,359.40</u>	<u>As of 12/13/10</u>
Total:	\$135,694.09	

Correspondence: Dennis Smiley via Email- Chief Collins reported on his letter of support (with Chief Zanzi's help) to Dennis. Annie's letter and two letters from the franchise tax board.

Presentations: None

Committee Reports:

Training Section: Chief Treanor- The last meeting was held at Cotati on December 14 to discuss the request from the Marin Chiefs to split the organization. After some debate about the future of training, the decision was made to do so but to still collaborate on the MAD drill and networking. Chief Collins shared some of the history behind the desired changes from the Marin side. They will meet later this month to draft a future agreement. Chief Northern asked if they will link with Ops section. Chief Lantz reported that they have aligned their meetings to coincide with the Ops group to promote consistency which will fall on the second Tuesday of even months at the Tower.

Prevention Section: Chief Zanzi reported the Prevention is meeting right now (now). This group has been active bringing many classes to the area and is putting together a FEMA prevention regional grant to purchase a mobile inspection/pre-plan program for engine companies using IPADs and other portable input devices. Linda Collister is the primary contact at lcollister@ci.healdsburg.ca.us.

Operations Section: Chief Lantz reported TO and Ops met last December 14 at the Rancho Adobe Fire-Cotati station to meld the two together. The next meeting will be February 8, TO's at 9am, and Ops at 10:30 at the Santa Rosa Tower.

District Chiefs: Chief Northern reported the meeting this month is on the 27th and the topics will include installation of the new officers (Dan is the new president), county fees and a development of a best practices document for all fire districts. County fees are expected to go way up. Many meetings are planned and Chief Northern will attend as part of a committee formed by districts. We can expect a two year softening of fees but anticipate the fees to double from their current rate. We will be asking for more information from the County regarding the distribution model that is used. More to come.

Sonoma County VFC: Chief Aston reported next meeting will be the 19th has not met since last meeting.

REDCOM: 1) Narrow banding-Chief Lantz handed out some info and reported on narrow banding. Completion is expected (by Law) by Jan 2013. The radio group met last Monday and is recommending some steps. Cal Fire has already started narrow banding which will make us have to ramp up our efforts a lot sooner. Main control channels and tactical channels will be first. Two REDCOM line ups; narrow and wide bands if you have the room, we should make the switch by April 4. Those who have base stations license's need to make changes to their license can go to the website to apply for modifications for narrow

band if changes have not been made users could face their license being canceled by 2013. The biggest concern was the FCC said we needed to modify the license first, this is not the case according to the County, we can narrow band now and we are within our license parameters. If you do not narrow band in time you will need to crank up the volume and face the opposite problem (very loud) the other way depending on if you are talking or receiving from a narrow band to a wide band and vica versa. The radio group recommends making the Control and TAC channels narrow band by April 4th. The RedCom channel would be narrow banded before fire season 2012. If the Chiefs approve today then the REDCOM Board will have the chance tomorrow. The radio group has a resource list available for those that need radio techs. Chief Collins asked if they (Radio group) were looking for approval at this time to approve the plan as presented. Yes the radio group was looking for approval of the plan for all frequencies. Chief Collins asked for a motion to accept the plan. Chief Treanor moved to accept the plan and Chief Williams seconded-no further discussion was had and all were in favor. Chief Collins thanked Chief Lantz and all others, and reminded him to please send out the resource list. Chief Marty is also ready plus informed the group that RP will have new channel for fire traffic only channel. Dick Luttrell reported that the recently sent out REDCOM Board packages came in two emails please look at the materials and REDCOM will receive the long range plan report from Chief Zanzi which will contain several items to be acted upon. Dick Luttrell told everyone that did not receive the email to contact him and he would see that got the info. REDCOM meets tomorrow at 2 pm at the tower.

CAD Group: Chief Williams said CAD is scheduled to meet February 15 at Windsor Fire. Chief Williams said a few tasks have stalled for the funding gap and it is good time for feedback on the County Run Book.

Cal EMA Operational Area: Chief Williams reported the next meeting will be held on May 12 for region two in San Francisco. Chief Howard reported that region-2 had a slow year. He expects changes with how business is to be conducted with our new Governor and the potential for additional changes in LRA and SRA areas. He added that after learning of some of the difficulties experienced in ordering resources at the San Bruno incident, REDCOM has proven to be a great local benefit from the CALEMA viewpoint. As a result, there will be some meetings regarding mission tasking and how to improve the resource ordering process. Because of the budget it will be a trying time for everyone. Thank you all for your support. Chief Williams added that PG& E have reimbursed everyone at 100%.

County Fire: Chief Aston reported that budget time is heating up, 25% reduction of funds for all departments. The last three budgets equal about 50-60% of what they were three years ago. There is a major effort underway for a county redesign. All department heads are looking at what they do and how they can do it in the future but uncertainty still exists on what responsibilities will be transferred from the State. Next year could be flat year, no increase, no decrease. Massive consolidation and reorganization is expected to occur with its complexion looking very different in two years time. 5262 is back at the county. Discussion to take place soon for all stakeholders to maintain the unit with staffing needs being considered. Chief Howard commented that 5262 is one of the more active Comm. Units that CAL EMA maintains in each region. Utilized as a fire support unit. We embrace everyone for the desire to help staff and respond mutual aid.

EMCC: Dean Anderson said the next EMCC meeting will be on January 24. A regional meeting was recently held; Napa County is separating from Coastal Valley EMSA as of July

1. Sonoma / Mendocino will still be a part of the Coastal Valley EMSA. The Napa RFP last year came down to two companies, Paramedics Plus and Piners. Over much controversy, Piners was reinstated. The Medical Oversight Committee (MAC) will create a committee of providers to address ambulance inventory requirements. MAC will also attempt to address the issue of stacking patients in hospital hallways and tying up units.

Legislative: Chief Collier reported EMS providers had one or two bills last year with a big push from the ambulance association-they might be back and are willing to fight a big fight. Governor Brown's new budget, if you have not read it, do so. One potential impact will be the possible redrawing of LRA/SRA boundaries. Charlene Virts is now getting the legislative emails and will forward them to Chief Collier who will forward to the group. It's going to be ugly. Chief Collier suggested looking at www.forclosuresradar.com to identify foreclosures in their jurisdictions by zip code. Keep an eye on AB 82, a Bill by Jefferies for clean up AB 1648. There is a DMV form (546a) for Doctor Signature and sign off of driver's forms. See Ron's email of 1-12-11 second attachment...revenue streams.

Grants: Chief Collier reported that the \$118K OTS grant prepared by Windsor on behalf of the 101 corridor depts. and county was successful and the Holmatro equipment has begun to arrive for distribution. Chief Zanzi reported the 2010 WMD grant was approved by the State and is currently going through the County process. Purchasing is expected to start July 11. The grant includes cad mapping-training-clean up items like boats and few rescue items. AFG regional grant is still in the mix for papers.

SRJC Advisory: Chief Collins reported the next meeting is in April. Chief Collins held his first graduation on January 7th and the next is scheduled for June 3rd.

CHP Liaison: Chief Collier reported there were some concerns for our great program by retired folks who do not want to see it fail. No issues were reported and no there is no intent to see the program go away.

Red Cross: No report

Marin Chiefs Liaison: Chief Northern did not have the time to go to the meeting and asked the group if there is a need to continue. Randy said he would speak with Dan to the liaison issue following the meeting.

Fire Safe Sonoma: Caerleon Safford reported that they still have money to spend and looking to increase the scope of the two major projects she is working on: Road side fuel reduction and her chipper project. There is a Gorse project upcoming in Bodega. Caerleon asked for a show of hands for those that have weed abatement weed abatement-about 12 raised, then asked for inclusion of weed info letters from the fire safe...neighborhood projects are the best project.

Old Business:

- 2011 Goals- Chief Collins asked if there were any questions, comments, discussion or issues for these goals as presented. Motion by Chief Collier, 2nd by second by Chief Garcia, no further discussion was had, all voted all in favor, no one opposed.
- Chief's Logo- Chief Collins asked for a motion to adopt the new logo. Chief Treanor moved, 2nd by Chief Pfosich, no discussion was had. All were in favor, no one opposed.

- Donation to Survivors- Chief Williams provided background on the Survivors Reunion during EMS, week with the intent to reunite those saved with the rescuers. The Chiefs Association has been a sponsor for years. Chief Williams asked the Chiefs to increase the annual donation of \$300 to \$325 and he would increase his personal donation by \$25. Chief Williams moved, Chief Treanor 2nd, all were in favor, no one opposed.
- Website- Chief Zanzi reported that he was hoping to roll out the new site today but active status is holding us back, this is the only item that is holding us back. A Google group is being used for discussions. The only question we have now is a document page for sharing should be public or private, it is possible for either one; the entire site is open. Chief Collins stated that a private draft section is not necessary at this point, just makes it easier. Consensus was to leave it open. Chief Collins asked if training will be needed for the active status portion. Chief Zanzi said it is being designed as it was before so training should not be an issue.

New Business:

None

Improving Efficiency:

No report although Chief Treanor commented the group is doing an excellent job.

Customer Service:

None

Good of the Order: 1) Meeting locations: January-Rancho Adobe; February- Windsor; March-Healdsburg; April-Goldridge (night); May-Sebastopol; June-Sonoma; July-Rohnert Park; August-Coast Guard; September-CHP-RP; October-Forestville (night); November-Petaluma; December-Santa Rosa.

2) Chief Pforsich asked if it was possible for public service announcement for volunteers and explorers to join. Yes it is possible even now-KRCB is dedicated to helping the public. Chief Collins said that he had the opportunity to help them be reading Fahrenheit 451, and they made an on air comment for Healdsburg Fire.

Closed Session (if necessary): None

Next Meeting: Windsor Fire District, February 9th 0930 Hrs

Meeting Adjourned for the installation luncheon at 1130 Hrs.