



# ***SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION***

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**Hosted by Rincon Valley FPD, 8200 Old Redwood  
July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009 0930 HOURS**

### **Attendance**

Doug Williams	Rincon Valley	Phillip Garcia	Sonoma Valley
Chuck Abshear	Cal Fire	Ernie Loveless	Cal Fire
John Zanzi	Sebastopol	Rodger Doncaster	Red Cross
Randy Collins	Healdsburg	Randy Lyman	AMR / SLS
Dick Luttrell	REDCOM	Bruce Varner	Santa Rosa
Kent Coxon	EMS Agency	Larry Anderson	Petaluma
Paul Pigoni	Geyserville	John Lantz	Rincon Valley
Peter Van Fleet	Glen Ellen	Mark Aston	Sonoma County DES
Frank Treanor	Rancho Adobe	Will Horne	Mayacamas
Dan Northern	Forestville		

**Call to Order:** Chief Zanzi called the meeting to order at 09:45 AM.

**Host Chief Introduction:** Chief Williams welcomed everyone. Chief Zanzi expressed appreciation to Chief Williams for accommodating the last minute change of location.

**Approval of Minutes:** No changes to June minutes as presented. Motion to approve by Chief Williams, second from Chief Treanor. Approved unanimously.

**President's Report:** Chief Zanzi indicated no significant new issues.

**Treasurer's Report:** Chiefs Account Balance = **\$2,737.69 (as of June 30<sup>th</sup>)** W&O Fund Balance = **\$132,624.74 (as of May 31<sup>st</sup>)**. Discussed alternatives for investing W&O fund, will follow-up with e-board members.

**Correspondence:** None

**Presentations:** None

### **Pending Presentations for Future Meetings:**

- Bunker – refresher skills program at SRJC
- Shane Francisco – Update on current terrorism threats and issues. Shane has attended previous meetings and is an Intelligence Officer with the Northern California Regional Intelligence Center (NCRIC).

### **Committee Reports**

- **Training Section:** The Association is seeking a Liaison to the Training Officers. The TO's meet the second Tuesday of every other month. Chief Treanor indicated he may be able to meet the commitment – he will advise.

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- **Prevention Section:** Chief Collins discussed the recent 4<sup>th</sup> of July advertisement placed in the Press Democrat regarding fireworks. Initially there was an error in some of the dates published by the Press Democrat, which were later corrected. Chief Varner also discussed some related issues and mentioned the advertising overall was very effective. Chief Zanzi asked the group about fires and other issues related to fireworks – several jurisdictions had fires related to fireworks. Also discussed the impacts of reducing days allowed for sales. There are some problems between jurisdictions who do not reduce days and those who have reduced days of sale. In summary – it would be much less problematic if all jurisdictions were consistent in the days allowed for sale.
- **Operations Section:** Chief Lantz indicated the next meeting is July 20<sup>th</sup> at the SR tower. Overall – things are proceeding well. Finished S/T leader refresher courses, CICCS up and running, looking into posting active status of resources for out-of-county assignments on the internet (using the Chiefs Association website). Chief Northern updated the group and provided a demo of the on-line process status process. The status would not be required year-round but only during times when incident activity picks up in the state. Chief Williams also discussed staffing options and asked if there is a need to also address 3 or 4 person staffing as a part of the status process. Chief Williams suggested testing the status process during the month of July and approve the process at the August meeting. The group also suggested adding initials of who edits. Additionally, there is a need to establish a process for announcing the transition to “active status.”
- **District Chiefs:** Chief Garcia – Next meeting at Bodega Bay on July 30<sup>th</sup>, the flyer is out. Will be doing a one-hour harbor cruise and the regular meeting will follow.
- **Volunteer FF Association:** Chief Horne – last meeting June 24<sup>th</sup>. Next Meeting August 19<sup>th</sup> at 1900 hours at the Sheriff’s office. The group is anticipating submission of the CSA 40 study report to the Board of Supervisors. Also reviewing apparatus status. Chief Aston advised the CSA 40 report will be available for download on July 20<sup>th</sup>.
- **REDCOM:** Dick Luttrell noted Ken Reese was unable to attend. Dick discussed efforts to deal with budget shortfalls. Dick asked chiefs to please contact him if there are noticeable reductions in the level of service. Chief Zanzi asked Chief Lantz to discuss the recent radio request from PG&E. PG&E has asked permission to use Control 2 under certain emergency conditions (where there is no cell coverage and their radio system does not work). Consensus is that the Association supports limited use by PG&E. Will likely go to REDCOM SOP group. Treanor moves to support, Chief Collins second. Approved unanimously.
- **CAD Group:** Chief Williams – Rollout of the maps and reviewing for quality control has been the key issue lately. The Association also needs to think about ways to continue funding the project as grant dollars begin to dry up.
- **OES Operational Area:** Chief Williams – Things have been quiet lately in the Op Area. The Region II Coordinator (Richter) is leaving the Op Area as of July 22<sup>nd</sup>. Alameda County Chief will be the new Region Chief, and Contra Costa will continue as dispatch until the first of the year. Dispatch will move to Alameda after January 1<sup>st</sup>. CICCS is up and running. Chief Aston



updated the group on CICCIS issues. The new policy regarding S/T leader has created some difficulties – the CICCIS committee is looking for guidance from the Chiefs regarding how to handle trainees. Several issues were discussed and it was decided to have a joint meeting with the Operations group next month.

1. **In regard to CICCIS qualifications, the Sonoma County Chief’s will require the following for 300-level qualifications; Trainees must complete NWCG pre-requisite course work and experience before requesting that the per review committee recommend initiating a task book (and prior to be considered trainees).** Chief Northern motioned – Varner seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Discussion noted this policy is necessary since there are already qualified trainees waiting for training opportunities. It is not efficient or effective to allow individuals who do not meet the prerequisite training and experience to go as trainees ahead of personnel who have already completed the pre-requisite training. Chief Aston also emphasized the need to be consistent in the format in which applications are presented.
  2. The 400 series: Do the Chiefs want a motion similar to the 300 series to apply for 400 series as well? Aston motioned, Northern seconded. For any candidate who is already in the process for 400 level certification, the CICCIS committee will work with the candidate to get the application forwarded. Approved unanimously
  3. The “two trainee assignment” criteria for 300 level certification. Currently one trainee assignment can lead to becoming qualified. The Chiefs Association would like the CICCIS committee to require a minimum of two assignments of sufficient complexity (with at least two separate evaluators – one from a different agency) before becoming eligible to be considered qualified. This condition will be applied to all current and future trainees. The CICCIS committee will consider the complexity of a single assignment as possibly meeting the two-assignment requirement for existing trainees.
  4. The maximum number of trainees for 300 level positions needs to be reviewed due to logistical limitations. May need to sort by most recent date out – this issue also needs discussion with the Ops group. Chief Aston will capture issues for discussion.
- **County DES:** Chief Aston – H1N1 is still present in the county. Discussed an outbreak of H1N1 on the Two Rock USCG base. Reminded everyone about the need to don N-95 upon arrival for any call involving an ill person.
  - **EMCC:** Kent Coxon – Next meeting July 27<sup>th</sup> noon at 475 Aviation (Guild Hall). Continuing to review the possibility of creating a JPA structure - consultant’s report pending. Updating MCI Plan – asked the group about Firescope job sheets, are the 90’s version the most current?
  - **Legislative:** Chief Collier – No Report.
  - **Grants:** Chief Zanzi updated the group on the status of the current WMD / Homeland Security Grant process. Fire met this week with EMS & law to draft a proposal. The draft will go to the so-called “gang of 5” for review Chief Zanzi distributed the draft and gave background. The

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group was unable to fund approximately ½ of the proposals. Due to county-wide budget problems, the largest single item in the grant proposal will funding a portion of the County Explosive Ordinance Disposal Squad.

- **SRJC Advisory:** Chief Collins – next meeting not till November.
- **CHP Liaison:** No Report. Chief Williams reminded everyone that Mark McAfee is retiring in September. Chief Williams would like a plaque not to exceed \$150. Chief Collins motioned, Chief Treanor seconded.
- **Red Cross:** Rodger Doncaster. Looking at long-term sheltering issues. The local Chapter also continues to be involved in CPR training. Looking to do an outreach to fire departments in late August and September, this has been done in the past and was very successful is developing and improving working relationships.
- **Marin Chief's Liaison:** Chief Northern – no report.

### **Old Business**

- **Stormwater Runoff:** Chief Collins updated the group on the stormwater discharge permit process currently being developed by the Regional Water Quality Control Board. The prior comments submitted by the Association have been considered in the recently published revised conditions. Some of the Association concerns have been addressed, and other options remain for those concerns that have not been incorporated in the draft regulations. Fire Departments will be allowed to write Best Management Practices to work within the regulations. FPOs and Training Officers are drafting policies for compliance with proposed regulations. Chief Collins will attend the upcoming hearings on behalf of the Association. Chief Zanzi expressed his appreciation to Chief Collins for representing the Chiefs on this issue.

### **New Business**

#### **Customer Service / Good of the order**

- Chief Loveless: Cal Fire changing radio loads. Staffing changes include 3 new Division Chiefs and 8 new Battalion Chiefs. 4-person staffing on all engines for fire season.
- Chief Varner sent press release regarding rotating outages. Started yesterday – will continue for 9 months. Chief Varner emphasized he has flexibility to adjust based on weather conditions.
- Chief Lantz: REDCOM and DOAG has advised cal Fire's radio load. Will post on the web site.
- Chief Treanor will likely take on the role of Training Liaison
- Chief Collins: Healdsburg arsonist sentenced to 5 years and 4 months. Will probably be out in 9 months to 1 year.

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- Chief Zanzi – Chief Elliot unable to attend – wanted everyone to know that Jason Jenkins has recently been appointed to Deputy Chief for Cloverdale FPD.

**Closed Session:**

- N/A

**Next Meeting: August 12 – Rohnert Park Public Safety**

Meeting adjourned 12:15 hrs

Respectfully submitted – Chuck Abshear, Secretary / Treasurer, July 9, 2009.