



**SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS  
ASSOCIATION MEETING  
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES  
May 11, 2022 at 10:30 AM  
Petaluma Community Center**

**ATTENDANCE**

- |                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Daren Bellach    | Kenwood Fire       |
| Chad Costa       | Petaluma Fire      |
| Devon Gambonini  | Santa Rosa Fire    |
| Steve Akre       | Sonoma Valley Fire |
| Bill Bullard     | Graton Fire        |
| Jason Boaz       | Healdsburg Fire    |
| KT McNulty       | REDCOM             |
| Mark Courson     | OES                |
| Jason Jenkins    | Cloverdale Fire    |
| Ron Busch        | Sonoma County Fire |
| Bill Braga       | Sebastopol Fire    |
| Jeff Schach      | Petaluma Fire      |
| Doug Williams    | SMART              |
| Mike Marcucci    | CALFIRE            |
| Hans Henneberque |                    |
| Kelly Bradley    | North Bay Fire     |

**Call to Order:** Chief Jenkins began the meeting at 10:30 and led the pledge.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Chief Jenkins

**Host Chief Introduction:** Chief Schach announced it was official, he is the new Fire Chief for the City of Petaluma. Chief welcomed everyone to the meeting. As of 2 weeks ago, Chief Chad Costa is the new Assistant Chief for Petaluma.

**Presidents Report:** No report

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion: Bullard, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Marcucci, All AYE

**Treasurer's Report:** Hans reported: No changes from last month. There are a total of 9 agencies that are late on their dues. Coastal Valley EMS, Dry Creek, Gold Ridge, Monte Rio, North Sonoma Coast, Schell Vista, Sonoma County Fire, Timber Cove and U.S. Coast Guard.

Chief's General Fund	\$4,755.30
Survivor's Fund	\$96,396.31
Training Officer's Fund	\$3,252.92
Training Officer's Command Tablets	(\$259.56)
FPO General Fund	\$4,218.85

FPO Fire Safety Trailer Fund	\$12,856.90
FPO Career Succession Fund	\$888.71
FPO Fire Investigation Fund	\$2,276.26
Youth Fire Setter Program	\$1,041.53
Safety Pals General Fund	\$24,765.62
Safety Pals Trailer Fund	\$2,500.00
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>\$152,692.84</b>

**Correspondence:** None

**Presentation:** None

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**Standing Committee Reports:**

**Fire Service Working Group:** Chief Akre reported they have been meeting about every other week. They have met with Terri Wright to work on some loose ends on a few projects they have been working on. Terri will be leaving the County. They have been talking about the REDCOM fees with the County and how we can continue this beyond the next fiscal year. They have also been discussing the Lexipol fees for the Districts and how we can continue this. As we bundle the Lexipol fees, we hope to get a better pricing. The biggest thing they have been working on is with a consultant group to look at the new Measure G2.0. The BOS decided not to move forward this year with the tax measure. They are continuing to support the agencies going through the LAFCO process. The group is continuing to engage with vegetation management.

**SMART:** Doug Williams reported that they have restarted the Sunday service. They will be adding additional train for a total of 36 per day. The ridership continues to increase but is now where near where it was pre pandemic. The Windsor extension is still pending funding. The Board has been going through their planning process. Ken Reese is working on getting the trains to appear on Tablet Command.

**PG & E:** None

**Regional Zone Reports:**

**CALFIRE:** Chief Marcucci reported on May 16<sup>th</sup> they will be at staffing level 3. This will give us 21 engines in the unit with all stations open by May 23<sup>rd</sup>. We will be staffing 4 dozers 24 hours a day, 5 BC's and Sonoma Air Attack Base will be open for reload only. On May 30<sup>th</sup> we will hire to go to peak staffing level 4. June 6<sup>th</sup> we will be at 31 engines, 6 dozers. Will be interviewing next week for the Chief 1401 position. Crews currently at Konocti and Delta. The Blue Ridge Crew is up and running out of Solano County. They should be here in Sonoma County by July or August. Crews will be tight this season. Be prepared to have your engine crew's tool up this season. Will have a Type 1 copter at the Sonoma Base as well as one at the Napa Airport. Aircraft for Sonoma should arrive by July 1<sup>st</sup>. the Napa copter will show up mid-June.

**Zone 3:** Chief Akre reported they had a successful IMT training event at SDC with a great turnout from within the State. An evacuation drill is planned for the west side of Sonoma Valley coming up late this month.

**Zone 4:** No report

**Zone 5:** No report

**Zone 6:** Chief Jenkins reported they have a lot of vegetation management work going on. Promoted and Engineer to a Captain. Seasonal FF's will be coming on next week. Chief Boaz reported they took delivery of the new ladder truck, a Peirce 107'. Should be in service in a few weeks. The Fire Sub-Station has been funded and the drawings are complete. Construction should start in early 2023. Pile burning on Fitch Mountain has been done. Mastication is now going to be started. A Community Wildfire Protection Plan has been approved and will be starting in a few weeks. An AFG grant has been submitted for new SCBA's. Linda Collister is retiring after 15 years with the city.

**Zone 7:** Chief Busch reported they have an academy starting on the 16<sup>th</sup> with 7 FF Medics to come on board. They are looking for a Community Services Officer, the application period closed yesterday. Continuing to work with REACH to develop the Sonoma County One program. This is the new helicopter program. July 1<sup>st</sup> Bodega Bay will go live as Station 10. Still having talks with Rancho Adobe Fire District and discussing consolidation. M577 is staffed at 8200 Old Redwood Hwy. This was done to help with some staffing issues with Bells Ambulance.

Chief Jenkins reported for Santa Rosa, they have an academy starting in a couple of weeks with 2-4 attending. Have 2 Pierce engines on order. Trying to place orders for type 6's. Chassis are difficult to find right now. Will be starting a drone program, drones will be on both trucks and the hazmat unit.

**Zone 8:** Chief Braga reported they have a new Type 3 model 34 on order from Boise. Chief Bullard report they will be having a pancake breakfast this coming Sunday. They have been doing a regional large animal rescue team for a couple of years now. Talk has been to make this a special operations technical rescue team involving all the operations in the West County to one group so all the equipment is consolidated in one place.

**Zone 9:** Chief Gossner reported they have a number of applications in for the Fire Chiefs position which closes July 1<sup>st</sup>. They have a BC test coming up in June for at least maybe one opening and maybe two in the next year.

Chief Costa reported they had a Region 9 meeting along with Marin County. This was the first time this had been done. Moving forward they hope to have some collaboration and communication.

**OES:** Chief Courson reported they have someone that can do road trips for IROC training. This would be available if REDCOM needs this.

**Training OP's:** Chief Costa reported on Tablet Command and the issue with it tracking to CAD. Dispatch cannot see where you are. They are working on this issue. He foresees the entire county moving to this in the future. Chief Marcucci added with CALFIRE it is

difficult to switch users to see other agencies/units. Another issue is if an agency has not turned on sharing, you will not be able to see them. KT shared that law enforcement is currently not on Tablet Command, so we will not be able to see them.

**FPO's:** Devon Gambonini reported Fire Safe Sonoma has officially hired a new Executive Coordinator. They have also received a grant for a tool cache trailer that will be used for various defensible space projects around the county. On May 26<sup>th</sup> the Resilient Landscapes Coalition will be providing training to fire inspectors on recommendations on Fire Wise landscaping. In the beginning of June there will be a prescribed burn in Santa Rosa. Next month there will be Hazmat sampling training for inspectors dealing with chain of custody for environmental crime cases. Yesterday had a meeting for the Youth Fire Setter Group. We are still looking into holding an academy this fall. We are reaching out to school districts and letting them know about our program. The Santa Rosa Firefighters Foundation is having a golf tournament on June 6<sup>th</sup>. The FPO's have voted on sponsoring a hole for this event. They will be contributing \$500.00 to this.

**Fire Districts:** Chief Akre reported they are working on the Lexipol issue with the county. They are also supporting districts going through the LAFCO process for reorganization. Happy to report we had our first in person meeting in almost 2 ½ years. Gold Ridge Fire District hosted the April meeting and dinner at the Washoe House. The schedule now is quarterly in person meetings/dinners. Rancho Adobe will host in July, Sonoma County Fire in October and Northern Sonoma County in January. The in-between months will continue with the Zoom format.

**Volunteer Fire Companies:** Chief Bradley reported the North Bay Fire Volunteers are using the I Am Responding App. They several different licenses for that and are trying to merge them into one account. They have Tablet Command at most of their stations, at least one tablet at each station.

**Vegetation Management:** Chief Jenkins shared that the North County is working on their grant that they received from the county. They are currently abating identified projects now. A lot of road side vegetation management clearing behind interface zones.

**Coastal Valley EMS:** Chief Akre reported for James Salvante, update on tiered response, it will be a careful implementation with a slow roll out. PT safety and delivery with effective medical care are the priorities. The Image Trend renewal will be to the BOS on May 17<sup>th</sup>. DHS is supporting the renewal of this system. Trauma center designation will be SRMH and brought to the BOS on the 17<sup>th</sup>. The AMR contract extension will go to the BOS on the 24<sup>th</sup>. The BOS passed a resolution that May 15-21 will be EMS week. The resolution will be presented at the Survivors Reunion on Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at Imagery Winery. Policy development work has been started on ambulance permits. This will be a standard policy to develop and oversee the existing gap in private service, ALS, BLS and CCT operations. State exemptions for EMT skills verification will be ending June 30<sup>th</sup>.

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

**Fire/EMS:** Chief Akre reported the EMS Sub-Committee has been active in regards to wall times, the new RFP, compliance issues and the big subject of tiered response. They are working on finding solutions and maintaining service levels.

**DEM:** Chief Jenkins shared North Bay IMT did an earthquake simulation drill at the County EOC last weekend. Had a good turnout. This exercise was to utilize the county center and have integration with them if we were to field an IMT for incident management.

**Sonoma OP Area Up-Staffing Plan:** Chief Akre reported they met with Chief Marcucci and Chief Nicholls for a preseason meeting making sure we are all on the same page. Chief Heine attended a regional Ops meeting that Chief Marcucci will report out on. Yesterday they had the overhead refresher class with a large participation. The class was recorded and will work on getting that out to the group. It is very important that everyone manage Active Status and keep it up to date. We had too many issues last year where agencies were showing active/available and when called upon, were not able to fill the request. The Active Status sheet is seen in real time with Region II. If they see we have 2 ST/TF available, they will push that out. As the RDO starts to activate those recourses and we cannot fill them, it creates a huge problem with-in the system. Chief Marcucci reported about the Annual Operating Plan in regards to the ABH hiring. The concept now is all 6 Counties are operating under the same operating plan. Payment requests need to be in no longer than 60 days after the incident closes. Good news, if you are on a major fire (Team activation) and you're ABH, checks could be cut before you depart the incident. You will have 72 hours to decide if you want to be ABH or CFAA. If you have not seen the new ABH document, please reach out to Chief Heine.

**REDCOM:** KT reported REDCOM has 4 dispatchers down with COVID. No new cases this week. They just now received the job description for the REDCOM Executive Director position and hope to launch it out this week. The fire season up staffing should start in the next couple of weeks.

**Closed Session:** None

**Good of the Order:** None

**Adjournment:** @ 12:22PM

**Next Meeting:** June 8<sup>th</sup>, Sonoma Valley Fire – Station 1, 0830hrs.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daren Bellach  
SCFCA Secretary