



# SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

## MEETING MINUTES

Hosted by Healdsburg Fire Department

March 14, 2012, 9:30 am.

### Attendance:

Mark Aston	County Fire	Sean Grinnell	Bodega Bay
Steve Adams	Healdsburg	Frank Treanor	Rancho Adobe
Jason Jenkins	Cloverdale	John Marty	Rohnert Park
Dick Luttrell	REDCOM	Phil Garcia	Sonoma Valley
Dean Anderson	SLS/AMR	Kent Coxen	EMS
Doug Williams	Central	Andy Pforsich	Gold Ridge
Bill Braga	Sebastopol	Tony Gossner	Santa Rosa
Mark McCormick	Santa Rosa	Jeff Schach	Petaluma
Annie Murphy		Cyndi Foreman	Central Fire
Springer	NBCISM	John Lantz	Central Fire
Joe Pogar	NBCISM	Dan Northern	Forestville
Ken Reese	REDCOM	Max Ming	Forestville
Randy Collins	SRJC	Ray Mulas	Schell Vista

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by VP Aston at 09:35 hours.

**Host Chief Introduction:** Chief Adams welcomed the group to Healdsburg Fire and urged everyone to stop and purchase something in town.

VP Aston led the Pledge of Allegiance

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion for approval of the February minutes was made by Chief Braga and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chief Treanor (with one edit- next meeting was changed to next meeting at the end)

**President's Report:** VP Aston had no report from President Hoffmann.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sec/Tress Grinnell made the following report. All transactions (deposits, balances, withdraws) for 2012 to current were reported on. The report is attached to these minutes.

The following items are scheduled for payment: All sub group dues collected thus far, tax preparation for the chiefs and survivor fund, refunds for overpayments, donation to the survivor reunion, and reimbursements for expenses. Approval was granted by motion made by Chief Treanor and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chief Marty.

**Correspondence:** None

- Chief Northern presented former President Collins with his promised plaque.

**Presentations:** Ann Murphy-Springer and Joe Pogar representing the North Bay CISM. Annie opened the presentation by stating that she became a member of this organization [chiefs] 1979. Annie introduced

team members Sean Grinnell and Joe Pogar. Joe is the team coordinator who then gave a brief explanation of the process of when a request for the team is made. We attempt to match members with the discipline that makes the request. North Bay CISM originally served the fire service but added all emergency service disciplines a short while later. We have 25 active members representing all emergency services. Going forward the group is looking to extend coverage to the family of the emergency service providers by holding seminars. The Santa Rosa Fire Department documentary that interviews many people you know and their families and talks about the impacts to everyone. North Bay CISM uses the Mitchell Model for debriefings and defusing. We do not conduct critiques; we discuss the facts, the thoughts, and the feelings about the incident. The attempt is made to reconstruct the incident from time of dispatch through completion and aftermath. Everyone is encouraged to speak and to participate but it is not required, but the hope is all will speak since everyone has a perspective that may not be seen by others. The potential impacts and normal reactions are also explained.

Chief Adams said that Chaplin and Healdsburg Reservist Marvin Bowers provided our annual CISM training last night and used Annie's article on CISM that was printed in CSFA magazine in 2005. Among other things that article expressed the importance of a healthy mind, body, and spirit. Chief Adams said that 6 new reserves were present for the instruction and we have had 3 recent SIDS incidents.

Annie explained the chemistry of tears; it triggers something in the brain that relives stress and tension. Annie asked the question of the group, speaking of the short workshops for families and administrative staff, what do you think about four different seminars? **A)** Several people offered positive comments and suggested maybe two events: one in the north and one the south-maybe a Saturday or in evening?

Dean Anderson said that SOCO Wives tried something like this last year but it was not well attended, but he was not sure if it was related to marketing or other reasons. VP Aston, Dean Anderson, Chief Braga, and Chief Adams offered their help and facilities. Annie will work toward this end. Annie asked for questions. VP Aston asked if we have a formal PEER assessor training program. **A)** Our group sponsors this trained once, sometimes twice a year. VP Aston said he looking to collect policies and has been approached by many volunteer chiefs in order to strike a balance between what is a mandatory and voluntary participation, maybe train someone from each agency, the intent is not to have to place the burden on the company officer. Several members said they have policies to share with Chief Aston. Chief Marty added that the Rohnert Park policy is modeled after San Francisco. It seems that some people go kicking and screaming but then had positive comments afterwards. VP Aston said the culture has changed and he has several VFC's that would like a policy going forward. Chief Pforsich said the most senior members are reluctant but their attendance is beneficial for other members to see their participation. Chief Treanor said he has been around for so long that I have seen them get over it faster in the group setting.

The bottom line Annie said is to get people back to productivity as soon as possible and back to health. VP Aston thanked Annie and Joe for the presentation. Chief Williams asked if we can post copies of the Documents to the website and that we place a link from the Chiefs site to NBCISM.

VP Aston recognized newly promoted Chief Tony Gosner. Chief Gosner said it has been humbling. I work with a lot of great people; thank you for your support.

**On a sad note:** VP Aston asked Chief Williams to comment on the passing of Chief Collier's wife last Friday. Chief Williams said that Donna was diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer. Ron is doing well considering what has happened. At this point no service is expected but the family might hold a celebration of Donna's life. Chief Williams offered that a formal donation (once the desired place is specified) could be made. Director Collins reminded the group that the E-board has authority for one time donation of \$1000.00. Chief Northern asked Chief Williams to give the group a little history of Donna's relationship to the Windsor Fire District and he did. Donna was a former volunteer (at a time when women were not common in the fire service). Donna and Chief Collier were involved in the re-organization of Windsor Fire as a District. It should be noted, said Chief Northern, that Donna Collier was a founding member of the Windsor Fire District.

### ***Committee Reports***

**Operations & Training Section:** Chief Gosner reported that RIC SOP is being revised which would allow for the IC to use an alternate tactical channel if needed. Chief Pforsich said the second tactical was intended for rescue use in the previous version; the holdup was the distinction for the mandatory tactical and the desire for the mandatory tactical only if rescue is needed. Chief Pforsich gave a basic history of how we arrived at the current policy. Chief Schach said he recently attended class and one goal is to try and maintain consistency with a global policy; Chief Gosner added the desire to evaluate the policy once we deploy the resources during incidents; the training group that provides this type of training will be in conflict with our own policy. In Santa Rosa we will have our own RIC Group Supervisor; then other aspects match with our policy. Companies are missed during the rescue operation versus the person making the call for help. Chief Williams added it is easy to be on the wrong channel and easy to not hear the call for help while on the scene. The weak link is communication. The second project is CICC requirements and recency maintenance. A new group was created to work on this: Jack Picinni, Dave Cornelson, and Rob Dougherty. VP Aston said this is tough since our county chiefs' policy adds more requirements to the minimum than the state does. I don't know if the Ops group knows but at the region level Chief Williams along with the Cal Chiefs is crafting a letter that will go to the PACE group that will look at changes to the policy that might allow for training to satisfy the requirement yet not giving credit for driving to southern California and then turning around without spending any time at an incident and getting credit. Chief Northern said the 2010 document addresses currency via training and does not know the confusion. And a task book was created for the training purpose. A task book has already been created. Director Collins said Marin County is going to use training to maintain currency. The next meeting is April 10 at the tower, at 10 am.

**Prevention Section:** FPO Cindy Foreman reported the FPO's have been working on committee projects; such as working on a countywide standard for various inspections. Safety Pals has scheduled the first shows in May; on the 21, 22, and 23. All shows will be for the Roseland and Wright school districts. These areas are at the greatest risk. An engine company from the city will be on hand to help and request for more help will go out soon; more to follow. Caerleon Safford is working on a prevention grant. FITF coordinator is Ruben Muldahando. Kenny Reese attended our last meeting and he is working on tone out issues. We have had a busy month with three fatal fires. FITF/FPO sponsored training will be offered soon; such as a person from Mendocino County to talk about grow house fires and also PG & E front line responses.

**District Chiefs:** Chief Williams said the next meeting is April 26 in Larkfield, Mike McGuire to speak.

**Volunteer FF Association:** No report – they meet in a week or two from now said VP Aston.

**CAD Group:** Chief Williams said the next meeting is March 27 at 9am in Windsor. The agenda will be the run book project with a dovetail of interest from law enforcement for info on school sites. Matt Stapleton from Petaluma will be there.

**CAL EMA Operational Area:** Chief Williams reported the spring meeting is in May; they working to get all coordinators to meet with Chief Howard, especially before fire season. The middle of spring is our annual zone chiefs meeting. VP Aston added that replacement CICC members are appointed by the Operational Area Coordinator from those that volunteer for the committee. Chiefs Zanzi and Northern have suggested names, please make sure VP Mark has the names and contact info; others can come to the meeting if they wish to be nominated confirmed at the April meeting. Chief Adams asked who has been suggested. **A)** Chiefs Dan George and Bill Braga. The Labor group is looking for a replacement and Rob Dougherty will replace Kim Thompson. Chief Williams and VP Aston made reference to Vern Losh's email. CSFA has the combination rep for FIRESCOPE, let Vern know if you are interested. CICC application period is open through May.

B/C Schach asked about the MDC's and the replacement date. Chief Williams answered yes but in the case of Petaluma theirs was the first installment of equipment and timing might be a little different. VP Aston asked if the consortium would be considering the iPad- No. But cost is better, more uses, etc. Ken Reese will be testing the application at the conference.

Chief Lantz said our case is the iPad versus the County firewall, the Toughbook laptop is the only way so far. Because of Law Enforcement and County security issues, access is only to the county system and not to the internet.

A lot of discussion was generated surrounding the use of iPads and or Toughbook laptops and being locked into a very narrow county technology system.

As a group we should make an order of business for REDCOM for the permanent fix. We need to ask the question? Will you entertain new ideas or options to let us break off? Chief Garcia asked if the REDCOM technology sub-committee could look into this. We need to look at our options.

**CAL EMA Region:** No report

**County Fire:** VP Aston reported that the USAI allocation for the urban area grant is 38% less than last year. FEMA has placed the Bay Area in Tier Two now, and the Approval Authority is attempting to determine where we are in relation to the other Tier Two group members. An even greater concern is FEMA is working on consolidating all FEMA Grants except Fire Act and EMPG into one grant program allocated by FEMA Region titled the National Preparedness Grant Program. The state retains 20 % of the grant funding allocated to each UASI to be used for state level programs. Using the hub format and based on the North Bay Strategic Risk Assessment our piece is very small Marin County is receiving some funding for their 700 system. Director Collins added the Marin upgrade cost to MIRA is 50 million. Because Sonoma County has not chosen to build out a 700-800 system it is very difficult for us to receive funding. UASI is funding a UASI Planner position to update the North Bay Strategic Assessment.

**EMCC:** Chief Garcia indicated the Norbaum went to the last meeting. Fees issue is still out there and being worked on, but money was found for this year so fees will not be assessed till 2013. The next meeting will be April 23, 2012. Chief Garcia attended a meeting in San Francisco that was put on as an explanation to supplemental medical reimbursements. This will give transport agencies the ability to recover a little more money.

**Legislation:** VP Aston handed out information regarding recent PERS info (rates to go up); The Jefferies Bill (to repeal SRA fees); the Chesbro Bill 2474 telling the Board of Forestry they should do the following based on severity and other proven factors; Director Collins added our input to the Chesbro bill was no good because our model is considered a tax.

**Grants:** No report

**SRJC Advisory:** Director Collins report that he has two academies going right now. Burn days are scheduled for May 3 and 19. If you can help it would be appreciated, two engines and an air unit. The next Fire Tech Advisory meeting is on April 5<sup>th</sup> at the PSTC.

**CHP Liaison:** No report

**Red Cross:** VP Aston reminded the group about the real hero's breakfast will be April 19 at the Double Tree in Rohnert Park, please attend, starts 7 am.

**Marin Chiefs Liaison:** Director Collins reported going to two meeting. They had presentations on CAD and MIRA systems. They will be looking at a parcel tax to support these project upgrades. They have started training for their Type 3 management teams that should apply toward currency. They are starting a pilot program for a digital vial for life. Director Collins handed out a brochure...the app is a code reader for iPhone that will give patient details...insurance are funding this companies looking to fund this due to savings.

**Cal Fire:** No report

**Fire Safe Sonoma:** No report

**Old Business:**

- SRA Fees-covered earlier in the meeting
- New EMS Agency Fee, this was also covered and because no new work is expected it was decided to remove this from future agendas.
- AB 1387 (Health and Safety Code Amendments-No current action), no action is expected on this item so it was also decided to remove it from future agendas.

**New Business:**

- Elect representatives to REDCOM Board (1 City; 1 Dist). VP Aston asked that we confirm if REDCOM quorum exists-none did. This was carried over from last month. Terms are up for two members. VP Aston also confirmed the desire to continue-Forestville no, Sebastopol-Yes (Bill Braga). Membership issues were cleared up. Chief Pforsich nominated Chief Braga, Chief Gosner 2<sup>nd</sup>, VP Aston called for the vote, all were in favor. The second seat (District) nomination was called for. Valley of the Moon (Chief Norbaum) was nominated by Chief Adams, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chief Pforsich. VP Aston called for the vote, all were in favor.
- Immediate need for law enforcement policy was referred to the SOP committee. Chief Northern related an incident that happened in Forestville right the after last meeting. Eng Co found a semi-conscious person with loaded shot gun; then a knife a was discovered while they were attending to patient needs.
- Sub-group support of annual fees-Sec/Treas Grinnell explained the need to share administrative costs with the sub-groups and asked for permission to approach the sub-groups. No negative comments were made, one could infer tacit agreement.
- Fire Department notification of County TPW on Tree Down / Hazardous Condition Incidents. VP Aston was approached by transportation and public works-they need to know about all road hazards that are cleaned up by fire crews-more importantly, which ones will require follow up by TPW. Chief Pigiotti suggested that REDCOM send a daily notice. Dean Anderson added why not give them a pager? It would be more difficult to change the behavior of hundreds of firefighters versus different type of notice being sent to tpw; other event types should also be noticed-slides, trees and other roadway hazards. Kent Coxen added-over the years we have asked REDCOM to do more-cost goes up-Kent suggested use of the first watch service: slide trigger, tree trigger, etc, Dick Luttrell suggested putting this in the hands of DOAG in the meantime make sure tpw is made aware.

**Improving Efficiencies:** Chief Treanor read a message from Ginger Hamilton (time stamped at 10:24) A celebration of Donna Colliers life will be held 4-14, details to follow. Chief Gosner both informed and advised that SR Fire stations will be safe surrender site and he wanted to know if others were interested. Please let him know and in the meantime information will be posted to the website.

**Customer Service/Good of the Order:** Kent Coxen informed the group of the Sonoma County Law Enforcement Chaplaincy "Tour de Fuzz" bike ride held on September 8, go to their website for support.

**REDCOM:** Dick Luttrell reported on several items. The board has selected an analyst(s)-SR Fires Ed Bonacorsi and Jackie Reese; word from the State, \$300,000 bucks for ip based phone system; member agencies will receive a letter from Chair Scott Foster regarding fees for next year; April 19 is the next meeting.

**Closed Session:** none

**Next Meeting:** Night meeting, Gold Ridge Station One – Hessel, 6pm

**Adjourned:** A motion to adjourn was made by Chief Treanor, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chief Gosner, all in favor.