



SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

MEETING MINUTES

**Hosted by Sebastopol Fire, 7245 Bodega Avenue
May 13th, 2009 0930 HOURS**

Attendance

John Zanzi	Sebastopol	Ray Mulas	Schell-Vista
Randy Collins	Healdsburg	Bruce Varner	Santa Rosa
Chuck Abshear	Cal Fire	Doug Williams	Rincon Valley
Mark Aston	Sonoma County	John Lantz	Rincon Valley
Will Horne	Mayacamas	Larry Anderson	Petaluma
Dick Luttrell	REDCOM	Peter Van Fleet	Glen Ellen
Kent Coxon	EMS Agency	Sean Grinnell	Russian Rvr / Bodega Bay
Paul Pigoni	Geyserville	Frank Treanor	Rancho Adobe
Dean Anderson	Sonoma Life Support	Dan Northern	Forestville
Bob Uboldi	Kenwood	Phillip Garcia	Sonoma Valley

Call to Order: Chief Zanzi called the meeting to order at 9:43 AM

Host Chief Introduction: Chief Zanzi welcomed everyone.

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

President's Report: Nothing significant to report.

Treasurer's Report: Chiefs Account Balance = **\$2,672.69 (as of April 30th)** W&O Fund Balance = **\$132,622.62 (as of April 30th)**. The Widows and Orphan's Fund earned \$1.62 of interest last month. Chief Abshear will review options and bring ideas back to the group for discussion at the next meeting.

Correspondence:

- Letter to the Editor from Chief Zanzi was published May 9th in the Press Democrat – a copy is posted on Association website.

Presentations: Carlos Sweeney carlos@burtonsfire.com from Burton's fire gave a brief presentation. His company builds custom vehicles tailored to fire & EMS needs. He also has a large parts inventory for repairs. Burton's want to be a resource to help support fire service needs. More information at www.burtonsfire.com

Pending presentations for Future Meetings:

- Bunker – refresher skills program at SRJC
- June Vendor presentation: Chet Laws from Servpro, a Petaluma company specializing in fire, water, and smoke damage cleanup / restoration.



Committee Reports

- **Training Section:** New Liaison Chief Aston – Attended the last meeting in Kentfield. Discussion focused on the upcoming Multi-Agency Disaster (MAD) drill. It will be held in Marin County (Hicks) and focused on wildland aspects (will include structure protection pump & roll, and off-road driving). A planning session was recently held in Petaluma. Chief Zanzi noted there is an upcoming S-290 class in Sebastopol with seats available (\$150 May 15 – 16 & June 6 & 7).
- **Prevention Section:** Chief Collins – Two main issues are currently being addressed by the section.
 1. Developing a 13-D checklist for residential sprinklers. Will now plan hold training sessions with contractors.
 2. In a continuing effort to provide information to the public regarding fireworks, a full page add will be in the Press Democrat regarding where fireworks can and can't be used.

Additionally - REACO has finalized guidelines for Photovoltaics. Standardized guidelines did not include all regulatory / enforcement aspects the chiefs association was seeking – but these guidelines are a positive step in that they are the first formal guidelines from REACO. Chief Varner noted the Santa Rosa fireworks show is back on – but budget issues are restricting enforcement of regulations.

- **Operations Section:** Chief Lantz – working on SOPs. 1. Incident support team for within the county. 2. County-wide helicopter LZ protocol. Also delivered 2 STL courses (including the newly developed code of conduct). Next meeting May 18th at SR Tower.
- **District Chiefs:** Chief Garcia – Next District Association meeting will be May 28th at Safari West.
- **Volunteer FF Association:** Chief Horne – last meeting focused on establishing structure and organizational issues related to the business of Sonoma County CSA 40. Waiting for release of CSA 40 report to Board of Supervisors. Next meeting June 24th at 1900 hrs at County Dept. of Emergency Services. Final CSA 40 Report may be submitted to the BOS in July.
- **REDCOM:** Dick Luttrell – Resource Ordering and Status System (ROSS) training is done. Expect approval from OES Region II Fire & Rescue to be a certified ROSS center. All supervisors have attended national ICS 800 courses. Planning a REDCOM drill in June, details to follow. County communications recently did work on Mt. Jackson & Bodega repeaters should improve paging in the west county. Preliminary budget in place and holding the budget at current level. Estimated Shortfall of \$225k for next year will impact LOS (after adjustments, anticipate \$165k deficit – this will result in some Reduction in Force). The most likely service impact will likely be fewer splits of control 2 & 4, along with less time available for reporting, planning, etc.

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Chief Garcia requested information from the group regarding a proposed communications study on behalf of Sonoma County. Chief Aston responded this study is a grant funded contract to examine Sonoma County's ability to be interoperable with other bay area jurisdictions. Overall intent of the study is to ensure interoperability for the north bay communications in a manner consistent with the SUASI strategic plan. Discussion followed regarding funding sources.

- **CAD Group:** Chief Williams – Last meeting held the end of April. Next meeting in June. Maps are in circulation. Chief Williams encouraged everyone to review maps and make needed corrections. Chief Aston asked about availability of maps at different scales – interested jurisdictions should contact County reprographics. Chief Williams reported on the backup project for REDCOM: St. Helena now has connectivity through Sonoma Mtn. Dick Luttrell is working with ATT to allow St. Helena to receive all 911 calls if REDCOM needs to evacuate.
- **OES Operational Area:** Chief Williams – Zone Chiefs meeting scheduled for Thursday June 4th at Cal Fire West Division HQ (2210 West College). OES Region meeting May 28th in Concord. Zone Chiefs will be discussing options for improving deployment to incidents. Chief Williams would like to see effort toward improving the status keeping of resources. In regard to the upcoming MAD Drill – we'll be looking to assign to two task forces to the drill. Please poll zones for interest in participating and advise Chief Williams.

Update on Jesusita deployment: 2 OES engines were requested 1st, on Friday at 2 AM we received a request for type III Strike Team. Started to assemble the Strike Team using the rotational list, but had to adjust. Also – we were unable to get a trainee assigned. Also sent out a single engine from Rancho Adobe to combine with Mendocino Op area.

- **County DES:** Chief Aston – Asked the group if anyone has updated information about guidance for possibly using stimulus money to allocate to station construction. Chief Garcia indicated he understood the specific guidance would be coming out in the summer. Additionally, stimulus projects must be shovel ready (ready to pull permits). H1N1 Update / Review – felt the process went well. Also – currently reviewing “base” qualifications for response criteria for County DES personnel.
- **EMCC:** Kent Coxon – Last meeting April 27, next meeting July 27th. EMCC is reviewing membership since there are some vacant positions. The current chiefs association representatives are Chief Zanzi & Bill Shubin, and the EMCC is requesting a letter from association to confirm or change. Chief Zanzi advised the issue will be placed on the June Agenda. The Survivor's Reunion is scheduled to be held at the Benziger winery at 6PM this Thursday. Discussed H1N1 issues – agreed that generally the overall response went well.
- **Legislative:** Chief Collier – No Report.
- **Grants:** Chief Zanzi – AFG program is currently open until the 20th. County grant team working with CSA 40 agencies.
- **SRJC Advisory:** Chief Collins - last meeting on May 7th, there is still some uncertainty regarding budget impacts. Currently looking at a standard for a firefighter safety and survival

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curriculum, this will be a 3 unit course. On-line classes are in place more are being developed. Fire Instructor 1A & 1B curriculums are being updated, and also looking at a county-wide EVOG program. Reaccreditation for the SRJC program is planned for September 2009. On a national level, EMS standards are under review. This may require more training for first responder and EMT – the issue is being driven by new DOT standards. Next meeting November 12th.

- **CHP Liaison:** No Report. Dean Anderson advised Mark McAfee retiring – flyer out
- **Red Cross:** No Report. Chief Aston remarked on the recent “Real Heroes” breakfast and noted that the Fire Service did not attend. Chief Aston suggested we consider possible nominations for next year’s event.
- **Marin Chief’s Liaison:** Chief Northern – no report from Marin.

Old Business

None

New Business

- Priorities for the 2010 Homeland Security Grant. Chief Zanzi led the discussion. Need a list of priorities established by July 2009. Chief Zanzi reviewed past successes such as HAZMAT, Improved rescue capabilities, acquired radio equipment, etc. Chief Zanzi circulated a list of ideas collected to date and noted that training funds are also available. However, it was also mentioned there are many competitors for limited funds. Suggested projects to date:
 1. County GIS Tech Support – Run Map Project. Chief Williams suggested some lower level funding commitment to continue the momentum
 2. Misc. Rescue Equipment (Last Year funded a squad for Sonoma Valley – still needs equipment), other Medium or lights rescue teams
 3. Portable Radios for Airport operations
 4. Spill response equipment for protection of waterways and drinking water sources. Chief Northern noted he understood that the water agency maintains many of the same items.
 5. Swiss phone pagers suggested by Chief Northern. Discussion indicated the funding could probably not address all paging needs in the county – but could make considerable progress.

Chief Williams suggested County Communications (Charlie Fleischman) also weigh in with ideas and/or recommendations.

Customer Service / Good of the order

- Note to place EMCC participation on the agenda for next months meeting
- Annual DOAG night meeting May 26th 6 PM at Geyserville

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- Dick Luttrell – OES 5262 will be at the rose parade with REDECOM staff
- Fire Safe Trailer will also be in the parade
- Chief Zanzi had a Regional control training burn on May 2nd with many other jurisdictions, 75 participants – went well and was run according to NFPA standards.
- Chief Rosevear – reminded everyone the Fire-Safe brush chipper is available. Will be doing more training (required for use). Use of the chipper is modeled after the safety trailer
- CICCIS will be meeting after today's meeting at 1:00 PM

Closed Session:

- N/A

Next Meeting: June 10th – Sonoma Valley Fire & Rescue

Meeting adjourned 11:50 hrs

Respectfully submitted – Chuck Abshear, Secretary-Treasurer, May 24th, 2009.