



SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION MEETING

MEETING MINUTES
May 10th 2017 at 9:30 AM
Hosted By Sebastopol

Attendance:

Jason Boaz	Healdsburg	Matt Epstein	Dry Creek Rancheria
Steve Akre	Sonoma Valley	Aaron Abbott	REDCOM
Dan George	GRFD/BVFD	Rhuenette Alums	ATT
Loren Davis	Mountain	Sean Grinnell	Bodega Bay
Darin Bellach	Kenwood	Ray Mulas	Schellvista
Bill Braga	Sebastopol	Todd Derum	CALFIRE
Al Terrell	Sonoma County	Max Ming	Forestville/RR
John Evans	CHP	Mike Mickelson	Wilmar
Bill Shubin	Santa Rosa	Bonnie Plakos	NSCFPD
James Williams	Sonoma County	Doug Williams	Retired
James Savante	CVEMS	Jack Piccinini	Windsor/RV
Randy Collins	SRJC		

Call to Order: Chief Derum called the meeting to order at 0934 and asked Chief Mickelson to lead the Pledge

Host Chief Intro/Pledge: Chief Piccinini shared logistics in Chief Braga's absence

President's Report Chief Derum shared he had no report but turned the floor over to John Zanzi who introduced James Cooper, the new director of the Sonoma-Napa Red Cross Chapter. James thanked the group for inviting him. He grew up in Marin and has a background working in disaster relief. John ended by speaking to the other services Red Cross provides and indicated they are always interested in partnering with us. He can be contacted at: james.cooper@redcross.org

Approval of March Minutes: Motion was made by Chief George & seconded by Chief Akre Unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report as submitted by Hans showed the following balances.

Chiefs General Fund:	\$313.41	Survivors Checking:	\$2,896.91
OP's/TO's Fund:	\$17,955.25	Survivors Savings:	\$110,126.77
FPO Dues			
	\$18,268.66		\$113,033.97*

* Note: Survivors Fund owes Chief's Fund \$5,000

Correspondence: Chief Derum shared the email from Chief Salvate at OES regarding the Comm unit and that there have been no takers for it. He also reported he is still looking for a representative from this group to attend the Survivor's Reunion event. Doug Williams shared some background on the event and this group's role. Chief Shubin indicated Chief Gossner will be attending.

He also shared the email that had been received by Engineer Muelheim soliciting a donation for the Burn run. A motion to donate \$200 was made by Chief Piccinini, second by Chief Davis. The vote carried.

Presentations: Rhuenette Alums introduced herself as the Area Director for ATT and spoke briefly to the role of the ATT Foundation and the purpose of her visit which is to learn about the organization and ask what ATT can do for us (including donations). Their interest is also education programs. Chief Piccinini asked if projects like smoke detector programs, disaster preparedness events, and Explorer Programs would qualify to which she indicated they do. It is a once a year grant process and she has requested they be submitted approx. 6 months in advance. Chief Derum suggested using her program to fund the Pre-Fire Attack plans project which we were denied the SRA grant. Her contact information is: ra5361@att.com 707.567.0483

Old Business:

- **Comm Unit:** Covered under correspondence above.

New Business: None

Standing Committee Reports:

- **Training/OP's:** Chief Piccinini reported they met yesterday and had a conversation about the waning attendance despite having meetings every other month and shared some of the ideas that were discussed. He encouraged the group to commit staff to attend each. Randy explained how meeting notifications occur.
- **FPO's:** No report although Chief James Williams indicated they are hosting the meeting next Wednesday.
- **Fire Districts:** Chief George shared the April meeting was in the river area and Supervisor Rabbit was the speaker. Breaking into the Fire Advisory agenda item below, he shared that no determination has been made on what allocation will be received from TOT. Director Abbot indicated he is waiting to hear back from Peter Rumble on the MOU (that influences this decision). Chief George suggested maybe it is time to sit down with the County CAO. A discussion on this matter followed
- **Volunteer Fire Companies:** Chief Mickelson reported they met last month in Bodega and a meeting has been set up later today to meet with the County administrator.

Ad-Hoc Committee Reports:

- **Fire Advisory Committee:** In Chief Thompson's absence, Chief George added that tomorrow's meeting has been rescheduled for next week. He will also work to send out copies of the *State of the Region* report for each agency to complete to help identify their specific needs.

REDCOM: Director Abbott shared the following:

- He has been asked to look at their operating costs from the Board so they can better articulate their assessments and spoke briefly as to the challenges with this. He encouraged those with projects that might reflect some of the costs they are dealing with to share with him. A discussion on cost methodology followed. In response to Chief Piccinini's inquiry on the hold up on upgrades (i.e. MUMS) , he indicated it has to do with factors such as different interpretations of Homeland Security regs to the long approvals process. Chief Derum inquired if there is something this group can do collectively to help move things forward. Arron indicated he is putting a report together for the Board and would welcome a voice by this group in it and even a recommendation. Aaron will craft a message to communicate this request to the group that Randy will share.
- The emergency button project should be resolved by July (waiting some parts)
- Image Trend is close to auto-populating (in response to Chief Plakos' question)

Chief Derum ended by reminding folks to include submission items to Randy the prior week.

Improving Efficiencies:

Customer Service/Good of the Order:

- **Randy Collins:** He suggested you might want to keep an eye on AB 387. It adds the following language to 1182.11 of the Labor Code. "*For purposes of this subdivision, employer means any person who directly or indirectly, or through an agent or any other person, employs or exercises control over the wages, hours, or working conditions of a person engaged in a period of supervised work experience to satisfy requirements for licensure, registration or certification as an allied health professional defined*". For purposes of this subdivision, "employer" includes the state, political subdivisions of the state and municipalities. The concern is that this will adversely impact the ride-along programs and preceptorships for EMT & Paramedic students (respectively) since it will require those whom you use for ride-alongs to treat them as employees and pay the salaries as defined in other parts of this bill. The good news is it appears to be stalled at the appropriations committee. He also shared the Fire Academy graduated last Friday and Chief Piccinini delivered a heartfelt speech.
- **Chief Akre:** SVFRA's Bd approved the Kenwood contract, and they have recently promoted 3 Engineers and 3 Captains.
- **Chief Mickelson** shared they just put a Type I in service
- **Doug Williams** predicted June 12 will be the first day of SMART operations (no word if a pool was started)
- **Chief Epstein** indicated he is working with CSFA on a bill that will help pay for Volunteers on Strike Teams

- **Director Abbott** said they will be ready for the presentation on Fire Priority Dispatch Protocols next month. The presenter will be Gary Gasso (San Jose retired). Since it may be as long as 2 hours, SV agreed to provide lunch (see below for RSVP)
- **Chief Plakos** shared they have just signed a Schedule A contract with CALFIRE
- **James Salvante** reminded the group the Ambulance RFP is coming up next year and he is interested in conducting a presentation to this group. He added the IPADs will be arriving soon and the draft MCI plan is on the website with the comment period ending June 6.
- **Chief Piccinini** shared that FASIS offers free physicals which they have taken advantage of and encourage others to do the same. He added on May 16 & 17, the Fire Districts Asso. Is hosting leg day in Sacramento
- **Chief Derum** shared it is Wildfire Awareness Week and thanked the County for sponsoring the Reso at the BOS. He also spoke to a Defensible Space app that is now available. He has directed his BC's to contact local agencies when conducting inspections.
- **CAL FIRE Staffing:** By the 22nd, each station should be staffed with one engine and aircraft. In terms of "flicking the REDCOM switch" it was agreed to do so on June 1st.

Closed Session: There was no closed session.

Adjournment: Chief Derum adjourned the meeting at 11:15

Next Meeting: June 14th, Sonoma Valley lunch will be provided. Please RSVP macij@svfra.org by June 11

Respectfully Submitted: May 10, 2017

Randy Collins,
SCFCA Secretary