



**SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS
ASSOCIATION MEETING**
MEETING MINUTES
 May 8th 2019 at 9:30 AM
 Hosted By Santa Rosa Jr College

ATTENDANCE

Arron Abbott	REDCOM	Steve Akre	SVFRA
James Salvante	Costal Valleys EMS	James Williams	Sonoma County
Randy Collins	SRJC ARTP	Matt Epstein	Dry Creek
Jeff Schach	Petaluma	Doug Williams	SMART
Mike Bates	Rohnert Park	Mark Courson	OES
Kim Thompson	SRJC ARTP	Kirk Van Wormer	CALFIRE
Mark Heine	SCFD	Mike Bates	Rohnert Park
Dave Francheschi	Forestville	Kemplen Robbins	Santa Rosa
Matt Epstein	Dry Creek	Bill Bullard	Graton
Ben Nicholls	CALFIRE	Scott Westrope	Santa Rosa
Dean Anderson	AMR	Mike Nicholls	Cazadero
Darren Bellach	Kenwood	Justin Fox	Bodega Bay
Dan Silvestri	911 Equipment		

Call to Order: Chief Heine began the meeting at 0937 and led the pledge

Host Chief Introduction: Director Collins welcomed the group and explained logistics

Presidents Report: Chief Heine shared he received a letter from Cal Chiefs regarding their membership drive and will have Randy send out a letter with these minutes. They have different levels of membership to accommodate those other than Fire Chiefs.

Changes to the Agenda: None

Approval of Minutes: Director Abbott asked that under the REDCOM report in the April minutes, rather than MERA, it should indicate the Marin Fire Chiefs/REDCOM ad-hoc group. Motion by Chief Akre to accept with this change. Second by Chief Schach. Unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report submitted by Hans was as follows:

Chiefs General Fund:	\$6,717.61
Survivors Fund:	\$105,896.31
OP's/TO's Fund:	\$19,381.79
FPO Safety Trailer:	\$8,956.90
Career Succession:	\$2,294.09
FPO General Fund:	\$3,655.35
FITF	\$2,048.05
Safety Pals Gen. Fund:	\$42,300.47
Safety Pals Trailer:	\$2,500.00
	\$193,750.57

The balances do not reflect the \$20K payment made to Cal Chiefs that was mailed this morning.

Correspondence: None

Presentation: NFPA 1851 member Dan Silvestri gave an update on NFPA 1851 and what the implications are for fire agencies. This includes:

- Keeping records of your cleaning and maintenance
- Assigning two sets of turn-outs so personnel can change gear once it becomes contaminated

- Regularly washing your hoods
- Pre-treating PPE areas that contact high absorption areas such as the groin, neck, & wrist.
- Recommending particulate hoods with membranes that keep particles away from the skin
- Performing a field cleaning (de-con) when possible
- Latest studies show most cancers are linked to particulates
- If you are purchasing an extractor he recommends a Unimak
- Wash liners separate from shells (no chlorine), air dry out of the sun
- Stay away from leather if possible

A copy of his PPT has been attached to these minutes

Old Business: None

New Business:

- **USFS Reimbursements:** Chief Heine reported Cal Chiefs and OES have made a strong response against their position with a letter as it represents a huge threat on portal-to-portal pay for local government. Chief Courson added OES is heavily involved and reminded the group that despite USFS intent to implement immediately, 30 day notification is required. He also shared the USFS has even asked for pay stubs for some Mendocino Vol. agencies from last year's Delta fire. As for now, OES is treating this as "business as usual". In response to Chief Heine's question, Chief Courson indicated that if you do get a request for pay-stubs, to let him know. Chief Nicholls indicated they are also conducting business as usual. Chief Akre indicated this could have enormous consequences and has been brought to the attention of our Federal representatives. In response to Chief Epstein's question on electronic payments, Chief Courson indicated OES is moving to an electronic F-42 but it is still in the planning stages.

Standing Committee Reports:

- **Strategic Leadership Group:** Chief Akre shared the group has been reconstituted to include Labor (Tim Aboudara from 1401) and Fire Districts (Joe Peterson from Gold Ridge) reps. To that end, they are now called the Fire Working Group. Chief Heine added they have had two meetings and are focusing on getting clearer goals and clarity from the County Ad-Hoc group including how much funding is still available (They hope to have that information soon). Chief Akre cautioned the group that with Jim Colangelo gone, they no longer have a point of contact in the County. He ended by reminding the group to forward any questions and concerns to him and the group and the importance of working together with one voice. The group will remain under the auspices of this organization.
- **Regional Zone Reports:** Chief Heine asked for and received the following reports from the Zones:
 - CALFIRE:** Chief Nicholls shared they are going to one engine per station this week, a dozer next week and fixed wing aircraft June 1. They do have an on-line burn permit process and have a number of control burns coming up over the next few weeks
 - Zone 2:** Chief Williams shared they are working on Hazard Mitigation grants. They do anticipate getting a \$6.6m grant for vegetation clearance and structure hardening for up to 500 homes. The chipper program starts May 1 and they hope to get a second chipper on-line soon.
 - Zone 3:** Chief Akre reported they have requested an MSR with LAFCO, which is moving forward and yes, all Zone 3 entities are on board with the process. They will be purchasing a couple of Type 6's, Schell Vista is hiring two and their Vol academy is in process. He reminded the group to take advantage of CSFA's recruitment/retention grant. Kenwood is getting public pressure to have fire sirens included as part the county alert system and cautioned the group to remain sensitive if this issue is raised in your community. He shared a save story that used a public AED at a local winery.
 - Zone 4:** No report
 - Zone 5:** Chief Francheschi shared they met last week and continue to discuss consolidation
 - Zone 6:** Chief Epstein shared they are prepping for fire season.
 - Zone 7:** Chief Heine shared they are one month into the consolidation and shared a "reminder" he received from the Assessor's office that they cannot levy their new assessment until next year due to an obscure section in the Government Code and they are working with them to try and find a work around (it is a \$6m hit). He asked the group if you have any ESZ issues to let him know
 - Zone 8:** No report.
 - Zone 9:** Chief Schach shared with the group that the PG&E Table Top was cancelled. Many had not heard. Chief Akre added PG&E is trying to re-scheduled. A discussion about their notifications followed.
 - OES:** Chief Courson said they are updating surveys

- **Training/OP's:** Chief Akre shared they met yesterday and did not have a quorum however the draft Emergency Button SOG was presented with comments requested back to Chad Costa by July 1. Director Abbott indicated this was done with a grant from Homeland Security with specific radio standards so if you are purchasing new ones, be sure you contact him or Ken to get the spec.
- **FPO's:** Kemplen Robbins reported they are sponsoring some trainings and will be establishing a Northbay Firesetter Program (Sonoma, Marin, Lake Napa & Mendocino Counties) with training and guidance documents for agencies (including a referral program). They hope to have it in place by late summer.
- **Fire Districts:** Chief Akre shared they met April 26 in Cloverdale. Chris Godley made a presentation on the changes occurring in his office. FASIS has collaborated with Occu-Med for physicals and Fire Strong to provide mental health services. At their July meeting in Geyserville, they hope to have a Leibert/Cassady conduct a training on liability issues
- **Volunteer Fire Companies:** No report.
- **Vegetation Management:** Chief Williams reported their kick-off date for their program will be May 24.

Ad-Hoc Committee Reports:

- **Fire EMS Committee:** Chief Akre shared the County and AMR have agreed on a 3 year contract extension with an option for 2 additional years which should secure our present service levels and provides breathing room to work on the EMS ordinance. During that extension, they will push to remove the restriction and allow an agency to enhance their levels of service (to ALS). Next meeting in June 17. Chief Schatt indicated it was
- **County Alerting System:** Chief Akre shared on behalf of Chris they have hired their outreach specialist (Tim Romero), hope to conduct another test of their system early summer. He added they received a \$45k grant for radios. He inquired if they need to reschedule their OP Area Wildfire workshop from their May 24 date (A: Yes). He ended if you have any specific requests for courses, he can handle all the payment but will need a host agency.
- **Sonoma OP Area Up-Staffing Plan:** No report

REDCOM: Director Abbott was proud to share that Katie McNulty received the National Dispatcher of the Year award from the IAED (their accrediting agency) at their annual conference (the first time it had been given for a fire call). He extended their appreciation to Mark Basque for all his work with REDCOM. SB 1848 is being looked at due to concern regarding clarifying medical control and a prohibition by public agencies to contract with private entities, which he cannot support because of the Statewide implications (even though he feels REDCOM is fairly protected). To that end, he recommended folks closely read the bill before they sign any letters of support.

Closed Session: None

Good of the Order:

- Chief Williams (ret) shared SMART's Larkspur extension is starting testing and reminded the group if they are aware of any projects near their right of way (ROW), to let him know. He also extended his invitation to conduct training.
- Captain Fox indicated they are hiring two
- James Salvante shared the County has a new Health Officer (Dr. Phillips). They are also conducting a table top exercise soon.
- Director Abbott reminded the group they will be using Control 4 May 11 for the Ironman.
- Chief Nicholls shared they have already had five fires. Chief Van Wormer reminded the group that with all the new BC's it would be a good idea to have some "sit-down" time between them.
- Chief Westrope shared they have two new BC's, and will be filling three vacant Captain's positions. They also had their after-action review delivered which will be made public soon.
- Dean Anderson reminded the group the Survivor's reunion is May 23rd at Benzinger Winery. He added they have a lot of new hires.
- Chief Heine shared there is a Community Resiliency Day this Saturday 10-2 at the LBC. They are also having their Mother's Day breakfast Sunday, have 18 in background, hired a new Admin and entered into a shared services Admin. Services agreement with Russian River.

Adjournment: At 1136.

Next Meeting: June 12th, Sonoma Valley Fire Rescue

Respectfully Submitted: May 8, 2019

Randy Collins,
SCFCA Secretary