



# Sonoma County Fire Chiefs Association

## Training/Operations Officers Section

### MEETING MINUTES

Jan 13, 2015

#### Attendance:

Randy Collins	SRJC		
Mark Gradek	CalFire	Darin DeCarli	Goldridge
Marshall Turbeville	CalFire	Bill Shubin	SRFD
David Cornelissen	CSC Fire	Scott Westrope	SRFD
Kirk van Wormer	CalFire	Ken Sebastian	SRFD
Ken Reese	REDCOM	Todd Derum	CalFire
Sophia Bett's	REDCOM		

- I. **Call to Order:** Dave called the meeting to order at 0910
- II. **Self-Introductions:** Intros were skipped.
- III. **Changes to the Agenda:** There were no changes to the agenda
- IV. **Approval of the Previous Minutes:** Motion by Bill, seconded by Scott, unanimous vote.
- V. **Presentation:** There were no presentations.
- VI. **Liaison Reports:** Dave confirmed the liaisons. Dan will continue as Chiefs, Randy and Darrin will handle Marin TO's, Jack with Marin OP's, NBIMT Jack P,
  - A. **Chiefs:** Randy shared that Jim Wickam from PG & E presented and shared their willingness to help with any utility related need that arise. There was also discussion about the Ad Hoc committee and that a response from this group was warranted. To that end, Chief's George, Freeman, Gossner, Treanor, Grinnell and Derum agreed to form a sub-committee to draft the document. A brief discussion on the progress of the AD Hoc committee followed.
  - B. **FPO's:** Darrin reported they will be conducting their annual planning session tomorrow and will announce their goals when they reconvene with the Chief's.
  - C. **Marin TO's:** No report. Randy indicated he will attend the next meeting Jan 26 in Kentfield.
  - D. **Marin OP's:** Dave reported that they are getting close to adopting updated operational SOG's according to recent emails sent by Matt Barnes
  - E. **CALFIRE:** Kirk van Wormer is now B-1412 (also covering 1410). Paul Fleckenstein will eventually be 1410. There are openings for 5 BC openings so expect more changes.
  - F. **NBIMT:** No report.

**G. CICCIS:** No report although there is a meeting at 0900 on Thursday.

**H. Fire Tech Advisory:** Randy shared the following items of interest:

- The program's accreditation will be voted on at the STEAC meeting this Friday. The recommendation by SFT staff is to grant the reaccreditation so a positive vote is expected.
- SFT's course audit of Fire Prevention I last November went well with only two minor recommendations made for improvement.
- Speaking of Prevention I, at Friday's STEAC meeting there will be a follow-up vote to remove the Prevention I prerequisite for the Command IA course as had been requested by this group. Randy will advised the group of its outcome.
- At the STEAC meeting this Friday will also be a vote to accept the IFSAC/Pro-Board reciprocity with FFI as a VOLUNTARY. This is contrary to the mandatory reciprocity they were pursuing and suggests there are not the votes at the SBFS to have this passed. There are a number of unanswered questions of what this means to the FFI testing process. He added that because it is inconsistent with Blueprint 20/20, and initiative 5 of the 16 FF Life Safety Initiatives *Develop and implement national training standards and certifications that are equally applicable to all firefighters based on the duties they are expected to perform* he is disappointed in this development. In response to Darrin's inquiry, Randy will prepare a brief summary of the impacts once definitive information is made available.
- The Academies continue to move along nicely under Kim Thompson's supervision. The 85<sup>th</sup> class graduated last Friday and the 86<sup>th</sup> is in its second week with the 87<sup>th</sup> (intensive) to start on Jan 31. This marks the last semester we will be using the old curriculum and we are making the site improvements necessary to conduct the new skills testing at Windsor.
- The Volunteer Fire Skills program continues to grow. Fifteen completed the fall session and 20 are enrolled in the Advanced section that begins on the 28 with students from the County, Coast Guard, Kenwood and Gold Ridge.
- He reminded the group of the email link he had sent out last week providing a link to the new SFT subscription News Service and suggested that given all the changes that are occurring with the certification tracks, they might wish to subscribe. That link is: <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/subscription.php>
- Speaking of all the changes to the certification tracks, he circulated a handout generated by SFT that illustrates the current cert paths, their retirement dates and the tracks that replace them. He added he plans to continue to offer the current CO track courses through Fall semester next year which generated this proposal.
- As the CO retirement deadline gets closer, there will undoubtedly be fewer and fewer folks in these courses. Since the JC has a threshold enrollment of 18 there is a strong likelihood this will not be met and courses cancelled, this could be devastating for those seeking one or two remaining classes for their cert. If this occurs he asked the group if they would be willing to sponsor the class(es). This would simply mean acting as the treasurer to have the students submit payment to and in turn cut a check to the instructor. He indicated he had already discussed it with the instructors and they are all receptive to the idea. The only question that would need to be answered is what they would get paid and how much to charge the student. After a few questions the group

verbally agreed unanimously to the idea. He said he will meet with his instructors and identify a compensation arrangement that is acceptable and report back.

- Speaking of SFT classes, he added SFT has committed to conduct a RIO class here on June 17 and asked if the group wanted to sponsor. Again the response was unanimous. Randy indicated he will work on scheduling an Ethics class either the day before or after.
- He ended by providing an update on the approved FT position to assist with the academy starting at \$3666 (bottom step). Per college policy is currently being circulated in-house. If no takers after two weeks, it will be released to the outside. I will share when that occurs.

## VII. Old Business:

- A. Vote on By-Laws:** Randy quickly reviewed the changes that were presented at the last Meeting. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Darrin, second by Bill. Unanimous vote.
- B. Deployment Meeting Review:** Dave reported Dave Bertrand from REDCOM provided the deployment stats for 19 different incidents during the summer with the goal of identifying improvements to the process. There was agreement that with the changes to the Chief's website, many problems have been resolved. Some issues include:
- Immediate Need responses have been slow (I.E. Butt's Inc. & the Napa Quake).
  - Some duplicate ST numbers were issued. Although corrected early, they were problematic.
  - Identifying defined trigger points to have a Duty Officer be assigned to REDCOM and for larger events, two assigned.
  - Review the amount of paperwork the STL has to complete upon completion of their assignment.
  - Getting passes to REDCOM for all Duty Officers
  - Updating the training/refresher training for Duty Officers.
  - Conducting only one STL refresher course (tentative for early March).
- Dave ended by adding we need to make sure Cal Fire is involved at the next meeting. Kirk also shared that he is working with Jack to have the "For Hire" equipment tracked on the Active Status.

## VIII. New Business:

- A. Goals 2015/Chief's Planning Session:** Dave shared that because of the dominance of the work of the Ad Hoc committee, no outcomes occurred and this group did not get the opportunity to move any of its suggestions forward. One goal identified was to continue the:
- Driver Trainer program qualification oversight will continue with Spenser being the lead.

Randy added his 2 cents about how the issues going on with the Chiefs and the County present an opportunity for this group. Marshall added that much of the emphasis has shifted to the Zone level. Todd shared his experience conducting a series of mini-drills successfully in another county. An extended conversation about the most efficient training needs followed. The consensus that emerged amongst the group was to focus our training activities within the county and specifically the Zones. As an outcome, Dave will share with the Chief's that we

recommend focusing our training within the county and specifically the zone with this group helping as needed.

**IX. Good of the Order:**

- Ken Reese reported they are getting close to finishing the tie-in with Cal Fire so they can dispatch REDCOM units.
- Ken Sebastiani indicated they have some UASI classes scheduled including LARRO & RS-!.
- Sophia said she is looking forward to her new position in the REDCOM OP's position.
- The RFP for the Rincon Valley-SRFD RFP is out. They anticipate a 6 month process.
- Dave shared that Windsor has a couple of boat classes scheduled for February and their dog is now USAR certified.
- Marshall/Kirk shared that with the costal plan that is being developed, will result in some radio changes that will be going to the SOG committee.

**X. Adjournment:** Dave adjourned the meeting at 10:50.

**Next meeting:** March 10, 2015 at the SRFDTT.

Respectfully submitted: January 14, 2015  
Randy Collins