



Sonoma County Fire Chiefs Association

Training/Operations Officers Section

MEETING MINUTES

July 14, 2015

Attendance:

Randy Collins	SRJC	Spencer Andreis	SVFRA
Marshall Turbeville	CalFire	Jack Thomas	SRFD
Dave Cornelsson	CSC Fire	Jack Piccinini	SRFD
David Kahn	Petaluma	Kirk Van Wormer	CalFire
Sophia Betts	REDCOM	Darrin DiCarli	Gold Ridge
Dan George	Gold Ridge		

- I. **Call to Order:** Chief Cornelsson called the meeting to order at 0920 and led the Pledge of Allegance.
- II. **Self-Introductions:** Seeing everyone knew each other, intro's were skipped.
- III. **Changes to the Agenda:** None.
- IV. **Approval of the Minutes:** Motion to approve by Darrin, seconded by Spenser, unanimous vote. Randy shared the group's balance is \$17,160.91 although we will soon be cutting a check for \$6k to State fire Training for the RIO class which will bring this down.
- V. **Presentation:** Randy talked briefly to the request for persons to work as Skills Evaluators for the FFI & FFII certification test so as to minimize the costs to local agencies when they send their staff to the JC for the test. See the handout on the website for details.
- VI. **Liaison Reports:**
 - A. **Chiefs:** Randy reported he did a short presentation on his request for personnel to assist as evaluators for FFI & FFII testing (as mentioned above). Since the academy is full for the first time in 5 years and we have re-implemented a lottery, he also explained how an agency can sponsor a student which gives them priority. Kirk Van Wormer discussed how the Apparatus by Hire will work and be integrated into the Active Status program. There was also a discussion about changing the meeting frequency. It was decided to stick with the current schedule until a resolution is reached regarding the County study. Also agreed to make a donation to help the family of a Mountain Vol who is battling an illness. Dave added that there was a discussion on OES procedures.
 - B. **FPO's:** Darrin reported they have a meeting tomorrow and this group has been asked to sponsor some level II courses by the FPO's through a private vendor at a very reasonable costs. Randy shared we have a balance of over \$11k and this is what the funding is designed for. After a discussion it was agreed to support and supplement the course costs on a reimbursement basis. Darrin will work with Linda and come back with some figures. Jack made a motion to allow the e-board to pay a not to exceed amount of \$2000 for dues

paying members of the Sonoma County Fire Chiefs only just for the first class (if more than one are offered). Second by, Dan. No discussion. Unanimous vote.

- C. Marin TO's:** Randy shared he attended the meeting and had made the same presentation he had made to the chiefs on recruiting Skills Evaluators for FFI & II. Because they are not as financially challenged, they elected to simply pay any fee associated with the testing. Chief Gray from San Rafael also made a presentation about implementing an Alzheimer's referral program when they come across patients that exhibit symptoms.
- D. Marin OP's:** No report but Jack shared they are working to align all the operational policies. Dave shared that they have also issued a 100 page operational guide that has information such as stations, equipment, frequencies, MTZ's etc.
- E. CALFIRE:** Kirk shared they are still running 26 engines but are short on operators so they are limiting staffing on 5 additional engines. A large air tanker is in Chico and Paso Robles. Otherwise, all air resources are the same. A discussion about the Active Status and the County's involvement followed. Kirk shared they are in a bit of flux of how the CSA 40's are tracked and they will be meeting soon to resolve.
- F. NBIMT:** Jack reported they had an exercise involving a 50 acre veg fire behind the Flamingo hotel complete with simulated structures lost and it went well. There were a few lessons learned and involved PG & E, plotters, PIO's, etc. It demonstrates that the team is a valid resource available to the county. He added the week before they had an exercise in Marin County of a train derailment that also went well. Activation is made by calling Marin County Fire. It is considered a mutual aid resource so you do not get billed.
- G. CICC'S:** Jack reported the group is focusing on the Fireline Medic & EMT process and they should have 8 medics and 3 EMT's signed up by the end of the week. All the old files have also been filed electronically so the records are now on a thumb drive. Old folks have been removed. As always, there are a few "pending" folks who will be removed if paperwork is not received soon. A discussion about pairing up Medics and EMT's followed and the need to provide separate transportation for each in case they get reassigned. Dan reminded all that if a rental vehicle is used, permission is obtained when the order is received.
- H. Fire Tech Advisory:** Randy shared the following:
- They are officially re-accredited which is good until May 21, 2020.
 - The fall academy begins August 1 and is full. In fact, there is a waiting list of 14 for the spring academy. To that end, he explained the procedures to sponsor a firefighter as it does afford some priority. The summer has been spent prepping for it including rewriting our Procedures Manual as well as the Performance Standards & purchasing new equipment to deliver instruction including a interior gas prop and Drager Burn Box.
 - To accommodate folks who still want to conduct their own FFI, I am writing the curriculum for the stand-alone test course. FFII will follow.
 - Speaking of curriculum, all of the new courses for Company Officer have been completed and are going through the review process.
 - He also spoke to the verbal agreement he had made with this group about the college offering level I and this group pursuing level II which the group still strongly supports.
 - Due to low enrollment in the DOIA course we will no longer be offering and be surplusing the Skid Truck.
 - The next Fire Tech Advisory meeting will be on Thursday November 5 at 1000.

I. REDCOM: Sophia reported they have a few new employees going through training and will be looking at hosting a ROSS class at the end of fire season.

VII. Old Business:

A. Goals

- 1. DO Training Program:** No report. To be removed.
- 2. MAD Drill:** No report. To be removed.
- 3. RIO/Ethics:** Randy reported the classes were full and SFT agreed to take 10 extra (40 total) which means we netted \$800 minus \$35 for refreshments.
- 4. SFT Update Class:** Randy circulated the flyer. If you took this class several years ago, you do not need this one. It is a repeat.

VIII. New Business:

A. RIC Radio Procedures (taken out of order): Jack shared that we have developed a policy that instructs the person in distress to switch to the RIC frequency. However, it was noted every training recommends all others switch frequencies and free up the tactical for the Mayday person. After some testing, he found there is some disagreement on this matter and some ICs are not following the policy. To that end he wants to leave the ultimate call to the IC and is recommending we modify the policy to reflect this to avoid a conflict. Spenser expressed his agreement. Dave commented that based on some of the new technology being used on some portables and it might be a mute-point. After a discussion and broad agreement, Jack agreed to bring an amended policy back for approval.

B. Revision to By-Laws: Because the group is meeting every other month, this needs to be reflected in the document which it currently does not reflect. Dave suggested we also need to get a current roster of members so as to identify who are voting members (as opposed to non-voting members). To that end, Randy circulated a draft with the changes and advised we cannot act but will agendize for a vote at the next meeting..

IX. Good of the Order:

Kirk reported there is a grant (Western Wildland Urban Interface) that they would like to use to contract out development a pre-attack map for the county. They are extremely useful documents and show egress routes, water sources and can even be used by the public. Dave asked what the relationship is with NIX. Kirk spoke to the advantages of NIX and its links with FMAG but you need an assistant to enter all the information.

Dave shared Petaluma is hosting a WUI drill on Thursday July 16 and Saturday July 18 and have opened it up to outside agencies.

Dave Cornelsson shared Windsor is surplusing a pickup in case anyone is interested..

X. Adjournment: Dave adjourned the meeting at 10.40

Next meeting: September 8, 2015 at the SRFDTT.

Respectfully submitted, July 14, 2015
Randy Collins