



# **SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION MEETING**

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Sept 13<sup>th</sup> 2017 at 9:30 AM**  
**Hosted By CHP**

**Attendance:**

Jason Boaz	Healdsburg	James Colangelo	Sonoma County
Steve Akre	Sonoma Valley	Aaron Abbott	REDCOM
Justin Bengcurel	CALFIRE	Greg Martin	Sonoma County
Dean Anderson	SLS/AMR	Darren DiCarli	BV/GR
Matt Epstein	Dry Creek	Tom Welch	Mill Valley/Marin Chiefs
Jack Piccinini	Windsor/RV	James Salvante	CVEMS
Mike Mickelson	Wilmar	James Williams	Sonoma County
Bill Braga	Sebastopol	Todd Derum	CALFIRE
Hans Henneberque	Retired SFM	Tony Gossner	Santa Rosa
Doug Williams	Retired	Leonard Thompson	Petaluma
Bill Bullard	Graton	Michael Palacio	CHP
Randy Collins	SRJC ARTP	Darren Belach	Kenwood
Kirk Van Wormer	CALFIRE	Loren Davis	Mountain

**Call to Order:** Chief Derum called the meeting to order at 0937 and asked Commander Palacio to lead the pledge.

**Host Chief Intro/Pledge:** Commander Palacio welcomed the group, shared logistics, the tri-tip lunch arrangements and that they will accept donations.

**President's Report:** Chief Derum asked the group to remain standing and made a short moment of silence in tribute to Patriots Day and three recent LODD including; BC Gary Helming USFS, BC Terry Smerdel SFFD & Capt. Bryon Beck CALFIRE.

He ended by adding how impressed he has been with how well we all work together especially given the era of consolidations we face and encouraged us not to bind ourselves with artificial boundaries. He also spoke to the varying long range goals that each of us have and importance of moving forward.

**Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** Motion was made by Chief Piccinini & seconded by Chief Akre Unanimous vote.

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

Chiefs General Fund:	(\$151.59)	Survivors Checking:	\$2,877.19
OP's/TO's Fund:	\$18,392.22	Survivors Savings:	\$110,177.57
FPO General Fund:	\$3,062.41		
FPO Safety Trailer:	\$6,106.90		
FITF	\$1,720.09		
Career Education:	\$4,424.28		
Safety Pals:	\$7,484.22		
Safety Pals Trailer:	\$2,500.00		
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	\$43,356.53		\$113,054.76*

\* Note: Survivors Fund owes Chief's Fund \$6,000

Move by Chief Piccinini to approve, second by Chief Davis. Unanimous vote.

**Correspondence:** None

**Fire EMS Committee (taken out of order):** Chief Akre reported he met with Dr. Milman. She has developed an engagement process, will be sending out a letter describing it and is looking for participation from members of this group. It includes using a facilitator with a stakeholder workgroup focusing on three topics: addressing the desire for non-competitive operating areas, Santa Rosa's exclusive operating area and then updating the EMS Ordinance. Chief Akre expressed his support for what she is proposing and feels it is a positive approach to resolve this matter

**LEXIPOL Webinar:** Chief Boaz began by asking how many agencies use LEXIPOL (half a dozen hands went up) and initiated the webinar with Rosie Curran. She provided an overview of LEXIPOL and the benefits they bring by providing legally validated policies. They were founded in 2003, are a Risk Management firm and provide additional services including mobile apps. For more questions, feel free to contact her at: [rcurran@lexipol.com](mailto:rcurran@lexipol.com) Chief Boaz shared they have slowly been implementing them after a review process that includes labor by-in. Chief Gossner shared it can be time consuming but it is well worth the effort.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

- **By-Laws Revision:** Randy shared this was initiated by Hans suggestion to combine the Chiefs and Survivor's Fund to avoid having to conduct duplicate tax filings and reporting's. Because the Chief's Board also serves as the Board for the Survivors Fund, oversight remains the same. He summarized the changes of which the majority was the insertion of an Article 7 that outlined the procedures to award a benefit. Because the action to approve these By-Laws will be followed by the dissolution of the Survivor's Fund, Section 4.3 identifying that organizations annual meeting has been deleted. As for the procedure, Article 8.1 of the existing By-Laws requires any amendments once introduced to be held over for a vote until the next meeting. To that end, if you have any feedback, it would be preferable to incorporate those changes now so a vote can occur at the October meeting in Forestville. This would allow Han's to close out the books at the end of the year.

Hans reminded the group the Survivors Fund began as the Widows and Orphans Fund in the early 70's. He spoke to the two tax returns and two files he must do every year and it is in the best interest of the group to streamline the two and put everything under the umbrella of one organization. Retired Chief Williams shared the origins of the monies. Hans added that once the By-Laws are amended, a resolution will need to be approved by this group dissolving the Survivor's Fund to be submitted to the Secretary of State.

Randy asked the group if you have any desired changes to get them to him by Friday at noon.

**Standing Committee Reports:**

- **Training/OP's:** No report
- **FPO's:** Hans shared they have put out a training survey with the goal of creating a training calendar together for 2018. Chief Boaz shared this month's meeting is the joint Nor-Cal meeting in Petaluma on Sept 22 and that last month, a cannabis training was held.
- **Fire Districts:** No report
- **Volunteer Fire Companies:** No report
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**Ad-Hoc Committee Reports:**

- **Fire Advisory Committee:** Chief Thompson shared two items: Each region has been asked to turn in a statement of purpose which were due Sept 1. The second was that the RFP was released. Chief Colangelo shared there is a bid question meeting this afternoon and encouraged folks to attend. The proposal does include a provision to allow alternate means of service. The deadline to turn in proposals is October 13 at 2 PM.

**REDCOM:** Director Abbott shared the following:

- September 30 is Gran Fondo and Control 2 will be used for the event
- The District fee issue will be going to the BOS in October and if you received an invoice you can ignore it.
- Fire Priority Dispatching is moving forward and he plans to have a meeting on Sept 27.

Chief Piccinini added at the next DOAG meeting, three SOP's will be reviewed to help minimize the amount of radio traffic associated with conveying dispatch information and "Parroting back"

**Improving Efficiencies/Customer Service/Good of the Order:**

- Chief Davis reported they had a successful fundraiser last month
- Chief Bengcurel introduced himself as the new limited term BC for the River/Healdsburg area
- Chief Van Wormer shared CALFIRE is back down to limited staffing due to the lightning activity. The heli-tanker is still stationed at the airbase but is on an incident in Santa Cruz
- Chief Bellach shared Zone Three's burn trailer has arrived and is available to outside agencies.
- Commander Palacio shared Sgt. Evans is home recuperating and they expect to have him back on light duty in two weeks. He added his door is always open if there is any issue you need to resolve and thanked the group for the assistance provided over the last year.
- Ret. Chief Williams thanked Commander Palacio for the tour of the Golden Gate Dispatch Center in Vallejo and added how much he has enjoyed doing volunteer work for SMART.
- Chief Colangelo shared they have terminated their contact with MATRIX due to unacceptable errors in the document. They will be posting the draft with all the faults in an effort to be transparent.
- Chief Gossner shared he has been invited to sit on a Broadband focus group with the goal of improving conductivity (especially with MDC's). He is looking for feedback. He reminded the group about the request for mutual aid to SFFD to provide coverage during the memorial service on Sept 19. Let Chief George know if you are interested. Plan on an all-day commitment.
- Chief Williams thanked those who participated in the BOS 9-11 Resolution
- Chief DiCarli thanked those who attended the Region 9 training and CALFIRE for their help with the exercise
- Hans thanked the group on for their support with his wife's illness.
- Chief Epstein reminded everyone the CSFA Conference is next week, is being hosted by Healdsburg at the Dry Creek Inn and encouraged all to attend. He also shared he will not be running for re-election and said it is a great opportunity. Chief Boaz added there is free live fire training available as part of the conference and to go the CSFA website if you wish to register.
- Chief Welch thanked the group for allowing him to attend. He added they have a project in Marin County to promote a Smoke Awareness program to create awareness of harmful atmospheres and will be bringing it to Sonoma County on October 27. The class is free but limited to 40 participants.
- James Salvante shared that CVEMS will be conducting training for EMT's on the new skills required which must be completed by July 2019 (or when you renew if that occurs before this date). He is working with SRJC's EMC program to develop classes on the topic.
- Randy reminded the group the FFI certification test class is available for those who seek IFSAC/Pro-Board FFI. Go on-line to register at: santarosa.edu
- Chief Derum spoke to how many FF's he sees texting at incidents and the safety/perception issues it raises. He also thanked the group for their support with the ABH program. The organization is also seeking presentations of value for the remaining meetings this year. He ended by encouraging folks to watch the NETFLIX Fire Watchers series

**Closed Session:** There was no closed session.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Chief Mickelson, second by Chief Gossner at 11:50

**Next Meeting:** October 11<sup>th</sup>, at Forestville

Respectfully Submitted: Sept 13, 2017

Randy Collins,  
SCFCA Secretary