



SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

MEETING MINUTES

Hosted by SRJC

September 12, 2012, 9:30 am.

Attendance:

Randy Collins	SRJC	Bill Braga	Sebastopol
Sean Grinnell	Bodega Bay	Frank Treanor	Rancho Adobe
Dick Luttrell	REDCOM	Tony Gossner	Santa Rosa
Dave Jefferies	Novato PD	Roger Sprehn	Corte Madera
Wilbert A Horne	Mayacamas	Cyndi Foreman	Central Fire
Bill Shubin	Santa Rosa	Lauri McFadden	SLS
Nick Neisus	Valley Ford	Gary Dignan	Red Cross
John Marty	Rohnert Park	Doug Williams	Central Fire
Max Ming	FFD/RRF	Loren Davis	Mountain
Ray Mulas	Schell Vista	Darrin DeCarli	BVF/GRF

Call to Order: Director Randy Collins called the meeting to order at 09:35. Chiefs Aston and Hoffman are absent for various reasons. Director Collins led the pledge of allegiance. Director Collins explained the reason for the change in venue-LODD CHP.

Host Chief Introduction: N/A

Approval of Minutes: Chief Williams moved to approve the August meeting minutes, Chief DeCarli 2nd, no discussion, Director Collins called for the vote. All were in favor, none were opposed.

President's Report: No report. Director Collins attended the 9-11 Memorial in Healdsburg. It was a nice event and well attended. A good reminder of what we do.

Treasurer's Report: Sec/Treas Grinnell reported the following balances.

- Checking: \$3,079.61 (Sept 1)
- W/O Interest checking: \$14,525.09 (Sept 1)
- W/O CD: \$116,917.75 (Jul-9)

A payment in the amount of \$27.65 was made to Exchange bank for more checks and deposit slips.

Chief Treanor moved to approve the expenditures and the report. 2nd was made Chief Gossner. Director Collins called for the vote. All were in favor, none were opposed.

Correspondence: None

Presentations: Dave Jefferies, Captain, Novato PD discussed the transition of the Marin County US&R Team's IST into a Type III Incident Management Team. A presentation was made to the Sonoma County Law Enforcement Chiefs last month. We are seeking interested individuals (supported by Department) in the North Bay Area Counties-Sonoma, Marin, Napa, and Solano. Looking to fill Command and General Staff ICS positions; people from Law, EMS, Fire, Public Works, Emergency Management, and Land

Management. From the law enforcement standpoint, San Rafael had 680 incidents. Many of these incidents were used as reason for such a program. Contact Mark Brown via Marin County Fire. A brief explanation of the Citygate UASI study was explained. Chief Gossner asked if they had reached out to local law enforcement. Yes, last month. Chief Davis asked if this would be one team made up of several smaller teams, yes and no. One team that might split later down the road as learning and training are accomplished. Chief Gossner asked if the individual needs to be employed by agencies or can they be retired, etc. For now- employed. The next meeting will be in San Rafael. Chief Williams quoted Chief Howard, "None of us have the ability to do it alone". It's a big commitment and exactly why we need this consolidated effort (Flyers enclosed).

Committee Reports

Operations & Training Section: Chief Gossner reported the next meeting will be held in October. Strike Team deployments as well as STL deployments. Active statusing needs to refresher training [and new version needs vetting]. Dave Cornelson retires Thursday morning but will continue at Windsor. More to come. On the Training side UASI is sending a lot of money our way. HazMat Tech coming soon, no cost. Ken Sebastiani will send out info as soon as he hears anything.

Prevention Section: FPO Cyndi Foreman reported that we continue to work on the standardized inspection check list. Also working on next years budget; a general FPO budget and then budgets for each section. The second set of Safety Pals shows are scheduled for the 28th as a part of the Norcal meeting at Luccesi Center, the center offered a free second showing (27 and 28). We will be bussing the kids in...upwards of 1000 kids. Safety Pals also received a \$2500 grant from PG&E. Prevention week is fast approaching. The theme is to "have two ways out". Many agencies are hosting open houses. Chief Gossner said that Oct 6 is the safety fair for SFRD to be held at the training tower. Family Life holding an event at the Finely center.

District Chiefs: Chief Williams said there has been no meeting since last meet. The next meeting will be held in October. Forestville is hosting.

Volunteer FF Association: Chief Horne reported that the Standards of Coverage document is going to the Supervisors on the 18th. It's been a long process starting with Ronny Coleman and his groups; then to steering committees and a lot of input from the VFC's. It is an in depth study and a way for many to really see there agencies in a new light. Much more work to be done once the SOC is complete and accepted. It sets the basis of minimum levels needed to protect lives and property. As an FYI from the political standpoint, for each person that shows up, politicians feel 100 people are behind them. Chief Aston put a lot of information into the report-great job; Class "a" job said Chief Horne.

CAD Group: Chief Williams said the group meets on Oct 16th. Work continues on the ability for automated changes to add to mapping through the Internet, which will not need a GIS person to assist. We are still working to change the symbology of roads to let us know if and when we can drive on them: weather or size restrictions. Updates made online will also update the CAD system. MDC's, a new version is coming out toward the end of the year.

Cal E-M-A Operational Area: Chief Williams reported last Sunday active status was exercised in a significant way which really exposed some training needs. We had one issue with deployments. Our policy for adjoining County response is to treat as an immediate need and get up and go. Type III's went to the Wye fire. Dispatch of the closest 24-hour battalion was not put into play. A second strike team call out is more of a planed need event and you have more time-even though the request might come down as immediate need. The wrong deployment rotation was used, then teams used were asked if they could be used on other fires. RVFPD OES tender has not been used in five years. We did go through a process to move teams around and an extended duration of use. Change outs as needed. STL's and trainees were rotated. The Scotts fire needed an immediate need team then followed up with a planned need to for the second ST of Type III's. Chief Lantz is on 16-fire. Region II had a draw down of almost all Type III resources. The series of fires and subsequent call outs illustrated that we were out of practice but we answered all calls to duty.

Chief Sprehn asked if we “Mix use” personnel, as they do in Marin as needed. Director Collins asked if we were able to satisfy everyone’s currency issues. A. Yes. Director Luttrell said that based on the long-range forecast, more fires are expected. All must be established in ROSS before we consider you for call out said Chief Williams and as a reminder-level 300 must be processed through local CICC and level 400 must go to the regional CICC.

Cal E-M-A Region: Chief Williams is the Region II Chief until an election for new chief is held. REDCOM is not expected to become the Region II dispatch center.

County Fire: See Volunteer report above.

EMCC: Chief Garcia said the meeting is coming up. Chief Shubin said when advanced EMT is implemented, it could impact the paramedic first response by downgrading the call upon their arrival.

Legislation: Chief Williams reported on the impacts of recent legislation. An analysis of the cost is on the website [with a lot of other useful information]. League of Cities supports the Bill, but summary indicates new hires versus current workforce has questions of limits of formulas, no more 3% at 50...incumbents question what happens between 37 Act and PERS relationship and costs surrounding this. In 2018 employees must meet 50% obligation. A confusing mess at best. SB 1040 is not going anywhere. Fireworks Bill, legalizing use in rural communities for New Years Eve was withdrawn.

Grants: No report

SRJC Advisory: Director Collins reported that Prop 30 is a real issue for the SRJC and he has been tasked with a report to reduce costs in the Fire programs including preparing a feasibility report on operating the academy exclusively from the PSTC in Windsor. Demographically speaking, the student body is changing. The Latino population is going up as enrichment courses (typically attended by retirees) have been heavily cut so the focus statewide is to focus on preparing students for transfers and job training certificates. A pitch was made for State Fire courses (flyer distributed and enclosed), particularly Training Instructor IC which is now required for a Training Officer Certificate (1st class date is Oct 31). All new instructors will need to do this to teach for the state. Fire Prevention 1A and 1B are being replaced by Fire Prevention I. The Volunteer Fire Skills Course will be offered for the first time through County Fire beginning next spring for CSA 40 fire companies and any other county agency that wants to participate. Course will be done through a contract with the county. November 1st is the Advisory Committee meeting.

CHP Liaison: No report

Red Cross: Gary Duignan said that Jennifer was unable to make this meeting. The Red Cross has been busy recently helping staff evacuation shelters opened because of all the fire activity. 17 workers were sent out to help. Red Cross has a great relationship with Cal Fire.

Marin Chiefs Liaison: Chief Sprehn reported the last meeting was held in Bolinas. They are working a history of the Marin fire service (plus other items already mentioned). Director Collins asked if the joint press conference had been scheduled. Nothing is on the calendar yet but we are timing this with the first bills. Chief Paul Smith is in contact with Sonoma County Chiefs for this purpose.
Fire Safe Sonoma: No report

Cal Fire: No report

SMART: Director Collins took the high rail ride offered by John. An impressive ride, lots of work already completed much more to come. The third train arrived yesterday. Santa Rosa to Petaluma is the first section for testing. Videos are available on the website.

Old Business-

- SRA fees letter- Director Collins updated everyone from last months meeting. We did not know if the letter was sent. Chief Williams said the information for the public is good but if the bills are still a few months away we should wait. Good timing is our issue right now.

New Business-

- None

Improving Efficiencies: None

Customer Service/Good of the Order:

- Chief Davis said that Mountain is hosting a fund raiser on Saturday, September 29, in Calistoga. Chief Davis asked for promo video and was pointed in the direction of CSFA and others.
- Director Luttrell mentioned a dual band radio that costs \$47. He is testing one out now. See him interested.
- Chief Horne said Mayacamas will receive a new Type III. An F-450 with 400 gal tank and a four door cab.
- Chief Neisus said he has a contact at Bodega Harbor if anyone is interested in golfing.
- Chief DeCarli said the 2nd county strike team was just released to go through demob (from his smart device).
- Director Collins said he attended the firefighter graduation of the Dry Creek Rancheria Tribal Fire Department. It was a two month long academy held from 8 to 5 each day.
- Director Collins expressed some difficulty of navigating the Costal Valley EMSA website to find copies of REDCOM policies. Given the on-going concerns with this matter, Chief Williams moved to support the recommendation that REDCOM/EMS improve the ease navigation of the Website, a 2nd was made by Chief Neisus. In the meantime a link from the Chiefs website will be made. No discussion was had. Director Collins called for the vote. All were in favor, none were opposed.

REDCOM: Director Luttrell said the next meeting would be October 11. Starting tomorrow morning, Control 4 will be taken off line to initiate steps to improve the simulcast of Control-4, back up radios will be used.

Closed Session: None

Next Meeting: October 10th, night meeting with VFC's, hosted by Forestville Fire, 6pm. Dinner will be served, menu to follow.

Chief Treanor's video from the New Hope Baptist Church honoring September 11th was shown.

Adjourned: 11:25...The meeting was adjourned in silence and in Honor of Officer Kenyon M. Youngstrom.