



# SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES

Hosted by Sebastopol Fire

May 9, 2012, 9:30 am.

## Attendance:

Eric Hoffmann	Cal Fire	Mark Aston	County Fire
Sean Grinnell	Bodega Bay	Dick Luttrell	REDCOM
Frank Treanor	Rancho Adobe	John Lantz	Central
Darrin DeCarli	Gold Ridge/Bennett	Wilbert Horne	Mayacamas
Dan George	Gold Ridge	Paul Smith	Marin Chiefs
Max Ming	Forestville/RRF	Bill Braga	Sebastopol
Peter Van Fleet	Glen Ellen	Loren Davis	Mountain
Paul Pioni	Geyserville	Jason Jenkins	Cloverdale
Tony Gosner	Santa Rosa	Andy Pforsich	Gold Ridge
Bill Shubin	SRS/Kenwood	Cary Fergus	Petaluma
Cyndi Foreman	Central		

**Call to Order:** President Hoffmann called the meeting to order at 0940.

**Host Chief Introduction:** President Hoffmann Introduced Chief Braga who welcomed everyone to Sebastopol Fire and thanked everyone for attending and pointed out a few logistical items.

**Approval of Minutes:** Chief Williams moved to approve the minutes from April 11. Chief Braga 2<sup>nd</sup>, no discussion, all in favor, no opposed.

**President's Report:** Chief Hoffmann reported that he had missed the last couple of meetings and said thank you for allowing him to get a lot of things done.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sec/Tres Grinnell reported the following:

Balances: As of April 30

Survivor C/D: \$116,859.47

Survivor Checking: \$14,521.94

One check in the amount of \$1000.00 to the paramedic association was paid.

Chiefs checking: Balance is \$3554.61

A check for \$1200.00 was paid out to the FPO's and their sub groups

\$1900 is owed to ops/training when they are ready.

\$300 is owed to the FPO's for recent dues collected.

Chief Treanor motioned to approve the treasurer's report, 2<sup>nd</sup> was made by Chief Van Fleet. President Hoffmann called for the vote, all were in favor and none were opposed.

**Correspondence:** None

**Presentations:** None

## Committee Reports:

**Operations & Training Section:** Chief George reported the group is working on the STL refresher. The next meetings will deal with the STL Application review and development of training a program to maintain currency. The big holding point-no buy off from regulators (CICCS and Cal EMA). Chief George asked the group if from the training standpoint-do we want a MADD drill? Yes was voiced by many. Chief George followed with more questions. Wildland or other event type? Interface? Keep it a joint venture with Marin – next year. Dan reported of several emails concerning active status issues.

**Prevention Section:** FM Fergus reported that FPO's are doing great; Safety Pals performance is coming up and we appreciate your support, we need; stage hands. FPO Foreman added we are looking for you to come and watch-but you need to see it in the natural environment to get the total effect of the program. May 21-23, show times of 9:15, 10:45 and 13:30. A bi-lingual program will be offered. Chief Hoffmann added a lot of work is being done and I am excited to see what the final product will be. FPO Forman said that Chief Abshear is doing some great voice overs, and also thanked Cal Fire logistical support. Safety Pals is supporting the cost of bussing the kids to the show locations (answering Dean Anderson's question of bussing). FPO Foreman also reminded SR that they need an engine company from the City. FM Fergus added that a—RICO meeting will take place on June 20 for Sonoma/Marin at Lucchesi and the subject will be grow houses. The need to agendaize the safety pals for the next agenda was asked for and accepted.

**District Chiefs:** Chief Williams reported that Rincon Valley was the host of the last meeting on April 26 at the Larkfield station. Supervisor McGuire spoke.

**Volunteer FF Association:** Chief Horne reported they will meet in June and road conditions are one subject of concern. Chief Horne spoke of an incident in which a big rig blocked a firehouse. The company was fined \$10,000, but the no prosecution because the one third of the double yellows cannot be seen.

**CAD Group:** Chief Williams reported CAD has not met since our last meeting. The next meeting is not until June. The on-line editable version of map book is being worked on; more detail work on schools for run book and CAD is also being worked on.

**Cal E-M-A Operational Area:** Chief Howard said his group meets tomorrow. Chief Howard also asked if any Sonoma County agency would be interested to fill in for St. Helena since they have said they cannot participate in strike teams and this limits the ability of Napa County agencies to participate in call outs-hence the questions. Zones 3 and 7 are the best candidates. Immediate needs can be met using individual requests. Scheduling of the annual spring zone chiefs meeting is taking place. The state is in the process of reducing the number of Type I Incident Management Teams to 6 statewide, instead of 10 (5 north and 5 south). Teams will be balanced geographically; local ops areas will create Type-3 team configurations and beef up ERD's, some combinations of all risk teams. SRA water shed protection teams to hold fires. Funding of Local Type III teams is an issue. Master mutual aid, no reimbursements are expected, handle your own areas. We are expected to handle the stuff at home. The Feds are cutting their teams down and type-3 teams are expected to take up the slack. CA is in good shape since we are used to doing these types of things other states are not so fortunate. Type-3 teams are a national concept gaining strength. CAL FIRE Engineers coming out of the academy are Type III qualified for IC and Ops.. Many details to be worked out on this. Chief Williams asked for clarification for current zone chiefs, (due to the recent changes) they are? Alternates? Question Zone 4 zone 5? Max Ming is Zone 5, Zone 4 is Mike Singer and Mike Scott from The Sea Ranch.

Chief Andy Pfosich has resigned as chief (due to the PERS law). Chief Dan George is Chief for Gold Ridge and Chief Darrin DeCarli is Chief for Bennet Valley. Both are interim until further notice.

**Cal EMA:** Region: combined above.

**County Fire:** Chief Aston mentioned two items: A live fire training is planned for June 3<sup>rd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to Kendal Jackson (property off Lakeville Hwy). Chief Kitchel is coordinating this event. FITF members will likely get some training between burns. If you want to participate in this burn please let Chief Kitchel know. Item two: today the emergency council is meeting in the Redwood Conference Room. UASI will meet tomorrow.

**EMCC:** GM Anderson said the EMCC met last month and received the task force reports. A letter to the Supervisors is next that will address the challenges going forward. Sonoma County is one of only a few counties that does not receive general fund monies. Chief McCormick asked why we do not collect info on cardiac events and could we make it happen. GM Anderson informed the group of a new program offered by AMR. The program is called CARES. AMR used national 1<sup>st</sup> response to discharge information for the program. The concept of Pit Crew CPR was explained. The best survival scenario is early recognition, compressions, early defibrillation, and air-way management. Back to the basics. Save Lives Sonoma – hands only CPR is catching on. The Gran Fondo will allow a booth. Analy Grad night seniors will get taught Hands Only CPR as well. Chief McCormick spoke about the drug shortages that are a national issue. EMS will address the use of expired Medications (short term expiration) soon. Chief Braga spoke about the lack of known locations for AED's and the possible use of CPR apps now being used in other areas. Those that know are to work with Ken Reese and James Salvante ([jsalvant@sonoma-county.org](mailto:jsalvant@sonoma-county.org)).

**Legislation:** VP Aston handed out several legislative reports (including ACA 18, 2/3 to simple majority) and explained the information therein.

**Grants:** Chief Braga received the denial letter for the AFG pager grant. No explanation was given and they we will not re-apply since old pagers are expected to work with narrow band. Director Collins thanked Chief Braga and Director Luttrell for their work for the last two years. Safety Pals has submitted a grant in the amount of 48,000 under Fire Safe Sonoma.

**SRJC Advisory:** Director Collins reported that one live burn has been completed and the next one on the 19<sup>th</sup>. All who helped out were thanked.

**CHP Liaison:** No report.

**Red Cross:** Gary Duignan reported Roger is gone; Jennifer Jones is the new person. Gary will try to get her here at a future meeting. County Fire is reaching out to Jennifer. Roger did a lot of great things for emergency management in this County and was thanked for all that he did.

**Marin Chiefs Liaison:** Chief Paul Smith said thank you for allowing him to speak today. Chief Smith said the Marin Chiefs did a big service to itself in re-establish the liaison to the Sonoma Chiefs. Marin County Chiefs are planning a multi-agency drill; a joint exercise with PD for school shooter/intruder at school. The focus will be the FD role in such an event. How to work together with a law priority call event; law/fire differences; an excellent source for use with protocol development for a joint fire/law enforcement. Chief Smith also spoke of a great new app. "Life Square" a new company that has created an electronic vial of life. You subscribe, they send you a bar code (or cube). The business plan is to have facilities with this medical record (which is digitized) you scan the cube of the patient and bring the info to the hospital with you. Several concerns were mentioned. It is a work in progress so it is not perfect yet. San Rafael is in; Kentfield is out. Liability, licensing issues and usage are the primary issues. Several more issues than benefits were raised. It is a little early in the process, many more bugs must be worked out.

**Fire Safe Sonoma:** No report

**Cal Fire:** President Hoffmann reported the May budget revision is coming out soon. No changes are expected (yet). Most of us will have to wait and see if the other show will fall if the Governors ballot initiatives pass in November. More cuts will come if these do not pass. 60 million in cuts will add lots of stations and engines companies. Crew cuts will be felt at large incidents. Fire season ramp up has started: FF's have been hired for four engines and helitack training continues and we expect to be fully operational in ten days. We have limited availability right now: Petaluma, Hilton and Healdsburg next week; two weeks more and the rest will be staffed; full staffing will be July 2. June 21 is the likely date for aircraft-two tankers and air attack. Three person staffing for all engines this summer. Fully staffed with B/C's; no prevention B/C right now, it is being shared from within. We expect to fill 1-3 more B/C positions. On April 12 the Cloverdale station was accepted. Open house coming soon. A very nice modern station; and it came in under budget. The permanent regulations for SRA fees are being developed. Expect bills to go out in August.

Chief Aston added the CSFA conference coming soon-June 9 and 10.

Chief Horne asked about fuel moistures. A) President Hoffmann said the numbers are low, but expect the number to go up based on late rain. President Hoffmann also gave the weather update/expectations/predictions: Using the "Basil Scale" (based on USFS Fire Meteorologist Basil Newmerzhzykyit's analysis of past year's data) will depend on the amount of rain between November and April, but the critical aspect is the amount of rain between April 15 and June 1<sup>st</sup> (and that depends if it is a lot every few days or weeks to very little rain every couple of weeks); we are shaping up for a typical fire season.

Old Business:

- SRA Fees
  - Kentfield Fire Chief Paul Smith (representing Marin County Chiefs) said the Marin chiefs put together a position statement regarding SRA Fees (a draft was handed out) and asked if Sonoma Chiefs were interested in making a joint statement regarding SRA Fees. Much discussion took place (some spirited debate as well). This affects us all. Many questions were asked and answered. To cloud the issue-a recent letter was sent to FDAC from Kate Dargan regarding a new twist on how to appropriate these SRA funds. Chief Williams suggested this item be placed under old business for the next regular meeting of the chiefs in order to give the Marin Chiefs time to consider our changes.
  - eBoard report-discussed during the previous agenda item.
- Immediate need for law enforcement- Chief Pigoni reported on this matter during the last SOP meeting. This month it will go to the DOAG and an internal attempt to work out any issues will be made. Changes to SOP 18 will be made. Specifically:

- 18.8 Requests from the field for a police, sheriff, or CHP response should be made using the standard term “LAW ENFORCEMENT”, the Level of Urgency (“code 2” or “code 3”) and the nature of the request (violent subject, intoxicated subject, uncooperative bystanders, shots fired, traffic control, etc.)
- 18.8.1 If responders find themselves in a situation that they need to be more discrete in their request they may use the following codes: Code 6, Code 2 (Dispatch will then start Law Enforcement code 2 for an uncooperative subject); Code 6, Code 3 (Dispatch will then start Law Enforcement for a violent subject). Dispatch centers will work out issues. Field training would be the next step. DOAG meets on May 22.
- TPW Notification-Chief Aston reported that he has heard no more comments from Ron. We will try to have them work this out with Kenny and possibly get them a pager?

**New Business:**

- FPO (should have been Ops/TO) Goals 2012: President Hoffmann asked the question, “is it our intention to word smith or to just suggest changes to Ops/TO? The answer was to make suggestions to Ops/TO’s in future years to aid with goal planning. Chief George said they have not received the final package from Tom Forster yet. No changes were made or suggested. A motion to approve the goals as presented was made by Chief Williams. Chief Aston seconded. President Hoffmann called for the vote. All were in favor and no one was opposed.

**Improving Efficiencies:** None

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

- Chief Horne said he is working to replace his Type-3.
- GM Anderson reminded the group that the Amgen tour and all the related events (four others) is coming soon. President Hoffmann said the event schedule and maps were printed in the Press Democrat. Ken Reese also said there will be a canoe race on the Russian River too. Occupy events have also been added to try and disrupt the race as well added Chief Shubin.
- Chief Williams said Central will host several classes: A DMV (new laws and the impacts) class on May 16; May 21 STL refresher; May 29, 30 and June 1<sup>st</sup>, supervision workshop—co sponsored by Central, REDCOM, AMR.
- Director Collins said the SRJC will be holding a state required (state fire training) instructor update on June 29 at the Petaluma campus.
- Ken Reese reported that Cal Fire ECC and REDCOM will clean up notification process for request for response versus need to respond. The intent is to reduce the number of responding units for specific types of fires at certain times. The automatic use of aircraft for a vehicle fire that has not extended to the vegetation as an example unless first units report extension to the wildland.

**REDCOM:** Director Luttrell reported the REDCOM Board will meet tomorrow. The final budget is likely to be voted on. The meeting will be at 2 pm at the SR Tower. Its event season, more activity is expected and Kenny will be working this weekend reported Director Luttrell, furthermore, REDCOM has received an application from River Rock Rancheria to be included in REDCOM. New dispatchers will be added by July.

**Closed Session:** None.

**Next Meeting:** June 13, Hosted by Sonoma Valley Fire & Rescue Authority

**Adjourned:** 12:12