



**SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS
ASSOCIATION MEETING
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
October 11th, 2023, at 8:30 AM
RPPS**

ATTENDANCE

Sean Lacy	Sonoma Valley Fire	Sheply Schroth-Cary	Gold Ridge Fire
Mark Heine	Sonoma County Fire	Evonne Stevens	REDCOM
Devon Gambonini	Santa Rosa Fire	Robert Johnson	Sonoma County Fire
Ben Nicholls	Cal Fire	Jeff Valiquette	Rancho Adobe Fire
Daren Bellach	Kenwood Fire	Ray Mulas	Schell Vista Fire
Doug Williams	SMART	Hans Henneberque	H & S Associates
Spencer Andreis	Sonoma Valley Fire	Ron Busch	Sonoma County Fire
Aaron Johnson	RPPS	Scott Westrope	Santa Rosa Fire
Matt Gloeckner	Santa Rosa Fire	Darrin DeCarli	Gold Ridge Fire
Steve Akre	Sonoma Valley Fire	Trevor Collins	Santa Rosa Fire
Dave Bray	Gold Ridge Fire	Ron Lunardi	Occidental Fire
James Salvante	CVEMSA	Willow Farey	CVEMSA
Chad Costa	Petaluma Fire	Bill Bullard	Graton Fire
Mike McCallum	Santa Rosa Fire	Bonnie Plakos	NSCF
Jack Thomas	Santa Rosa Fire	Heidi Horuitz	Timber Cove Fire
Jason Jenkins	Cloverdale Fire	Jeff DuVall	DEM
Steve Mosiurchak	PRMD		

Call to Order: at 8:30am

Pledge of Allegiance: Chief Akre

Host Chief Introduction: Chief Johnson welcomed everyone

Presidents Report: None

Approval of Minutes: Approved Regular meeting Motion Mulas, 2nd: Heine All AYE

Treasurer’s Report: Hans reported we still have 4 agencies that have not paid dues.

Chief’s Fund	\$4,844.60
Survivor’s Fund	\$96,396.31
Special Assessment Fund	\$(3,995.28)
Training Officers Fund	\$1,886.61
FPO General Fund	\$3,618.01
FPO Safety Trailer Fund	\$14,506.90
FPO Career Succession Fund	\$388.71
FPO Fire Investigation Fund	\$3,446.26
Youth Fire Setter Program	\$1,041.53
Safety Pals General Fund	\$15,605.77
Safety Pals Trailer Fund	\$2,500.00

Total Funds \$139,979.83

Correspondence: None

Presentation: None

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Standing Committee Reports:

Fire Service Working Group: Chief Westrope reported the BOS accepted and supported the tax measure. The unions are working on a campaign and fundraiser. They have established a communications group to work with the campaign. The agency one pagers have been printed and will be here today to distribute. The Round Table Measure that would require all tax measures and fees to get a 2/3rds majority to pass has qualified to be on the November ballot. There was emergency legislation passed that would require that measure to get 2/3rds to pass.

SMART: Doug Williams reported next week's board meeting there should be a number of contracts approved for the proposed extensions. The Windsor extension is fully funded and there is almost 2/3rds funded for the Healdsburg extension. The second station in Petaluma ready to go with a number of different pathway extensions. The freight system received a grant for some new locomotives. The SMART Board considered the proposal from the Golden Gate Railroad Museum to run rail bikes in Cloverdale.

PG & E: No report

Regional Zone Reports:

CALFIRE: Chief Nicholls reported the EU Copter is gone from the base. Since Ukiah airport is closed for resurfacing, we have a 3rd tanker at the base. They are working with the vintners across the county to facilitate prescribed burns.

Zone 3: Chief Bellach reported Kenwood has signed a 5 year contract with Sonoma Valley Fire for services on October 1st. This will give us 2.0 staffing ALS. Chief Akre will now be the Chief for Kenwood and I will step down to Assistant Chief for Kenwood. July 1st 2024 all Kenwood employees will become Sonoma Valley employees.

Chief Akre reported they are taking delivery of a new ambulance today. It took 2 years to receive it. They will also be taking delivery of a couple command vehicles. The new OES engine 2101 has been placed in service. They have completed a solar project on one of the stations and getting close to completing a seismic retrofit for the Glen Ellen station. Together with Schell Vista and Kenwood we will be putting on a volunteer FF academy starting Nov. 1st.

Zone 4: No report

Zone 5: Chief Lunardi reported their water tender is going to take 2 ½ years to build. They purchased another bulldozer from Cal Fire (D4 High Trac) it should be in service in about a month.

Zone 6: Chief Jenkins reported they received a vegetation management grant for \$7.4m. and an OES match grant for \$1m.

Zone 7: Chief Westrope reported they received a SAFER grant for \$7.08M, they will be able to hire 12 new FF Medics for the next 3 years. They will be on an advanced life support squad during peak hours and will go to the out lined engines for staffing during the other hours.

Chief Heine reported at the end of this week they will have 5 FF medics graduate from the academy. They have 2 Type 1's in the building stage and a new ambulance and Type 6. They have a new fire inspector position starting next week. Prepping for the new EOA 1 service that ends at midnight on January 15th. The contract with the county should executed by today or tomorrow. The sales tax measure will be able to rebuild 3 stations that are in need of a remodel. Chief Elson retired, Chief Dunn retires at the end of this month. Mike Stornetta and Sean Johnson were both promoted to BC's. Rob Bisordi was promoted to Div. Chief assigned to the airport running the Sonoma County 1 Copter program.

Zone 8: Chief Schroth-Cary reported they are in the process of hiring 6 captains in anticipation of staffing the Wilmar station. Two Captains will be dedicated as Training Captains. They purchased the chassis for a water tender to go to the Fort Ross station.

Chief Bullard reported they will be doing a hiring list soon. The memorial for Dean Anderson will be on Nov. 4th at the fairgrounds, Dean was also a board member for the District.

Zone 9: Chief Johnson reported there new fire inspector is going through the process and should be done by next month. They have an engine on order and being built right now. Aaron Hall is now the Fire Marshal.

Chief Valiquette reported Chief Schach will be doing a presentation to both Ranch Adobe and Rohnert Park City Councils on the new tax measure. They are completing a spec for a Type 3 engine. They have one in the academy who will be done in about a week in a half.

Chief Costa reported they are working on a long term plan to remodel 3 stations and build a 4th. Their goal is to staff a ladder truck fulltime. They applied for a SAFER grant and did not get it. There will be a new radio installed for Control 9. This should expand the foot print for Control 9 for the south county. They are working with Marin County Fire to get a Type 3.

OES: No report

Training OP's: No report

FPO's: Devon reported they met last month in Petaluma, with NorCal FPO's. Their next meeting will be next week in Santa Rosa. Part of this meeting will be a training with REDCOM. Last Wednesday they had a FITF meeting, Jason Piloni will be stepping down as coordinator. Amy Segui from Petaluma was nominated and selected to be the next FITIF coordinator for next year. The Youth Fire Setter Academy will be February 24th and is back in full swing. If you have anyone that would be a good fit in your district, please contact Devon with their info.

Fire Districts: They will be meeting October the 26th. Invites to come out soon.

Vegetation Management: Steve Mosiurchak reported the inspection program has taken pretty well with-in the community. There were no abatements sent out. The chipper program will be year round now. The grant programs are still under way. Hazmat (CUPA, CERS) will now be available via Tablet Command. You will soon have access to emergency contact info, site maps, and inventory for the commercial occupancies.

Coastal Valley EMS: James Salvante introduced the new EMS Coordinator Willow Farey. They have a new contract hire, Eric Pollin who was the ECO of Cloverdale Health Care District. He will be in charge of data entry. They are making good progress with tiered response. The ambulance permit policy has been posted and is up for the 60 day public comment period.

CAL Chiefs Report: Chief Heine reported the annual conference is next week in Ontario. They are looking at Chapter 13 EMS Legislation and defining key elements of EMS in the State. FireScope is focused on the MA system and interactions with OES. They are also focusing on special teams. They are focusing and supporting any of the member agencies that are going through EMS RFP processes. Cal Chiefs Ops Section is looking for participants, if anyone is interested, please contact Chief Busch. They will be introducing new bylaws that reflect the reorganization that has been going on.

Ad-Hoc Committee Reports: None

Fire/EMS: Matt Gloeckner reported the EMS Plan update will be meeting tomorrow, the last plan was in 2018. There is a need to put out a plan for that gap period. There is a draft policy out from CVEMSA addressing the ambulance permitting process. The tiered response discussions are ongoing for the implementation of the program.

DEM: Jeff DuVall reported they are starting to look at flood season and flood prep coordination. They are in the process of hiring a deputy director. SHSGP has started, anyone looking to support any projects through this should get them submitted. DEM has a drone program with an operator, if needed please reach out to the DEM Duty Officer.

Sonoma OP Area Up-Staffing Plan: Chief Heine reported the two closest Type 1 helicopters that were contracted in Santa Rosa and Napa have been unstaffed for the Season. Sonoma County 1 is still available for fire missions. Fixed wing aircraft are still on the base.

REDCOM: Evonne reported they are working on their reaccreditation for EMD. The expansion project has been going slowly, they are working on gathering permits and hope to have that completed in October or November. They received an UASI grant for \$224,000.00 for a radio project on Control 2 and 4. There was an overall safety concern with the issues with Control 2 & 4 from the group. Evonne stated that we should do some testing in the areas where there is issues with the channels and try to come up with a plan to make it work using another channel if need be. There is a REDCOM Board meeting tomorrow and it was asked to please attend if you can. It very important that we document and get these issues with the channels fixed ASAP.

Chief Lunardi asked if there was a way we can declare an emergency due to the safety issues with the control channels. President Akre agreed that this is a safety issue and supported a motion to declare an emergency.

Chief Valiquette made a motion to declare an emergency action with the radio system control channels and to speak on behalf of the SCFCA at tomorrow's REDCOM Meeting. 2nd: Sheply, All AYE. It was also discussed to get support from the labor groups as well.

Good of the Order: Chief Busch stated they are offering an O305-All Hazard T-3 Incident Management Team class starting in November.

Chief Heine stated there is a leadership class coming out that Southern Marin will be hosting on Nov.14-16.

Hans stated the American Legion will be hosting a pancake breakfast this Saturday 7am-11am in Healdsburg.

Chief Valiquette stated there are changes coming out for pre employee marijuana testing. Please check your current policies and legal counsel.

Chief Akre asked Willow what was the outcome of BOS meeting and the trauma center with the number of REACH flights allowed. It looks like the flights will continue as they are and they will work on final approach paths into the hospital LZ's.

Closed Session: Announced closed session @ 10:30hrs.

Motion to amend the SCFCA agenda as is. Passed all AYE

Adjournment: @ 11:15hrs.

Next Meeting: November 8th, location Healdsburg Fire

Respectfully Submitted,

Daren Bellach
SCFCA Secretary