



**SONOMA COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS
ASSOCIATION MEETING
ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**
June 12, 2024, at 0830 AM
 Sonoma County Fire, Hanger-Sonoma County Airport

ATTENDANCE

Ken Reese	REDCOM	Heidi Horvitz	Timber Cove
Steve Akre	Sonoma Valley Fire	Ron Busch	Sonoma County Fire
Mike Marcucci	Cal Fire	Mark Heine	Sonoma County Fire
Matt Ryan	Cal Fire	Jorge Rodriguez	DEM
Jeff Valiquette	Rancho Adobe Fire	Jeff Schach	Petaluma Fire
Daren Bellach	Kenwood Fire	Ray Mulas	Schell Vista Fire
Spencer Andreis	Sonoma Valley Fire	Jason Boaz	Healdsburg Fire
Lance McDonald	Healdsburg Fire	Bill Bullard	Graton Fire
Paul Lowenthal	Santa Rosa Fire	Jack Thomas	Santa Rosa Fire
Bonnie Plakos	NSCFD	James Salvante	CVEMSA
Aaron Johnson	RPPS	Matt Gloeckner	Santa Rosa Fire
Travers Collins	Santa Rosa Fire	Dana Hampson	SCFCA/FSWG
Rob Bisordi	Sonoma County Fire	Doug Williams	
Steve Mosiurchak	County of Sonoma	Ben Nicholls	Cal Fire

Call to Order: at 0830hrs.

Pledge of Allegiance: Chief Akre

Host Chief Introduction: Chief Heine welcomed everyone.

Presidents Report: Chief Akre reported

Approval of Minutes: None

Treasurer's Report: Hans reported

Chief's Fund	\$4,569.07
Survivor's Fund	\$91,896.31
Special Assessment Fund	(\$2,950.44)
Training Officers Fund	\$4,345.65
FPO General Fund	\$4,141.55
FPO Safety Trailer Fund	\$15,481.90
FPO Career Succession Fund	\$388.71
FPO Fire Investigation Fund	\$4,096.26
Youth Fire Setter Program	\$569.97
Safety Pals General Fund	\$16,168.51
Safety Pals Trailer Fund	\$2,500.00
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Total Funds	<u>\$141,583.83</u>

Correspondence: None

Presentation: None

Old Business: Measure H update, Chief Akre reported that agencies will have to make their first quarter payment due July 1 to REDOM. Agencies will also initially have to pay their quarter to payment. REDCOM and the County Chiefs do not have the cash to be able to cover that payment. REDCOM has enough reserves to cover the 3rd quarter payment starting January 1. They are looking at the funding once the measure funds come in to see if agencies can be reimbursed for that payment. Each of the agencies that currently subscribe to Lexipol will get a short bill that will carry them through July 1 of this year. Lexipol will then bill the Chiefs Association starting FY24-25. They are still working to secure the services of a finance person to help guide us in terms of revenues, tax reporting and audits. They have a number of work groups established now, the bylaws, technology, training, recruitment and retention and vegetation management. If anyone has people that would like to participate in these work groups there is still room. Please use your chain of command to get assigned to the groups. They are looking to secure the services of a consultant to work on communications for this group and encompassing our outreach. The website will also have to be updated and we are looking for a company to do this.

New Business: None

Standing Committee Reports:

Fire Service Working Group: Chief Akre reported they met with the fire ad hoc and the CAO's office last month to discuss current and future fire service needs. They had 5 agencies put in for gap funding requests. These were on hold until Measure H passed. The ad hoc continues to be supportive of those needs. The ad hoc will bring this for discussion in the budget process for consideration. There was "kill" language in 2 of the contracts for the tax exchange agreements with the county from previous consolidations that happened around the time of Measure G. We need to hear from the county on how much of that money they want back. We did build into the Chiefs Association an amount into the distribution plan. They will be getting back to us with an exact amount. Those agreements will have to be amended.

SMART: No report

PG & E: No report

Fire Districts/Volunteer Fire Foundation: No report

Regional Zone Reports:

CALFIRE: Chief Ryan reported they are at 31 engines, air attack base is fully staffed. They will have their agency helicopter respond to all medium dispatches. On high dispatches the closest EU helicopter will respond with all other aircraft. The burned suspension is in place. There are scheduled burns over the next two weeks throughout the county.

Chief Marcucci announced he will be retiring at the end of the month and starting a new chapter with Marin County Fire starting July 1st. He wanted to thank everyone for the constant cooperation and partnership we have had over the years.

Zone 3: Chief Bellach reported they are still working on consolidation with Sonoma Valley Fire. The district hired a new administrative officer that will start July 1st. I will be retiring July 1st.

Chief Akre reported they are in the final stages of pre-employment and will be starting an Academy next month with seven. This will bring a third medic unit online as well bringing the Kenwood District to 3.0 staffing. July 1 all remaining Kenwood employees will become Sonoma Valley employees. The District is in escrow on two properties on Arnold Dr. that will be the location of station 2. They are starting to spec a new rural type 1 engine. They have completed the testing process to bring on board a 2nd fire mechanic and have someone going through pre-employment.

Zone 4: Heidi Horvitz reported Chief Lynn will retire as of July 1st. AP Triton is working on their master plan and should be completed mid-summer. They are working with the County to get some plans to work on their septic and water so they can house firefighters.

Zone 5: No report

Zone 6: Chief Boaz reported their new station is well under construction and should be completed in December. They have hires Robert Morris and have received approval to hire a 2nd Fire Inspector position. They have budgeted to order a new type 1 engine. June 14th will be a lake Sonoma burn and July 1st some pile burn at Fitch Mountain.

Zone 7: Trevor Collins reported they have Country Summer concert event this weekend. They have an academy starting in July. The response squads should be up and running in July.

Chief Heine reported they are in compliance with all components of the ambulance contract and starting to review the data over the last few months. They are wrapping up the contract with the County Fair Board for EMS services. They took delivery of a new type 6 for the Guerneville station. Their academy with 6 will graduate soon.

Zone 8: Sebastopol Fire reported the City has contracted with Gold Ridge Fire for administration. They hired a new Engineer, which gives them a total of 2 permanent Engineers. They were able to move some funds around and are able to pay stipends rather than paid per call to their volunteers. They have on call personnel sleeping at the station now and have reduced their on scene time by over a minute. Jack Piccinini has retired with 45 years of service. They have a new type 3 engine coming at the end of the year and a new type 1 on order with a delivery date sometime in 2026.

Zone 9: Chief Johnson reported they have had a department reorganization. This was part of the battalion program and not having the funding for the backfill. Starting July 1 they will have the funding for this program. They have a new type 1 due to be delivered in the next couple of months. Aaron talked about the concern with new hires in the future with Measure H and the SRJC FF 1 class only happening once a year. Should we be

looking at a second academy or look at a different structure to be able to get a potential large amount of people through it and have them sponsored by agencies. Discussions of maybe having multiple intensive academy's available to agencies.

Chief Valiquette thanked everyone who responded to their chicken barn fire. He reported they are looking at different option with or without Measure H funding in case there are issues receiving those funds. They are doing a remount of one of their older type 6 engines. Any agencies getting rid of command vehicles, please them in mind.

OES: No report

Training OP's: Chief Andreis reported they had their overhead refresher in lieu of their May meeting.

FPO's: Devon reported they will be meeting with building officials in Petaluma next week and we'll be training on emergency radio communications. All agencies have started weed abatement. FITIF was requested and responded to assist the large egg farm fire in Rancho Adobe.

Fire Districts: Chief Akre reported the next District Dinner Association meeting will be at Sonoma County Fire on July 25th, more to follow. Sonoma County Fire will also be hosting the certificate of achievement program in July. The Volunteer Firefighter Foundation is finishing up the detox program.

Vegetation Management: Steve Mosiurchak reported if anyone has issues with access roads public or private to please send him a list so he can get the chipping crews started.

Coastal Valley EMS: James reported they are establishing a working group to take a look at updating their accreditation process. June 25th Petaluma is hosting their quarterly CQI meeting. They are continuing to meet with their oversight committee.

CAL Chiefs Chief Heine reported starting July 1st is their annual membership drive. The annual conference this year will be in Costa Mesa in October. Registration is open on the Cal Chiefs website. They have been meeting with the Cal Fire director and OES director to make sure they're in good communication.

Ad-Hoc Committee Reports: None

Fire/EMS: Chief Schach reported the CFED conference was a couple weeks ago and had good attendance from the CQI and EMS people. The group currently meets once a month.

DEM: Jorge Rodriguez reported looking into fire season, if there are any indications of evacuations to please have a REDCOM page out the DEM Duty Officer to get the information going. They will be also monitoring the radio and Tablet Command.

Sonoma OP Area Up-Staffing Plan: Chief Heine reported all of the OP area coordinators are ramping up for fire season. LNU is at full staffing now with all aircraft on base. REDCOM is in summer dispatch mode now. Monday fire OP area phone calls will be starting again next week. They will be hosting a meeting with all the RDO's soon.

Please remember immediate need strike team requests need to respond immediately as if it was a 911 call. The immediate need strike team to Napa County last week that was requested took way too long to respond. If your unit has Tablet Command, please use it. There have been too many units using the radio and gumming up Radio traffic.

REDCOM: Ken reported they will be forming a couple of ad-hoc groups to talk about the operational needs and to figure out what the next steps will be for REDCOM. Gearing up for fire season.

Chief Akre added they received a formal letter from AMR exercising their 120-day termination for staffing REDCOM.

Good of the Order: None

Closed Session: None

Adjournment: @ 1030hrs

Next Meeting: July 10, 2024, at Rancho Adobe Fire 0830hrs.

Respectfully Submitted,
Daren Bellach
SCFCA Secretary