

Governor's Office of Emergency Services

California Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System Summit



Cal OES Headquarters
3650 Schriever Avenue
Mather, CA 95655

July 13, 2017, 10:00 A.M.

1.) Welcome, Introductions, Attendance ** Summit Commences @ 10:26**

Mutual Aid Summit Host: Chief Kim Zagaris

Attendees Present by Region: (*) Represents Regional Coordinator

Region I:	Region II:	Region III:	Region IV:	Region V:	Region VI:
*Daryl Osby	*Aaron McAlister	*Mike Bradley	*Dale Skiles	*Mark Johnson	*Thom Porter
Dustin Gardner	Jeff Carman	John Shalowitz	Denver Stoner	Michael Wilkinson	Kelly Zombro
Robert Espinosa	Garrett Contreras	Jeff Gilbert	Mike Schwartz	Brian Marshall	Frank Frievalt
Mark Gillespie	Willie Sapata	Joe Waterman	Jeff Meston	Nancy Koerperich	Tony Rouhotas
Mark Lorenzen	Tony Bowden	Rich Webb	Mike Walder	Jeff McLaughlin	Mark Hartwig
Jeff Bowman	Eric Nickel	Chris Thompson	Antonio Moreno		
Al Poirier	Ian Larkin	Mark Kendall	Tracey Hanson		
	Jason Weber	Greg McFadden	Josh White		
	Lewis Broschand	Phillip Anzo	Jim Bierwagon		
	Jose Velo	Gerry Gray	Gary Frederickson		
	Kris Concepcion		Steve Kovacs		
	Brennan Blue		Steve Butler		
	Geoff Belyea		Greg Schwab		
			Eric Bridge		

Additional Attendees by Department:

Cal OES:	CAL FIRE:	Federal:	Addl. B.O.D Members:
Mark Ghilarducci	Dan Johnson	Bob Baird	Lou Paulson
Kim Zagaris	Chris Rowney	Randy Skelton	Michael Shroust
Brian Woodbeck	Joe Tyler	Robin Wills	
Scott Vail	Scott Upton	Josh Simmons	
Jim Johnstone	Mike Lopez	Sam Marouk	
Cathy Johnson			
Bill Bondshu			
Joe Gear			
Kit Bailey			
Lori Lopez			

Welcome by Director Mark Ghilarducci:

I am very excited to have all of us in the same room, and at the same time for us to have great discussions on a system that is a model for the country and the world. It is always great when we can get together as an entity and serve as a one team, one fight effort to be able to address some of the concerns and issues that exist and keep the system ready and available to respond to the all-hazard disasters that we encounter. It is clear to all of us that our system does not support just wildland firefighting but we respond to all risk earthquakes, fires, floods and the like. All of you at some level have participated and have had to respond to these all hazard incidents. I thank you for all of your efforts and your participation in our mutual aid system and working hard to keep that system operational. I also know moving forward will be a challenge in the years to come with climate impacts and other issues such as increased population in California and questionable budgets where we don't know what the economy holds in store for us. It is important that we address the long term sustainability of this system. How will it function when we are all gone? The great leaders that developed the system back in the 1950's had a vision of what it would look like and now you are a leaders to carry on that vision. To them and to all of us it is very important that we work closely together to make sure that the system is sustainable moving into the future. That means we may need to address issues that we can all phase-in through our various positions. We must make sure there are adequate resources that can move in a timely fashion, and that those resources are well trained and safe.

In the end it doesn't matter from the public's perspective what color of uniform you are wearing or what patch is on your shoulder. It has to do with the fact that we are the fire service, and we are one team - one fight. Through the process we will continually have ups and downs in our discussions and have disagreements and challenges, but I can say that we always come out better and stronger from those challenges. Our current challenges are not personal. This is an issue of all of us working together for the safety of our firefighters, but also the betterment of the system so that we can address the needs of our communities. Local, State, Federal and Private Sector is a one team one fight effort.

Today is a great opportunity to talk about the issues we are facing together. It is a day where we can talk about our current challenges and how to move forward through all of our expertise. I look forward to a productive day and thank you all for what you do.

2. The State of California Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System: Past, Present, and Future (1950 and beyond)

a.) 1950's:

- Neighbor helping neighbor

b.) 1960's:

- Start of Agreements; the addition of the Cal OES engine agreement between the US forest Service, Cal FIRE and Cal OES.
- Firefighters from assisting agencies would get reimbursed \$100 a day.
- Not a lot of distant movement of resources during those early years.

c.) 1980's:

- Big movement of Mutual Aid in California. Local Government mobilizing further than they ever went before.
- Reimbursement was done on a F-42 (half a sheet)
 - Small staff at Cal OES would put it together and everyone got reimbursed.
- Other than assisting one's neighbors on Mutual Aid, few departments responded long distance without reimbursement.
- Places like Santa Barbara, Ventura, LA County, LA City and Orange County moved a lot of resources and they sometimes did that without any anticipation of reimbursement.
 - Details worked out on a phone call from Chief to Chief
 - Reimbursement got handled later down the road.

d.) Present:

- Today we have in attendance the Cal OES Fire and Rescue Advisory Board/ FIREScope Board of Directors that are the voice for the California fire service. Their advice goes to the Director, to the Legislature, and ultimately to the Governor.
- Also in attendance: The Regional Coordinators and Operational Area Coordinators.
- As well as:
 - Federal agencies in the room. (Some with permanent FIREScope positions)
 - 2 Labor Groups and 4 Fire Service Associations
 - All represent the leadership of the California Fire Service.

- Federal Agencies and Cal Fire are users of the Master Mutual Aid System (MMA). State agencies are signatory to the MMA, and federal and tribal fire agencies are not.
- State of California is signatory to the MMA and has a higher level of responsibility than any other agencies.
 - State resources may not always be available, but when they are, they will be available for the Mutual Aid System.

e.) Resource availability over the years:

- There are about 1000 to 1200 local government fire engines historically available throughout the State.
- In 2003, approx. 1160 local government fire engines moved throughout the State.
- In 2007, approx. 1150 local government fire engines moved throughout the State.
- Last 3-4 years the system barely moved 700 to 750 engines throughout the State.
- This week alone the Cal OES FDO reported that there were no additional Type 3,4,5 or 6's available in the system. They were UTF'd in the regions.
- At 418 engines we are struggling. About 100 are OES engines.
- It is becoming harder to fill engine orders.
- Example -We used to be able to get 35 strike teams out of Region II, now it is rare to get 25.

Comments/Issues/Concerns: (Overview)

- Forced Overtime is an issue.
- “The system is keeping engines away from home for longer periods of time”
- Workload has increased over the years. (ex. “In LA County EMS calls went from 140,000 EMS calls to 300,000 EMS calls in 6 years”).
- Reimbursement issues. Delays in reimbursement or non-reimbursement to Local Government.
- Workforce has changed (ex. Many Millennials prefer not to go for extended commitments or to come home sooner).

- People not volunteering like they used to and the number of paid and volunteer firefighters has reduced. (Went from 62,000 paid and volunteer firefighters to 55,000 paid and volunteer firefighters now with 1/3 of those being volunteer firefighters).
- Engines are needed to cover at their home stations for local incidents.
- “In Marin County 25% of paid staff was lost to the bigger cities. 30% drop off in number of volunteers because of primary jobs, family priorities and PTSD.”
- Getting people back to work following injury is a challenge.
- Dispatching resources between adjacent Regions/Op areas. (ex. A fire that starts in one Region yet is close to a neighboring Region. The impacted Region does not utilize the neighboring Region’s closer resources. This causes delayed response of the closest resources.)
- Reimbursement variations between the State and Federal Agencies often cause issues.
- CICC system has severely impacted volunteer agencies in gaining necessary certifications.
- Commitment levels too high with current staffing shortages.
- “Firefighters are getting exhausted by August with increased use of the mutual aid system.”
- Many within the new generation of firefighters prefer quicker rotation.
- Retirement issues –“in the next 5 years 50% of our department is eligible to retire.”
- Training is an issue. Some department can’t afford the training necessary for MA deployment.
- Staffing due to local funding is an issue.
- Shrinking budgets are an issue for the system.
- “On the Federal side there is a changing workforce. Some staff prefers to not mobilize to distant incidents and the federal fire budget is shrinking. We are being pushed to stop overpayments. Contracting with an electronic system to keep track of the reimbursements may be part of the solution. The recent letter has opened up other issues: now we are being asked about the administrative fees within the agreements.”
- “Cal OES will continue to provide resources to Federal agencies.”
- Archaic payment methods are causing delays.

- “On the Cal Fire side, there is also a change in workforce. The accountability and transparency is different than what it used to be.”

Break for Lunch @ 1217 hours.

Return from Lunch @ 1330 hours.

d.) Response to DOD Bases:

- Several years ago the DOD was asked to become a part of the CFAA but unfortunately that did not happen.
- OES reached out to the Governor’s Base Alignment Group and was asked to do a presentation on August 30th.
 - Chief Zagaris will have 30 min to speak about the Mutual Aid System.
- The current process is that most DOD bases have an agreement with local providers.
- In some cases the base will go into Unified Command with Federal partners or Cal FIRE. When that happens, the Local Government agencies then seek reimbursement through CFAA and/or seek reimbursement from the DOD.
- When the DOD Agency is not in Unified Command and there are LG Mutual Aid resources assisting, it becomes difficult to get reimbursement.
- The direction is to get the bases together and discuss the subject.
 - The direction is to have the Secretary of Defense or North-Com negotiate inclusion into the CFAA and have the DOD become part of it like the other Federal Agencies.
 - DOD currently not part of Master Mutual Aid.

Questions/Comments/Responses on Response to DOD Bases:

- What caused the old process to no longer exist which was to work through the National Forests i.e. Cleveland National Forest?
- US Forest Service Response: We provide expanded dispatch and we have agreements between the Los Padres NF and Fort Hunter Liggett, so the Forest Service has adjacent Federal partner agreements and we provide their ordering so I am not sure what the issue was.

- Sometimes the issue is it doesn't matter who is doing the ordering, but who is actually paying the bill. What I gathered is that you are not always in Unified Command with DOD when they have incidents in their jurisdictions. In some cases, when a particular DOD jurisdiction is not in Unified Command, the DOD is not paying the invoices. It all comes down to why a non-DOD agency should spend its emergency fund for something that it's not involved in other than the ordering.
- US Forest Service Response: "For the fire at Vandenberg we were not in Unified Command, but we were supporting the incident. It was not connected to the Forest, so it was their issue and what they lacked was a larger agreement. Those DOD installations are becoming aware of that and are being surprised. I have the list of the bills and I have 2.5 million that are not going to get paid, and the DOD bills are on that list. We are not going to pay DOD bills through CFAA. If people are submitting it they are not going to get paid, so there might be some confusion. We need to straighten that out with the Local Cooperative Agreements and then have the Financial Agreements in place. We can help with developing the solution. "
- I can't imagine that the DOD is not going to pay a bill that they are responsible for. It is all about the language. I know San Diego City Fire and Rescue already invoiced Camp Pendleton for a fire in May.
- As the Operational Area Coordinator for Monterrey, we deal a lot with Fort Hunter Liggett and I simply make a phone call to the LP who is the ordering point and I ask what the financial code is for this because it is not going to be Master Mutual Aid and they hash that out and give us the number. It has been working for us for years. I am unsure if it more difficult in other areas.
- Unfortunately, we were told that the Cleveland NF could not handle these bills any longer and there are no agreements beyond that.
- Maybe that can be a recommendation to discuss with the Cleveland NF.

3. Fire Service Task Force on Climate Impacts meeting:

a.) Climate Task Force:

- Funding source is an issue for some Blue Ribbon items that are priorities.
- Some of the Blue Ribbon items were placed on the budget change proposal last year, but we got some resistance from the Senate. We will try to get some of those items through this coming year.
- The Climate Task Force is going to need a lot of support for budget items, because they are not going to happen very easy due to the stressed budget.

- The request for the Climate Task Force is for them to get word through the Director to the Governor's Office. There is a belief that this 13 year old document is no longer appropriate but the truth is that this document continues to be as appropriate today as it was in 2004.
- The Climate Task Force needs our support as a group. Anytime something comes up specifically having to do with funding and when Cal OES goes through their budget process and when the Senate Staffers call this document outdated and unnecessary, we say to them that OES in fact does need apparatus.
- The Fire Service Climate Task Force Group meets every month. The meeting minutes are available on the website.
 - 26 agencies are represented in the group.

b.) Drought and Tree Mortality:

- Local, State and Federal Agencies have been dealing with drought issues for the last five years.
- The Tree Mortality Task Force continues to operate under the Governor's executive order from 2015. (The TF includes Agencies at all levels including utilities and others).
- The Tree Mortality Task Force continues to move resources and evaluate the tree mortality spread.
- The USFS completed a survey with the Tree Mortality Task Force and there was snow covering the high elevations and the wet weather and the mortality rate is not progressing or not observable yet. (There will be more surveys coming up).
- Discussion of Insurance issues and challenges due to the public safety threat of these trees falling. Many Insurances companies do not want to underwrite policies.
- Working on regulatory relief such as providing funding for licensed timber operators in order to get a full workforce out there.
- Cal Trans is considering the use of the dead material of the Ponderosa Pine for guard rail and sign posts on State Highways. (Cal Trans is currently going through an evaluation to determine the tensile strength to determine if it will be appropriate to use)
- Current issue is what to do with all the dead material. There is no current process to dispose or utilize all the material.

- The Tree Mortality Task Force meets every month.

c.) Blue Ribbon Recommendations:

- Some of the priority Blue Ribbon recommendations are as follows:
 - The Commission recommends that Federal, State, and Local fire agencies implement 4-0 staffing for all fire engine companies responding to OES Mutual Aid calls for immediate and/or planned response, and set a goal of 4-0 staffing for WUI initial attack response.
 - The Commission recommends that sufficient funds be allocated to state and local fire agencies to address California's fire prevention and suppression needs. (Chief Eric Peterson from Santa Barbara County Fire is working on this particular issue)
 - The Commission recommends that the state develop a program to fund the acquisition of 150 additional OES fire engines and the requisite logistical support necessary to address California's fire suppression needs. (We have attempted and are continuing to work on these items through the Department of Finance, the Governor's Office, the CA Legislature and our internal budget where we can.)
 - The Commission recommends that CDF/OSFM develop and maintain an adequately funded P.O.S.T. type standards program. This includes a training and education program to ensure that trained and qualified personnel are prepared to respond to major events. This system should support the use of the California Incident Command Certification System (CICCS) and incorporate the Fire Officer Certification process approved by the State Board of Fire Services. (Chief Meston is working on this item.)
 - The Commission recommends that state funds be provided to each Operational Area to hold annual wildland fire suppression training exercises that includes National Guard and Federal Military resources. Funding should also be made available by the state to improve the training level of small fire departments. (Chief Fennessy from San Diego City Fire is working on this item).
 - Camp Pendleton provides great support to the annual Fire School for personnel in the area. (Personnel from San Diego, Orange, and LA basin come together for that training).
 - Fort Hunter Liggett is another great place that provides support.
 - Cal Fire does a good job of getting the California National Guard aviation assets trained. (Training starts on Friday goes through Sunday).

- Cal Fire also does training with Camp Pendleton during May-June.
- The Commission recommends that the State implement a research and development working group within FIRESCOPE to explore emerging technologies for firefighting purposes (e.g. military technology, GPS, Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), Operational Area Satellite Information System (OASIS). (Chief Peterson currently is working on this).
 - FIRESCOPE has formed an Emerging Information Technology Specialist Group. They are working on and supporting programs such as SCOUT (Situational Awareness Tool), the use of Drones/UAS in the fire service etc.
- The Commission recommends that each engine crew and chief officer have the capability to communicate effectively across multiple frequency bands. (Chief Brian Marshall is working on this item.)
- The Commission recommends that the State update and expand current handheld and mobile radios to be utilized on major mutual aid incidents as a short-term, temporary solution to the interoperability problem. (Chief Brian Marshall is working on this item.)

Questions/Comments/Responses:

- On-going funding issue for Blue Ribbon recommendations.
- There has been significant progress with the communications equipment provided by Homeland Security Grant funds.
- Homeland Security is reducing the grant funds available to State and Local Agencies.
- One reason why cuts are being made to grant funds is that many Local and State entities are not spending their grants in a timely manner.

4. **Blue Ribbon Fire Commission Report:**

a.) Report:

- The Blue Ribbon Fire Commission was formed to identify lessons learned from the disastrous 2003 Fire Siege and provide recommendations to correct the identified issues. The Commission was made up of Local, State, and Federal Officials including elected and fire service leaders.

- There was a 2005 update on the progress towards the recommendations and another update in 2008.
- The documents that aren't dealt with will at some point become irrelevant and history is bound to repeat itself.
- We will possibly not accomplish all of the goals set by the recommendations of the Commission, but we should be able to accomplish additional goals in the next couple of years.
- Chief Zagaris will send out an email with all the links related to it.

Questions/Comments/Responses:

- Buying more apparatus? After hearing comments in several meetings over time, I rarely hear that we don't have enough apparatus to cover our incident needs. I hear that we are running out of personnel to staff apparatus on mutual aid requests. I am wondering if there has been any assessment from the Blue Ribbon Commission regarding this question. I have not heard comments of not having enough apparatus. Just a thought.
- I am only speaking for my organization, but we normally run out of resources before we run out of bodies, so we try to get every piece of rolling stock that we can responding and we still have people volunteering to come into work. We do run out of resources. Maybe we should have a survey and make a report.
- We have sent out surveys before and have not received a lot of feedback. We do need to hear back from all agencies in order to collect data and make sure we are getting the information needed to make sound recommendations to the policy makers.
- For Region III - OES is having a hard time finding homes for engines and my personal opinion is where they find homes for them there is no net gain because it takes the Local Government's first response engine out of play and the total number of engines doesn't increase. It is due to the staffing shortages.
- Type VI engines, particularly in the north, with limited staffing levels might also be a really good resource. That is a tool that would be valuable to us when we think about apparatus.
- Is the water tender discussion in the fleet resolved or still on the table?
- The 12 water tenders that we have are not getting utilized in the system as much as was anticipated. A lot of the water tenders do not see much mutual aid time and it is hard to justify and provide water tenders when they are not moving in the system.

- Again, staffing is the issue for us. I know with Cal Fire since the Pete Wilson administration we are down 80 engine companies from the cut backs to staffing. We need to hire the firefighters first and then provide the engines to go along with it.
- We do distinguish between a Local Government owned and OES owned. If we accept an OES engine, the expectation is that the OES unit will go out regardless of our staffing shortages, so if it is requested, that OES resource will be sent. That probably goes along the line with if someone is going to accept an OES engine they don't have the option of turning it down. That might be the reason for having a hard time finding OES engines a home.
- The current direction is to finish buying the 20 additional Type III's and then move on to providing Type VI's. One of things I am hearing from some of the rural areas is that they would like to receive an OES Type VI and staff that unit with two. They would then be able to respond to assist the system. If that was to happen, FIRESCOPE would have to make another decision based on safety to be able to staff only two people on a Type VI. Currently the minimum requirement is 3 personnel on Type VI's and we only allow staffing of two on water tenders.

5. California Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System staffing challenges:

a.) Additional issues or concerns reference staffing challenges that have not been discussed:

- Can't cross staff units with more than one agency on the OES side. I know it comes down to rate differences between agencies and all the paperwork. Did we ever get a formal answer on that issue?
 - We do need to address the issue to help us get more resources out.
- I know this would be difficult with paperwork, but how about having a one week deployment as compared to two weeks?
 - In the CFAA it discusses 7 day minimum deployment and what we have done over time to make it easier is the 14 day cycle. The rotation has become a significant issue just doing the paperwork process for CFAA. There is a process in place that we are trying to complete to try to reduce the workload in particular not only at the incidents but also in the OCC's that have to document all this.
 - I do not mind the 7 day rotation.
 - On the Federal side the 14 day cycle is not a problem.
- We have to take into account the possibility of PTSD in our firefighters. There is more to this than paperwork, there is much more thought that needs to be put into the longevity issue.

6. Dispatch Program:

a.) FirstNet:

- FirstNet is another tool for us.
- Public Safety Assistant Director Pat Mallon from Cal OES is the State point of contact for FirstNet.
- The 911 side is constantly managing the network.
- Ensuring that Next Generation is going to be compatible with the digital infrastructure.
- There will be a CAD interphase that will make information travel for you and the spectrum itself.
- FirstNet was awarded to AT&T.
- AT&T is bringing all their existing infrastructure and expertise to the program to take advantage of this 20 megahertz of spectrum that is key to first responders.
- FirstNet is offering their services and the decision will be based on the Governor's direction.
- All information from FirstNet and AT&T is posted on the website www.caloes.ca.gov/CalFRN
- The Members of the California Board (Cal FRN) are giving the Director a recommendation on all changes to the State Plan.
- FirstNet hired a consultant Scott Andrews. (Scott Andrews is our State Representative)
- AT&T is giving their entire network to the package (priority, existing spectrum, and 20 megahertz of spectrum, hot spots, and everything they already have rolls over).
- Each California agency has the choice whether to subscribe or not subscribe
- The guarantee that we have with FirstNet is priority for; Fire, Law, Emergency Management, and EMS over all other users.
- AT&T will use the existing network and expand to Band 14. No waiting for band 14 since we will have access their existing band.
- If the Governor opts in, we have a date of December 17 for initial deployment. Primary users will be the priority right away.
- Saturation will be alleviated because we will have access to the entire spectrum
- Local Control is an area that we are still discussing. Trying to figure out a solution for the State of California and come back with a recommendation.
- One of the functionalities is that one can give priority status to another member for 48 hours.

Things that are still work in progress:

- Local Control Device Management
- PSAP-Issue of Application Program Interphase.
- CLETS- Work in progress with the Department of Justice.
- Devices- working on what type of devices you will need.

State Plan:

- Draft State Plan so when it goes to the Governor for approval to Opt In or Opt Out, we have resolved all issues.

- Cal FRN trying to meet everyone's needs.
- Cal OES making recommendations to the Governor.
- Collecting all comments and feedback from the field to present to Director Ghilarducci by August 4th.
- AT&T and FirstNet will modify the State Plan they gave us and they want 45 days to do that.
- We expect a Final State Plan from AT&T and FirstNet by September.
- The governor has 90 days after the Final State Plan is presented to make a decision to either Opt In or Opt Out.

Items that are being taken into consideration to provide service:

- Coverage (major item)
- Network; sufficient deployables, cybersecurity, and architecture.
- Cost
- Functionality
- Easy Training
- Apps
- Multiple Devices

Upcoming outreach meetings:

- You are welcome to send a representative and ask questions.
- Next upcoming meetings in; Atwater, Redding, San Luis Obispo, Sacramento.

Open Conversation: Questions/Comments/ Issues:

The National Association of Firefighters have some blanket issues. We transmitted a letter to the Governor's office with the concerns for the fire service. Are those getting incorporated into the draft process or do we have to send a separate letter?

The answer is Yes, I did get a copy of that letter. We incorporated some of the concerns you have and we appreciate you bringing those forward to us and allowing us to get feedback.

If the State opts-in is there a projection in relation to when the system will be operational?

Opting in will allow you to start right away. AT&T will switch over and make that available for any user who chooses to subscribe. Opting out of the process will be to solicit an RFP from say Verizon if they decided to bid for it; they would have to develop an RFP and it would have to be evaluated to determine if it's better than the AT&T Plan. If it's not then we opt back in. The timeline with the Governor after opting-in or opting-out is initially 180 days or 270 days total to come in with another plan. An Opt-out decision will push us back further from that timeline.

T-Band is still staying right?

I believe that is correct.

AT&T still has a lot of areas that do not have coverage, including many rural areas. There needs to be a lot more conversation about this before coming to an agreement.

Their commitment on a 5 year build up is that you get the existing infrastructure that comes right away and then they are doing a build out for other areas to provide service to our devices. Then put as many agreements as possible in place. That's the 5 year plan. It's a 25 year commitment from them ultimately so there will be continuous build out, but we are focusing on the 5 year plan.

I find it very concerning. Is there a way to sit down and look at coverage maps? I'm a metropolitan Chief but I also have rural area responsibilities too. I do know there are a lot of areas that T-Band doesn't work right now. So it is hard for us to feel comfortable to switch over.

The reality is if the coverage is not there, then it doesn't become a functional device for you to subscribe to. That has to be proven or it's not going to work for you. I can tell you what they are proposing. AT&T did bring the coverage maps to show the build out for the 5 year plan. There are some areas especially in the canyons that are not covered in the LA County. I also received feedback from some people saying that the areas in the marketing coverage maps that are showing coverage are not really covered, but this is a challenge that we would have with any provider.

I am confused about what opt-in means, because it may opt in the State but not necessarily the Local Government? That is going to be based on coverage and affordability?

To opt-in is solely a Governors choice to accept the AT&T plan. If that happens, we get the final plan and AT&T proposes to improve its service area. Everything else after that is the subscriber's decision so that every town, city, or department chooses whether they want to subscribe or not subscribe and pay for that device capability.

b.) IAFC Mutual Aid Net:

- Currently the State Mutual Aid System does not pay for ROSS. ROSS is free for the system yet it has many problems. We are currently researching alternatives.
- A system being used currently in 27 or 28 States is IAFC Mutual Aid Net.
- ROSS currently not the easiest or expedited system and not matching the new generation work force.
- Mutual Aid Net although it is being used in more than 25 other states, and it is not written in new code and is still based off an old code. Currently IAFC is working with WebEOC, Intermedix and ESRI to update Mutual Aid Net.
- We need new generation technology.
- We will have a discussion with FIRESCOPE reference the alternative system.

- We have to see what ROSS is going to offer when they switch to IROC
- ROSS is going away and being replaced with IROC.
- IROC taking all lessons learned and looking into how to status resources on a phone, PC's, and tablets. Going to have better data standards, making sure IROC connects to CAD Systems.
- What ROSS lacked when it was developed was a good voice to represent the California Fire Service and we have one now with Suzie Stingley. She came out of California from North Ops.
- The IROC Team spent 2 weeks traveling through the State to provide an overview of the plan and receive input from end users. They visited multiple centers.
- IROC is taking into consideration all of California's fire service needs.
- Attempting to make IROC affordable to connect to Cad System.

7. California Fire Assistance Agreement (CFAA):

a.) Where do we go?

- A copy of the CFAA agreement has been provided to all in attendance.
- We should have a conversation on what is working and what is not.
 - We are working on the reimbursement issue

Open Conversation: Recommendations/Comments/ Issues:

- Deployment time line, resource capabilities, staffing issues, reimbursement, cap and trade are the major issues that should be addressed. We can't continue to have these exceptionally active fire seasons and not address these long standing multi-year concerns of how agencies are going to interact when it comes to Mutual Aid. We need to get on the same page and clean it up.
- "We have to take care of our firefighters and provide them some shade when assigned to resting areas."
- Regarding ordering resources based on current agreements: Chief Officers must have an understanding of how the response and cost share agreements interrelate and how to order resources appropriately. .
- Lack of commitment from the US Forest Service to meet the timeline that is outlined in the CFAA is an issue.

- US Forest Service advising some payments were not submitted until 2 years later. There have been submission errors as well.
- Possibility of Local Government only doing CFAA and not local agreements with Forest Service due to having too many issues with reimbursement.
- We need to look into the possibility of going into an electronic system for reimbursement.
- Recommendation given to have effective communication by having the Federal Government and Local Government meet and discuss the issues. There is a need to improve relationships between all agencies in the California Fire Service.
- Local Governments are considering not sending units to assist Federal Fires if payment issues do not get sorted out.
- Clarification- Not all Federal fires are US Forest Service. Other Federal Agencies have different pay policies and are in good standing.
- Recommendation- Have all Strike Team Leaders and Trainees attend annual refreshers and if they don't comply, take them out of ROSS.
- Recommendation for everyone to review and understand the CFAA agreement.

8. Cal OES Fire and Rescue Fleet:

a.) Fleet:

- OES Type III's are being widely requested. The plan is to continue to increase that fleet.
- Additional OES Mobile Command Units have been ordered.
- OES has 113 Type I's, 40 Type III's, 12 Water Tenders, and 12 Hazmat Rigs.

Open Conversation; Recommendations/Comments/ Issues:

- Suggestion for a resolution on Water Tender under usage. Have OES Water Tenders automatically respond with an OES Strike Team and change the response to a Task Force.
- Recommendation for future replacement to consider increasing the number of Type III's instead of Type VI's.

9. Adjourn: Director Ghilarducci:

a.) Closing Comments:

- This is the first time a Statewide Mutual Aid System Summit has been called.

- Recommendation to meet yearly and discuss issues and the Mutual Aid System.

Open Conversation; Recommendations/Comments/ Issues:

- Moving forward – recommend each Summit attendee bring their successor that has more than 5 years left in their leadership career so there is a solid transition and benefit to the system.

b.) Director Ghilarducci Closing Comments:

It is important that we are not here a year from now speaking about the same issues otherwise we have failed. Let's get past this and work through the issues for the sustainability of this system. To get all the State of California Fire Service leadership in one room and discuss the issues whether we all agree or not, is a good first step. We must make progress on the many critical topics discussed today to improve the Mutual Aid System. I believe everyone has a commitment to improve the best system in the world. My challenge to everyone is to work through the issues and never look back. We have to keep moving forward and looking towards the future. Each of you is responsible for the sustainability of the system and this is your legacy. Let's continue to build a system that will last well into the future.

I am extremely proud of all the work you all do and I'm honored to live and work in California. I am lucky to do it with you and regardless if it is the LA County Fire Chief, Sutter County Fire Chief, or a volunteer Fire Chief in Alpine County, all they have to do is make one request and the system will respond to help that Chief's agency. We have to work through all the details and the money and it is certainly a challenge, but ultimately we never forget that the Fire Chief in Alpine County is counting on all of us to support his threatened community. I want to thank you all and keep moving forward as "one team one fight".

Meeting Adjourned 1354 hours.