



**FIRESCOPE OPERATIONS TEAM  
Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, January 24, 2023  
1300-1700

Wednesday, January 25, 2023  
0830-1700

Santa Barbara County Fire Department

**Welcome/Roll Call**

Kendall

Members Present: Operations Team

Skelton (USFS)	Johnstone (OES)	Minton (NPD)
Zipperman (LFD)	Gerboth (SND)	Kendall (CalFire)
Bachmeyer (Volunteer FD)	O'Brien (LAC)	Heggstrom (Mutual Aid III)
Walder (WMR)		

Others Present: Task Force & Specialist Groups

Gerboth (SND)	D'Arcy (SFR)	Petty (SFM)
Johnson (OES)	Spelman (Cal Fire)	Rezende (SND)
Huff (SBC)	Serrano (BDC)	Horton (VNC)

**Welcome, Introductions, and Logistics – Kendall/Stornetta**

**\*Agenda Review - Kendall**

**\*December 2022 Ops Team Meeting Minutes Review/Approval – Kendall**

Unanimous Approval

## **Nominations & Election of Ops Team Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary - Kendall**

- Chief Kendall – Chair
- Chief O'Brien – Vice-Chair
- Chief Gerboth – Secretary
- Unanimous Ops Team approval for each position

## **Task Force Report - Spelman**

- **Task Force Report** – Spelman
  - Recognition for Assistant Chief Dave Gerboth's movement to the Ops Team. He will be replaced on the Task Force by Battalion Chief Robert Rezende from San Diego Fire-Rescue Department, representing Large Cities South.
  - The following Task Force members have been elected to fill two-year terms:
    - Brook Spelman, Chair, CAL FIRE
    - Jason Serrano, Vice-Chair, San Bernardino County Fire Dept.
    - Robert Rezende, Secretary, San Diego Fire-Rescue Dept.

## **\*FIRESCOPE Quarterly Briefing – Quarter 4 2023 – Spelman**

Unanimous approval

- **\*2022 FOG Manual and App Update** - Johnstone
  - Sales are ahead of the 2017 release numbers.
  - FOG phone app is active and free to download and use.
  - FOG prices have increased to \$15 per copy.
  - May not have physical copies printed of the FOG in the future.
- **\*Draft EIT Personnel Tracking Survey** – Spelman
  - The EIT subcommittee was tasked to create a personnel tracking survey by the BoD.
  - The survey was discussed in the last three meetings.
- **\*Critical Incident Stress Lead (CISL) task book** – Spelman
  - Discussion
- **Civil Disturbance Project Update (EMS Subcommittee)** - Spelman
  - Discussion
- **Comms Subcommittee – Annual 441-1 Update** – Spelman
  - Discussion

## **Subcommittee Chair Annual Reports – Spelman**

- The chairs from each subcommittee discussed projects they are currently working on.

## **Old Business**

- **\*FIREScope 2023 Plan of Work** – Johnstone
  - Review and discussion of the 2023 FIREScope POW.
- **\*MACS 410-4 By-Laws Review** – Johnstone/Kendall/O'Brien/Gerboth
  - Review and discussion of the updated by-laws.
- **\*SB 450 – Background/Review/Intent** – Walder
  - Passed and went into effect January 1, 2023.
  - Part of Proposition 19. Approved in 2020.
  - Implements the fire prevention and response funding portion of proposition 19.
  - Requires that OES administer the Special District Response Fund.
  - Cal OES with the FIREScope BoD will:
    - Develop a standard application form.
    - Establish an annual timeline to apply for grants.
    - Employ strategies to ensure that underfunded special districts that provide fire protection services are aware of the availability of the fund.
    - Establish reporting requirements for grant recipients.
    - Develop metrics for consideration of grant applications, as specified.
  - Right now, there is no application or funding. Every year on June 30<sup>th</sup> the Department of Finance will project the proposition 19 money that will go into the fund.

## **New Business**

- **NIMS Integration Committee – I-Chiefs/FIREScope Rep - Gerboth**
  - ICT Guide delayed.
  - AHIMTA meeting March 5-9, 2023.
  - Updating National Mutual Aid Guide.
  - NCG in April postponed.
- **Discussion – Movement of annual January TF/OPS Team Meeting to December**
  - Discussed moving the TF/Ops Team meeting to early December.  
Approved

- Subcommittee submission of Charters, Rosters and Plans of Work to be completed by December 1<sup>st</sup> annually.
- No venue selected yet. Possibly in the south.
- **Haz Mat Team Staffing Update** - Spelman
  - Subcommittee currently looking at our staffing standards vs. FEMA's.
  - Discussion item put on the agenda for the April BoD.
- **All Hazard Type III IMT Update** – Stornetta
  - October 25 - 26, 2022 large meeting in Solvang.
  - Anthony Stornetta from Santa Barbara County Fire is the Chair.
  - Dan McNamara from San Ramon Valley FPD is the Vice-Chair.
  - Brian Glass from Santa Clara County Fire is the Secretary.
  - Dave Barnett (retired) is the Training Rep.
  - Google Sheets account set up with training needs and other information.
  - Nine teams are currently available. Rostered and ready to respond.
  - Will be updating Ops Bulletin #43.
  - Recently staffed for prepositions twice.
  - California AHIMT deployments were 39.
  - Succession planning and recruiting is a priority.
  - Discussed group strategic goals.
  - All-Hazards Incident Management Teams Association Symposium will be held March 1-8, 2023 at the Hyatt Regency in Long Beach.
- **April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 California Mutual Aid Summit** – Cook
  - The California Mutual Aid Summit will be held the day before the April BoD in Ventura. Agenda forthcoming.
- **\* Ops Team Confidential Roster Review** – Johnstone
  - Reviewed the confidential roster.
  - Also requested that members submit their photos and bios for the roster on the website.
  - Email Chief Johnstone with updates.
- **CICCS & Complex Incident Management Team Update** – Vail
  - Had a meeting yesterday with NWCG.
  - Wiped out the pathway for Type II teams. Conflicts with CICCS.
  - Had a CICCS Task Force meeting January 18<sup>th</sup> to begin the rewrite of the 2022 version that was just approved.
  - CIM is moving faster than we can keep up. Still looking at 2024.
  - Type I and Type II will remain in IROC for a while. We aren't changing any of our Emergency Management positions.
  - CIM rotation starting in 2024. Will stay the same as it is this year.
  - CAL FIRE and FEMA aren't changing their qualification systems.
  - Will probably discuss this at the BoD in February.
  - Waiting on some significant documents to come out from NWCG.

- **FIRESCOPE History Project Update – Vail**
  - Chief Vail discussed the FIRESCOPE History Project details.
  - Asked the members if they have any documents to submit to the project.
  - For the full report, refer to your meeting document packet.

## Updates and Reports

- Cal OES – Johnstone
  - New Director, Nancy Ward.
  - New Northern Operations Chief, Sam Marouk.
  - New Fire & Rescue ESF 4, State Operations Center, OES AC Rob Scott
  - OES Appreciates all the agencies that helped with the recent floods. Record number of prepositions.
- Cal Fire – Kendall
  - Staff working on the budget.
  - Continuing focus on fuels work up and down the state.
  - A lot of focus has been put on the Fire Hazard Severity Zone and the public comments. Process is ongoing.
  - Busy the last two weeks with mission tasks. A lot of work went into supporting local governments.
  - Predicting a very busy fire season due to all the rain.
- USFS/DOI – Skelton/Goss

### USFS

- Announced last week the Wildfire Crisis Strategy adding an additional two landscapes in California. That's a total seven priority landscapes. The regions are looking into how to approach those priority landscapes. Hopefully in an interagency manner.
- Looking to build capacity in fuels program across the 18 forests in California.
- No change in aircraft from last year.
- Resource wise, had two in person hiring events this week. Waiting to hear what the numbers look like.
- Hot shot crews may have some fluctuation between Type I to Type II IA based on hiring.
- South Ops cache is understaffed. Lack of labor workers.
- Randy Skelton announced his retirement last week for February 24, 2023.

## DOI

- New BLM State Fire Director, Peter Kelly from Fish & Wildlife. He and Scott Lucas are transitioning. Scott Lucas will be retiring at the end of February.
- Working on the re-classification of Technician Wildland Firefighting series.
- Work continues regarding the long term plan for Firefighter pay. Funding runs out September of this year for the retention bonuses.
- Lots of work being done on the Type III pathways. Trying to bridge the gap to CIM.
- Will share a link regarding what NWCG is doing on the multiple pathway conversions.
- Inflation Reduction Act new funding source.

## NPS

- Small workforce.
- Finding ways to best place assets, equipment, and personnel.
- Have vacancies like other federal partners. Looking at locations that they haven't been able to recruit in.
- Regional Office vacancy for Regional Aviation Manager.
- State Fire Training – Petty
  - Chief Richwine retired at the end of last year. Daniel Berlant is filling in until a replacement is found.
  - With the promotion of Andrew Henning. There is a vacancy for Division Chief of State Fire Training. Hoping to have it filled in spring.
  - Retirement of the Rescue System Series.
  - Rope Rescue Awareness and Operations/Rope Rescue Technician will replace them.
  - New Structural Collapse Specialist I & II courses.
  - Changes made to reflect the rest of the nation. If sent out of state.
  - Going through Pro Board Reaccreditation in spring of this year.
  - Will be some changes to the Firefighter's curriculum.
  - View the website to be aware of any changes.
  - New training to go through STEAC. Home Ignitions and Defensible Space curriculum based on AB 38.
  - Maritime Firefighting for the Land Based Firefighter will be heard at State Board Fire Services next month. Goes live March 2023.
  - Incident Safety for the Agricultural Land and Lifestyle Producers will also be heard at State Board of Fire Services. Goes live March 2023.
  - STEAC meeting for first read of Firefighter Survival and Firefighter Rescue and RIC Operations was this month. Go live is May 2023.
  - Receiving many Curriculum proposals.

- Behavioral Health and Cancer Awareness curriculum will be revisited in 2024.
  - Currently not accepting DocuSign.
  - New Instagram is @CALFIRE\_StateFireTraining. Courses and hiring.
- NFPA – Neamy
  - No report.

### **Next Board of Director's Meeting**

February 23, 2023

Virtual

April 5 & 6, 2023

Ventura County Fire Department

### **Next Ops Team Meeting**

June 7 & 8, 2023

San Francisco Fire Department

### **Roundtable**

**Adjourned 1705 on Day 1**

**Adjourned 1135 on Day 2**

\*Denotes shared documents to be discussed