

# FIRESCOPE BOARD MEETING MINUTES



**DATE:** Wednesday, January 8, 2020  
Thursday, January 9, 2020  
**TIME:** 1330 PM January 8, 2020  
08:30 AM January 9, 2020  
**LOCATION:** South Ops

## Call to Order

A FIRESCOPE Board of Director's meeting was held on Wednesday, January 8, 2020, and Thursday, January 9, 2020, at 23300 Castle St., Riverside, CA.92518. The meeting began at 1330 hours on January 8, 2020, and at 0830 hours on January 9, 2020. It was presided over by Chief Brian Fennessy.

## Attendees

### Voting members in attendance included:

Brian Fennessy, FIRESCOPE Vice-Chair, Orange County Fire Authority  
Brain Marshall, Executive Coordinator, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES  
Thom Porter, CALFIRE  
David Witt, Kern County Fire Department  
Al Poirier, *representing*, Los Angeles City FD  
Mark Hartwig, Santa Barbara County Fire Dept.  
Bob Baird USDA Forest Service  
Mark Lorenzen, Ventura County Fire Department  
Scott Lucas, Bureau of Land Management  
Tony Bowden, County Fire Depts. North  
Colin Stowell, City Fire Depts. South  
Rich Webb, Fire Districts North  
Robin Wills, National Park Service  
Mike Richwine, State Fire Marshal  
Jeff Gilbert, Volunteer Fire Departments

### Members not in attendance included:

Daryl Osby, FIRESCOPE Chair, Los Angeles County Fire Department  
Vacant, Fire Districts South  
Vacant, Fire Districts North  
Brian Rice, CPF  
Mike Shrou California State Firefighters' Association

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### Guests in attendance included:

Jim Johnstone, FIRESCOPE, Cal OES  
Cathy Johnson, FIRESCOPE, Cal OES  
Yesenia Serafin, FIRESCOPE, Cal OES  
Shelley Dorsey, FIRESCOPE, Cal OES  
Art Torrez, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES  
Lori Lopez, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES  
Joy Budnovich, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES  
David Stone, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES  
John Salvate, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES  
Larry Collins, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES  
Kim Zagaris, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES  
Pete Mercado, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES  
Jeff Adams, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES  
Mike Lococo, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES  
Randy Unkovich, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES  
Mark Ghilarducci, Cal OES  
Chris Mitchell, Cal OES  
Shawn Newman, CAL FIRE  
Mike Wilson, CAL FIRE  
Dan Johnson, CAL FIRE  
Carlos Calvillo, Los Angeles Fire Department  
Graham Everett, Los Angeles Fire Department  
Jeff Logan, Orange County Fire Authority  
Jay Barkman, Orange County Fire Authority  
Colleen Windsor, Orange County Fire Authority  
Joel Lane, Orange County Fire Authority  
Sean Fraley, Kern County Fire Department  
Brian Rhodes, U.S. Forest Service  
Tim McHargue, Colton Fire Department  
Shanna Kuempel, Santa Clara County Fire Department  
Lorenzo Gigliotti, Apple Valley Fire Protection District  
Tim Werle, Los Angeles City Fire Department  
David Richardson, Los Angeles County Fire Department  
Ray Gayle, Ontario Fire Department  
William Stamper, Riverside City Fire Department  
Mike Minton, Nation Park Service  
Jessica Block, UC San Diego  
Ilkay Altintas, UC San Diego  
Kaitlin Klaustermeier, Boston Consulting Group

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Daniel Acosta, Boston Consulting Group

Joao Maciel, Boston Consulting Group

Kristi Mercado, First Net

C. Thomas Jacobs, California Public Utility Commission

## Approval of Previous Minutes\*

A motion to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2019 meeting.

- Made by Stowell
- Seconded by Witt.
- Motion approved.

## RECOGNITION

**Presentation of Appreciation Chief Marshall and Chief Fennessey.**

Retirement

- Rich Webb - FIRESCOPE City North member

## Cal OES Director's Update

**Cal OES Director's Report was presented by Director Ghilarducci.**

- The Governor has a Strong and aggressive support package outlined.
  - Budget:
    - Technology for fire cameras
    - Larger tankers
    - Additional helicopters
    - Additional staffing to fill in gaps.
  - In addition to AB 111, \$50 million toward California Public Utilities. Used to hold them more accountable. Wildlife Safety Commission of the PUC to streamline the regulatory process.
  - PSPS possibly the most challenging item dealt with. Legislators are motivated.
  - Governor is proposing \$1 billion go to local governments to address homelessness.
  - AB 38 wildfire mitigation financial assistance program. \$110 million put into a grant program. Designed for local government to work with the state. Home hardening program.
  - SB 209 was passed last year to establish a Wildfire Forecast and Threat Intelligence Integration Center. Includes \$9 million and personnel for OES, CalFire, PUC and the Military Department.
  - Through OES an additional \$50 million in grants to local governments for PSPS events.

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- Additional \$25 million this year for repositioning. Will have long term funding.
- Additional \$17.5 million for the maintenance and management of the California Earthquake Early Warning System.
- At least 50 new positions in OES across the organization. Fire will get the benefit of some of them. Available later in the year.
- Seismic Safety Commission will be coming over to OES in 2020.
- S.C.O.U.T. Program is funded. New contractor working on it currently. Should be fully operational statewide in 2020. S.C.O.U.T. 2.0 contract being finalized.

### Cal OES Fire and Rescue Report

**Cal OES report was presented by Chief Marshall.**

- **Repositioning:**
  - Has been in effect for over a year. 18 million has been spent on repositioning this fiscal year.
  - Backfilling repositioning resources to maintain coverage.
  - 126 requests received last year for repositioning.
    - 103 fire-weather
    - 22 mud and debris
    - One denied
  - During the October fire siege, repositioning was used 64 times across the state. Regions 1 and 2 did the most.
  - Looking at how repositioning interacts with CAL FIRE.
  - AB74 Report
    - We will have to go before the Legislature to continue to receive \$25 million in funding.
  - Census 2020 (Phase 1)
    - Inventory of where fire resources are.
    - Fire stations.
    - How many engines, ladder trucks etc...
    - Staffing
    - Information to be put into GIS format and put on the map. Data will be available to everyone.
    - Ability to see what coverage is like in California.
    - Census should be available next week.
- **SB209:**
  - Development of the California Wildfire Forecast and Threat Intelligence Integration Center.
  - Collaborative effort between Agencies.

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- Coordinated effort to take in weather products for predicting fire weather and push it out across the state.
- Additional Meteorologist in the budget.
- Intel Mobilization Center approved by Legislature for OES Fire and Rescue Center. Purpose is Integration of technology and the dissemination of information. \$9 million in funding for the first year.
- National Guard will be a part of the Wildfire Forecast and Threat Intelligence Integration Center.
- Fire Apparatus:
  - 79 Type VI's at HME under construction. Delivery in July 2020.
  - New OES Water Tanker should be in California this week. Replacing Water Tanker 12.
  - Seven engines ordered each year as part of a replacement plan for Type I engines.
  - 27 Type III's are under construction at BME. Two are close to being finished.
    - Five going to Region 1.
    - One to Region 3.
    - Finalizing the rest.

### CAL FIRE/SFM/SFT Update

**CAL FIRE update was presented by Chief Dan Johnson.**

- Working group:
  - Group has been formed.
- Treatment Goals:
  - 5,600 fires last year and 130,000 acres. Year before last, 6,000 fires and 800,000 acres.
  - Weather did some good last year.
- Resources:
  - Staffing 65 engines year round. Immediate 24/7 engines that can be moved anywhere in the state.
  - Four helicopters across the state with rescue capabilities.
  - Two crews at every camp for weekends. Normal weekday staffing.
  - Losing inmates. Numbers are down. More bills coming to release more inmates.
  - Fuels crews are working across the state.
  - 45 day 35 projects were very successful.
  - 130 aircrafts have been a challenge and are time consuming. Belong to the military and have to be transferred back and forth. Expect the first to be flying and dropping summer of 2021. All should be up and flying by 2024.

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- Staffing and budget:
  - Craig Tolmie was promoted by the Governor to Chief Deputy Director.
  - Fire Marshal position is vacant: Mike Richwine currently acting.
  - Tony Mecham and Josh White currently acting Assistant Region Chiefs.
  - New Chiefs to be put in position by the first of next month.

### USFS/DOI Update

**USFS update was presented by Baird, Lucas and Minton.**

- USFS has a very heavy seasonal workforce.
  - 180 day assignments.
  - Working on addressing a more permanent workforce.
  - Given direct hiring authority in August.
- Fires in Australia
  - Worse than what we originally thought.
  - Volunteers are not paid. Have been working 2-3 months.
  - Continued need for IMTs.
  - LA City FD sent firefighters.
  - Firefighter well-being is one of the biggest challenges being faced.
  - Mental health, well-being and retention are being looked at.
- Internal Review 2018
  - Top issue was firefighter well-being.
  - Concerns with hiring of hotshot crews. Process is being improved.
  - Working on enhancing external trust with other agencies.
- Only region in Department of Agriculture with SCBAs on their engines.
  - SCBAs are necessary for respiratory protection.
  - It's been a challenge proving the need for SCBAs.
- Interagency Fire Intelligence Exchange
  - Our internal arson program cannot be tracked by outside agencies.
  - Group has been formed to fight pyro terrorism.
  - Would like to take the Arson and Bomb Data Center's approach to registering human caused fires nationally for all law enforcement to access.
- Staffing Changes:
  - New Deputy Director, Brian Rhodes.
  - New State Director for Bureau of Land Management, Karen Morrison.
  - Park Service hired a HR Specialist to help with multiple vacancies.
- Operations:
  - Staff is moved around annually to diversify their experience and knowledge.
  - Continuing to hire at base resources.

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- No expected changes in aviation program.
- Expecting to expand UAS program.
- Resources:
  - No increase in preparedness funding for the next 2-3 years.
  - More fuels funding over the next 3 years. 4 million dollars for communities at risk.
  - Putting ropes and step platforms on helicopters for rural areas and faster extraction.
  - Received an exception to the 1039 hour limitation for just this year from OPM. Goes up to 1730 hours for temporary workers.
  - No apparatus or organizational changes in Park Service.
  - Adding slightly larger organization to Pacific Island Parks.
  - No change in aircraft contracts.
  - Contributing more time and attention to post fire.

### Task Force/Ops Team Report

**Task Force /Ops Team Report was presented by Richardson, Johnstone, and Kuempel.**

- Task Force Report:
  - Staffing
    - Task Force – Shanna Kuempel new Chair. First female in the position.
    - Task Force – Dave Gerboth is the new Vice Chair.
    - Task Force – Kyle Heggstrom elected as the new Secretary.
    - New member – Dave Brinsfield, DOI, interim representative.
    - Volunteer Fire Departments position remains vacant.
- Upcoming events:
  - Fire Ops Technology Summit hosted by ESRI is January 22 & 23.
  - 28<sup>th</sup> annual California Inter-Agency Wildland Fires Management Conference in San Diego April 7, 2020. Task Force and Safety Specialist Groups will be in attendance and will assist in the planning process.
- Plan of Work:
  - Resource typing for rehab unit:
    - Assignment added to 2019 Plan of Work.
    - Reassigned to the EMS Specialist Group.
    - On track for April Bod and January Ops Team.
  - CAD to CAD aka Operating Platform:
    - EIT Group is looking at Common Operating Platforms and information sharing.

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- Depends on what happens with S.C.O.U.T. June 2020 vote expected for the project.
  - Task Force has assigned a member to liaison with SCOUT personnel.
- CSM Peer Support, the Behavioral Health Working Group, to be presented to the Ops Team and Bod in April.
- SART: The FIRESCOPE Safety Specialist Group:
  - Tasked to develop a series of procedural checklists.
  - Serious Accident/Fatality - Field Personnel/Supervisors.
  - Serious Accident/Fatality – Command Staff/Agency Administrators.
  - Project has transitioned into a possible addition to the FOG Guide a 1-2 page checklist. On track for January 2020.
- FOG Sales Report/FOG Revision Update
  - 2019 total of 171 orders placed. 5,718 books sold. \$34,208 in net sales.
  - 2018 total of 141 orders placed. 6,075 books sold. \$36,450 in net sales.
  - In July of 2019 we started an online process for ordering books. Revenue increased by 30% even though a new product hasn't been introduced.
- NIMS Review:
  - FIRESCOPE invited as a Sub-Group Member. Newly formed group.
  - Only state focused organization that was invited to join in the nation.
  - MOA in the process of being signed.
  - Looking for SMEs to be one of our FIRESCOPE representatives.
  - Asked to review Incident within an Incident.
  - There has been discussion regarding a second incident commander.
- FIRESCOPE Strategic Plan\*
  - Encompasses:
    - Mission of FIRESCOPE
    - Vision statement and where we are at.
    - Highlights areas to work out through with medium and long range timelines.
  - FIRESCOPE Plan of Work to be incorporated
  - New FOG manual in 2022 - Additions to include:
    - Power shut offs
    - Prepositions
    - Where to take the FOG in the future.
  - Analysis of the current model:
    - Strengths
      - ICS field tested and is a standard
      - Guidance documents are free from political bias/financial influence.
      - Membership reflects a wide range of experience and



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representation.

- Opportunities
  - Education and awareness by statewide local, state, and federal fire agencies, but not currently in contact with FIRESCOPE.
- Challenges
  - Apathy towards multi-agency collaboration.
  - National or other State Models that may be inconsistent with FIRESOOPE Models.
  - Local, State and National information sharing and FIRESCOPE's ability to reach the next generation workforce.
  - Staying current with Emerging Technologies.

### A motion to accept the FIRESCOPE Strategic goal documents

- Made by Hartwig
- Seconded by Stowell
- Approved

- FIRESCOPE ICS 420-1.3 Area Command with Appendix
  - Purpose of appendix is to provide a guiding document on when Area Command would be established in California and how it interacts with MACS. Changes were only made to Appendix A.
  - Highlights three items:
    - Benefits of the document.
    - Operating principles within the state as far as the interactions.
    - Ongoing training.
  - Chief Marshall suggests that when documents are brought to the board for approval, as part of the document package, include a clean and a track changes version. Members will get a clear picture of where changes have been made. Includes the executive summary sheet\*

### A motion to approve that documents for approval should show track changes was:

- Made by Hartwig
- Seconded by Stowell
- Approved

- FIRESCOPE Marketing & Messaging White Paper
  - Discussed internal/external FIRESCOPE messaging and marketing.
  - Small FIRESCOPE vehicle decals an idea.
  - Inviting Chiefs from local agencies to attend the Board of Director's Meetings.
  - Participating in Fire Service events.

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- Direct link to FIRESCOPE website on Fire Department web pages.
- Automatic email system. Approximately \$335 per month for 50,000 contacts.
- Implementing FIRESCOPE orientation as a component with State Fire training firefighter 1 curriculum.
- Adding a FIRESCOPE component to the RT 130 curriculum which is completed annually.
- Integrating FIRESCOPE component into potentially an agency promotional process.
- Need to figure out to fund the mechanisms.
- Possibly at the April meeting we can come back with how to actually implement some of the costs.
- Provide a direction.
- Motion to put into play at the April meeting.
- FIRESCOPE Wildland Preplan White Paper\*
  - What information is available to incoming Strike Teams in an area that they are unfamiliar with and what information is critical?
  - Need for funding to become a statewide platform that's available to all.
  - Information and maintenance of the program.
  - Needs to be in real time.
  - Should be simple.

### A motion to approve support of the ongoing efforts:

- Made by Hartwig
- Seconded by Baird
- Approved

- FIRESCOPE MACS 410-4 Revision\*
  - Article of Operations Procedures
  - Primary changes are to include the biographies as a required document for Task Force, Specialist Groups, Ops and BoD members.
  - Current deadline for Plan of Works, Rosters and is to be completed by April 1<sup>st</sup>. New deadline for Plan of Works, rosters and election cycle to December 1, 2020. To be approved by April.
  - Will take this off of the MACS Exercise combined meeting agenda.
  - 2020 to be the first election cycle.

### A motion to approve the Revision of MACS 410-4:

- Made by Hartwig
- Seconded by Gilbert
- Approved

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- FIRESCOPE Quarterly Briefing Quarter 4, 2019\*
  - Firefighters being sent out of the area to fight fires. Request made for photos.
  - Would like to dedicate a small section to Chief Webb for his service.

### A motion to approve FIRESCOPE Quarterly Briefing:

- Made by Gilbert
- Seconded by Baird
- Approved

## EMS Update

### EMS update was presented by Hartwig.

- SB 438:
  - Dispatch shall not be privatized.
  - Some privatized dispatch systems have been grandfathered in.
  - For an exclusive right to provide transport, there has to be a bid for it, including state agencies and use the Health and Safety Code.
  - Revenue is only gained from the EMS transport component.
  - Local EMS agencies, are making the case that public airships/private partnerships can't respond to medical emergencies, only rescue, without express authority and direction from the local EMS agency.

## CFAA Update

### CFAA update was presented by Marshall.

- Agreement Update:
  - Meeting held December 2019.
  - Able to get very specific instructions for the CFAA Committee to move forward.
  - In January, the CFAA reconvened and began work on renegotiation of the CFAA.
  - Current agreement expired December 31, 2019. Received an extension until April 30, 2020.
  - The Forest Service brought forward some items that they wanted to see addressed.
  - There are six major items that have been prioritized as the first items to be discussed and agreed upon.
  - Several other minor to moderate important sections will also be discussed.
  - Target date is the first of March for at least the concept agreement.
  - The goal is to have a fully executed CFAA agreement prior to the start of

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peak fire season.

- May take some language on the implementation process.
- Meeting again on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>.
- All but two fire departments were reimbursed for 2018. That was due to issues with their billing.

This year, F42 fires have been billed except for epic fires, because of complexity. Moving forward, reimbursements should be easier.

### **CWCG Update Cal MAC Exercise**

**Cal MAC Exercise was presented by Johnstone**

**CWCG update was presented by Lucas.**

- CWCG IMT's:
  - Lot of activities are hinging upon CFAA.
  - In process of reviewing Federal IMT applications. System that was going to be used was shut down December 1 due to a licensing issue.
  - January 1 switched to an alternate system. Pacific Northwest to use it.
  - Received 180 applications which is about 30 teams.
  - Team selections will be the week of February 11.
  - IC selections done in October. Down staffed one team headquartered in Northern California.
  - Put emphasis on moving Type II trainees who apply for Type I IC roles into those training positions.
  - In an executive meeting in October, decided to keep everything unchanged for now. Robin Wills will remain chair of the Executive Group. Scott Lucas will take the Ops Group until the IMT meetings. Then Brian Marshall will take the Executive Group and the Ops Group will be vacant.
  - NWCG chartered an IWDG that is reviving some of the old EIM initiatives to suggest some national change with composition and typing. Trying to move to a single team type.
  - NWCG new committee, the ICSE under what used to be the Operations Training Committee. Taking over the incident position description development as well as the future oversight of the qualifications process for Incident Commanders.
  - ICSE is up and running.
  - ICAC meeting in February.
- MACS Exercises:
  - NOPS Exercise April 14-15, 2020 Redding
  - SOPS Exercise May 12-13, 2020 Riverside

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## Mutual Aid System Update

**Mutual Aid System Update was presented by Gerboth, Marshall and Fennessy.**

- Prepositioning/Mud & Debris Flow/Mobilization/Wildland Fire/Future All Hazard\*

A motion to approve a revised Prepositioning/Mobilization Document that includes Mud & Debris flow Pre-po guidelines:

- Made by Hartwig
- Seconded by Witt
- Approved

- Type VI Apparatus - Minimum number of personnel FOG vs. CFAA\*
  - 79 OES Type VIs will be coming into fleet throughout this year.
  - Blue Ribbon Commission recommends three or four person staffing.
  - Discussed at last meeting.
  - Firefighter safety is priority.
- Statewide MACS 405/Auto Population – Google Sheets:
  - Live information on resources for the State. Further discussion forthcoming.
- AVL and Situational Awareness Product Survey/Common Operating Platform Update\*
  - Budget is \$17-20 million. Goal is AVL on every fire engine in the state.
  - FIRESCOPE IT Group has been working on survey and census.
  - Make sure to fill them out.
- Expedited Resource Response (ERR) Pilot Program\*
  - Region 1 Pilot Program. Introduced last year. Very successful.
  - In February, we will have the Mutual Aid hearing in front of the legislature.
  - Intended to improve the California Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System.
  - Los Angeles, Orange and Ventura are the three pilot program counties.
  - Four of the largest agencies in California exchanging large numbers of resources, aircrafts and mostly strike teams via phone calls and Master Mutual Aid (MMA) among themselves with OES oversight are the program participants.
  - ROSS was never built for expediting large numbers of resources quickly.
  - Designed to reduce catastrophic losses.
  - MMA resources being provided to one or more of the pilot program fire chiefs should be entered into ROSS as soon as possible.
  - System based on trust.
  - Bring ideas to the table for future pilot programs.

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## Presentations

- Presentation given on AT&T/First Net
- Presentation given on CPUC/BCG Utility Wildfire Mitigation Strategy
- Presentation given on FIRIS/ISR Platform Program

A 3-part motion to approve 1) FIRESCOPE Board support the continuance of a statewide effort to expand on the success FIRIS Platform Program. 2) Establish a FIRESCOPE ad hoc group to address the gaps and develop recommendations on how to improve the Intel cycle and accuracy of its products related to public notification, real time information and all other risk assessments. 3) FIRESCOPE Board support continued state funding for the WiFire and FIRIS Program.

- Made by Lorenzen
- Seconded by Terrazas
- Approved

## Old Business

**Old Business update was presented by Chief Marshall.**

- Blue Ribbon Commission Update:
  - Discussed at last meeting.
  - Fennessy, Zagaris and Meston worked on where we are at, what has been completed, and what is still outstanding.
  - Attempting to hire Chief Meston as a RA to help out with the process.
  - Hopefully, the report will be completed and back by the April BoD.
- Public Utilities Power Shut Off Update:
  - Continue to have discussion with the legislature.
  - Telecoms is a big issue.
  - \$75 million went to local governments that were affected. Another \$50 million to help prepare for future shut offs.
- Private Resources on Incidents:
  - Meston is writing the regulations. Still being worked on. More to follow.

## New Business

**New Business presentation was presented by Chief Marshall.**

- FIRESCOPE Meeting Locations/Meeting Extensions:
  - Next meeting in San Francisco.
  - July - Orange County
  - October – Anaheim
  - January USFS

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- Moving locations across the state to improve engagement.
- Board of Director Vacancies:
  - City Fire Districts - North
  - Fire Districts - South
  - Fire Districts – North
  - Sending out vacancies to fill the positions. Still a lot of interest. Expecting them to be filled by April.

### Roundtable

Roundtable was presented by all Board of Directors.

### Adjournment

Fennessy moved for the meeting to be adjourned, and this was agreed upon at 02:45 p.m.