



DATE: Wednesday, October 4, 2023
Thursday, October 5, 2023

TIME: 1330-1700 Wednesday
0830-1430 Thursday

LOCATION: Direct Relief International -
Goleta

Call to Order

A FIRESCOPE Board of Director's meeting was held on Wednesday, October 4, 2023 and Thursday, October 5, 2023, at Direct Relief International, Goleta. The meeting began at 1330 hours on October 4, 2023 and 0830 on October 5, 2023. It was presided by Chief Brian Fennessy.

Attendees

Voting members in attendance included:

Brian Fennessy, Chair, Orange County Fire Authority
Maurice Johnson, Vice-Chair, Fire Districts North
Brian Marshall, Executive Coordinator, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES
Joe Tyler, CAL FIRE
Mark Hartwig, Santa Barbara County Fire Department
Dustin Gardner, Ventura County Fire Department
Colin Stowell, Large Cities South
Jeff Gilbert, Volunteer Fire Departments
Nate Gogna, U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs
Jaime Gamboa, USDA Forest Service
Dan Munsey, Fire Districts South
Daniel Berlant, State Fire Marshal
Eddie Sell, California State Firefighters' Association
Chris Tubbs, California Fire Chiefs Association
Brian Rice, California Professional Firefighters
Aaron Duncan, Kern County Fire Department
Suwanna Kerdkaew, County Fire Departments North
Mark Lorenzen, Small/Medium Cities North

Pat Russell, Small/Medium Cities South
Charlie Norman, Counties South
Mike Minton, National Park Service
Peter Kelly, Bureau of Land Management

Members not in attendance included:

Kristin Crowley, Los Angeles City Fire Department
Jennifer Hinckley, Fish & Wildlife Service
Jeanine Nicholson, Large Cities North
Anthony Marrone, Los Angeles County Fire Department

Partner Agencies in attendance:

Kim Zagaris, Western Fire Chiefs
Aitor Bidaburu, U.S. Fire Administration/NWCG
Eric Litzenberg, International Association of Fire Chiefs
Tiffany Hudgins, FEMA

Guests in attendance included:

Jason Serrano, San Bernardino County Fire - Task Force Chair
Matt Brown, Santa Clara County Fire – Task Force Vice-Chair
Jon O'Brien, Los Angeles County Fire Department – Ops Team Vice-Chair
Brook Spelman, CAL FIRE
David Fulcher, CAL FIRE
Andrew Henning, CAL FIRE, OSFM
Lori Lopez, Cal OES
Jim Johnstone, FIRESCOPE, Cal OES
Cathy Johnson, FIRESCOPE, Cal OES
Yesenia Serafin, FIRESCOPE, Cal OES
Shelley Dorsey, FIRESCOPE, Cal OES

Approval of Previous Minutes*

Approval of April and July 2023 Minutes

Motion: Tubbs
Second: Gardner
Approved

Cal OES Director's Update

Cal OES Director's Report presented by Director Ward

- No report

Cal OES Fire & Rescue Update

Update presented by Marshall

- Director Ward unable to attend meeting.
- The SOC has been activated since January 2023.
- Update on the Maui Fire.
- Discussed the dangers of lithium-ion batteries.
- FIRIS transition to Cal OES.
- Reviewed aviation statistics.
- Will be socializing FIRIS and the Next Gen SCOUT programs.
- In the calendar year, 152 prepositions were approved. Only seven were for fire. 36 million dollars for mobilization. Reimbursable by the declarations.
- Update on the OES engines.
- MARS has been activated for a year. Cal OES won best of California Innovation Award.
- Staff has approved 7,000 users for MARS. 581 local fire agencies. Over 5,100 F42s have been entered. Working on a curriculum for train the trainer to be implemented in November.
- Brief history of the Mutual Aid System and recap of the Mutual Aid Summit.

CAL FIRE/SFM/SFT Update

Update presented by Tyler/Berlant

- CAL FIRE:
 - Thank you for the support during the two funeral services for the fallen firefighters from CAL FIRE.
 - Chief Deputy Director vacancy.
 - Less fires this year so far compared to last year. Rabbit fire has been the largest.
 - Respecting the culture in Maui.
 - Sent teams to British Columbia.
 - Discussed EMAC. Only five or six states that are not part of the compact.
 - Continue to discuss augmentation.
 - Continue to work to conduct fuels reduction.
 - Trying to keep peak staffing later into the year.
 - Discussed SB 310 and cultural burning of prescribed fires.
 - AB 338 prevailing wage for fuels reduction. Public works project.
 - Took public comments on a revised map of fire severity zones.

- Most of the changes were a downgrade from very high. 150,000 acres treated of the 31 million acres total. Received 212 comments back and almost half were thank you letters.
- Will receive more public comments in mid-October on 10,000 plus acres.
- Have until mid-December to adopt this map.
- The insurance commissioner announced a deal brokered with the insurance companies to bring back many of the companies that had left the market. Returning them back to California.
- Part of the agreement is likely to allow insurance companies to use risk modeling when they determine availability and pricing.
- Insurance companies must follow our 100 feet of defensible space. They also will be required to write 85% of their policies in the wildland variance.
- Have been working on a risk modeling report for the last year. It is now in draft form.
- Recognized the passing for former State Fire Marshal, Ronny Coleman.

USFS/DOI Update

Update presented by Gamboa/Gogna/Minton/Newman

- USFS
 - Planning to extend aircraft contracts.
 - UAS has been deployed for prescribed fires.
 - Treated 70,738 acres of fuels.
 - Discussed issues with Firefighter pay.
 - 2024 Rose Parade starring Smokey Bear in his 80th year.
- Fish and Wildlife
 - No report.
- BIA
 - Discussed cultural burning.
 - Continue to have discussions with federal, state, and local partners.
 - Continuing to increase prescribed fire acreage.
 - Traveled to Canada to learn from their coordination system with the tribes in Canada.
 - Discussed training for the tribes.
 - Bringing Spanish speakers to fires in Mexico and Texas.
 - Providing leadership and training tribe members to be firefighters.

- Putting them out on training platforms in Northern California.
Rotating members through and getting them trained.
- Discussed working with FIRESCOPE regarding tribes changing their designators.
- NPS
 - Had the largest fire in Southern California this year. The York Fire.
 - Fires in Northern California, Yosemite, and Sequoia.
 - This year, Washington state was very busy.
 - Moving some resources across different states.
 - Also, had activity in Hawaii. Some of the national parks there were affected by some of the wildfire outbreaks.
 - Several prescribed fire projects are planned for the fall.
- BLM
 - Chief Kelly will be adding his report to the Teams chat for this meeting.

Wildfire Defense Systems, Inc.

Presentation by Scott Eskwitt

ATAK – Geospatial Mapping and COP

Presentation by AJ Johansson

ITSU/ITSL Addition to ICS

Presentation by Matt Brown

Personnel Tracking Update

Presentation by Matt Brown

Wildfire Commission Report

Presentation by Bob Roper

Ops Team / Task Force Report

Report presented by O'Brien/Serrano

- Ops Team/Task Force Report
 - Ops Team meeting held September 13th. Joint meeting to be held with the Task Force in December.
 - Welcome Matt Ahearn from USFS to the Ops Team.
 - Welcome to the Task Force:

Dan Coyle – Menlo Park Fire Protection District
Brian Duffy – Tulare County Fire Department
Timothy Adams – Anaheim Fire and Rescue
Chris St. Pierre – USFS

- Praise and appreciation for his years of dedicated service and contribution to FIRESCOPE and the fire service – Chief Jim Tomaselli – USFS
- Task Force continues to support the subcommittees on the work they are completing in 2023.
- Continue to deliver products.
- MACS 410-1 Update Discussion
 - *FIRESCOPE Quarterly Briefing
 - Motion: Hartwig
 - Second: Berlant
 - Approved with the removal of the FIRIS logo
 - *Wildland Subcommittee White Paper & Firing Checklist
 - Motion: Gilbert
 - Second: Norman
 - Approved
 - *ICS 800 – Night Flying Guidelines Revision
 - Motion: Tyler
 - Second: Johnson
 - Approved
 - MAC Group Exercise Bi-Annual Rotation/Cal OES Annual F & R Region Meeting – May 29, 2024 – South Ops.
 - FIRESCOPE FOG Update
 - Chief Marshall was able to secure funding for an additional printing of the FOG manual.
 - 10,000 copies will be printed.
 - It will take approximately three months to process.
 - Should have the additional FOGs before January 1, 2024.
 - Chief Johnstone also went over the location of the BoD video recordings on the FIRESCOPE website.

- Subcommittee Updates
 - Will be working on Plans of Work. Ready for review and approval at the January BoD.
 - Thanks to the BoD for their contributions to the subcommittees.
 - Put any SMEs forward for any subcommittees that you don't have representation on. Can use the help.

EMS Update

Update presented by Hartwig

- Commissioner for the EMS Commission is doing great work.
- First responders bear the brunt of ambulance delay.
- Not enough ambulances in the system.
- Hospitals using ambulances as part of their emergency rooms.
- Hospitals are to take possession of patients that are within 100 feet of the property.
- Many of the things that are being worked on in EMS have no legal regulations or guidelines.
- Chapter 13 is the next chapter in title 22 regulations. Chapter 13 is back up and running.
- How can we better serve the patients that call 911 for medical help?

CFAA Update

Update presented by CFAA Committee Members

- Last year processed 153 million in reimbursements. As of today, processed 49 million.
- Current CFAA agreement expires December 2024. Required to start negotiations 15 months before then.
- Tentative meeting scheduled for October 30th.
- Discussed FIRIS.
- MARS update.
- Had a lot of out of state teams in California for the Northern California fires.

CWCG/FIRESCOPE Program Collaboration

Update presented by CWCG Parent Group Directors/CWCG Board of Directors

- Working on the CWCG website. It is currently outdated.
- Currently have ten teams, one less Type I and one more Type II.
- Type I qualification are going to be honored through June 2024.
- Gave a brief CIM update.

Partner Agency Updates

Updates presented by Partner Agency Representatives

Old Business

Update presented by Tubbs/Sell/Munsey/Johnson/Walder/Vail

- Fire Service Legislative Update
 - California State Legislature adjourned the first part of the two-year Legislative Session.
 - Governor Newsom has until October 14th to act on the measures.
 - Working group for Chapter 13 members; Chief Hartwig, and Chief Peterson. Looking forward to beginning soon.
 - AB 1168 moved to a two-year build.
 - SB 577 California Fire Service training and education program.
- SB 450 Update
 - Had a meeting with Cal OES. Working on getting funding to the departments that need it.
- Fire Service IT Update
 - December 2022 Tech Summit was held in Texas.
 - Two Microsoft events will be held next week.
- *California Mutual Aid Summit Update
 - Reviewed Mutual Aid Summit action items.
- CICCIS Update
 - Chief Vail provided an overview of changes to CICCIS.
- NG SCOUT/Wildland Preplan
 - Presentation by Camarena/Kennedy**
- Complex Incident Management Transition Update
 - No official update since June 22nd.
 - Clarification that Type I IMT members and CIM members can be different. Field evaluations in 520 are not equivalent.
 - A new memo came out stating that the pathway to Type I will not be closed on January 1st like they did this year with Type II. The decision will be made in June 2024 for the implementation. Only NWCG is bound to which decision they make or not. CICCIS will not be.
 - CICCIS concerns were the effects on the CICCIS process, evaluation training and peer review.
 - A lot of concern about the proposed makeup of teams and CIM team cohesiveness in performance with changes in team configuration, which has been voiced by many people.
 - Chief Vail has obtained a paper by Jason Coyle from Sedona Fire. He will provide the letter to anyone interested in reading it.

- Another concern is getting the right team for the complexity and location of the incident based on the configuration of the team.
- AAR scheduled for October 31st.
- Need to make sure that the official communications are those that are being shared and understood.
- Find out who your local government representative for CWCG is. Reach out for more information and give feedback.

New Business

Update presented by Fennessy/Munsey/Marshall

- *Private Firefighting Resources – Socialization of AB 2380 Regulations
 - See the AB 2380 document in your meeting packet.
- Frontline Wildfire
 - Presentation by Harry Statter**
- Slack – Communications Tool Update

2024 Board of Directors Meeting Schedule and Venues

January 10-11, 2024	Cal OES Headquarters - Mather
April 3-4, 2024	Williams
July 10-11, 2024	San Bernardino County - Lake Arrowhead
October 9-10, 2024	Santa Clara County - Campbell

Roundtable

Adjournment

Chief Brian Fennessy moved for the meeting to be adjourned.
 Approved at 1700 on Day 1 and at 1352 on Day 2.