



DATE: Wednesday, October 3, 2024
Thursday, October 4, 2024

TIME: 1330-1700 Wednesday
0830-1430 Thursday

LOCATION: Santa Clara, California

CALL TO ORDER

A FIRESCOPE Board of Director's meeting was held on Wednesday, October 3, 2024, and Thursday, October 4, 2024, at Santa Clara County Fire Department. The meeting began at 1330 hours on October 3, 2024, and 0830 on October 4, 2023. It was presided by Chief Mo Johnson.

ATTENDEES

Voting members in attendance included:

Maurice Johnson, Vice-Chair, Fire Districts North
Brian Marshall, Executive Coordinator, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES
Joe Tyler – CAL FIRE
Kristin Crowley, Los Angeles City Fire Department
Mark Hartwig, Santa Barbara County Fire Department
Dustin Gardner, Ventura County Fire Department
Jeff Gilbert, Volunteer Fire Departments
Nate Gogna, U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs
Jaime Gamboa, USDA Forest Service
Daniel Berlant, State Fire Marshal
Eddie Sell, California State Firefighters' Association
Aaron Duncan, Kern County Fire Department
Mark Lorenzen, Small/Medium Cities North
John Foley, National Park Service
Charlie Norman, Counties South
Ryan Aeby, Fish & Wildlife Service
Suwanna Kerdkaew, Counties North
Peter Kelly, BLM
Chris Tubbs, Cal Chiefs
Pat Russell, Small/Medium Cities South
Anthony Marrone, Los Angeles County Fire Department
Dan Munsey, Fire Districts South

Members not in attendance included:

Brian Fennessy, Chair, Orange County Fire Authority
Brian Rice, California Professional Firefighters

Partner Agencies in attendance:

Kim Zagaris, Western Fire Chiefs
Eric Litzenberg, International Association of Fire Chiefs
Mark Loeffelbein, National Weather Service
Mario Rueda – NFPA
Susan Waller, FEMA/NIC

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 Chair
Jim Johnstone, FIRESCOPE, Cal OES
Cathy Johnson, FIRESCOPE, Cal OES
Yesenia Serafin FIRESCOPE, Cal OES
Lori Lopez, Cal OES
Dave Fulcher, CAL FIRE
Sara Puricelli, Cal OES, Legal

Approval of April and July Meeting Minutes*

Unanimously approved

Cal OES Director’s Update

Cal OES Director’s Report presented by Marshall

- Director Ward and other Cal OES employees are in Baltimore this week for the National Emergency Managers Association Conference.
- EMAC update.
- Director Ward appreciates the collaborative work that is being done with our Mutual Aid system
- The governor is putting together a state level expert panel to collaborate on advance battery storage technologies. Director Ward wants FIRESCOPE to be involved.
- All OES Type III and Type VI engines are assigned. Most Type I engines assigned.

Cal OES Fire & Rescue Update

Update presented by Marshall

- New apparatus should be in after the first of the year. 13 completed units.
- LG Preposition update
- FIRIS update.
- Wildfire Forecast Intelligence Integration Center update.
- The California WMD Summit is October 22-23 in El Dorado Hills.
- Earthquake Early Warning grants.
- Seismic Safety Commission survey.
- Several Board of Directors vacancies due to retirements. November interviews. New members to attend the January 2025 BoD.

CALFIRE Update

Update presented by Tyler

- 1,000 more fires this year than last year so far. 150,000 more acres burned this year.
- Thanks for EMAC from other states and the Military Department.
- CALFIRE hand crew update.
- Supported British Columbia, Oregon, and Nevada on 2024 fires.
- Budget discussion.
- Working toward a 56 hour work week.
- Ratifying two-year MOU this week.
- Ultimately hiring 2,500 employees over the next five years. Added new training center in Atwater.
- Peak fire season will go from approximately March 15 to December 15.
- 13 of the 16 Firehawks are in possession. The remaining three should arrive in about a year.
- The first C130 was put in service. Second one to be put in service in the first quarter of 2025. The third will likely be a reserve in Fresno. The fourth will go to Ramona.
- Discussed SB 310 and SB 1101.

State Fire Marshal/State Fire Training Update

Updated presented by Berlant

- Building codes and safety for Energy Storage Systems and electric vehicles.
- Updating the Plans Examiner course.
- Participating in a national working group identifying the gaps in the fire codes.
- Training the public on the higher risk of fire with an electric vehicle.
- Fire Hazard Severity Zones update.
- Assessing the present grant program and adapting as necessary.
- Proposition 4 update.
- NERIS replacing NFIRS. Major improvements. Three ways to report in NERIS. Testing is ongoing. Rollout end of 2025.
- AB 176: Large Childcare Center changes. Will provide education to centers.
- Zone Zero legislature update.
- Firefighter 1A and 2A curriculum is in final review. Minimal changes.
- Upcoming Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee October 12.

USFS Update

Update presented by Gamboa

- Supporting other Regions II, IV, VI and VIII.
- Commitment from NMAC to support with fire suppression.

- Holding off on any support for prescribed fire operations.
- Thanks to all the agencies who supported their incidents throughout the entire region.
- Given the ability to operate as one region this year.
- Staffing resources into the fall.
- Later this month - Fire Hire Event.
- Budget update.

U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs Update

Presented by Gogna

- Supported the system when needed for fires.
- Added apparatus. One new hand crew this year.
- Hard to keep up with the demand of invoicing. Requesting additional staff to help.
- Prepositions update
- Staff staying on until November 10.
- Lost significant staff on hand crews.
- Prescribed burns update.
- Looking forward to more discussions with CALFIRE units that help with direct protection in their tribes.
- Budget update.
- OES placing apparatus in tribal fire stations.

U.S. Bureau of Land Management Update

Presented by Kelly

- Hiring continues to be a challenge. Hope to have open and continuous advertisements for difficult to fill positions.
- Helicopter 553 no longer in Ravendale. No contract for this year. Would like to move helicopter 553 down with helicopter 554 outside of Apple Valley. Some challenges with this.
- Upcoming change of administration. Future budget is unclear.
- Put in for National Severity funding. Allows for outside resources and overtime for staff.
- Most of staff and equipment will continue until the end of the year.
- Fiscal year 2024, exceeded fuels target.
- Appreciation for all the support received from their partners.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services Update

Presented by Aeby

- Equipment is aging and difficult to replace.
- Challenges with personnel turnovers and changes.
- Apprenticeship program is taking people who are relatively new. Cross training them.
- A couple of zones have CALFIRE grants.
- Whole program dedicated to working on private lands and not federal lands.
- Had prescribed fire grants for a couple of tribes.

National Park Services Update

Presented by Foley

- Closed out fiscal year 2024. Haven't received 2025 budget numbers.
- Preparing options in case they see a reduction in their budget.
- Shifting to fuels work. Mechanical fuels treatments. Most would be contracts.
- No prescribed fire requests so far.
- Received the CALFIRE No Money Master Agreement to use crews of all types on fuels projects.
- Appreciation for help with the Coffee Pot fire.

California Firefighters Memorial Presentation
Presentation given by Rick Martinez

Firefighter Cancer Support Network Presentation
Presentation given by Scott Jennie

Fire Asset Status Tracker (FAST) App & FIRESCOPE FOG App Revision
Presentation given by Zander and Johnson

Ops Team / Task Force Report
Report presented by O'Brien/Serrano

- Ops Team/Task Force Report
 - Task Force continues to support the subcommittees on the work they are completing in 2024.
 - Continue to deliver products.
 - *FIRESCOPE Quarterly Briefing
Unanimously approved
 - *ICS 500 – Structure Fire Operations (3)
Unanimously approved
 - *ICS 162-4 REMS OSD
Unanimously approved
 - Lithium Ion Training & Tools Whitepaper
Unanimously approved
 - MACS 410-4, 410-8, 410-9 Revision (3)
Unanimously approved
- FIRESCOPE FOG Revised App Update
 - Revised app is now live for iOS and Android users.
 - Content updates as they become available.
 - The new app reduces costs tremendously.
 - Once the current stock of printed FOGs is exhausted, printed FOGs will no longer be available. Pdfs will then become available for agencies and training centers.
 - Thanks to OES IT Lead Michael Crews and his App development team for their work on the app.
- Dismounted Personnel Tracking System Update
 - Marcus Hernandez, from CAL FIRE, gave a presentation at the September Ops Team meeting.

- Discussed different technologies and the achievements they have made in dismantled personnel tracking.
- Marcus is on the EIT subcommittee.
- Continues to be a work in progress.

EMS Update

Update presented by Hartwig/Thompson

- Challenges with staffing private ambulance companies and slow response times.
- Santa Barbara has 35 ambulances ready to deploy.
- Chapter 13/Chapter 1 Update.
- The Model Disciplinary Regulations are being rewritten. Coming out soon for public comment.
- Providing classes related to skilled nursing facilities and assisted living facilities and reporting abuse.
- EMS Commission meeting update.
- Increase in 911 IFTs especially for longer distances.
- Updates on AB40, AB2225, and AB1168.

CFAA Update

Update presented by CFAA Committee Members

- Briefing on current CFAA negotiations. Next meeting is November 6.
- Reimbursement statistics.
- FMAG update.
- MARS has over 10,000 users.

CWCG Update

Update presented by CWCG Committee

- Remained staffed with nine Federal IMTs throughout the summer.
- Advertisements are going out for Incident Commanders.
- All teams went out at least three times. Team 15 was mobilized yesterday to go up to the Pacific Northwest again.
- Complex Incident Management update.
- Hand crews needed in Northern California.
- CWCG approving DPA changes. CFMA group will be handling this.

Partner Agency Updates

Updates presented by Partner Agency Representatives

Old Business

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

- Fire Service Legislative Update
 - Will update next quarter
- SB-450 Fire District Funding Update
 - No report
- AB-700 Firefighter Cancer Prevention and Research Program – Programmatic Review Committee Update
 - Discussed earlier in the meeting.

- Fire Service IT Update
 - Starting to come together
 - Onboarding other departments
- Mutual Aid Coordination Team Update
 - Approved at the last meeting.
 - Been able to only meet once due to fires.
 - Fast App will be a key tool to improve apparatus/overhead statusing.
 - Dispatching and resources working group is set to go. Two dispatchers from every region.
 - Issue at the region level. No standardization.
 - Developing a questionnaire to get out to the Region Coordinators. Finding best practices.
- Complex Incident Management Transition Update
 - Covered earlier in this meeting by Chief Litzenberg.
- CICCIS Update
 - All documents in the emailed packet have been submitted to STEAC for their first read at next week's meeting.
- FIRESCOPE History Update
 - No Report
- FirstNet Update Presentation – Kristi Mercado

New Business

- Initial Attack Aviation Congestion – Gamboa/Tyler
 - Aviation subcommittee white paper discussion.
 - Update regarding safety concerns.
 - October 27 and 31, 2023, FTA training was conducted at all CAL FIRE Aviation bases.
 - Communication needs to improve.
 - Southern California regional issue separate from FIRESCOPE.
- Electrification of Fire Apparatus – Tubbs
 - White Paper shared
- Fire Season 2024 AAR – Marshall
 - Statewide Mutual Aid System discussion.
 - IROC
 - Shortcomings

Board Member Updates

Adjournment

Chief Mo Johnson moved for the meeting to be adjourned. Approved at 1625 on Day 1 and at 1406 on Day 2.