

FIRESCOPE BOARD MEETING MINUTES



DATE: Wednesday, October 9, 2019

TIME: 09:00 AM

LOCATION: Cal OES Headquarters, Mather

Call to Order

A FIRESCOPE Board of Director's meeting was held on Wednesday, October 9, 2019 at 3650 Schriever Avenue Mather, Ca.95655. It began at 0915 hours and was presided over by Chief Daryl Osby.

Attendees

Voting members in attendance included:

Daryl Osby, FIRESCOPE Chair, Los Angeles County Fire Department
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.
Jaime Gamboa, *representing* USDA Forest Service
Mark Lorenzen, , Ventura County Fire Department
Scott Lucas, Bureau of Land Management
Tony Bowden, County Fire Depts. North
Jeff Meston, City Fire Depts. North
Colin Stowell, City Fire Depts. South
Rich Webb, Fire Districts North
Robin Wills, National Park Service
Mike Richwine, State Fire Marshall
Jeff Gilbert, Volunteer Fire Departments
Jeffrey Ohs, *representing* California State Firefighters' Association

Members not in attendance included:

Vacant, Fire Districts South
Brian Rice, CPF

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Guests in attendance included:

Jim Johnstone, FIRESCOPE, Cal OES
Cathy Johnson, FIRESCOPE, Cal OES
Art Torrez, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES
Dave Stone, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES
Lori Lopez, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES
Joy Budnovich, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES
Yesenia Serafin, FIRESCOPE, Cal OES
Shelley Dorsey, FIRESCOPE, Cal OES
Dan Johnson, CAL FIRE
Joe Tyler, CAL FIRE
Sean Fraley, Kern County Fire Department
Shanna Kuempel, Counties North
Corey Zander, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES
Steve Sjøtvedt, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES
Don Trapp, San Bernardino Co. Fire Dept.
Kyle Heggstrom, Linda Fire Protection District
Kaitlin Chell, UC San Diego
Mark A. Johnson, CAL FIRE

Approval of Previous Minutes*

A motion to approve the minutes of the previous July 10, 2019 meeting. Motion was made by Webb and seconded by Porter. Motion approved.

PRESENTATIONS

Presentations of Appreciation Chief Osby.

- FIRESCOPE Messaging & Marketing Working Group
 - John Larimore
 - Brian May

Given certificates of appreciation for their work in improving marketing, messaging, and the website.

- FIRESCOPE Website Design Team
 - Justin Short
 - Dan Reilly
 - Eric Rischer
 - Balwinder Singh

Given certificates of appreciation for their work developing the new ADA compliant website.

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Retirement

- Jeff Meston - FIRESCOPE City North member

Thanked for his 44 years of fire service and for serving as Cal Chief President.

Cal OES Director's Report

Cal OES Director's Report was presented by Chief Marshall.

- Power shutoffs:
 - OES and the Director are heavily involved with the statewide power shutoffs. Coordinating with local, state, and federal agencies.
 - Fully activated in support of local government.
 - Director is ensuring that the Governor is aware of what the fire service needs to optimize the Mutual Aid System.

Cal OES Fire and Rescue Report

Cal OES report was presented by Chief Marshall.

- Prepositioning:
 - Has been in effect for over a year. 10 million has been spent on prepositioning this fiscal year.
 - Legislature funded 25 million dollars for local government this year.
 - 25 approvals for prepositioning in 22 counties.
 - LA City, Orange County and Riverside currently have prepositions under CalOES order for surge capacity.
 - We currently have mobilized - 45 OES engines, 99 local government engines, one OES water tender, 16 local government water tenders, two dozers, one helicopter, one hand crew, ten dispatchers, and 21 IMT members all prepositioned as surge capacity for the state.
 - Task Force add prepositioning and new products to the next FOG.
 - Meetings are held every Monday at HQ to discuss prepositioning.
 - Updating the Emergency Services Act in the Mutual Aid System.
- SB209:
 - SB 209 was signed by the Governor October 2, 2019.
 - Development of Wild fire Fusion Center/Integration Center.
 - Collaborative effort between Agencies.
 - Coordinated effort to take in weather products for predicting fire weather and push it out across the state.
 - Intel Mobilization Center approved by Legislature for OES Fire and Rescue Center to be located at OES HQ. Purpose is to disseminate products in the all hazard environment. 24 hours a day/365 days a year.
 - Developing a FOG for power shutoffs.

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- Fire Apparatus:
 - 79 Type VI's are on order. Prototype should arrive around the 1st of the year.
 - In-service for next fire season.
 - Updating Type I's engine specs. Going out for bid.
 - Seven engines ordered each year as part of a replacement plan.
 - All of the Type I's as part of the Blue Ribbon Expansion have arrived at OES. Majority of them are in service.
 - 25 expansion Type III's are on order to be delivered after the first of the year.

CAL FIRE/SFM Update

CAL FIRE update was presented by Porter and Richwine

- Working group:
 - Cal Fire is developing a working group to discuss what can be done about a systematic approach to structure defense.
 - The whole process is in the 45 day report.
 - There is no one size fits all.
 - Meetings to be held in 2020.
- Treatment Goals:
 - 4,600 fires this year through October 1. Ten year average is 4,900.
 - Number of fires has remained the same. Acreage for this year was 41,000 compared to the average of 627,000 acres. Goal was exceeded by 125% of target.
- Resources:
 - 13 new engines from CAL FIRE'S budget last year.
 - Total engines are now at 356.
 - All are in service.
 - Staff has been hired to cover them.
 - First Firehawk helicopter should be in California soon. Eleven more to follow.
- Staffing and budget:
 - No additional resources needed at this time.
 - Fire Marshal position currently vacant: Mike Richwine currently acting.
- Fire Engineering Program:
 - There is 3.6 million in the general fund to fight illegal fireworks, including enforcement and public awareness.
 - Discussed in budget hearings last year, finding another solution for dealing with illegal fireworks and prosecution.
 - 350,000 pounds of illegal fireworks in storage.
 - Will be making arrangements with a vendor to pick up seized fireworks.
 - Proposal passed the National Building Code through ICC regarding Tall Wood Buildings coming to California. New trend in this state.
 - Will be building 18 story buildings out of heavy timber.

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- Will be going to Oregon to learn about the process, visit the construction sites, and talk to fire officials.
- State Fire Training/State Board of Fire Services:
 - Meeting was held last month.
 - Items that were approved by the State Board of Fire Services:
 - New accredited academies.
 - Local academies and regional training programs.
 - New F step courses.
 - Changes in our current courses.
 - Fee increases.
 - Process changes:
 - Certification Task Books
 - Simplifying the process.
 - ICS 300-400 courses coming in 2020. Roll out webinar available now.
 - 2013 curriculum retiring December 31, 2019.
 - New Community Risk curriculum
 - New Fire Inspector 1 qualifications and curriculum.
 - California 219 Wildland Fire Fighting Operations class replacing the 234 class.
 - State meeting this Friday discussion and voting regarding changes.
 - Fire Fighter 1 and Fire Fighter 2 curriculum and certification.
 - Fire Inspector 2 qualifications.
 - Joint effort through OES River Flood Boat Technician course.
 - Rope Rescue Awareness Operations Technician F Step course.
 - Reviewing Fire Control 3 curriculum.
 - New Structural Firefighting Module Instructor training.
 - State Firefighter Training portal is now online for instructors and students.

Fire Marshall update was presented by Richwine.

USFS/DOI Update

USFS/DOI updates were presented by Gamboa and Wills.

- Agency still very dependent on seasonal fire work force.
- In the process of extending contracts for aircrafts.
- Hotshot crew will remain active through November 1.
- Focusing on prescribed fires.
- Moving resources to:
 - high wind areas
- Staffing Changes:

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- New Deputy Director, Brian Rhodes will be in place by the end of the month.
- North Ops AD Gwen Sanchez will be leaving her position at the end of this week.
- Open position for a new Ops Specialist.
- Bureau of Indian Affairs new Regional FMO is Nate Gogna.
- Dale Shivelhood new Wildlife Regional FMO. Covering California and Nevada.
- Operations:
 - Looking for more opportunities for prescribed burns this fall into spring.
 - Type 1 team preposition in Sacramento may be deployed due to high winds.
 - Very large border project going on along the border between California and Arizona.
- Resources:
 - Have resources in Region 2 Colorado and Florida.
 - Still mobilizing resources outside of the area.
 - Shared resources with CAL FIRE in their efforts of obtaining their fuels target and mitigation for communities.
 - Moving some resources down to Southern California.

Task Force/Ops Team Report*

Task Force /Ops Team Report was presented by Johnstone, Kuempel, Marshall and Poirier.

- Task Force Report:
 - Staffing:
 - Task Force – Scott Lucas was promoted and is a new member of the Board. Will be looking for a replacement.
 - Task Force – Dave Baldwin from Sacramento City representing Cities North.
 - Task Force – Volunteer Fire Departments position currently vacant.
 - Task Force – Woody Enos SBC promoted and is replaced by Garrett Huff.
- Plan of Work:
 - Task Force will transition Specialist Groups to SmartSheet in early 2020.
 - Plan of works and monthly meeting schedules are on the FIRESCOPE website.
 - Tech Summit will be co-sponsored by Cal Chiefs and FIRESCOPE January 22 and 23, 2020. To be held at Esri in Redlands.
- Area Command & MACS Collaboration Update:
 - Last August a group led by Chief Kendall from Cal FIRE met regarding Area Command in California.
 - Addressed issues that came up in 2015 with Area Command.
 - 420-1.3 document to be updated and brought to the board in January 2020.
 - Looking forward to improvements.
- All Hazard/WUI Preplan Update:
 - Multiple agency preplans were reviewed. Prioritization, the funding piece and who is the audience were looked at.

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- Issues:
 - Identify components
 - Seek Grant Funding
 - Determine how to maintain the program
- Looking for Federal grants to use as a statewide project in order to have one state preplan.
- Hazard mitigation funds were looked at but they didn't cover the response angle.
- BoD Agenda Item Cover Sheet:
 - Summary sheet for the Task Force documents.
 - Blank copy of the cover sheet was given out.
 - Improve information flow.
 - Summary sheet for Task Force Ops Team documents.
 - Cover sheet will include:
 - Item number
 - Document title
 - Specialist group
 - Plan of work
 - Strategic plan
 - Executive summary
 - Fiscal impact
 - Recommended action
 - Submitted by
 - SmartSheet page

A motion to approve the Board of Director's agenda item cover sheet was made by Hartwig and Webb Motion approved.

EMS Update

EMS update was presented by Mark Hartwig.

- SB 1705:
 - Signed October 7, 2019
 - Combines all the GEMT IGT programs and local government funds.
- SB 438:
 - Has been signed.
 - Defines medical and administrative control.
 - Local governments can contract with an outside agency of dispatch services.
- AB 1544:
 - Community para-medicine bill.
 - Has been pulled off.

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- State EMS Case:
 - There was a legal report that didn't include the recent filing of California Fire Chiefs Association with the Office of Administrative Law that challenged some of the State EMS Authority guidelines pertaining to determination of 201 Rights and exclusivity.
 - Filed a complaint with the OAL.
 - The OAL determined State EMS Authority have not gone through APA.
 - Scheduled to be heard in January.

CFAA Update

CFAA update was presented by Lorenzen, Webb, Gilbert, Baird, Porter and Marshall.

- Agreement Update:
 - Five year agreement expiring December 31.
 - Negotiating a new agreement is a top priority.
 - There have been conversations this week with the Federal side.
 - Determining what parts of the agreement are negotiable and which are not.
 - Should have a proposal by the end of the month to move the process forward.
 - There should be significant movement in the next few weeks.
 - Will have a report within 30 days.

CWCG Update Cal MAC Exercise

CWCG update was presented by Art Torrez.

- CWCG IMT's:
 - Met on October 8, 2019.
 - Topics covered:
 - CFAA
 - Wildland Fire Response and CWCG.
 - IMT's. Not a lot of deployments this year.
 - Focusing on sustainable approach for the future.
 - Possibly fewer teams. Using the best teams, suited for the types of fires we have in California.
 - May move Type 2 teams toward Type 1 qualification.
 - Significant value in short teams. May look into adding more.
 - Brian Marshall will be the incoming chair.
 - Dale Shivelwood to be the vice chair.
 - Would like to get back on a rotation of each of the member groups filling the chair and vice chair positions.
- Cal MACS Exercise Recommendation:
 - A recommendation was made to conduct a table top exercise. Tentative spring 2020

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- MACS Exercises:
 - NOPS Exercise was held April 24th
 - SOPS Exercise was held May 15th
 - Breakdown of the Matrix presented to the Board of Directors.

Mutual Aid System Update

Mutual Aid System Update was presented by Stone.

- Prepositioning/ Mobilization update:
 - Funding is 25 million for this year. Unused funds will go back to the general fund.
 - Spent 7 million last year on prepositioning.
 - 29 prepositions total have been completed.
 - Received 145 request. 144 have been approved.
- Mud and Debris Working Group:
 - Mud and Debris Flow Working Group developed last year.
 - Proposition Resource Request sheet and score sheet (Matrix) are completed. Presentation to be given at next Bod meeting. Ready for approval in January 2020.
 - Red Flag Weather score sheet is being updated.
 - Working on micro climates.
 - Adding language regarding leaning forward. Initiating prepositioning on the OES side with the Assistant Chiefs reaching out to operational areas.
 - The Director agrees that Assistant Chiefs should have credit cards, training and procedures in place for food/lodging during prepositioning. Osby suggested bringing the body of the draft to the Board. This will enable the Board to submit their suggestions before the Director's approval.
 - Next meeting for the Mud and Debris Working Group is December.
- OES Engine Purchase:
 - 25 Type III apparatus fully equipped model 34 on order and are due for delivery May 2020. Engines are fleet expansion engines not replacement engines.
 - Funding available for 79 Type VI fully equipped engines. Recommendation was for 81 Type VI engines. OES is considering using OES funds to pay for the remaining two engines to meet the recommendation of 81 engines.
 - Deliveries should start in June of 2020 with 15 engines per month being delivered.
 - Replacement Engines:
 - 20 Type I replacement engines (some have been delivered, and some soon to be delivered).
 - Currently outfitting 4 Incident Support Units for LA City, Santa Clara, Corona, and Chico.

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- AVL and Situational Awareness Product Survey/Common Operating Platform Update:
 - 20 million available for AVL technology program.
 - The Emerging Information Technology (EIT) Specialist Group has developed a comprehensive survey.
 - The survey focuses on AVL and situational awareness capabilities.
 - Survey was developed through survey monkey.
 - Will need 100% participation from all departments.
 - Survey to be sent out after validation.
 - AT&T First Net to give presentation at the January 2020 Board meeting regarding an update on their technology.

- Mutual Aid Reimbursement System (MARS):
 - 1 million spent on rolling it out. Should be out in January 2020.
 - Chief Marshall approved a contract to continue the program and an additional contract which includes:
 - Web based program
 - Electronic F42's can be filled out and tracked in real time for reimbursements.
 - Tablets or iPads will be available in the field to upload information.

- SCOUT Update:
 - Collaboration tool issues. Contract funded for \$400,000 to fix the problems.
 - Moving toward SCOUT 2.0
 - \$2.5 million funded for upgrade.
 - Upgrade will take a year.
 - Going through the contract process now.
 - SCOUT and Interra/other COP's must communicate with each other.
 - Situational Awareness is necessary.

- Statewide MACS 405/ Auto Population – Google Sheets Presentation:
 - Regions 2, 3, and 4 are currently using Google Sheets to track what resources they have available.
 - Developing a system that shows which resources are available in real time. 24/7 365 days a year.
 - Goal is to have live MACS 405 All Hazard available for all agencies statewide.
 - Once inventory has been entered, only minutes to update. System shows when an update was made.
 - Inventory is visible to those you share it with.
 - Chief Osby recommends moving forward.
 - Memo forthcoming from Marshall

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- M.O.S.E.S. Satellite Unit Capability/Availability Presentation:
 - Santa Clara Co. Fire received 4 million in funding.
 - Deployable and will be put into ROSS.
 - Integrated independent infrastructure device.
 - Highest capacity satellite bandwidth.
 - Cellular service through Verizon and AT&T.
 - P25 interoperability.
 - 5 x 8 completely mobile platform.
 - Can be towed behind any asset we currently have including delivery by Type I helicopters.
 - Target weight is 1,400 - 1,600 pounds.
 - Built to last decades.
 - Operates without any moving parts.
 - Coverage area is incident wide.
 - Is deployable with a single operator.
 - Can be turned on and deployed in less than 15 minutes.
 - Instant infrastructure that doesn't depend on other platforms.
 - Cost is 2-3 million including cost to operate per unit.
 - Functions for 24 hrs. before it needs to be refueled.
 - Use cases for M.O.S.E.S:
 - Can be prepositioned at high risk events or risk of a sudden loss to infrastructure.
 - Ability to support base camps as they grow.
 - Ability to be moved to where operations are occurring.
 - Ability to support civilian infrastructure. Allowing victims to call 911.
 - Maintains communication at large evacuation and reunification centers.
 - Ability to be adapted when new technology is developed or needs change.
- Will be adding two units to ROSS. The units can work together to extend their range.

Old Business

Old Business update was presented by Chief Marshall.

- Blue Ribbon Commission Update:
 - Director Ghilarducci requests the document be updated
 - A small working group is needed to validate the recommendations as to whether they are still applicable and/or completed.
 - No vote needed.
 - Will give an update January 2020.
- Public Utilities Power Shut Off Update:
 - Currently tracking two apps
 - Red Flag

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- Power Shut Offs
 - SCE is shutting off areas of Kern County and PG&E is shutting off other areas.
 - Leaning forward on prepositions.
 - PIO's need to get the news out regarding repositioning due to the shut offs.
 - Process needs fine tuning.
 - Presents opportunities for collaboration between the fire service and utility companies
- Private Resources on Incidents:
 - AB 2380 Private Firefighters Bill
 - Working on hiring a contractor to establish guidelines to ensure state regulations are met
 - Going through regulation approvals and should be completed in 2020.

New Business

New Business presentation was presented by Chief Marshall.

- Future FIRESCOPE meeting locations/meeting extensions:
 - Chief Marshall proposes for FIRESCOPE Board meetings to be moved to a day and a half.
A motion to approve the moving of the Board meetings to a day and a half vs. one day was recommended. Motion was made by Hartwig and seconded by Bowden. Motion approved.
 - Half day for Agency Directors' reports. Post meeting relationship building. CWCG coordination opportunities – morning of first day.
 - Full day would follow. Regular meeting.
 - Local Fire Departments possibly to host future meetings. May have to limit meeting sites to cities we can fly into.
 - January meeting will most likely be at South Ops with a possible tour of the adjacent National Guard Fusion Center
- Board of Director Vacancies:
 - City North: Chief Meston's retirement will leave a vacancy.
 - Districts South: Chief Hartwig's departure to Santa Barbara Co Fire has left a vacancy.
 - Chief Marshall will see who is interested in filling the vacancies.
 - Expected to be filled by January 2020.
- FIRESCOPE Strategic Plan medium to long term is being developed
 - 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.

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- Type VI Apparatus – Minimum Number of Personnel: Fog vs. CFAA
 - Type VI's have been on the forward agenda for a few years.
 - Conflict between different agreements.
 - FOG and IRPG requires a Type VI to have a minimum of 2 personnel
 - CFAA states that the minimum personnel should be 3.
 - Single cab Type VI's can only accommodate 2.
 - Wait to see what CFAA negotiations look like.
 - Further discussion deferred to January 2020 Board of Director's Meeting.
- NIMS Coordination Group Update
 - Deferred to January 2020 Board of Director's Meeting.

Roundtable

Roundtable was presented by all Board of Directors.

- Better process for OES vehicle fleet management.
- Working toward Marine vessel standards.

Adjournment

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