

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FIREScope BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Minutes of the Meeting
April 9, 1997
Sacramento, California**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Richard Andrews, Director - Office of Emergency Services
William R. Bamattre, Chief - Los Angeles City Fire Department
James Brannon, Chief - Linda Fire Protection District
Daniel Clark, Chief - Kern County Fire Department
Ronny J. Coleman - State Fire Marshal - CDFFP
Gary Costmagna - Chief, Sacramento City Fire Department
P. Michael Freeman, Chief - Los Angeles County Fire Department
Neil R. Honeycutt, Chief - Office of Emergency Services
John Jansen, CSFA, Board of Directors
Patrick Kidder, State Fire Management Officer - Bureau of Land Management
Tom Nichols, Regional Fire Management Officer - National Park Service
Roger K. Purdie, Chief - Vista Fire Department
Russell Richards, Chief - Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District
James E. Sewell, Chief - Ventura County Fire Department
Keith Simmons, Chief - Santa Barbara County Fire Department
Douglas Sporleder, Chief - Santa Clara County Fire Department

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jose Cruz, Director - U.S. Forest Service, Region V
Larry Holmes, Chief - Orange County Fire Authority
Richard A. Wilson, Director - CDF FP

OTHERS PRESENT

Andy Anderson, Chief - Quincy Fire Protection District
Mike Antonucci, Assistant Chief - Office of Emergency Services
Will Brock, Assistant Chief - Office of Emergency Services
Pat Cooney, Assistant Chief - Office of Emergency Services
Mike Dougherty, Assistant Director, Southern Operations - U.S.F.S.

George Ewan, Assistant Director Southern Ops - U.S. Forest Service
Mark Ghilarducci, Deputy Chief - Office of Emergency Services
Gary Gilbert, Region Chief - California Department of Forestry
Dave Kehrlein, GIS Manager - Office of Emergency Services
John Linder, Assistant Chief - Office of Emergency Services
Glen Newman, Region Chief - California Department of Forestry
Jim Owen, Deputy Director - California Department of Forestry
Gary Pavusko, Deputy Chief - Office of Emergency Services
Jim Radley, Deputy Chief - Orange County Fire Authority
Mike Richwine, FSTS III, California Department of Forestry/State Fire Marshal
Tim Turner, Sierra Area Chief - California Department of Forestry
Steve Vittum, Division Chief - Santa Barbara County Fire Department
Bruce Ward, Deputy Director - Office of Emergency Services
Hank Weston, Chief - Grass Valley Fire Department
Jack Wiest, Cascade Area Chief - California Department of Forestry
Kim Zagaris, Assistant Chief - Office of Emergency Services

OPENING REMARKS/INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 9:45 a.m. by Chairman Gary Costamagna. Self-introductions were made.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 5, 1997 MINUTES

Chief Neil Honeycutt announced that the minutes are available in tape form if any member needs greater detail.

Doug Sporeleder moved that the minutes of the February 5, 1997, meeting be approved as written. Keith Simmons seconded, and the motion was passed by unanimous vote.

RETIREMENT OF VICE-CHAIR LARRY HOLMES

Neil announces the retirement of Vice-Chair Chief Larry Holmes who is retiring as Chief of the Orange County Fire Authority. Jim Radley gives a brief overview of Larry Holmes retirement BBQ.

NOMINATIONS FOR VICE-CHAIR

Chair Costamagna asks the FIREScope Board to nominate a member of the Board from Southern California to fill the Vice-Chair vacancy.

Jim Sewell nominated P. Michael Freeman and Doug Sporeleder seconded, and motion was passed by unanimous vote. Freeman has been voted to vice-chair.

OES DIRECTORS REPORT

The Winter Storms of 1996-97 and the response to the floods that followed were described by Director Andrews. This was the first experience since the implementation of SEMS. The OES response was very effective, especially the RIMS system in our SOC, and the Inland Region REOC.

The RIMS system will eventually be connected to all regions, operational areas, and local government. OES coordinated the response of state agencies to the flood. Some emergency response problems were identified, especially those agencies that do not normally play an emergency response role. The largest evacuation and sheltering operations in state history occurred during this event. The media attention to this event was great, especially the focus on evacuation procedures, and the question of who should be giving evacuation orders.

The SEMS Advisory Committee will review the after action reports and make necessary changes in procedures. Chief Russell Richards commented on his County's response and the implementation of SEMS in Stanislaus County. The value of preparation and training in SEMS, ICS, and EOC operations were discussed.

Jim Sewell questions the response of law enforcement. Bruce Ward stated the response, with some initial problems, was excellent. Additional training in ICS and Unified Command is valuable, and indicated. Given the situation we were faced with, the overall response was excellent.

Dick Andrews continues with a report on the OES Budget. He outlines the Fire and Rescue Budget Change Proposals for Fire Engine upgrades, and the Urban Search and Rescue Training Program, at McClellan AFB. He wants to bring these two budget issues before the Board of Directors. The Legislative Analysis Office requested these programs be placed under CDF control, and asked OES and CDF for a report on how to consolidate these programs. OES, CDF, and the Governor's position is that no

report will be made, and that these programs remain under OES control. Both are related to the Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System.

Dick asks the Board to give consideration to the issues, especially on the Fire Engine Program, to report on how these programs should be structured.

Gary Gilbert asks about USAR Training Center, and the relationship of this facility with the State Fire Marshal's Office.

OES FIRE ENGINE PROGRAM

Gary Costamagna opens the discussion on the Fire Engine Program. Dan Clark, Ron Coleman, and Andy Anderson comment on the program. Roger Purdie questions the response of OES Engines in San Diego County. During the Harmony Grove Fire the OES Engine was not activated, yet a Type III Engine Strike Team from San Diego County was sent to Yosemite. He stated that the Board needs to address the utilization question. Jim Brannon, Russ Richards, and Doug Sporleder add additional perspectives on the Engine Program. Jim Sewell suggests the Board form a working group and take action to identify all of the issues related to this program, and make a recommendation to Director Andrews.

James Brannon made a motion to form a Working Group to study the Fire Engine Program. Seconded by Doug Sporleder. Motion carried.

Fire Engine Working Group: Mike Freeman, Chair; Douglas Sporleder; Roger Purdie; Gary Gilbert; and Mike Dougherty. OES DC Paul Beckstrom will serve as the staff person for the group. A few questions regarding the mission of the group are answered. The group will report to the Board on July 9, 1997, with a final report due October 8, 1997.

James Sewell made a motion to show the support of the FIREScope Board to keep the US&R Training Center with the Office of Emergency Services. James Brannon seconded the motion and the motion was passed. Gary Gilbert and Ronny Coleman abstained.

Gary Costamagna recommends that a letter from the FIREScope Board of Directors be sent to the leadership of the California Legislature regarding support for the OES budget.

A discussion follows regarding the US&R role in training, the training center, and the joint powers agreement with cooperation agencies. (Note: the tape is nearly inaudible at this point). Comments were made by Ron Coleman, Neil Honeycutt, Gary Costamagna, Bruce Ward, and others.

A motion to write a letter of support for the OES budget is made by James Sewell, seconded by James Brannon, and carried. Ronny Coleman and Gary Gilbert abstain.

After discussion, the Board directs Chairman Costamagna to consolidate the issues into one letter

A long discussion, led by Dick Andrews, on mutual aid philosophy and practice ensues. The issues currently under discussion by CDF and OES regarding State Mutual Aid resources are being supported by Cal-Chiefs and Fire Districts are mentioned. Members Sporleder, Gilbert, Simmons, Sewell, Coleman, Purdie and Honeycutt are involved in commenting. Director Andrews clarifies the OES concerns relating to Master Mutual Aid generally, and the Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Plan, specifically. Bruce Ward suggests that CDF Director Richard Wilson and OES Director Dick Andrews meet with members of the FIRESCOPE Board of Directors. Mike Freeman suggest the meeting be limited to two Board members.

A motion by James Sewell, seconded by Roger Purdie, is made to have the Chair and the Vice-Chair of the FIRESCOPE Board meet with the Directors. Motion passed. No abstentions.

STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT

Chief Coleman discusses the complete integration of ICS into the curriculum of the State Fire Marshal's courses, prerequisites for Chief and Fire Officer courses, and performance-based evaluation of training. Unified Command will be stressed in Command level courses in the future.

A discussion on the issue of Certification and Qualification occurred. Chief Coleman answered questions concerning the status of this process.

A motion to support the activities the Fire Marshal is undertaking, to fully integrate ICS into all aspects of the curriculum was made by Keith Simmons. Seconded by James Sewell, and was carried.

OES FIRE AND RESCUE BRANCH REPORT

Chief Honeycutt introduces and welcomes John Jansen, from the California State Firefighters Association (CSFA) Board of Directors, and the newest advisory member to the FIRESCOPE Board. John is a Captain with the Vacaville Fire Department.

The Fire and Rescue Branch completed processing over \$14 million of reimbursement invoices for last fire season. Over 4,000 f-42's were processed in our new Lotus Notes computer program. The delays in invoicing were explained. Chief Honeycutt thanked his staff, especially AC Kim Zagaris and Ms. Mary Hamrick.

CALABASIS INCIDENT ENTRAPMENT ANALYSIS: Update

Chief P. Michael Freeman updated the Calabasis Incident Entrapment Report. The report is available from the Los Angeles County Fire Department.

CALIFORNIA WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP (CWCG) REPORT

Pat Kidder discussed the CWCG Contract for Fire Weather services for the 1997 Fire Season. Local government and state agencies can make requests for fire weather service through the Geographic Coordination Centers: North and South Operations (Redding and Riverside).

OPERATIONS TEAM REPORT

Mike Dougherty reported on the FIRESCOPE Work Plan, the updates on the continuing work being done in regard to the 1993 Southern California Fire Seige after action report.

The Joint Operations Team meeting is scheduled for July 10-11, 1997 at Bucks Lake.

TASK FORCE REPORT

George Ewan reported for the Task Force. George is the new chair, Ralph Alworth, CDF, has been promoted. The Task Force report is attached.

The Task Force is handling a number of projects. George reported that the NWCG Fire Line Handbook is being considered for revision, and the Field Operations Guide (FOG) is due out next month (May 1997).

OES GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS)

Dave Kehrlein, OES, made a request to the Board to reactivate the OES Mapping Specialist Group with an emphasis on the current GIS Technology. He has been working with GIS personnel from the USFS and CDF to develop a response capability. The GIS Group would report through the Task Force to the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

Bruce Ward asked the FIREScope Board of Directors for a recommendation to replace Larry Holms, the FIREScope member on the SEMS Advisory Group.

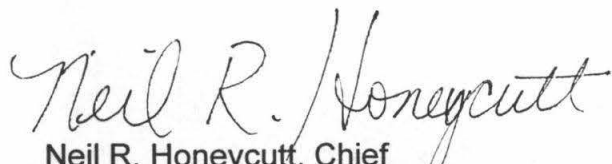
REGIONAL MUTUAL AID COORDINATORS

Chief Honeycutt indicated that the six Regional Mutual Aid Meetings will be held in late April and May. A common agenda is being used to have a more standardized approach to regional issues.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,


Neil R. Honeycutt, Chief
Governor's Office of Emergency Services
Fire and Rescue Branch