

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE/
FIRESCOPE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING OF DECEMBER 3, 1986
OES HEADQUARTERS
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

MINUTES OF MEETING

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Gerald Johnson, Staff Assistant Chief, for Chief Don Manning, Vice
Chairman - Los Angeles City Fire Department
Ray Charles, Chief - Sacramento City Fire Department
William Maxfield, Chief - Contra Costa County Consolidated Fire Dist.
John Englund, Chief - Los Angeles County Fire Department
Ken Brown, Chief - Rio Linda Fire Protection district
Loren Pettis, Chief - Montclair City Fire Department
James Z. Brannon, Chief - Linda Fire Protection District
Michael Sellers, Chief II, for Chief Wes Kilcrease - Ventura County
Fire Protection District
Larry Holms, Director of Fire Services - Orange County Fire Department
Richard Montague, Director, Aviation & Fire Mgmt. - U.S. Forest Svc.
Dick Day, Deputy Director - California Department of Forestry
Dave Walizer, Deputy Director, for James McMullen, State Fire Marshal
Pat Kidder, Fire Management Officer - Bureau of Land Management
Chris Cameron, Protection Specialist - National Park Service
R.G. Barrows, Chief - OES Fire and Rescue Division

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Don Manning, Chief - Los Angeles City Fire Department
Rich Peterson, Chief - Santa Barbara County Fire Department
Wes Kilcrease, Chief - Ventura County Fire Protection District
James McMullen, State Fire Marshal

SPECIAL ADVISORS PRESENT

Harry Steimer - California State Firemen's Association

SPECIAL ADVISORS ABSENT

Brian Hatch - Federated Fire Fighters Association

OTHERS PRESENT

Bill Teie - California Department of Forestry
Richard J. Ernest - CDF, Mutual Aid Region II
Brian Weatherford - CDF, Mutual Aid Region V
Jeff Hawkins - CDF, Mutual Aid Region II
Jim Dykes - CDF, Mutual Aid Region VI

Don Banghart - CDF, Mutual Aid Region III
Dale Geldert, Chief - Merced County Fire Department
Bill Cullen, Battalion Chief - Contra Costa County Consol. Fire District
Walt Schaff - State Department of Finance
Don Irwin, Deputy Director - OES
John Passerello, Asst. Director - OES
Anne Vasquez, Chief of Administration - OES
Charles Wynn, Chief Disaster Assistance Division - OES
Linda Calhoun, Asst. Legislative Liaison, for Bev Passerello - OES
Legislative Liaison
R.G. Barrows, Chief - OES Fire & Rescue Division
R.D. Starr, Deputy Chief - OES Fire & Rescue Division
W.R. Wirth, Deputy Chief - OES Fire & Rescue Division
Mike Scherr, Deputy Chief - OES Fire & Rescue Division
Rich Aronson, Asst. Chief - OES Fire & Rescue Division
Mo. Fitch, Asst. Chief - OES Fire & Rescue Division
Will Brock, Asst. Chief - OES Fire & Rescue Division
Dianne K. Wirth, Secretary - OES Fire & Rescue Division

OPENING REMARKS

In the absence of Vice Chairman Don Manning, and while awaiting the arrival of Chief John Englund, Chief Barrows opened the meeting and welcomed members and guests, stating he will chair the first portion of today's meeting. He also mentioned the upcoming retirement of San Francisco City Fire Chief Emmet Condon, as well as Dick Montague, U.S. Forest Service, who will be leaving as a member of this Committee.

Chief Barrows introduced OES Deputy Director Don Irwin, who welcomed Chief Ray Charles, Sacramento City Fire Department. Chief Charles is replacing Chief Bill Powell (retired) as a member of this Committee. Mr. Irwin also addressed the Committee, expressing appreciation for the efforts put forth and the progress which has been made to date, particularly with regard to the mutual aid reimbursement problem.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

IT WAS MOVED BY CHIEF MAXFIELD, SECONDED BY CHIEF BROWN, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 10, 1986 MEETING.

SELECTION/APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

With the arrival of Chief Englund, Chief Barrows stated the next matter of business would be to nominate and appoint a Chairman to replace Chief Bill Powell. Chief Barrows suggested use of the FIRESCOPE Charter guidelines regarding appointment of a Chairman, although not yet approved. The Committee agreed and requested nominations from the floor for Chairman and Vice Chairman.

Chief Gerald Johnson (on behalf of Vice Chairman Don Manning) nominated Chief John Englund for Chairman of this Committee.

IT WAS MOVED BY DICK DAY, SECONDED BY DICK MONTAGUE, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED THAT THE NOMINATIONS FOR CHAIRMAN BE CLOSED.

The motion being passed by acclamation, Chief John Englund's name will be submitted to the Director of OES for appointment to the position of Chairman of the Fire and Rescue Service Advisory Committee/FIRESCOPE Board of Directors.

Chief Englund requested nominations for Vice Chairman, or reaffirmation of present Vice Chairman, Chief Don Manning. By unanimous vote, Chief Manning was reaffirmed as Vice Chairman.

FIRESCOPE CHARTER

Chief Englund asked for comments on the draft Charter which was previously submitted to members for review.

IT WAS MOVED BY CHIEF KEN BROWN, SECONDED BY CHIEF BILL MAXFIELD, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT THE FIRESCOPE CHARTER.

FIRESCOPE DECISION PROCESS

In reviewing the draft copy of the FIRESCOPE Decision Process, Chief Larry Holms noted a typographical error on Page 4, Section 2.4, Paragraph 3.....the word "her" should be changed to "Other."

General discussion ensued regarding liaisons between CALFIRMS and the Operations Team. The Organization Chart was discussed and the Committee agreed to the following change:

Page 3, Section 2.2, Item 2., shall be changed from "Function as the Chairman of the Operations Team" to "Be represented on both North and South Operations Teams."

Page 3, Section 2.2, Item 8., delete ..."as Operations Team Chairman..."

Page 7, Section 3.2.4, Item 1., change to "Effective January 1, 1987, the Chairman of the Operations Team will be elected by members of the Operations Team for a two-year term."

IT WAS MOVED BY CHIEF LARRY HOLMS, SECONDED BY DICK DAY, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO APPROVE THE FIRESCOPE DECISION PROCESS DOCUMENT AS AMENDED.

The Committee further agreed that editorial changes will be made to the document as necessary.

MUTUAL AID REIMBURSEMENT

Chief Englund introduced a visitor, Mr. Walter Schaff, Program Review Analyst for State Department of Finance. Mr. Schaff is conducting a study with CDF on the application and use of emergency funds. Dick Day presented a brief overview on the study.

Discussion ensued regarding the report submitted by the Sub-Committee tasked to review the mutual aid reimbursement problem. Chief Englund reported the sub-committee had reviewed the multi-faceted mutual aid problem and centered on basic concepts and policies, focusing on: 1) the reciprocal "free time" aspect within the fire service itself, deciding that all should give 12 hours; 2) that State government should provide some financial relief to local

jurisdictions who responded above the 12 hours; and 3) that such reimbursement should be made on a flat rate basis. Other items discussed at length were staging areas and the of Memorandum of Understanding between OES, CDF and USFS.

There was general consensus that the USFS/CDF/OES MOU should be rewritten. Chief Barrows stated that the issue of the 12-hour free time must be worked out for OES engines versus local engines. This will probably be addressed in the MOU. If these issues can be resolved in the MOU, some provisions can be used as reimbursement guidelines.

Mention was made of the resolution by the League of California Cities which was initiated by Chief Montenero (L.A. County Area "C"). At its Annual conference in Los Angeles on October 21, the League prepared a resolution to....."support creation of a task force by the Governor with the purpose of developing legislation establishing requirements and funding to reimburse agencies for costs related to providing emergency resources as requested under the Office of Emergency Services Mutual Aid System."

Chief Englund requested acceptance of the sub-committee report.

IT WAS MOVED BY CHIEF LOREN PETTIS, SECONDED BY CHIEF GERALD JOHNSON, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO ACCEPT THE REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON MUTUAL AID REIMBURSEMENT.

Chief Dykes questioned the method to be used to carry out the issues identified in the sub-committee report. Consensus is that the sub-committee's task has been completed -- issues have been identified and recommendations have been made.

Extensive discussion then ensued regarding 12-hour free time, flat rate reimbursement, who is responsible for mutual aid reimbursement, assistance for hire, structural protection from wildland or threatening federal land fires, etc.

Chief Englund summarized by stating there exists the controversial issue of mutual aid reimbursement. The problem will not disappear -- it will resurface with every major emergency. A procedure for mutual aid reimbursement must be in place when this occurs. Primary issues are:

1. State responsibility for mutual aid reimbursement;
2. 12-hour period of free mutual aid (this takes care of the day-to-day mutual aid issue);
3. Fair Labor Standards Act problem -- commitment for mutual aid to pay time and one-half;
4. Flat rate reimbursement for personnel (no dollar amount established as yet).

After lengthy discussion,

IT WAS MOVED BY CHIEF KEN BROWN, SECONDED BY CHIEF GERALD JOHNSON, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO ACCEPT THE REPORT OF THE MUTUAL AID REIMBURSEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE IN ITS ENTIRETY, AS A POLICY STATEMENT OF THE OES FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE; AND FURTHER DIRECT THE MUTUAL AID REIMBURSEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE TO PREPARE A DRAFT OPERATIONAL PLAN FOR RECOMMENDATION NO. 2 OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE'S REPORT (12-HOUR FREE TIME AND FLAT RATE).

Chief Barrows presented a recently-compiled salary comparison of selected fire departments, suggesting it be used as a basis in determining the flat rate reimbursement. Chief Englund will review the document and provide specific direction to the mutual aid reimbursement sub-committee regarding its utilization.

UPDATE/REVISION OF FIRE AND RESCUE MUTUAL AID PLAN

Having reviewed the draft copy of the revised plan, the following comments/recommendations were made:

1. Page 10, Section VI: Reimbursement policy will be changed based on today's discussion of the issues.
2. Chief Sellers noted that Page 2, Item B.4, the word "unincorporated" should be changed to "incorporated."
3. Chief Barrows commented on the cover and format and presented a list of recommendations (included with these minutes).

Discussion ensued regarding hazardous materials units being included in the Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Plan. Chief Englund stated we are not just a fire suppression entity anymore -- must be prepared to include all-risk situations.

Dick Montague agreed he would like to see all risks encompassed in one mutual aid emergency plan. **Chief Englund requested Committee members as well as Region Coordinators provide input.**

The Committee then reviewed and discussed a letter addressed to Chief Barrows from Chief Bill Maxfield regarding the Bay Area Inter-County Fire Mutual Aid Plan. For the past several months, seven Bay Area counties have formulated plan drafts relative to an inter-county mutual aid response system. Fire Coordinators from the seven counties, in conjunction with the OES Region II Fire Coordinator, recommend the following modification to the Fire and Rescue Emergency Plan:

"...The Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator...evaluates requests for assistance, determines the local sources for such assistance, and initiates appropriate response thereof. If the need is beyond operational area capability, he will request assistance from the Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator **or adjacent County Operational Area Coordinator and advise the Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator.**"

Battalion Chief Bill Cullen, Contra Costa County Consolidated Fire District requested the Committee adopt the modification, justifying the request due to the fact that Region II dispatch is not available 24 hours per day, all year; thus the adjacent county proposal.

Chief Englund feels this is a departure from the Area-Region concept, and would jeopardize rapid response from the Region. While he understands the nature of the request due to local need, as a Regional Coordinator he feels it would cause a problem in fulfilling the Region mission. He suggested local mutual aid agreements between counties.

Chief Ernest stated that during the Summer months the Region II dispatch function could be moved to the Sonoma Ranger Unit, which would provide 24-hour coverage.

Discussion ensued with Chief Cullen requesting adoption of a pilot program beginning January 1987, to report back in six months; and not changing the Plan at this time. Dick Ernest, OES Region II Coordinator, feels if the Region is immediately notified of dispatch, there is no problem with the recommendation; also, this is a means of expediting initial attack into an area. Chief Englund again reiterated that Los Angeles accomplishes this as a department (not as Area Coordinator) with other agencies through local mutual aid agreements without changing the plan.

Chief Barrows added the State must have control in order for reimbursement to apply; i.e., if the system is altered and not followed, a department may not be eligible for mutual aid reimbursement.

Chief Englund ended the discussion with the statement that the bottom line is the commitment to make the most effective use of our resources.

IT WAS MOVED BY CHIEF MAXFIELD AND SECONDED BY CHIEF SELLERS TO INITIATE THE BAY AREA INTER-COUNTY MUTUAL AID PLAN AS A PILOT PROGRAM BASED ON PRE-ASSIGNED STRIKE TEAMS AND DISPATCH FROM AREA TO AREA WITH NO CHANGE IN THE PLAN, BEGINNING JANUARY 1987; AND TO REPORT BACK IN SIX MONTHS REGARDING IT'S FEASIBILITY AND/OR SUCCESS

Chief Englund called for a vote on the above motion, which resulted in a 6 YES and 6 NO split. In the absence of a unanimous decision -- pro or con -- Chief Englund therefore ordered the reimbursement sub-committee to evaluate the recommended change to the Emergency Plan and report back at the next Committee meeting in March 1987.

EARTHQUAKE TASK FORCE REPORT

Chief Barrows reported on the budget change proposals which resulted from recommendations of the above task force. The following was approved by Department of Finance:

- Purchase of three Heavy Rescue/Fire Fighting Units
- Purchase of six (6) rescue tool caches
- Purchase of two (2) vibraphone sound detecting devices

Chief Barrows urged this Committee to continue their efforts to procure this equipment and place it in service.

FIRESCOPE EXEMPLARY PRACTICES AWARD

Chief Barrows reported that Fire Division Deputy Chief Mike Scherr will receive the award on December 9 and will represent the FIRESCOPE Program. He further stated that anyone desiring to attend the awards ceremony is hereby invited.

FIRESCOPE NEEDS ASSESSMENT STUDY

Progress Reports 1 through 3 are submitted with these minutes. Harvey Ryland has requested an extension on the completion of his report since he has been unable to contact all FIRESCOPE Board members as yet for their input.

CALFIRMS

Chief Dale Geldert reported the following regarding CALFIRMS:

1. Chief Bill Neville of Hayward F.D. has resigned from CALFIRMS and his position of Fire Chief of Hayward to accept the position of Superintendent of the National Fire Academy. CALFIRMS will submit the name of an appropriate person and agency to replace Chief Neville.
2. Objectives of CALFIRMS in 1987 are to promote CALFIRMS within the community; coordinate specialist groups (with FIRESCOPE Opns. Team) which are working on similar issues; attend all FIRESCOPE Opns. Team meetings; attend all Fire Service Advisory/FIRESCOPE Board of Director meetings; continue mapping project (specialist group); continue multi-training/ICS/all-risk specialist group and the computer program specialist group.

It was agreed that Chief Geldert will submit the names of membership nominees to Chief Englund who will contact those individuals prior to the next CALFIRMS meeting (1/15/87).

OES Assistant Chief Will Brock noted that CALFIRMS will meet every other month for the purpose of more productive meetings, rather than meeting each month.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Linda Calhoun, Assistant Legislative Liaison for OES, presented copies of the status of current legislation of interest to/affecting the fire service and provided a brief update on Senate and Assembly activity. Also enclosed with these minutes is a correction to the Legislative update (SB 1977).

John Passerello, OES Assistant Director, explained AB 2702 and how the hazmat program is expanding.

NEW BUSINESS

It was mentioned that the Chairman and Vice Chairman of this Committee are located in the same area. In the event of inclement weather or other adverse conditions, one or both may not be able to attend Committee meetings. Following further discussion, it was recommended that a second Vice Chairman position be established. Therefore,

IT WAS MOVED BY CHIEF KEN BROWN, SECONDED BY DICK DAY AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO APPOINT CHIEF BILL MAXFIELD AS SECOND VICE CHAIRMAN OF THIS COMMITTEE.

Dick Montague (USFS), who will retire at the end of this year, stated Ken Clark will represent U.S. Forest Service at future Committee meetings until a replacement is appointed. Chief Englund thanked Mr. Montague for years of cooperation and support in the program.

ACCEPTANCE OF ICS STATEWIDE

Bill Teie requested this Committee reaffirm the fire service support of acceptance of ICS on a statewide basis. John Passerello cited some of the present "roadblocks" in acceptance of ICS, but stated OES Assistant Directors will initiate ICS within their own departments and "lobby" for acceptance of ICS.

IT WAS MOVED BY CHIEF LARRY HOLMS, SECONDED BY CHIEF JIM BRANNON AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED THAT OES BE ENCOURAGED TO TAKE A LEADERSHIP ROLE TO PROMOTE THE ICS CONCEPT IN AN ALL-RISK SYSTEM; AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THIS COMMITTEE WILL EXPRESS THIS CONCERN IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF OES.

NEXT MEETING

The next Committee meeting will be March 4, 1987 at Sacramento OES Headquarters, 0900 hours.

IT WAS MOVED BY DICK MONTAGUE, SECONDED BY CHIEF GERALD JOHNSON AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 1433 HOURS.