

FILE

**Office of Emergency Services
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FIREScope BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

MEETING OF JANUARY 8, 1992

MEMBERS PRESENT

William Maxfield, Chairman - Chief, Contra Costa County Fire Department
Donald Manning, Vice Chairman - Chief, Los Angeles City Fire Department
Rich Aronson, Chief - OES Fire and Rescue Division
Jim Brannon, Chief - Linda Fire Protection District
Chris Cameron, Regional Fire Management Officer - National Park Service
Gary Costamagna, Chief - Sacramento City Fire Department
Earl Fordham, Chief Deputy for Michael Freeman - Los Angeles County FD
Dick Henry, Director - U.S. Forest Service, Region V
Larry Holms, Chief - Orange County Fire Department
Pat Kidder, Fire and Aviation Officer - Bureau of Land Management
Stan Lake, Deputy Chief for Richard Wilson - California Department of Forestry
George Lund, Chief - Ventura County Fire Department
Loren Pettis, Chief - Montclair Fire Department
Dave Walizer, Chief Deputy for James McMullen - Calif State Fire Marshal

MEMBERS ABSENT

Frank Buscher, Chief - Tiburon Fire Protection District
Dan Fraijo, Chief - Santa Barbara County Fire
Michael Freeman, Chief - Los Angeles County Fire Department
James McMullen, California State Fire Marshal
Richard Wilson, Director - California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection

SPECIAL ADVISORS PRESENT

Kelley Trujillo for Brian Hatch - California Professional Firefighters

SPECIAL ADVISORS ABSENT

Brian Hatch, Director - California Professional Firefighters
Eldon Nagel, General Manager - California State Fireman's Association

OTHERS PRESENT

Paul Beckstrom, Deputy Chief - OES Fire and Rescue Division
Chuck Berdan, Operations Officer - Sacramento Regional Fire/EMS
Will Brock, Assistant Chief - OES Fire and Rescue Division
John Bryant, Emergency Operations Coordinator - U.S. Forest Service, South
Cliff Chapman, Assistant Chief - CDF, Region I
Mike Dacy, Chief - Sacramento County Fire Protection District/OES Region IV

OTHERS PRESENT

Mike Dougherty, Assistant Fire Coordinator - U.S. Forest Service, South
Candace Gregory, Division Chief - CDF, Sacramento
Mike Guerin, Assistant Director - OES Response and Recovery
Merrill McMurray, Deputy Chief - Sacramento County Fire Department
Bev Passerello, Legislative Liaison - Office of Emergency Services
Rich Peterson, Retired Chief - Santa Barbara County Fire Department
Jim Radley, Assistant Chief - Orange County Fire Department
Blair Springer, Consultant - Association of Contract Counties
Dick Starr, Deputy Chief - OES Fire and Rescue Division
Ray Stewart, Chief - CDF Shasta County Fire Department
Sherri Stromlund, Office Technician - OES Fire and Rescue Division
Bill Vandevort, Battalion Chief - Monterey Fire Department
Jack White, Assistant Chief - CDF Region II
Kim Zagaris, Assistant Chief - OES Fire and Rescue Division

The meeting was called to order at 0955 by Chairman Maxfield. Round-table introductions were made and logistics were discussed by Rich Aronson.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - OCTOBER 2, 1991 MEETING

IT WAS MOVED BY CHIEF MANNING, SECONDED BY DICK HENRY AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE OCTOBER 2, 1991 MEETING.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Bev Passerello updated the Board on the bills introduced at the State Capitol on Monday and distributed a list of those bills. There are several proposals, as a result of the East Bay Tunnel Fire, which have not been introduced yet. New bills will be introduced within the next couple of weeks. Mrs. Passerello stated that she would be monitoring those bills and will update the Board on those relating to fire issues.

INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM/FIREGROUND COMMAND

Bill Vandevort stated that he was representing the Incident Management System Consortium. The Consortium met in July of last year to develop a plan to merge ICS/FGC into one National Incident Management System. Subsequent meetings have been held to discuss this issue. During discussions to merge these two systems, the main issue was the need to provide a National focus for Incident Management. As a result of the Consortium's meetings, it was agreed that the Fire Ground Command organization structure would reflect that of the FIREScope ICS organization structure. Some of the terminology is still an unresolved issue, and it was agreed to work on that. The Consortium will be putting together a model Incident Management System for distribution, working with the National Fire Academy to revise curriculum for Incident Command courses, and conducting and sponsoring annual workshops in the area of incident command. The Chairman of the Consortium is Deputy Chief Gary Morris from

Phoenix Fire Department, Battalion Chief Dennis Ruben from Chesterfield is the Administrative Committee Chair, Dennis Compton from Phoenix Fire Department is the Conference Committee Chair, and Mr. Vandevort is the Curriculum Committee Chair. The Consortium has support and backing from FEMA, Emergency Management Institute, the National Fire Academy, U.S. Fire Administration, National Fire Protection Association, International Chiefs, International Firefighters, International Fire Service Instructors and IFSTA.

The Consortium is continuing to try to develop a single standard. As a result of the conference last September in Phoenix, a draft Incident Management System document was developed. At the meeting on February 28, 29 and March 1, 1992 in San Diego comments and feedback on the draft and the document to be submitted by the Task Force will be reviewed and put together for a final draft document. This year's conference is scheduled for September 17-19, 1992 in Phoenix. Mr. Vandevort ask for the Board's participation, and that of FIREScope, at the National Conference.

John Bryant stated that several people have been named to participate with the Consortium in representing FIREScope and the Board of Directors. Those individuals are Chief Larry Holms, Orange County Fire Department, Frank Borden, Deputy Chief for Los Angeles City Fire Department, Mike Dougherty, Assistant Fire Coordinator for U.S. Forest Service, and Stan Lake, Deputy Chief for CDF Sacramento. After general discussion, it was decided that Chief Holms would be the lead contact for this group and that it was important that FIREScope be represented at the Consortium meetings.

Chairman Maxfield asked about the Consortium's organizational structure, Decision-Making Process, and the procedures for making changes in the system. Mr. Vandevort stated that a system has not been developed at this time but they plan to establish a Decision-Making Process, whether it be similar to the one used by FIREScope, the Standard-Making Process that NFPA uses, or something in between those two, there will be a formalized process for changes. The intent is to have a consensus by the participants in the Consortium, which is open to anyone who wishes to participate. Mr. Vandevort feels that input, from the experience of the FIREScope representatives, into the development of a Decision-Making Process, would be very beneficial. The Consortium is in the process of setting up by-laws, and incorporating and will be a non-profit organization. They will publish and produce all documents and make them available at cost.

It was agreed that FIREScope representatives for the Consortium meetings will be funded by the representative's department.

Chief Manning stated that the outcome of this Consortium is something that will impact the fire service in the future, and he feels it is critical for FIREScope to participate and have a voice in the process. Chief Holms agreed that FIREScope should participate and present ICS effectively, dealing with substance and not ego issues, while leaving options open to continue using California's current ICS, if necessary. The Consortium is also attempting to contact NWCG to participate so that courses sanctioned by NWCG would reflect the National System, once in place. Stan Lake suggested that Board Members representing National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service, contact NWCG and encourage their participation so the link with NWCG is not lost.

RESOURCE TYPING

Rich Aronson discussed the issue of typing of resources, in reference to a letter from Assistant Chief Bill Cullen, Contra Costa Fire Department. That issue has been sent to the Task Force for recommendation. The Task Force has not had a chance to address that issue due to their work on the ICS/FGC project, however, it will come through the system later.

CANTARA LOOP INCIDENT

Ray Stewart reported on the application of the Incident Command System for the Cantara Loop Incident, distributed a written report to members, and did a slide presentation. (See attached written report for complete details.) This incident was initially under the jurisdiction of the Department of Fish and Game, however, they asked for assistance early on in the incident. The Department of Fish and Game and Water Quality Control were quite please with the Incident Command System during the Cantara Incident, and they have asked CDF to provide ICS training for their personnel.

Rich Aronson asked about changes in the railroad's procedures and/or legislation to change procedures. Mr. Stewart stated that he does not know of any proposed changes by the railroad at this time. He explained that the railroad is a Federally regulated utility and therefore, Federal laws supersede State law. The Public Utilities Commission has been trying to regulate some of the rail industry in California, but has not been successful.

EAST BAY TUNNEL FIRE

Paul Beckstrom presented slides and a video of the East Bay Hills Tunnel Fire, discussed "what worked" and "what did not work", and stated that the Mutual Aid System worked very well during this incident. A major problem, during and after this incident was the tracking of the initial attack units, prior to the System being put into use. Sixty-nine strike teams were assigned on an immediate need basis, along with air-attack units and various overhead. Due to extenuating circumstances, OES provided two pure OES strike teams after the fire was contained, to cover calls-for-service in Oakland while the Oakland crews continued with the mop-up phase. Units were assigned from as far south as Kern County, and from as far north as Siskiyou County.

OPERATIONS TEAM NORTH/SOUTH REPORTS

John Bryant reported that the Task Force submitted a response to the Consortium's Incident Management System document. The Operations Teams have reviewed this document and are forwarding it to the Board with a recommendation for approval and submitted it to the Consortium at the February meeting in San Diego. The Task Force will submit with their report.

The Operations Teams have done a cursory review of the Multi-Casualty package. It has been through the Task Force and Specialist Group and it is the recommendation of the Operations Teams that it be forwarded to the Board for final approval and concurrence then forwarded to the fire service and back to the State Fire Marshal's Office. (Letter referring to this is included in member's packets.)

IT WAS MOVED BY CHIEF HOLMS, SECONDED BY CHIEF FORDHAM, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO APPROVE THE MULTI-CASUALTY PACKAGE AND FORWARD TO THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE.

The Operations Teams are also recommending that the representatives for the Consortium meet with the Operations Teams and the Task Force prior to any meetings with the Consortium. The next joint Operations Team meeting will be on February 6-7, 1992 in Morro Bay. Chief Holms has agreed to try to attend. If Chief Holms is unable to attend, Operations Team members will meet with him the following week in the Orange County area.

Mr. Bryant brought the Board's attention to the letter to the NWCG concerning their changes in the ICS training. It has been through the Task Force, the Operations Teams have reviewed it, and are forwarding it to NWCG. It is not necessary for the Board to approve at this time. Mike Dougherty explained the details of this recommendation for the Board's information.

The External Review Committee's report is due to the Operations Team at the February 6-7, 1992 meeting.

TASK FORCE REPORT

Mike Dougherty submitted the Task Force response to the Consortium's IMS document. The Task Force produced this SOP-type document, using the Consortium's original document, NFPA's Incident Command, Fire Ground Command, Ventura and Orange Counties SOP's, NFPA 1561 and the OSD. This document is a "DRAFT", and has been review by the Operations Teams. Board members were mailed copies prior to this meeting for thorough review. The Task Force is recommending the Board adopt this document and forward to the Consortium.

IT WAS MOVED BY CHIEF FORDHAM, SECONDED BY DICK HENRY, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO ADOPT THE DRAFT IMS DOCUMENT AND FORWARD TO THE CONSORTIUM.

The Board members acknowledged the Task Force's work on the IMS document and expressed their thanks for their effort on this project.

Mike Dougherty updated the Board on the position manuals being developed by the Haz Mat Specialist Group, which were due to the Task Force by mid-January. Those manuals were received by the Task Force Monday, January 6, 1992.

The Task Force is continuing work with NWCG on the Generic I Courses. NWCG's contractor is Terry Haney and he is recommending changing from four courses to three. This issue is still being negotiated.

The Communications Specialist Group is working on a position paper on the 800 MHZ issue, and should be submitting a recommendation to the Task Force soon.

PRESENTATIONS

On behalf of the Board of Directors, Rich Aronson and Chairman Maxfield presented a plaque to Rich Peterson, Retired Chief - Santa Barbara County Fire Department, and thanked him for his years of support to the California Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System, and his membership and participation on the OES Fire and Rescue Service Advisory Committee/FIRESCOPE Board of Directors. Chief Peterson thanked the Board and expressed his continued support of the fire service and the FIRESCOPE Board of Directors.

On behalf of the Office of Emergency Services, Fire and Rescue Division, Rich Aronson presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Chief Deputy Earl Fordham for his participation as an alternate on the Board of Directors and his support of the fire service. Chief Fordham will retire on March 16, 1992 after 32 years of service. A retirement party in his honor will be held on March 14, 1992 in Seal Beach, California. Board members and guests are welcome to attend. For further information contact John Bryant, U.S. Forest Service, South Zone at (714) 276-6511.

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

Dick Starr updated the Board on the Cooperative Agreement Sub-Committee and its work with regard to the letter from Contract Counties for assistance-by-hire. The Board directed the Sub-Committee, at the October 2, 1991 meeting to review this letter and bring a recommendation back for Board consideration. The request for assistance-by-hire was initiated due to the increased costs by local departments in responding to Mutual Aid requests. Contract Counties felt that the terms of the Cooperative Agreement were no longer sufficient reimbursement to cover costs. The Sub-Committee met on December 18, 1991. The meeting was attended by representatives from CDF, BLM, USFS, National Parks, OES, Jim Radley and Pete O'Brien represented local government. The Committee did an analysis of the terms of the agreement and considered the assistance-by-hire issue and alternate options. Chief Starr asked Jim Radley to update the Board on the Committee's findings and recommendations. (See attached spread sheet for calculation break-down.) Chief Radley explained the statewide averages, alternatives and the results of each. Following is a brief break-down of the Committee's considerations.

1. Response to contract counties assistance by hire pay request. Assistance by hire was not recommended due to administrative complexity.

Alternatives considered:

- a. Continue with existing system
- b. Pay by region, using highest six average
- c. Pay by region, using highest six average, with a floor
- d. Pay by region with variations such as throwing out the top scale (see attached analysis)
- e. Pay by region, using highest six average, with existing 1991 rate as floor for Regions III, IV, and V. Hold until their averages reach the floor
- f. Pay by region, using top ten for average. Use existing state average as floor until Regions III, IV, and V reach floor.

The Cooperative Agreement Sub-Committee, after thorough review and consideration by all parties is recommending the Board approve Alternative "f".

After open discussion, some Board members expressed concerns with this alternative because of the "floor", (minimum payment even if that departments normal rate was less than the regional average). Those members felt the "floor" would ultimately afford some departments a profit. Other members felt without a "floor", local government agencies would feel a loss because they have already participated in the system and have received a higher rate in the past. Chief Holms asked Chief Radley if the local government departments had been surveyed and if the Board may be dealing with a problem that does not exist. Chief Radley answered that the local government departments, other than those represented on the Board, have not been surveyed. Chief Holms asked Chief Brannon how he felt this would affect the smaller local government agencies response. Chief Brannon stated that if the program was just beginning, it would not affect them as much, however, since they are accustomed to the rate of payment as it is, the elimination of the floor would definately cause some problems with those departments in which rates are lower than the regional average.

DICK HENRY MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE ALTERNATIVE "F" WITHOUT THE FLOOR. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY CHRIS CAMERON. MOTION FAILED

After further open discussion:

PAT KIDDER MOVED TO APPROVE ALTERNATIVE "F" FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR OF 1992, AT THE END OF WHICH TIME THE "FLOOR" WOULD BE ABOLISHED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY DICK HENRY AND CARRIED TO APPROVE ALTERNATIVE "F" WITH THE ABOVE MODIFICATION.

With the Board's approval of Alternative "f", this recommendation will be submitted to the five parties to the Cooperative Agreement for their concurrence and approval.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dave Walizer advised members and guests that the State Board of Fire Services meeting scheduled for February 5, 1992 in Oakland has been changed to February 19, 1992. Andy Stark will be hosting a tour of the East Bay Hills Tunnel Fire scene on February 18th for anyone who is interested. Notifications will be mailed out. Contact Dave Walizer, California State Fire Marshal's Office at (916) 424-7088, for further information.

The next Fire and Rescue Service Advisory Committee/FIRESCOPE Board of Directors meeting will be April 8, 1992 at OES Headquarters, 2800 Meadowview Road, Sacramento. The meeting will be called to order at 0930 hours.

With no other business to discuss, Chairman Maxfield adjourned the meeting at 1340 hours.