

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

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

MEMBERS PRESENT

William R. Bamattre, Chief - Los Angeles City Fire Department
James Z. Brannon, Chief - Linda Fire Protection District
Daniel J. Clark, Chief - Kern County Fire Department
Ronny J. Coleman, State Fire Marshall - California State Fire Marshall's Office
Gary Costmagna, Chief - Sacramento City Fire Department
P. Michael Freeman, Chief - Los Angeles County Fire Department
Stewart W. Gary, Chief - Livermore/Pleasanton Fire Department
Neil Honeycutt, Chief - Office of Emergency Services
John Jansen, Northern Director - California State Firefighter's Association
Pat Kidder, Fire Management Officer - Bureau of Land Management
John Kraushaar, Fire Specialist - National Park Service
Roger K. Purdie, Chief - Vista Fire Department
Russell Richards, Chief - Stanislaus Consolidated Fire Protection District
Bob Roper, Chief - Ventura County Fire Protection District
Keith Simmons, Chief - Santa Barbara County Fire Department
Douglas Sporleder, Chief - Santa Clara County Fire Protection District

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jose Cruz, Director - Aviation and Fire Management, United States Forest Service
Brian Hatch, Director - California Professional Fire Fighters
Tom Nichols, Protection Specialist - National Park Service
Richard A. Wilson, Director - California Department of Forestry

OTHERS PRESENT

Paul Beckstrom, Deputy Chief - Office of Emergency Services
Tom Bender, Chief - Waterloo-Morada Rural Fire Protection District
Will Brock, Assistant Chief - Office of Emergency Service
Pat Cooney, Assistant Chief - Office of Emergency Service
Mike Dougherty, Assistant Director, Southern Operations - United States Forest Service
Cary Eckard, Deputy Chief - Kern County Fire Department

Dan Francis, Chief - California Department of Forestry
Mark Ghilarducci, Deputy Chief - Office of Emergency Services
Gary Gilbert, Region Chief - California Department of Forestry
Mike Harris, Region VI Coordinator - California Department of Forestry
Richard Helton, Office Technician - Office of Emergency Services
Darrell Higuchi, Deputy Chief - Los Angeles County Fire Department
Larry J. Holms, Chief - Orange County Fire Authority (Retired)
Jim Jeffrey, Assistant Chief - Office of Emergency Services
John Linder, Assistant Chief - Office of Emergency Services
Robert Martinez, Operations Chief - California Department of Forestry
Glen Newman, Region Chief - California Department of Forestry
Jim Owen, Deputy Director - California Department of Forestry
Gary Pavusko, Deputy Chief - Office of Emergency Services
Joe Perry, Chief - Napa Fire Department
Ray Quintinaur, Deputy Director, United States Forest Service
Jim Radley, Assistant Chief - Orange County Fire Authority
Steve Vittum, Division Chief - Santa Barbara County Fire Department
Doug Wagoner - Bureau of Land Management
Bruce Ward, Deputy Director, Office of Emergency Services
Jack Weist, Cascade Area Chief - California Department of Forestry
Hank Weston, Chief - Grass Valley Fire Department
Dick Williams, Professor - Santa Ana College
Chris Wurzell, Assistant Chief - California Department of Forestry

OPENING REMARKS/INTRODUCTIONS

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

APPROVAL OF APRIL 9, 1997 MINUTES

Chief Doug Sporleder moved that the minutes of the April 9, 1997, meeting be approved as written. Chief Bamattre seconded, and the motion was passed by unanimous vote.

RECOGNITION OF CHIEF LARRY J. HOLMS

Deputy Director Bruce Ward presented Chief Larry Holms with a Certificate of Commendation from OES on behalf of Governor Pete Wilson. Chief Holms has served on the FIREScope Board for over 17 years, the last two years as vice-Chair.

Larry responded with a short speech thanking FIREScope for the opportunity to participate. He emphasized the cooperative nature of the Board and encouraged the members to maintain this leadership role in the fire service in California.

Introduction of New Board Member, Chief Bob Roper, Ventura County

Chief Neil Honeycutt introduced Chief Bob Roper as the newest board member, and Ventura County's new Fire Chief.

Certificate of Appreciation for Alice Forbes

Neil Honeycutt announced that Alice Forbes was unable to attend. The Certificate will be presented at some time in the future.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Deputy Director Bruce Ward represented Director Andrews.

FIRE ENGINE PROGRAM WORKING GROUP PRELIMINARY REPORT

Chief P. Michael Freeman reported that the Fire Engine Working Group had met in Burbank to study this program. The preliminary information is that the program is viable, 109 engines is appropriate, and that the distribution of the engines is still to be addressed. The group will have at least one more meeting. The final report is due in October. Chief Freeman also reported that no correspondence had been received from Senator Kopp's Committee.

LETTER FROM DIRECTOR'S ANDREWS AND WILSON: MUTUAL AID

Chief Gary Costamagna reported that Chief Freeman and He met with the Directors Andrews and Wilson and that a joint letter on the mutual aid issue was received from the Directors. He further stated that this letter needed to be distributed to the California Fire Service. A bulletin is being distributed with the letter to remind all fire chiefs that it is necessary to fully understand the mutual aid system..

Chief Costamagna opened the floor for discussion on the bulletin to be included with the Directors Joint Letter.

The discussion that followed included a number of issues: clarification of Forest Service fire policy; structure and wildland fire differences; suggestion's to create a group to better define how to track a Mutual Aid request or a Five Party Agreement Request; CDF indicated they would be willing to help with a working group; the training aspect of Mutual Aid and cost apportionment; the need to remind all Fire Chiefs that they need to be familiar with the Red Book, the Master Mutual Aid Agreement, and the Emergency Services Act of the State of California; that they should plan for mutual aid prior to an incident; and that local fire chiefs need to be more aware of the cost apportionment issues.

Other Issues regarding the letter and mutual aid were addressed. (available on tape)

97
Jim Owens made a motion that the OPS Team be tasked to study the order/request process, and report back to the Board. Seconded by Bob Roper

Following a discussion the Board decided to add a few paragraphs to the Bulletin, and that the revised copy would be reviewed after the lunch break.

STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT

Daniel Francis presented an ICS Certification, Qualification and Training Report (briefing paper attached). The Board discussed these issues in detail. The general consensus was the Board Members need to provide the direction for these various programs. Chief Francis was directed to report back to the Board in October with new developments, and additional recommendations on how these programs may be implemented. (tape failure)

Items discussed included:

ICS Qualification & Certification System for Wildland Firefighting

ICS All-Risk Qualifications and Certifications

ICS Position Certification & Qualifications Tracking System "Red Card".

Training Delivery System.

Chief Freeman made a motion to have FIREScope representation at a training summit meeting, that includes the California Fire Chiefs and other Interested parties, to further develop the direction of a training delivery system, Seconded by Chief Simmons, passed by unanimous vote.

ICS Position Training Development.

Chief Stewart made a motion to have the Office of Emergency Services and the State Fire Marshal, along with the FIREScope Task Force develop a Budget Change Proposal to rewrite the current NWCG curriculum ICS position training. Seconded by Chief Simmons, passed by unanimous vote.

Chief Simmons made a motion to redirect the Forest Service funds from training curriculum development with a specific trainer to curriculum development in general, seconded by Roger Purdie (?) passed by unanimous vote.

OPERATIONS TEAM/TASK FORCE REPORT

Chief Dougherty submitted the FIREScope work plan and for the Task Force which included notes for removing certain ICS modules to keep them from being duplicated. A draft of the strategic plan was submitted to the board for their review.

OLD BUSINESS

Jim Owen (?) recommended that Chief Keith Simmons replace Chief Holm's vacant position on the SEMS Advisory Group. Seconded by Steward Gary, Passed by unanimous vote.

Return to: LETTER FROM DIRECTOR'S ANDREWS AND WILSON: MUTUAL AID

After reviewing the FIREScope Bulletin (to be a cover for the joint letter from the Directors), some additional comments were added, and the Bulletin was finalized.

NEW BUSINESS

Chief Bamattre reported on the Safe House Program in the Los Angeles City Fire Department. They are working to expand it and how it could have a statewide application.

State Fire Marshal Coleman reported on California's Arson Information Reporting System and the ongoing testing of this system. This system is a database of all fires in

the State of California and how departments will be able to access the information through the Internet, including training and how to sign-up for access.

REGIONAL COORDINATOR'S REPORTS:

Region I: No Report.

Region II: No Report.

Region III: Chief Jack Weist reported on a silo incident in the Tehama-Glen Ranger Unit that involved an oxygen limiting fire and the backdraft that was created when the silo was opened. The backdraft that resulted blew the top of the concrete silo off and threw debris for several hundred feet, cracking the silo in the process. He further reported that of the 23 silos in the complex, 4 had fires in them.

Chief Weist also reported on the Cresta Dam Failure on the Feather River. The initial failure released 1800 acre feet of water immediately, and there were no fatalities, though there were rescue activities handled through mutual aid.

Region IV: Chief Weston reported that there has been a lot of Operational Area, Strike Team, and ICS training taking place. He also complimented Sacramento County on their response to a request for an Immediate Need Strike Team, and the way they performed their job.

Region V: Chief Gilbert that Chief Gregory was appointed Mariposa County Fire and Rescue Operational Area Coordinator. The region is continuing training for all dispatchers in their region.

Region VI: Chief Mike Harris reported that Jim Wright has been appointed the CDF Chief for Riverside County and may be appointed the Operational Area Coordinator. He further reported on the several Mutual Aid responses handled in Region VI, including a request for aid from the Mexican Consulate to assist them with a 1200 to 1600 acre fire threatening the City of Tecate. CDF mobilized 10 engine companies to the port of entry to Tecate, however, due to the introduction of military forces, the CDF engines were no longer required.

Some general discussion followed regarding border crossing protocol and the current state of discussions regarding border crossing for Mutual Aid resources.

NEXT MEETING OF THE FIRESCOPE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The next meeting is schedule for October 8, 1997, at the Department of Health Services in Sacramento.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

NEIL R. HONEYCUTT, Chief
Governor's Office of Emergency Services
Fire and Rescue Branch