

Office of Emergency Services
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE/
FIRESCOPE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DRAFT

MEETING OF JULY 11, 1990 - OES HEADQUARTERS

M I N U T E S O F M E E T I N G

MEMBERS PRESENT

Donald Manning, Vice Chairman, Chief, Los Angeles City Fire Department
Dick Wilson for Chief George Lund, Ventura County Fire Protection District
Rich Peterson, Chief, Santa Barbara County Fire Department
Jim Radley for Chief Larry Holms, Orange County Fire Department
Michael Freeman, Chief, Los Angeles County Fire Department
Jack Brocchini for Chief Gary Costamagna, Sacramento City Fire Department
Bill Teie for Harold Walt, California Dept. of Forestry & Fire Protection
James Brannon, Chief, Linda Fire Protection District
Gary Togle for James McMullen, State Fire Marshal
Loren Pettis, Chief, Montclair Fire Department
Rich Aronson, Chief, OES Fire and Rescue Division

MEMBERS ABSENT

William Maxfield, Chairman, Chief, Contra Costa County Consolidated FPD
Larry Holms, Chief, Orange County Fire Department
Gary Costamagna, Chief, Sacramento City Fire Department
Dick Adams, U.S. Forest Service
Chris Cameron, National Park Service
Harold L. Walt, Director, California Dept. of Forestry and Fire Protection
James McMullen, State Fire Marshal
Pat Kidder, U.S. Department of Interior

SPECIAL ADVISORS ABSENT

Harry Steimer, California State Firemen's Association
Brian Hatch, California Professional Fire Fighters

OTHERS PRESENT

Ken Brown - Calif. Fire Chief's Assn., Fire Dist. Assn. of California
Gary Buzzini, CDF Region II, Mutual Aid Region III
Merrill McMurray, Mutual Aid Region IV
John Passerello, OES Assistant Director
Bev Passerello, Legislative Liaison
Mike Scherr, Deputy Chief
Dick Starr, Deputy Chief
Kim Zagaris, Assistant Chief
Will Brock, Assistant Chief
Paul Beckstrom, Assistant Chief

OPENING REMARKS

Vice Chairman Manning opened the meeting in the absence of Chairman Maxfield, who is on medical leave.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 11, 1990 MEETING

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IT WAS MOVED BY CHIEF PETTIS, SECONDED BY KEN BROWN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 11, 1990 MEETING, AS CORRECTED.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Bev Passerello, OES Legislative Liaison, distributed copies of the June 27, 1990 Legislative Update. She advised there are approximately 5,200 bills being "pushed" through the Legislature at this time -- bills which have been held until the last month of the session.

Referring to Proposition 122 (originally SB-1250 - Art Torres), Mrs. Passerello stated this bond issue will provide \$50 million in grants to EOCs, fire stations and essential service buildings for retrofit purposes. The Office of the State Architect, as lead agency, will work with the Seismic Safety Commission and OES. An information package for the application process will not be completed for at least six months. Committee members will be advised of any new developments.

In closing, Mrs. Passerello stated that as soon as a budget is in place and the Legislature adjourns for the July recess, a new Legislative Update will be prepared and distributed to Committee members.

FIRESCOPE/OCC ACTIVITY

Mike Scherr detailed OCC emergency fire operations during June, 1990, which included the following:

- * Between 6/27 - 6/30, placed seven 25-45-minute conference calls with 9-13 people on each call, for the purpose of sharing and exchanging information.
- * Went into Mode 3 operation at 1630 on 6/27/90 (facility functions on a 24-hour basis).
- * Weather reports were increased from twice daily to four times daily -- 0800, 1200, 1600 and 2000.
- * Regional Fire Information system issued two reports per day.

Some problems were encountered with the Incident 209 program and system, requiring approximately four hours of effort to resolve. Agency dispatchers will now be requested to complete Inc 209s by hand and fax them to the OCC for input into the system.

Deputy Chief Scherr summarized OCC activity since the last meeting. Items discussed included MACS GHQ training, Field Operations Guide printing and distribution schedule, and a new MACS computer system. Also discussed were computer program priorities as follows:

1. FAPS (Fire Arson Protection Program) (5-4-90)?
2. PFIRS (Prescribed Fire Information Reporting System). A statewide committee will establish a data input form for use with this program.

General discussion ensued, with Bill Teie requesting that CDF be allowed to redesign PFIRS as a tool for tracking prescribed fire information which is carried statewide.

IT WAS MOVED BY CHIEF PETERSON, SECONDED BY CHIEF RADLEY AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST MADE BY BILL TEIE THAT CDF BE ALLOWED TO REDESIGN AND USE THE PFIRS PROGRAM FOR TRACKING PRESCRIBED FIRE INFORMATION STATEWIDE.

OPERATIONS TEAMS REPORTS

Mike Scherr reported the joint meeting of the Operations Teams will be held July 19-20 in Quincy. Major areas of discussion are the FIREScope Decision Process and completion of the 5-Year Plan (discussion of amendments and strategy, and formalize the request to hire a Program Manager).

Urban Search and Heavy Rescue Group

Deputy Chief Scherr stated this group has been provided with briefing information on FIREScope and the Fire Service and Rescue Mutual Aid Plan. He distributed a document illustrating the FIREScope Decision Process, which now includes the OES USAHR Advisory Committee. Discussion followed regarding how this sub-committee fits into the FIREScope decision process. Bill Teie stated that since fire is such a large part of the search and rescue function, the fire service should be represented on USAHR Advisory Committee for the purpose of policy decisions.

Extensive discussion ensued regarding potential grant monies available for the Search and Rescue portion of the FIREScope 5-Year Program.

Communications Groups

Charters for the groups have been outlined and are approaching completion.

OES BUDGET OUTLOOK

Chief Aronson reported the following:

- * If approved, the Fire & Rescue Division budget will allow annual engine replacement to increase from five to seven per year.
- * Ten fire engine chassis are on hand. Ten fire bodies and two engines will be purchased in this year's budget. These represent the last Ford C-8000 chassis. New engines will have Spartan Diamond cabs, which will add approximately \$20,000 to the cost of a new fire engine.
- * Budget Change Proposals have been submitted for 15 heavy rescue/fire fighting units to be purchased over the next 10 years, as recommended by this Committee in 1986. Three units will be purchased in next year's budget.
- * Due to the efforts of Chief Deputy Director Dick Andrews, \$11 million has been budgeted for earthquake programs -- SCEPP, BAREPP and USAHR.
- * A BCP for the FIREScope Program Manager is being prepared at this time.

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

Chief Aronson highlighted the changes in the revised document, which is in the process of being signed. The changes/revisions include:

1. The addition of the Bureau of Land Management and the National Park Service as parties to the agreement.
2. The section on protective clothing has been specialized to include turnout gear. (Page 2)
3. Personnel reimbursement rate has increased from \$487 to \$519 per man, per 24-hour shift. (Page 4, Item 2)
4. Non-payment for assistance to other than requested agency representatives. (Page 4, Item 5)
5. Rewording that the responsible forest agency will assume responsibility for minor repairs of OES engines. (Page 5)

Members will be provided a copy of the fully-executed document. Bill Teie suggested that a copy of the California Code of Regulations on Turnout Clothing be attached when copies are sent.

ICS/FIREGROUND COMMAND MERGER

Chief Peterson attended a Summit Meeting in Phoenix, Arizona on July 9-10, and referenced a draft Executive Summary Report enclosed in today's meeting portfolios. He reviewed the findings, stating that the purpose of the meeting "...was to explore the feasibility of a merger of ICS and FGC into a single national incident management system." Representatives attending the meeting recommended reconvening in January, 1991.

General discussion followed with Bill Teie recommending the FIREScope Specialist Groups be tasked to review the draft report and submit their recommendations at the October Advisory Committee meeting.

IT WAS MOVED BY CHIEF PETERSON, SECONDED BY KEN BROWN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO ACCEPT THE DRAFT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY REPORT OF THE FGC-ICS SUMMIT MEETING AND MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVES WHEN THE GROUP RECONVENES IN JANUARY, 1991. IN THE INTERIM, THE FIREScope SPECIALIST GROUPS ARE TASKED TO REVIEW THE DRAFT REPORT AND SUBMIT THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS AT THE OCTOBER 10, 1990 MEETING OF THIS COMMITTEE.

SANTA BARBARA FIRE

Chief Peterson distributed a map of the fire area. At the time the fire started, the temperature was 103° and excessively dry, a red flag alert was in effect and there were 40-55 mph down-canyon winds. The U.S. Forest Service and Santa Barbara County Fire Department established a joint command center. Chief Peterson felt the mutual aid system functioned extremely well.

Most homeowners, although previously encouraged to properly clear the areas around their homes, were not prepared when the fire started.

CALIFORNIA WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP

Bill Teie reported on this group, which developed as a result of the 1987 Fire Siege. Their primary function is to manage the five California National Teams -- select Incident Commanders, approve team makeup. Representing the entire California Fire Service, this group sets priorities and resolves conflicts. Meetings are held each quarter. The Chairman is Pat Kidder, Bureau of Land Management. possible teams represent the California fire service.

CDF -- WHERE IT IS GOING IN THE 90'S

Bill Teie reported the following:

- * Dave Mack is now in CDF Fire Control operations, replacing Teie, who is now Deputy Director of CDF.
- * By Fall, 50 bulldozers will be retrofitted with safety cabs.
- * Helicopters - are in the process of upgrading the fleet from F to H type units (changing engines, etc.).
- * A new single engine turbine, 800-gallon air tanker will be field tested.

- * Six Spartan Diamond custom chassis have been purchased and are to be field tested.
- * Within the next three years, Corrections will add 1,000 beds to the conservation camp program.
- * Recently took delivery of five hundred 321-channel, programmable radios.
- * Portable Kitchens - Twelve fifth wheel trailer units @ \$175,000 each will be built -- six this year and six next year. They will be positioned at conservation camps.
- * 20 trailers will be purchased for steam tables and hot cans.
- * Specifications for mobile communications unit have been developed. Five units to be built this year @ \$250,000 (motor coach).
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REGION I FIRES

Chief Freeman presented an overview of the June 27-28 fire activity in Region I, beginning with the Carbon Canyon Fire at 1130 hours, followed by the Verdugo Fire near Glendale at 1500 hours and the Santa Barbara Fire at 1800 hours. 95 of 140 engine companies were assigned to one incident.

A critique revealed the need for better communications within the Region with reference to managing resources (e.g., Ventura County resources were completely depleted). Also needed is a single, joint ordering system. Cellular phones were helpful between agencies without commonality of radio frequencies. Discussion followed regarding establishing priority lines during emergency operations.

OLD BUSINESS

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NEW BUSINESS

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NEXT MEETING

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There being no further business, Chief Manning adjourned the meeting at 1400 hours.

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