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

Meeting Minutes
July 12, 2000
Sacramento, California

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dallas Jones, Director OES
John Scherrei, Chief, Santa Barbara County Fire Department
Bob Roper, Chief, Ventura County Fire Department
Michael Dougherty, Chief, OES Fire and Rescue Branch
Douglas Sporleder, Chief, Santa Clara County Fire Department
Dennis Smith, Chief, Sacramento City Fire Department
Russell W. Richards III, Fire Warden, Stanislaus County
Ray Quintanar, USDA Forest Service - Fire and Aviation Management
Roger K. Purdie, Chief, Vista Fire Department
Ed Wehking, Bureau of Land Management
Hank Weston, Chief, Grass Valley Fire Department

MEMBERS ABSENT

P. Michael Freeman, Chief, Los Angeles County Fire Department
Stewart Gary, Chief, Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department
Chip Prather, Chief, Orange County Fire Authority
Nancy Wolfe, State Fire Marshal – CDF
Tom Nichols, National Park Service
Brian Hatch, CPF
John Jansen, California State Firefighter's Association
Daniel G. Clark, Chief, Kern County Fire Department
William R. Bamattre, Chief, Los Angeles City Fire Department
Andrea Tuttle, Director, CDFFP

OTHERS PRESENT

Pat Kidder, Bureau of Land Management
Dan Drake, Orange County Fire Authority representing Chip Prather
Bob Neamy, Los Angeles City Fire Department, representing William R. Bamattre
George Ewan, USDA Forest Service (FIRESCOPE Task Force Chair)
Steve Sherrill, representing P. Michael Freeman
Randy Roxson, CDF, representing Nancy Wolfe
J. Kraushaar, NPS, representing Tom Nichols
Andy Anderson, Quincy FD (FIRESCOPE Operations Team North Chair)
Ralph Alworth, CDF, representing NWCG IOSWT

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OTHERS PRESENT (continued)

Cary Eckard, Kern County Fire Department (FIRESCOPE Operations Team South Chair) representing Daniel G. Clark
Rachel Parks, OES
Chris Wurzell, CDF
Bob Martines, CDF, representing OES Regions V and VI.
Jim Wright, CDF, representing Director Tuttle
Steve Peterson, CDF, representing Jeff Jones, OES Region III Coordinator
Neil Honeycutt, OES
Gary Glotfelty, OES
Pat Cooney, OES
Gary Pavusko, OES
Steve Vittum, SBC
Jon Olney, KRN
Steven Turner, CSFA

OPENING REMARKS/INTRODUCTIONS

Meeting called to order at 0940 by R. Richards. Chair is absent, Vice Chair Richards will preside. Self-introductions were made. Lunch and logistics were discussed.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBER

Pat Kidder introduced the new BLM representative to the BOD, State Fire Management Officer Ed Wehking. On behalf of the BOD Mike Dougherty thanked Pat for his many years of service to the BOD and wished him the best in retirement.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 12, 2000 MINUTES

Chair R. Richards requested approval of the minutes for the January 12, 2000, FIRESCOPE Board of Directors Meeting. Moved by B. Roper, second by J. Scherrei. Minutes approved as submitted.

OES Director Report

Director Jones discussed the challenges the California Fire Service will face in the future. He envisions that FIRESCOPE will take the lead in meeting these challenges, with the same cooperative spirit that has been demonstrated in the last 30 years. He is looking forward to taking an active role in the 30th year FIRESCOPE Celebration next year. The celebration will be held in concert with the dedication of the new OES Headquarters in Sacramento. The construction of the new OES Headquarters is proceeding on schedule.

FIRESCOPE 30th Event Update

G. Ewan reported that the first meeting of the FIRESCOPE 30th Event Planning Group will be July 18-19, 2000, in Sacramento. Flyers have been sent out. PIE Groups North and South, Agency Representatives, the Task Force, and Retired Planning Group (RPG) are participating. At the first meeting the Incident Action Plan will be built and

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assignments will be made. One issue is the location of the celebration. The Task Force feels that the event should take place in Sacramento. Chief Smith offered his agency's assistance.

Informational Update: OSHA Fire Department Citations

M. Dougherty reported that at Region I Coordinators meeting Fire Chiefs discussed the recent OSHA citations issued to fire departments in the region. The OSHA team was investigating an allegation made by a firefighter, but focused on a hose tower built in the 1950's. A ladder and hose drive were not in compliance, and the agency was fined \$59,000. Chief Freeman, Region I, requested the BOD review this issue and determine the role the BOD can play. Chief Dougherty and M. Freeman will work together to gather specific information. Santa Barbara County reported similar OSHA investigations, with one specific investigation on heat stress.

A discussion regarding Assembly Bill (AB) 1127 legislation took place. Some issues may impact mutual aid, because of the different levels of "employers". Multi agency's could be held responsible for the personnel operating on their incidents. Many questions remain.

In some cases, if Cal OSHA does not have a specific statute, Federal OSHA may apply.

It was recommended to Chief Dougherty that OSHA representatives from enforcement and policy be invited to a future BOD meeting.

Hazardous Materials: Mass Decontamination

Chief Dougherty reported that the OES Planning and Technical Assistance Branch (PTAB) is working on a Hazmat Resource List. The working group is asking the FIRESCOPE process to determine if Decon Typing should be included in the Hazmat OSD?

Director Jones felt the issues regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction, including Chemical and Biological agents is a hazardous materials problem in the purview of the fire service. He suggested we should include the typing of Decon Units in the Hazmat OSD. This is the kind of task FIRESCOPE was designed for.

M. Dougherty explained this still in the conceptual stage at his time. As the process develops we will coordinate with OES PTAB to insure compatibility. Chief Smith reminded the Board that this is Hazmat issue, not just a Mass-Decon issue.

M. Dougherty commented that work on Hazmat began during our Y2K preparations. The information will be shared with the Regions when completed. The general feeling was that Hazmat resources should be easily obtainable through the Mutual Aid System.

B. Neamy suggested that both equipment and personnel should be typed.

M. Dougherty felt that FIRESCOPE should type fire operational resources, and that OES PTAB would type other disciplines resources (i.e. hospital, public works, etc.)

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The Task Force further recommends the US&R Specialist Group be reactivated to develop standards to update the US&R OSD. New technology and improvements in rescue equipment will require updating the US&R Equipment List.

The jurisdictional and responsibility issues relating to swiftwater rescue remains a major issue with the Sheriff's Association. They have threatened to obtain legislation making them the sole agency to make swiftwater rescue. In some areas confusion over responsibility for search and rescue has occurred. The fire community feels the best equipped closest resource should respond, regardless of jurisdiction. When the immediate threat to life is over, law enforcement, if equipped, would take the lead. Unified Command is still a foreign concept to many LE agencies. Model MOU's have been distributed to assist local fire departments in working with their County Sheriff.

The law enforcement community does not have a system similar to FIRESCOPE to develop standards. Police Officer Standards and Training (POST) is focused on training.

In the final analysis, the Task Force feels that the Fire Services must maintain our standards.

D. Jones explained that issues such as standards, certification and qualifications, especially regarding volunteers, are threatening to the law community. **He recommends that FIRESCOPE should move forward with this issue.**

MACS 2000 Exercise

G. Ewan reported a MACS Review was held in Riverside on May 3rd to familiarize southern California agencies on MACS operations. On May 10 a full MACS simulation was conducted in Redding. Based on evaluations from the participants the Task Force reports that both exercises were successful. Video-conferencing was utilized in both exercises. The Task Force will use V-C in future exercises to increase participation and reduce travel costs.

In 2001 the simulation will be conducted for southern California in Riverside, and the training exercise for northern California agencies will be conducted in Redding.

M. Dougherty thanked the Task Force, and Gary Glotfelty and Neil Honeycutt, for their excellent work on the review and simulation.

R. Purdie commented that although the MACS forms are generic, he felt we should not lose sight of our main focus, which is wildland. M. Dougherty explained we have developed MACS forms for both wildland and "All-Risk".

OES Engine Update

M. Dougherty reported that the first of the 30 new OES engines will be delivered this week. He will arrange to have a new engine at the October BOD meeting.

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B. Roper suggested sending a picture of new engines on email. M. Dougherty will have a picture of the engine posted on the FIRESCOPE Website.

North/South Operations Teams Update

C. Eckard will bring the following issues to the July 13-14 Joint Operations Team Meeting:

- Typing of Decon Trailers
- SEMS Guidance Committee Representative
- Cal-OSHA Violation Issues

C. Eckard reviewed the document on the California Incident Qualifications System with the BOD. He suggested the Joint Operations Teams review this document at the meeting on July 13-14. The group will draft a document to be forwarded to the BOD for approval.

B. Neamy raised a question regarding the term "certification". It was agreed that certification is the training, generally a classroom experience, and that qualification comes from actual field experience, documented by a qualified third party, and that higher levels of certification are validated by a regional or statewide reviewing committee, such as CWCG.

The CIQS will eventually develop the end product, a certification card.

S. Sherrill questioned if this process is limited to one position in ICS or all positions. C. Eckard explained it will apply to all positions within ICS.

P. Cooney, explained that to accomplish certification there will be review committees at different levels:

- 100 Level: Local Fire Chief, or his/her designee
- 200 Level: Local Fire Chief, or his/her designee
- 300 Level: Operational Area (all participating agencies represented)
- 400 Level: Region (all participating agencies represented)
- 500-600 Level: existing review process through CWCG

A discussion followed regarding the certification of personnel. If an agency uses their own personnel on an incident within their jurisdiction, they determine the level of certification.

Agencies that send their personnel to an incident out of their jurisdiction (operational area, region, statewide) the personnel would have to meet the proper certification. Unqualified personnel should not be used to fill any request.

S. Sherrill felt it is very important that all participation in the system be voluntary. Comment made that the CIQS is voluntary. Those not in the system could not fully participate.

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C. Eckard commented the document is still in the proposal stage, and was asking the BOD if the CIQS Development Team is headed in the right direction.

A 5 year transition period has been suggested to allow agencies to train personnel to the new standards.

Motion by J. Scherrei, second by B. Roper: Endorse the State Board of Fire Services IQS document for wildland fire. There is still a lot of work to be completed on the document. The Ops Teams will draft a letter for BOD Chair Chief Freeman.

S-339 - Division Group Supervisor

This document will have it's final review at the July 18-19 Joint Ops Team Meeting.

Task Force Update

George Ewan. The Fireline Emergency Medical Technician (FEMT), ICS-223-10 document was outlined. Conditional approval had been given at the April BOD meeting. The Task Force made the changes recommended by the BOD. We are now requesting final approval from the BOD.

B. Roper suggested a change in Definitions: Scope of Practice: As approved by their agency or local EMS authority. Noted and changed.

The FEMT would be ordered with ("wet") or without ("dry") equipment. The sending agency would fill the order only if they could meet the request. If an FEMT arrives without equipment, the incident would have to provide a Medical Kit. The Medical Unit (Logistics) would normally provide the necessary support.

B. Roper motion, H. Weston, second, to approve the FEMT document as amended.

FIRESCOPE Weather Specialists Group

The Task Force is in the process of updating the original Charter for the Weather Specialist Group. The Task Force plans to reactivate the group, in conjunction with CWCG, this will provide continuity for any projects and be a benefit of all users of incident related weather.

NWCG IOSWT

R. Alworth requested a representative from FIRESCOPE be assigned to the IOSWT. The state representative will be involved in the review and standardization of IMTs are organized in the each geographic areas. Currently each geographic area operates on their own. The current configuration of IMT's are felt to be too large. The first meeting is scheduled for August 10th.

Following discussion with the BOD, Mike Dougherty was appointed to be the representative to the IOSWT from FIRESCOPE.

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OES Fire and Rescue Branch Report

M. Dougherty informed the Board that Assistant Chief John Linder, OES Region VI, has retired. John has agreed to work through the DNC in August as a retired annuitant. The BOD extended its thanks to John for his contribution to the Fire Service, and wished him well in his retirement.

OES has approved funding for base station radios at the both region and operational area level.

TASK FORCE RETIREMENT

G. Ewan, Task Force Chair, announced his retirement from the US Forest Service, M. Dougherty thanked him for his excellent work on the Task Force, and his contribution to FIRESCOPE. He has taken a position with the Orange County Fire Authority.

Cooperative Agreement: STL Trainees

M. Dougherty reported that all members of the 5 Party Committee support the assignment of Strike Team Leader Trainees. At this time a separate 'O' number is needed, to insure the incident will pay for the position. Assignments out of state are not covered in the current 5 Party Agreement.

New Business

R. Neamy outlined the planning LAF D has done concerning the DNC. At this time, issues on where protestors will be permitted to demonstrate are being addressed. LFD has trained their personnel on a number of issues related to the DNC, including mass decon.

M. Dougherty added that OES Fire and Rescue and the OES Law Enforcement Branch are gearing up to support OES Southern Region, OES Region I, and Los Angeles City with DNC operations. OES Region I will have a meeting on August 9th to review operational plans.

Chief Dougherty informed the BOD that the NTSB contacted OES for a copy of the Alaska 261 After Action Report, and ICS materials to become informed on how the California ICS, SEMS, and Mutual Aid Systems operate during emergencies. The NTSB maybe interested adding ICS to their operations.

Regional Coordinators Report

Region I – Steve Sherrill: Preparing for fire season, and the DNC

Region II – no report

Region III – Steve Peterson: Preparing for fire season.

Region IV – Hank Weston: Began fire season by sending resources to Nevada.

Region V – Bob Martines: Ed Wristen has retired, Ted Mendoza is acting.

Region VI – Bob Martines: Mike Harris has retired, Bob Martines acting Region Coordinator.

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Next Meeting

October 11, 2000, in Sacramento.