

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

MEETING OF JUNE 17, 1987
SACRAMENTO CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT - TRAINING DIVISION
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

MINUTES OF MEETING

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

John Englund, Chairman - Chief, Los Angeles County Fire Department
Don Manning, 1st Vice Chairman - Chief, Los Angeles City Fire Department
William Maxfield, 2nd Vice Chairman - Chief, Contra Costa Co. Cons. Fire Dist.
Ray Charles, Chief - Sacramento City Fire Department
Loren Pettis, Chief - Montclair City Fire Department
James Z. Brannon, Chief - Linda Fire Protection District
Wesley Kilcrease, Chief - Ventura County Fire Protection District
Larry Holms, Director of Fire Services - Orange County Fire Department
Stan Lake - for Dick Day, Deputy Director, California Department of Forestry
and Fire Protection
Paul Beckstrom - for James McMullen, State Fire Marshal
Pat Kidder, Fire Mgmt. Officer - Bureau of Land Management
Rich Peterson, Chief - Santa Barbara County Fire Department
Kenton Clark, Asst. Regional Forester for Aviation and Fire Management - U.S.
Forest Service
R. G. Barrows, Chief - OES Fire and Rescue Division

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Chris Cameron, Protection Specialist - National Park Service
Dick Day, Deputy Director - California Department of Forestry and Fire
Protection
James McMullen - State Fire Marshal
Ken Brown, Chief - Rio Linda Fire Prot. District

SPECIAL ADVISORS PRESENT

Harry Steimer - California State Firemen's Association
Beth Martinez - for Brian Hatch, California Professional Fire Fighters

SPECIAL ADVISORS ABSENT

Brian Hatch - California Professional Fire Fighters

OTHERS PRESENT

Bill Imboden, Chief, CDF Region I - Mutual Aid Region II
Ed Phipps, Chief - San Francisco Fire Dept., Mutual Aid Region II
Jerry Cullen - San Francisco Fire Department, Mutual Aid Region II
Don Banghart, Chief, CDF Region II - Mutual Aid Region III
Merrill McMurray - Rancho Cordova F.P.D., Mutual Aid Region IV
Greg Wayne, Asst. Chief, CDF Region III - Mutual Aid Region VI
Dick Broughton - Ventura County Fire Prot. District
W.M. Medigovich - Director of OES
R.D. Starr, Deputy Chief - OES Fire and Rescue Division
W.R. Wirth, Deputy Chief - OES Fire and Rescue Division
Mike Scherr, Deputy Chief - OES Fire and Rescue Division
Rich Aronson, Asst. Chief - OES Fire and Rescue Division
Will Brock, Asst. Chief - OES Fire and Rescue Division
Bob Gerber, Orthophoto Mapping Coord. - OES Fire and Rescue Division
Dianne K. Wirth, Secretary - OES Fire and Rescue Division
Paul Jacks - OES Disaster Assistance Division
Charles Wynn - OES Disaster Assistance Division
R. Blair Springer - Senator William Campbell's Office

OPENING REMARKS

Chairman Englund called the meeting to order at 0930 hours, welcoming Committee members and guests.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

IT WAS MOVED BY CHIEF MAXFIELD, SECONDED BY CHIEF BRANNON, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 4, 1987 MEETING.

MUTUAL AID REIMBURSEMENT:

Chairman Englund stated that the Sub-Committee for Mutual Aid Reimbursement, at their last meeting, adopted the five policy statements contained in the March 4, 1987 Minutes (page 3 and 4). A meeting was held in Contra Costa County relative to Policy Statement No. 5, which calls to "Update, strengthen and clarify the California Fire and Rescue Emergency Plan to better assist the established sequence of local-to-area-to-region-to state mutual aid resource ordering."

Chairman Englund presented and distributed the draft copy of the mutual aid plan, noting the name has been changed to "**CALIFORNIA FIRE SERVICE AND RESCUE EMERGENCY MUTUAL AID PLAN.**" Several significant changes and/or additions were discussed, and Chairman Englund asked members to make the following changes as follows:

Page 20. Item 5.c -- paragraph should read "Evaluates requests for assistance from local agency; determines the area resources from that area that can provide the most timely assistance, and initiates appropriate response thereof; determines if the most timely assistance is from one adjacent operational area and if so, requests assistance from that area coordinator **not to exceed five engine companies or special resources**, and notifies the Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator of this action. When resources are needed from more than one adjacent area, either for timely response or when the need is beyond area capability, the request must be made to Region."

Page 21. Add Item 5.g -- "May, with Regional, State concurrence, request resources in anticipation of need based upon situation and resource status."

Chairman Englund requested members to review the draft plan and submit recommendations and comments to his office within 30 days.

General discussion ensued regarding the original policy language contained in the Plan. Chief Barrows stated that some of the original language cannot be changed since it will affect the language in the Master Mutual Aid Agreement.

Also discussed was the fact that when any plan or policy is revised or updated, a major consideration should be that federal reimbursement (or lack of it) is largely dependent upon the provisions and language of State plans.

At this point, Senator William Campbell joined the meeting and was introduced to the members. During his brief visit, the Senator wished to convey his appreciation of the work being done by this Committee, and further thanked OES for its efforts regarding Senate Bill 1095. Senator Campbell feels this bill is a significant step toward improving mutual aid reimbursement.

STATE MUTUAL AID REIMBURSEMENT - NON FOREST AGENCY USE

Chairman Englund introduced OES Director, Bill Medigovich, who stated this has been a priority issue since 1979. He described FEMA regulations changes which have hampered the State's ability to be reimbursed for disasters (i.e., 15 of the last 17 emergencies have been disqualified for federal assistance). Many groups have successfully opposed the regulations changes, resulting in a rewrite of the Natural Disaster Assistance Law.

Mr. Medigovich then introduced R. Blair Springer, Senator Campbell's Office, who provided the history of SB-1095 and how it has evolved according to needs. He cited this is the first step where Administration is accepting responsibility for reimbursement to local agencies for mutual aid response during a State of Emergency. Chief Englund interjected that from the onset, this Committee felt the criteria for mutual aid reimbursement after a proclamation of a State of Emergency was too restrictive. There are times where extensive use of mutual aid in large proportions occurs when there is not a State of Emergency, but is still in the best interest of the state. Mr. Springer replied that the Bill provides a basis on which to expand; and the Senator's office will work with this Committee so that their concerns will be addressed.

Charles Wynn, OES Disaster Assistance Division, explained that reimbursement claims will be processed through his Division. Therefore, he and his staff will work with this Committee to establish criteria and procedures for mutual aid reimbursement. General discussion ensued, with Mr. Wynn stating his intent is to create a simple system which passes Finance and passes State Controller's Office, won't be subject to questions by an auditor, and will allow for successful reimbursement from FEMA.

Chief Englund feels SB-1095 is an important first step in the process of mutual aid reimbursement, and this Committee should support the bill. He urged members to carefully review the Bill and submit their observations to the Governor. Chief Englund will do so as Chairman of this Committee. The Committee also agreed a statement should be submitted to the Governor, clarifying the position of the California Fire Service and their needs regarding mutual aid reimbursement.

ICS - STATEWIDE ALL-RISK EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

OES Director Bill Medigovich stated that OES has been in contact with local governments regarding integration of ICS into their all-risk emergency management and multi-hazard plans. CSTI has also been contacted regarding course content.

Mr. Medigovich stated he is Chairman of a commission to implement the Federal Title 3 program in California. He will send minutes of commission meetings to Committee members, through Chief Barrows.

Chief Englund asked the status of this Committee's previous request for a Proclamation from the Governor's Office regarding implementing ICS in statewide all-risk emergency management. Mr. Medigovich stated an item of such importance should be brought before the Governor's Emergency Council for discussion. Chief Englund suggested Mr. Medigovich contact Chief Don Manning, who sits on the Governor's Emergency Council, to bring the issue before the Council.

VACANT FIRE COORDINATOR POSITIONS - OES FIRE AND RESCUE DIVISION

With the recent loss of two OES Fire Coordinators, Chief Barrows prepared a memorandum regarding realignment of staff work priorities and field assignments. John Linder, Support Services Manager at the OCC, has been temporarily reassigned Fire Coordinator duties in OES Region VI. The memorandum was addressed to the three Deputy Chiefs and four Assistant Chiefs in OES Fire and Rescue Division, with copies to CDF, USFS, and OES Region I and VI Coordinators.

Chairman Englund requested Mr. Medigovich, as Director of OES, take whatever action necessary to expedite filling these vacant positions. Speaking for the FIREScope Board of Directors, Chairman Englund stated the Support Services Manager position is vital to the fire service of Southern California. Greg Wayne, CDF Riverside, expressed concern of the FIREScope partner agencies in their ability to provide assistance during emergency operations. Ken Clark, USFS, further stated that if the problem is long-term, it could jeopardize U.S. Forest Service 25% funding of the Support Services Manager position.

CDF/USFS/OES MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Stan Lake, CDF, presented Chief Barrows with draft #4 of the tri-party mou, noting the document has become a "Cooperative Agreement." Chief Barrows read portions of the Agreement, with the Committee agreeing that language should be added to reflect the following:

1. In the event resources are sent from incident to incident before being released to their home station, no jurisdiction shall be required to give more than one 12-hour free period during any commitment.
2. Local equipment cannot be transferred from one incident to another without the sending jurisdiction's approval.

Chief Barrows stated that when the Cooperative Agreement has been adopted, workshops will be held to familiarize and train using jurisdictions.

FIRESCOPE NEEDS ASSESSMENT STUDY

Chief Barrows recently received the final report from Ryland Research. The report has been accepted and meets the criteria of the contract. Copies were distributed to members, and Chief Barrows requested they review the report, with emphasis on the implementation plan. He feels that Ryland has incorporated all recommendations made by this committee, and cited several examples contained in the report. Chief Englund requested Committee members submit their comments directly to Chief Barrows within 30 days. How does the Committee want to go forward to achieve the recommendations contained in the report?

CALFIRMS

Mike Scherr reported on the joint meeting of CALFIRMS and the FIRESCOPE Operations Team recently held in Fresno on May 14 and 15, 1987. The primary issue was all-risk ICS. The Operations team has requested the Task Force collect all ICS applications relating to other than wildland incidents for the purpose of categorizing and tailoring ICS to a specific type of incident. CALFIRMS will develop specialist groups to identify their project needs.

A second joint meeting is scheduled for August with the intent of creating a consolidated workplan for both groups, which will be presented to this Committee.

Stan Lake reported on the June 15 CALFIRMS meeting, stating specialist groups will be formed for:

1. ICS and its implementation.
 - A. Training
 - B. All Risk ICS
 - C. Knowledge on how to achieve ICS

Chief Barrows commended the enthusiasm of all concerned -- much progress has been made.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

General discussion of various bills, with Chief Englund commenting on the number of fire-service-related bills in the Legislature, and how important it is for the members of this Committee to be aware of them.

The next meeting was scheduled for September 16, 1987. Location to be announced.

There being no further business,

IT WAS MOVED BY CHIEF BRANNON, SECONDED BY STAN LAKE, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 1500 HOURS.