

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

Meeting Minutes
Governor's Office of Emergency Services MPR1&2
October 11, 2006

Members Present:

P. Michael Freeman, Chair – Chief, Los Angeles County Fire Department
Bob Roper, Vice Chair – Chief, Ventura County Fire Department
Kim Zagaris, Chief, Fire and Rescue Branch – Office of Emergency Services
Ruben Grijalva, State Fire Marshal/CDF
Chuck Knapp – California State Firefighter's Association
Charles "Chip" Prather, Chief – Orange County Fire Authority
Bill McCammon, Chief – Alameda County Fire Department
Candace Gregory – CDF Region V
John Sherri, Chief – Santa Barbara County Fire Department
Jim Marquis – Grass Valley Fire Department
Pat Dennen - San Bernardino County Fire Department

Members Absent:

Henry Renteria, Director – Office of Emergency Services
Julius Cherry – Sacramento City Fire Department
William Bamattre, Chief – Los Angeles Fire Department
Sue Husari, Fire Management Officer – National Park Service
Dennis Thompson – Kern County Fire Department
Larry E. Webb, Chief – San Marcos Fire Department

Others Present:

Frank McCarton, Chief Deputy Director – Office of Emergency Services
Dan Drake, Division Chief – Orange County Fire Authority
Ken McClean – CDF
Mike LaPlant- Ventura County Fire Department
Ed Hollenshead – Forest Service
Bill Cogne - Fire Management Officer – National Park Service
Alton McMillon - Sacramento Fire Department
Tom Drayer, Deputy Chief – OES
Scott Vail, Deputy Chief – OES
Pat O'Bannon, Assistant Chief – OES
Charley Hurley, Deputy Chief – OES
Lindsey Stanley – OES
Greg West, Assistant Chief – Los Angeles Fire Department
Darrell Ralston – Ventura County Fire Department
Mark Schmidt – Santa Barbara County Fire Department

Del Walters – CDF Northern Assistant Region Chief
Steve Brown – Chief, Chico City Fire Department
Mark D’Ambrogi – Chief, Auburn City
Chuck Manor - CDF Northern Assistant Region Chief
Tim McClelland - CDF Assistant Chief
Bob Green - CDF Southern Region Operations Chief
Bill Holmes - CDF, Unit Chief, AEU
Bryan Zollner - CDF Northern Region Operations Chief
Chou Kuo Hsiang, Battalion Chief, National Fire Agency, Taiwan
Yi-Feng Chen, National Fire Agency, Taiwan

Introduction and Logistics

P. Michael Freeman (Los Angeles County FD)

P. Michael Freeman opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance. Self-introductions were made.

Approval of previous meeting Minutes

P. Michael Freeman (Los Angeles County FD)

Motion

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the previous meeting.

1st Prather

2nd McClean

Motion Passed

OES Director’s Report

Frank McCarton (OES)

- Appreciation was extended to Chief Bob Roper and Ventura County Fire Department for the great response and communications flow during the Day Fire
- The Office of Homeland Security (OHS) and OES are currently attempting to meet the Blue Ribbon Commission’s (BRC) recommendations. Chief Kurt Latipow of the Ukiah Fire Department has been hired on as a retired annuitant for OHS, and is currently working several projects in this effort.
- Budget Change Proposals (BCPs) – Focus is on radio replacement for engines, additional swiftwater caches, 19 medium Type-II and one Type-I USAR trailers. Looking to fill additional 150 OES engines and meet the 17-year replacement schedule as recommended by the BRC. The BCP is currently sitting with the Department of Finance. Any assistance from fire agencies to help the approval process will be appreciated
- California has completed the integration of NIMS into SEMS. Sent letter to OHS to register compliance in order that the State can continue to receive Federal funds. Looking into the new NIMS requirements for 2007. Credentialing and consistency in resource management is a priority.

- EMAC – attempting to improve and streamline the process. OES believes the EMAC process to continue and is working on legislation to ensure that this will be the case.
- Interoperability – this year has shown great strides in local/state communications abilities. Working to procure numerous "Gateway" units for Mutual Aid at a large-scale incident.
- Executive order SO406 – OES is working with other agencies for continuity of government planning. OES is reviewing plans submitted to ensure CA can recover from large scale disasters.

CDF/SFM Director's Update

Ruben Grijalva (SFM/CDF)

- State Fire Marshal/CDF is undergoing reorganization. There is statewide Manager's meeting this week. Currently in the middle of two-year rollover for CDF firefighters.
- The CDF Engine replacement plan is in progress, with 42 new engines and 20 more Emergency Crew Transports.
- Solved the reimbursement issue – Governor approved a plan presented by CDF finance which gives Chief Officers above the level of a Battalion Chief a 12% salary increase, as well as a yearly \$22,000 non-PERS recruitment and retention bonus. Unit Chiefs will see 5% more and Region Chiefs a little more than Unit Chiefs.
- Fire season – This year has resulted in a higher acreage loss, although the dollar loss has been much lower. For example, the "Day Fire" had only 8 structure losses. The Sawtooth Complex incurred a loss 50 residential structures. There were many successful campaigns due to cooperation with forest service and locals.
- CDF is in the middle of developing two-year work plans. The plans are available on-line and include all major CDF programs.
- The Governor signed bill sponsored by Senator Russ Bough to use the title, "CAL Fire" to represent CDF. Still need to determine when and if Cal Fire can be used. Issues include the branding for uniforms and equipment.
- CDF is also in the process of attempting to change its mission statement. CDF is year-round, all-risk organization, so new mission statement will reflect the reality of that change.
- Chief P. Michael Freeman mentioned that the FIRESCOPE Board should always consider the role they can play with the activities individual agencies undergo.

FIRESCOPE Summit Overview

P. Michael Freeman (Los Angeles County FD)

- The BoD Summit occurred on August 15, 2006. A handout was provided that includes all of the notes taken during the day-long discussion.
- The group wants to see something different from FIRESCOPE, and want more involvement in emerging issues. Thanks were given to Chief Kim

Zagaris and his staff for their willingness to listen and the flexibility to allow for this restructure.

- 5 areas were deemed priority and were described in more detail further in the meeting.
- The group reviewed the “Generally Agreed Changes to FIRESCOPE BoD Meetings” notes which include the possibility of changing the Sacramento meeting location to the Sacramento Airport. Bob Roper discussed the need to bring FIRESCOPE closer to locals, and for the Board members to get involved with their local fire association groups.
- A FIRESCOPE orientation package will be developed so that new member applicants are aware of board responsibilities.

NIMS

Pat Dennen (San Bernardino County Fire Department)

- Provided handout/overview of the difference between ICS and NIMS. While ICS has only 5 components, NIMS integrates a 6th, INTEL. \ NIMS does not include specific language relative to Hazmat, High-rise, etc. in the manner that ICS does. FIRESCOPE should support NIMS, yet maintain ICS and maybe create a module that includes that 6th NIMS component.
- The ICS/NIMS document will be distributed to the Ops Team and Task Force for review/consideration for the January 10, 2007 meeting.
- Frank McCarton expressed that OES is in agreement with the proposals.
- FEMA is updating NIMS, and additional anticipated changes have not been considered in the comparison documents.
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Blue Ribbon Commission

Chip Prather (Orange County Fire Authority)

- A Task Force was appointed by the Governor to develop further recommendations.
- Sue Husari, Bill McCammon, and Chip Prather held a meeting after the FIRESCOPE Summit, and will have another meeting on 10/25. All agencies are to update the status of recommendations as it pertains to them. From there the group will know how to move forward and further understand what they need to achieve and identify responsibility-wise.
- Michael Freeman – Cal Chiefs is leading the effort. 10/25 meeting will set the tone for the updates and continuity of the Commission. Fire service has a lot at stake with this program.

CFAA

Bob Roper (Ventura County FD)

- Recent meetings were cancelled due to the fire activity which prevented agreements changes being presented to the Board. There is much open discussion left.
- The current CFAA is set to expire at the end of December. If no changes are in place by that time the agreement can be legally extended via a vote from the Board.

- Several proposals on table – CDF and Forest Service (Ken McClean) – Question remains as to where do the forest agencies sit with the CFAA? There is current language being developed as to when and why forest agencies will order through CFAA. Consensus is to stay with time-based free period, however the Forest Agencies would like to see the equipment rates change from a 16-hour to a daily rate.
- The next meeting will be November 6, 2007 and the "free period" will be discussed.
- All Forest Agencies are represented on the CFAA. If you have any input, please give it to the appropriate agency representative so that it may be discussed at the next meeting.
- CFAA training groups will go out to train on the agreement, cost apportionment, etc., hopefully before the 2007 fire season. It is hoped that the response/reimbursement cycle can be improved. Realistic time for this training implementation may not be until 2008. It was suggested that the training should be implemented regardless of whether new agreement is reached. Discussion took place on holding off on the Training until such time all parties are signatory, i.e. DoD
- Chip Prather – suggested the agreement training go forward regardless of whether or not DoD signs on and that to delay it would not be beneficial. It was felt that the new training could always be modified to incorporate the new agencies needs/legalities. The Board concurred.

Interoperability/Interdisciplinary

Chuck Knapp (California State Firefighters' Association)

- Still reviewing many of the documents, and will have paper out by the next FIRESCOPE BoD meeting in January. Handout included in meeting packet.

Refocus/Restructure/Revamp

P. Michael Freeman

- Reviewed additional information on the BoD Summit handout. Hopefully full agenda will be done by January.
- Kim Zagaris – CWCG/California Fire Alliance – discussed FIRESCOPE issues, and community planning documents.

Ops Team Report

Darrell Ralston (Venture County FD)

- Provided concerns felt by the Team regarding the items discussed at Summit meeting. New direction from the Board is well accepted.
- Bob Holmes is part of CICCIS group who has been tasked with keeping CICCIS current. There are all-hazard issues – CFAA is all-hazard, and CICCIS will become all-hazard also
- Will meet tomorrow at OES Headquarters. Will be discussing direction from FIRESCOPE Summit.

Task Force Report

Mike LaPlant (Ventura County FD)

- Handout provided. FOG rewrite almost complete. Various chapters, including Area Command, are being updated. Will bring changes to the Ops Team for approval.
- Looking at March 2007 for the new FOG document to be published. Mike Richwine from State Fire Marshal will be attending the Task Force meetings regularly (training viewpoint).
- Worked with NWCG reps over last couple months on aircraft and water tender typing issues.
- Safety Specialist Group – completed recommendations for hazard zone, etc. Identifying standard methods for marking hazard areas. Handout describes each specialist group.
- Next meetings are listed on handout.
- Kim Zagaris – depending on where NIMS goes on the national level, it may need to be reevaluated whether to even produce a new FOG in 2007. It may need to be reviewed at the Jan BoD meeting. Things are just a little uncertain at this time.
- A FIRESCOPE org chart was handed out to the Board.

FIRESCOPE Communications Specialist Group

CALSIEC National Radio Nomenclature Update

Tim McClelland

- Presented memorandum in meeting packet addressed to FIRESCOPE Communications Specialist Group regarding radio naming. CALSIEC agreed to revisit issue.
- FIRESCOPE Communications Specialist Group Recommendations are as follows:
 - Delay any further action or adoption of a standard until a national consensus is built.
 - Reverse its March 6, 2006 decision to adopt the NCC nomenclature for 800MHz.
 - Continue the use of the current V-Call/U-Call/I-Call nomenclature until a national standard is established.
 - BOD Chair to write the IAFC to request that they oppose any requirement to condition grant funding approval on the adoption of the NCC nomenclature until a national consensus is developed.
- Michael Freeman mentioned a memorandum from John Penido praising the cloning abilities with Bendix King Radios, and encourages radio manufactures to facilitate/simplify cloning in the field for public service radios. Will be included in recommendations to CALSIEC.

Motion

A motion was made to approve the recommendations presented in memorandum, in addition to the memorandum from John Penido.

<p>1st Prather 2nd McCammon Motion Passed</p>
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CA Fire Service Training and Education Strategic Plan; Blueprint 20-20

Ruben Grijalva

- Draft copy of Blueprint 20-20 in handout.
- The last State-wide strategic plan was done in 1971. New technology and methods need to be considered. The plan is available on SFM website. Currently being presented to groups/committees. Consists of immediate and long-term items.
- Please provide feedback on anything that may need to be added and/or changed to Kate Dargan, Assistant Chief Fire Marshal. The comment period is approximately 60 days.

California Incident Command Certification System (CICCS) Update

Scott Vail (OES)

- Meeting held on June 6. Tasked to put together a CICCS Task Force.
- Task Force met in June and September. Developed 4 focus areas that will look at the successes, challenges, needs, and tasks necessary to keep program viable. Notes from the meeting are included in the meeting packet.
- Another meeting is scheduled for November 8 after the State Board of Fire Services meeting.

Day Fire Incident – Area Command

Ed Hollenshead (US Forest Service)

- Two Forest Service Type-I teams were assigned to the Day Fire. Area Command was established, which became a hybrid between the FIRESCOPE definition of Area Command and MACS.
- Dealt with policy issues as opposed to direct incident operations.
- 620 Curriculum is available. Ops Team should look at this to see if there are any proposals to bring to the Board, and/or if it is applicable.
- Served as a focal point for unified command. Once communication coordination was in place, many of the smaller confusions were avoided.
- Area Command assisted the IMTs and became the problem solvers to smooth the operations.
- Chief Roper suggested that this could be considered as a model for locals.

Resource Ordering Process

Kim Zagaris (OES) and Chip Prather

- Sat in on meeting about how to better move overhead on incidents.
- Horse Fire ordering was highlighted as having issues on not knowing whether ordered through USFS or CDF. Day Fire – had an overhead order issue.
- Discussed the different ordering processes. Need to put together a group of people to see if there is a better way to do orders, more clear-cut. Also brought up at CWCG meeting.

- Another issue is when to use local agreements or CFAA.
- Information should be solicited from personnel who process orders post-fire season to determine what the issues are. The problem could be the education of the user groups.

OES Fire and Rescue Branch Report

Fireline EMT/Paramedic – Pat O’Bannon (OES)

- Putting in crews to isolated areas, the need to have paramedics out on fireline to provide medical services to crews on these long-term fire assignments. System is not yet able to support these requests. CWCG is looking at accepting EMTs as a resource. Fireline EMTs not able to provide the same service as a Paramedic.
- Need to determine what the EMTP is, can do, and how to implement successfully as a regularly ordered position on an incident and need to get it accepted nationally with NWCG. Looking at USAR medical specs to maybe apply to EMTP development.
- Motion to support recommendations listed on the White Paper and also adds a 5th recommendation, intention of this issue and offer support to Safety and Health Team on NWCG. By McCammon, Marquis 2nd. Approved.

Motion

A motion was made to support the recommendations presented on the handout, as well as add – 5. Coordinate intention of issue and offer support to Safety and Health Team with NWCG.

1st McCammon

2nd Marquis

Motion Passed

Engine Procurement Plan Update

Vendor failed to provide bond for engines, currently working with DGS and CDF for another vendor.

Shirts for BoD Members – Tom Drayer (OES)

Vendor in Alameda County provided a particular shirt, executive style golf shirt. Ops Teams and TF can have their group titles underneath the FIRESCOPE logo. Can be group ordered or done individually.

Old Business

Last minute feedback on the Summit changes; Ken McClean suggested a conference call at least two weeks ahead of BoD meeting would be a positive step.

Meeting Adjourned

*Next Meeting – January 10, 2007
Burbank*