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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
October 11, 2000
Sacramento, California

MEMBERS PRESENT

P. Michael Freeman, Chief, Los Angeles County Fire Department
Stewart Gary, Chief, Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department
Chip Prather, Chief, Orange County Fire Authority
Bob Roper, Chief, Ventura County Fire Department
Michael Dougherty, Chief, OES Fire and Rescue Branch
Dennis Smith, Chief, Sacramento City Fire Department
Roger K. Purdie, Chief, Vista Fire Department
Hank Weston, Chief, Grass Valley Fire Department
Douglas Sporleder, Chief, Santa Clara County Fire Department
Glen Newman, Deputy Director, CDF

MEMBERS ABSENT

Dallas Jones, Director, OES
John Scherrei, Chief, Santa Barbara County Fire Department
Russell D. Richards III, Fire Warden, Stanislaus County
Ray Quintanar, USDA Forest Service - Fire and Aviation Management
Ed Wehking, Fire Management Officer, Bureau of Land Management
Nancy Wolfe, State Fire Marshal's Office-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
William "Hank" Weston, Chief, Grass Valley Fire Department

OTHERS PRESENT

Paul Jacks, OES, representing Dallas Jones
Bob Neamy, Los Angeles City Fire Department, representing Chief Bamattre
Gary Cardoza, BLM, representing Ed Wehking
Pat Kidder, Bureau of Land Management
Dan Drake, Orange County Fire Authority
Andy Anderson, Quincy FD (FIREScope Operations Team North Chair)

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M. Dougherty explained that the response to the Napa Earthquake, which included OES and local government fire equipment and other disaster related personnel, which were made under the provisions of the California Mutual Aid Plan. (Implying no reimbursement was expected).

D. Sporleder commented that large agencies may be able to absorb extraordinary costs as they have larger budgets, but the smaller agencies can expend their annual budget within a few days, therefore needing some form of reimbursement.

SFM Update: Certification and Qualification System

N. Wolfe was unable to attend the meeting. OES Deputy Chief, Pat Cooney, briefed the Board on the current status of California's Certification and Qualifications System. He passed out a document entitled "*California Incident Command Certification System*" for the Board to review. The document included "*Draft G*" of the CICCIS, dated September 11, 2000. This is the final draft of the document.

Chief Cooney, on behalf of the committee, requested the FIREScope Board of Directors approve the '*California Incident Command Certification System*' (CICCIS), as outlined in Draft G. Following approval, the document will be presented to the State Board of Fire Services (SBFS) at their November 2, 2000 meeting, for final approval and implementation.

Following approval by the SBFS the document will be given to State Training and Education Advisory Committee (STEAC) to begin the process of implementing the system statewide. Chief Cooney also requested the Board's approval of the provision to Regional and Operational Area Review Committees at the ICS 300 level and ICS 400 level.

Jeff Jones, added that there is a Cert's and Qual's software application that will be available in Spring 2001.

Implementation of the CICCIS would be Fire Season 2001. There will be a historical recognition process ("grandfathering") at the Operational Area, when properly documented. It is expected that this process will take two or more years to implement.

B. Roper asked if a Policy Statement is needed from individual agencies when this plan is implemented. Each agency has wide latitude on how they implement CICCIS.

M. Dougherty said that the CICCIS will be a part of the Cooperative Agreement for Local Government Fire Assistance (5 Party Agreement).

S. Vittum suggested that all applications consider both certification and qualification. At present when completing a class you receive a certificate stating you are certified. Then after completing a Position Task Book you are considered qualified, and receive documentation attesting to that fact ("i.e. Red Card"). He questioned this programs focus, whether to certify or qualify, or both. R. Purdie felt the card would indicate an individual is certified.

M. Freeman explained if you have the card you would be both certified and qualified, and that this should be stated on the card. At this time in the development process it would take too much time to reword the document to reflect every nuance. The Board, after discussion, felt that the terms "certified" and "qualified" should be clearly defined. Chief Cooney will carry that message to the State Board of Fire Services.

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S. Vittum moved that the BOD endorse the document with the clarification of the words **certified** and **qualified** in the document. Seconded by Sporleder. Approved.

S. Vittum ammended the motion to include changing the term Voluntary Participation (page 2, Executive Briefing), to Participation, and the first two sentences of the paragraph be struck.

Discussion:

G. Newman felt the word Voluntary should not be dropped and did not agree with the motion.

D. Sporleder suggested that the OES STRESS Program be checked to make sure it has the same meanings as the document.

S. Gary suggested removing the Voluntary Participation be removed from the document on page 2. If the big agencies voluntarily participate and a county does not, the whole system could fall apart. He felt by allowing it to be voluntary some agencies might not feel it is important and would not utilize the system.

G. Newman reminded the group that participation in the Mutual Aid System is voluntary.

M. Freeman felt the word voluntary was included in the document to move the fire services along in the use of Certs and Quals. A fire department requesting mutual aid would not be by-passed if they needed assistance.

Moved by S. Gary/Second by S. Vittum on the action requested by the Fire and Rescue Service Advisory Committee to develop the Regional and Operational Area Review Committees as outlined in "Draft G" under ICS 300 Level and ICS 400 Level. The formation and responsibilities of these committees are found on page 3 through 8 of "Draft G".

M. Dougherty questioned the process by which the Board of Directors would develop the committees at the various levels. P. Cooney explained the Board of Directors provide guidance to the Chief, Fire and Rescue Branch, to identify members of the Regional and Operational Committees, after the System is approved by the State Board of Fire Services.

Motion made (D. Sporleder), seconded (S. Gary). Approved.

CAL OSHA AB-1127

Mr. Herman Jett, CAL-OSHA Consultation Service, provided the Board with an overview of AB 1127. The CAL-OSHA Consultation Service is available to employers to determine if hazards exist in the workplace. This is done without risk of citation during the investigation. They only respond to requests from employers. Mr. Jett, passed out an condensed version of AB 1127, legislation which may have a major impact on the California Fire Services.

B. Martines expressed his concerns to the BOD on the impact of AB 1127. He outlined several scenarios in which fire equipment and personnel are used in a mutual aid responses. Mr. Jett said that in these cases the CAL-OSHA investigation would be the deciding factor of determining any guilt on the part of the employer.

CAL-OSHA has no minimum standards for firefighter training. They do, however, provide guidelines on specific hazards, i.e., confined space, etc. Mr. Jett directed those with questions to

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their Website <http://www.dir.ca.gov>. The eight elements he outlined are available on the website.

The CAL-OSHA Inspectors (Safety Engineers) have a degree in a related field with a number of years of experience. Continuing education for Inspectors/Safety Engineers is also required. The training is generic, not focused on any one discipline (i.e. law, fire, construction, etc.)

Fines collected are placed in a special fund which is allocated to jurisdictions statewide for health and safety programs.

FIRESCOPE 30th Year Celebration Update

Blair Springer, Sgt.-Major Associates, briefed the Board on the 30th Year Celebration meeting he attended with Jerry Haleva in August. Mr. Springer, Mr. Haleva, and Sen. William Campbell, have offered their full support to the 30th Year Celebration Committee.

Discussion: Regarding the future funding for the FIRESCOPE Programs, to complete the projects that were envisioned in the early 70's and to take the program into the future. Mr. Haleva spoke with Congressman Condit (D-Fresno) indicating he would champion FIRESCOPE at the congressional level. Mr. Haleva also spoke with Director Jones and Chief Dougherty to make sure that any support from them stays in the proper political channels. By doing this it will not overshadow any progress being made by the 30th Year Celebration Committee.

N. Honeycutt explained that Mr. Springer and Haleva were asked to assist the Committee in the political aspects of the work they are doing. The next 30th Year Committee meeting will be October 30, 2000, in Sacramento (Mather). N. Honeycutt requested that each Board Member ensure they have representation at this meeting. The current concept for Celebration is to focus on the 30 years of FIRESCOPE. (Theme: "Past, Present, and Future") This will be in conjunction with the Dedication of the William Campbell Building, the new OES State Headquarters. Included would be recognition of those people that created and implemented the FIRESCOPE Program. The Program, tentatively set for May 2000, will include speakers relating to the Past, Present, Future, with a Photo Display, a Journal, a Powerpoint presentation of History of FIRESCOPE, Decals for Apparatus, Display of Fire Apparatus, Fly-over of Fire Service Aircraft, Fire Service Color Guard, with bagpipers, etc.

The new OES building is expected to be finished in April, and occupied in May 2000.

Chair Freeman requested each agency supply personnel to support the 30th Committee.

M. Freeman suggested a sub-group from the BOD be formed to analyze the type of help requested from Blair Spring and Jerry Haleva. Bob Roper and Mike Dougherty volunteered to work on a conceptual update for future needs and funding, for the next BOD meeting. CDF also committed Ralph Alworth to this project. Ray Quintanar will represent the USFS.

D. Driscoll suggested that FIRESCOPE might want to explore entering the areas of fire prevention and firefighter safety in the future.

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FIRESCOPE Representative: SSCOT

M. Dougherty briefed the Board on the State Strategic Committee on Terrorism (SSCOT). The new SSCOT configuration will include additional people from represented disciplines, ie. Fire, OES, Law, etc. An additional group will be formed as the State Threat Assessment Committee (S-TAC). Chief Dougherty is asking FIRESCOPE to appoint a representative to SSCOT. The group will meet quarterly after the initial meetings.

Discussion: The BOD would like to have a primary and a secondary member appointed to this group. Chip Prather volunteered to represent an urban perspective, and Andy Anderson offered his services from a rural perspective

California Disaster Medical System: FIRESCOPE Representative

M. Dougherty described the California Emergency Medical Services Agency (EMSA) system (similar to FIRESCOPE) and the need to have a representative at their Disaster Medical System meetings. They envision an emergency medical services mutual aid system (including non-fire ambulances) which may impact the Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System. Dennis Smith volunteered to serve as the FIRESCOPE representative to this group. Kim Zagaris will brief Chief Smith on the history of this group.

OES Engine Update

Paul Beckstrom, OES Fire and Rescue Fleet Manager, brought an OES Engine to the meeting to show the Board the latest version of our Type I Engines. He gave an overview of the changes, described the manufacturing process, and recent field testing. He presented a detailed explanation of the severe field test that was performed on an OES engine to identify an overheating problem. Following the tests, the motor manufacturer made a number of modifications to solve this problem. He has updated the Specifications.

North/South Operations Teams Update

The Operations Teams have been working on a number of issues. The Fireline Emergency Medical Technician (FEMT) position description has been completed. The Typing of Decon Trailers has been assigned to the Task Force. The California Incident Command Certification System (CICCS) was reviewed. The Ops Teams did not recommend any changes. The Swiftwater/Flood Search and Rescue (SFSAR) OSD was not reviewed. The Swiftwater Working Group had not completed the final draft of the document. As soon as the SFSAR OSD is finished, and reviewed by the Task Force, the Joint Operations Team will finalize the document before the 2000 – 2001 flood season.

Chief Eckard reported a vacancy occurred on the Operations Team North when Chief Weston was appointed to the BOD. A letter requesting nominees, signed by Chief Freeman, was distributed to the Regional Coordinators. Chief Anderson is also canvassing his area to obtain nominees. Chief Weston will continue to serve until a replacement can be appointed.

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Region II – D. Driscoll, major support to OES Regions III and IV, sent resources out of state. Provided support to the Napa Earthquake. CDF is testing a thermal imaging device which is mounted on a fire engine. It is similar to the devices being used by firefighters to see in heavy smoke conditions. In parts of Region II oak trees are dying, but retain their leaves, this is caused by a fungus, and increases fire potential..

Region III – Jeff Jones, 8 activations, sent equipment out of state. Snow in the north.

Region IV – Hank Weston, sent OES engines out of state. No major fires in Region IV.

Region V – Tim Turner, region is calm.

Region VI – Bob Martines, don't put your gear away yet. July/August were busy. Sent resources out of state.

Next Meeting

January 10, 2001 in Ontario

April 11, 2001

July 11, 2001

October 10, 2001

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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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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.