



# FIRESCOPE

## CAL EMA FIRE AND RESCUE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### FIRESCOPE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Burbank Fire Department Training Center  
1845 N. Ontario Street  
Burbank, CA 91505

October 12, 2011

### **Members Present**

Bob Roper – Chairperson FIRESCOPE BoD, Ventura County Fire  
Kim Zagaris – Fire and Rescue, Cal EMA  
Mike Dyer – Santa Barbara County Fire Department  
Richard Webb – Linda Fire Protection District  
Brendan Murphy – Undersecretary, Cal EMA  
Sheldon Gilbert – Fire and Rescue Region II, Cal EMA  
Joseph C. Millar – Fire and Aviation Management, USDA Forest Service  
Daryl Osby – Los Angeles County Fire Department  
Keith Richter – Orange County Fire Authority  
Chuck Knapp – California State Firefighters Association  
Tonya Hoover – State Fire Marshal  
Dale Hutchinson – Fire and Rescue Region VI, Cal EMA  
Doug Wenham – Fire and Rescue Region III, Cal EMA  
Keith Larkin – Fire and Rescue Region V, Cal EMA  
Tom Drayer – FIRESCOPE, Cal EMA  
Mario Rueda – Los Angeles City Fire Department  
Nick Dunn – Kern County Fire Department  
Brian Cummings – Los Angeles Fire Department  
Jim Wilson – Mariposa County Fire Department, Volunteer Fire Departments  
Andy McMurray – (in for Ken Pimlott) CALFIRE  
Paul Bannister – Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Dept of Interior

### **Guests Present**

Ray Navarro – Santa Barbara County Fire Department  
Jim Middleton – Mariposa County Fire Department  
Nick Duvally – Los Angeles County Fire Department  
Tom Lenahan – Burbank Fire Department  
Bob Doyle – Glendale Fire Department  
Brian Woodbeck – Fire and Rescue Region VI, Cal EMA  
Ishmael Messer – Fire and Rescue Region I, Cal EMA  
Ralph Domanski – HazMat / FIRESCOPE, Cal EMA  
Charles Butler – Los Angeles Fire Department  
Darrell Ralston – Ventura County Fire  
Chad Stokes – Fire and Rescue, Cal EMA  
Jon Kolman – Fire and Rescue HazMat, Cal EMA

## **Welcome, Introductions, Logistics \*\*\* Meeting Starts 0905 \*\*\***

1. Chief Roper introduces himself and welcomes the Board members and guests to the FIRESCOPE BOD Meeting.
2. Chief Roper congratulates Chief Brian Cummings on his appointment with Los Angeles Fire and welcomes him as a member of the Board.
3. Chief Roper states that the agenda for this meeting will not be followed as written, but that lesser important items will be discussed first, with the more important ones given more discussion time later on in the meeting.

## **Approval of July 13, 2011 Minutes**

4. Chief Knapp stated that within the “members present” section of the July 13<sup>th</sup> minutes, it showed that he was present when in fact, he was not.
5. Chief Knapp also mentioned that there was an error with line item 49 of the July 13<sup>th</sup> minutes.  

“...to remove the proposed changes to membership and process, with the exception of solidifying the CPF and ~~CFAA~~ CSFA within the membership group...”
6. Chief Hutchinson stated that the previous minutes also shown him as being present when he was not.

## **Action Item – Chief Richter motioned the approval of the July 13, 2011 FIRESCOPE Meeting Minutes.**

**Chief Webb seconded. None opposed. Motion approved.**

## **Cal EMA Secretary’s Report**

7. Acting Undersecretary Brendan Murphy stated that there has been no new information that has come out of the Governor’s office in regard to whom the new Secretary of Cal EMA might be, or when that individual might be chosen.
8. He also states that reducing contracts have kept staffing reductions at Cal EMA to a minimum, and adds that over the past three years, there has been around a 9.5% reduction to the General Fund.
9. He also mentions that the California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) is down to “historical levels” of payment, and uses as an example AB1429, which would have provided Del Norte County disaster relief funds from the tsunami effects that happened there in March of 2011, but a few days ago, Governor Brown vetoed the bill based stating that the CDAA just doesn’t have the funds to pay for this.

## **CAL FIRE / SFM Update**

### **Budget/SRA Fees Update**

10. Andy McMurray states that in regard to SRA fees, the “clean-up” language that was proposed by the administration was not successful, and that the Board of Forestry and CAL FIRE are currently in the process of attempting to implement legislation that was passed in the June 30<sup>th</sup> budget. He adds that the Board is meeting today, but they will not be considering any “permanent regulation” additions until the November meeting.

11. Andy stated that over the last few years, CALFIRE has taken approximately 17 million dollars in budget cuts, and currently, there is a 15.8 million to 16 million dollar budget cut that is pending. He has no further information at this time, but will likely know more within the coming weeks.
12. Concerning inmate realignment, Andy states that CAL FIRE utilizes approximately 4500 inmates to staff 39 camps, and based on law enforcement realignment currently happening within the correctional system, a further reduction of approximately 1500 inmates is expected and equates to approximately one-third of the camps being affected. He also adds that CALFIRE is currently working with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) and other agencies in regards to inmate costs, and will know more at a later date.
13. Chief Wenham states that because of significant rainfall that has occurred in certain areas, the Northern region is currently in a transitional period of down staffing with Lassen, Mendocino and Modoc counties being completely shut down next week, and other counties being downsized a third to a half during this same period.
14. Chief Hutchinson stated that the Southern region has just started its "planning phase," and that the Sierra area, which includes parts of Monterey and San Luis Obispo, will be moving toward transitional staffing by October 17. He adds that the Southern area is currently at peak staffing including aircraft assets, and that additional tankers have been assigned to certain areas in anticipation of random weather events that have been known to happen within these Southern areas.
15. In regard to updates from the State Fire Marshal's office, SFM Tonya Hoover states:
  - A. Work is currently being performed on a risk assessment update and that key areas of it are currently being reviewed. With the project having a February time frame for release, she is expecting a full debriefing to happen soon.
  - B. The High Rise Task Force has completed phase 1 of its recommendations and phase 2 beginning shortly. She adds that Task Force invitations for this will be sent out soon.
  - C. The Alternate Energies group continues to work with the Underwriters Laboratory research on photovoltaic (i.e. solar panels) on roofs and how it pertains to firefighter safety. She states that there is an "F step" training class that has been developed in order to address these safety issues, and that more information can be found on the SFM website.
  - D. The Pipeline Safety Division continues to track California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) information and its decisions on how it relates to gas pipeline operators. PG&E has been asked to provide training and awareness concerning gas pipelines, but currently, they are having issues on how they should proceed and have asked for input from the State Fire Marshal's office and State Fire Training. The first round of pipeline training is expected to begin in November, and more information can be found on the SFM website.
  - E. As work begins on the code adoption process, SFM Hoover states that a particular area of interest has been extended travel distance on large warehouses. She states that California has been successful with its operational considerations that addressed warehouse firefighting, but she would like to have these provisions moved to the "National level." She asks the Board members that if they have any individuals within their departments that deal with large warehouses, to please contact her office.
  - F. With AB398 being signed, there has been some confusion that this bill has changed the ability of local fire chiefs signing off on a Firefighter I certification, and she would like to remind the Board that it does not. She adds that this bill basically "daylights" a firefighters Department of Defense (DoD) certification, and allows it to be accepted by a Fire Chief as equivalent to a firefighter I certification. She adds that this bill also allows the SFM to accept a nationally accredited firefighter certification.
  - G. The mission alignment focus group will be divided into sub-groups, which will allow much needed participation by stakeholders, and states that there will be a full mission alignment by 2020, with more information to be provided at the next stakeholder meeting.
  - H. The State Board of Fire Service has recommended task books for testing the competency of our certification system in lieu of a comprehensive Capstone written exam, and these guidelines are currently in development.

- I. An all-hazard incident management course will take place on October 27<sup>th</sup>. This course is a collaborative effort between CALFIRE and State Fire Training, with the ultimate goal of requesting an equivalency turnkey for the 520.
  - J. The CICCIS task force is scheduled to meet in November. Topics of discussion will include; task books for all-risk positions; an update to agency equivalency matrix and analysis; and USAR positioning training task books in conjunction with FIREScope and Cal EMA.
16. Chief Millar states that like most other agencies, the Federal “side of the house” is being asked to look at areas where budget cuts can take place, but will also have the least amount of impact on their existing programs. He feels that all in all, anticipation for reductions is expected to be within the 5% to 10% range.
17. Paul Bannister states that his agency is being asked to factor in cuts that may possibly reach the 15% mark over a range of 5 to 6 years, and adds that while he hasn’t heard about any cuts to any aviation type assets, he stresses maintaining “ground personnel” has been a priority of his.

## **Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) Update**

### **AB 1420 Status**

18. Chief Zagaris stated that there has been quite a lot of discussion concerning the ongoing issues and items of AB1420, and that there are two main issues that are making the reimbursement process quicker than what it has been in the past. As for the “sunset clause” that is coming on from previous EMAC legislation, Chief Zagaris states that it appears legislation has gotten another “sunset” until March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015, with the intention of having the agency use this time to work out any issues that are, or have been identified.

*(Multiple individuals relate to the Board, situations that they have encountered where the “EMAC experience” has been extremely frustrating)*

## **EMS Update**

### **AB1387 (was AB210) Discussion**

19. In regard to AB1387, which had previously been AB210, Chief Gilbert stated that this bill has made it through the Assembly and is currently in front of the Senate awaiting a vote to make it a two year bill and from there; it will go before the Governor. He also adds that a stakeholder consensus is currently being sought, and that approximately 5-6 stakeholder meetings will take place within the next 60 days to address any issues.
20. When asked about the Chapter-13 Task Force and AB1387, Chief Gilbert stated that when this bill turned into a two year bill, the fire service leadership group stated that they would only remain engaged on two conditions:
- The first being that the Chapter-13 Task Force be stopped. This decision based on the fact that their work was being done in parallel with others, and was causing confusion among the groups / individuals.
  - The second is that the original stakeholder group negotiates this bill.

## **FIREScope BOD Membership**

21. Chief Zagaris stated that an announcement in regard to finding Chief Wagner’s replacement on the FIREScope BoD was sent to the Board members on February 18th, and there was interest from three individuals:
- Mark D’Ambrogi – Auburn City
  - Ron Myers – North County
  - Jim Berry – Chico Fire Department

A recommendation was made to Cal EMA Acting Secretary Mike Dayton, stating Mark D'Ambrogi was the most qualified applicant based on his experience and qualifications. Acting Secretary Dayton concurred with the recommendation and all applicants have been notified of the outcome.

### **CFAA Sub-Committee North Representative**

22. Chief Zagaris stated that with Chief Wagner's departure, the CFAA North Representative position was also vacated and that applicants from regions II, III, and IV were currently being sought to fill it. There are two individuals that have shown interest in this position; Chief Webb and Chief D'Ambrogi.

### **Action Item – Chief Knapp motions for Chief Webb to become the new CFAA North Representative.**

**Chief Millar Seconded. None opposed. Motion approved.**

### **CICCS Representative to Pace V Committee**

23. Chief Zagaris stated that with Chief Wagner's departure, there is also a vacancy on the CICCS Task Force that looks at "500 / 600" level slots that come up for review. The individual considered for this position would need experience with Incident Command and how it pertains to NWCG and CICCS. Chief Roper suggested that Chief Zagaris put together the details specific to this position, and that he submit them to the Board members as soon as possible in order for a decision to be made during the week of October 17 – 21.

### **IAFC/OHIO Resource Tracking System**

24. Chief Roper stated that while at a meeting in Atlanta, he and Chief Zagaris were given a presentation on the resource tracking system that is currently being used in Ohio and who at one time, wanted California to be involved with the testing and possible adoption of their system. Chief Zagaris stated that due to the "cautious" stance that California was taking in testing/adopting this system, California has been dropped from the program. Chief Roper concurred and stated that a primary concern for his group was that he didn't want to have to train individuals with a new system, and keep them up to date with ROSS as well.
25. When asked if this system was intended to replace ROSS in Ohio, Chief Roper responded that Ohio wasn't using ROSS, but had instead decided to develop their own system and wanted California to take part in helping "stress test" it.
26. When asked about who was providing funding for the Ohio system, Chief Zagaris responded that in the beginning, most of the work was done for nothing and that IBM came in and helped with development, but that currently, DHS and FEMA have been funding this.
27. Chief Roper was asked if there were any deciding factors that had influenced California in not taking part in the program. He responded that in previous BoD meetings, it was decided early on that California really had no interest with adopting a new system, but out of courtesy, "due diligence" was given to it, but that the ultimate deciding factor was that there were no outstanding advantages this system offered over what ROSS had already provided.
28. Chief Zagaris stated that at a previous meeting with the Policy Setting Group in Washington, DC regarding ICS, NIMS and the NFS, it was brought up that research is currently being performed on having a nationally standardized system in place. No time frame was given as to when this would be completed.

**Chief Roper calls break @ 1015.**

**Chief Roper calls meeting to order @ 1025**

## **CWCG Update**

29. Paul Bannister stated that the CWCG Operations Group had finalized the process for the 2012 Online IMT Nomination process, and that all involved will need to reapply in order to have the system reflect correct and updated information.

## **FIRESCOPE OPS Team Report / Task Force Report**

30. *(Chief Rueda references the document titled "FIRESCOPE Operations Team Report" that is included in the FIRESCOPE Board Members Meeting packet.)*
31. The Jesusita Burn Document report has been approved by the Board, and was posted to the FIRESCOPE website on August 1st. He also states that he has received a number of favorable comments from individuals concerning the report.
32. In regard to the protective Action Guidelines that are part of the FOG, Chief Rueda states that the additions the Task Force were asked to complete, will be reviewed by the Ops Team via conference call in the near future.

## **GIS Position Papers**

33. The NWCG was looking for input regarding the GIS Specialist Group Issue papers, and that three papers have already been submitted by the GIS group. These are:
- GIS Standard Operating Procedures (GSTOP)
  - Symbology
  - Training
34. Chief Charles Butler from Los Angeles Fire Department was nominated and selected as the FIRESCOPE representative to the State Fire Training's curriculum development committee.

## **Emergency Traffic – Conference Call**

35. Chief Rueda presented discussion in regard to "Mayday vs. Emergency Traffic," and how it's defined within the State Fire Training Firefighter Survival, RIC Operations, and RIC Command and Control curriculums. He states that this isn't a new issue that has faced the Board, and that it really is much more than an issue of it being a "single word," but more about "standardized practice" in its use.
36. On October 11th, 2011, the NFPA 1500 (Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Program) accepted a comment in regard to changing how the national system looked at the use of "mayday" in emergency traffic, and had actually mandated "mayday" as the hailing term for a firefighter in trouble, while also moving emergency traffic to a priority radio message. He states that in his opinion, the long term use of the word "mayday" will be the standard for the NFPA.
37. An item that has been gaining popularity among many individuals and agencies is NFPA 1561 (Standard on Emergency Services Incident Management System). He adds that there are a number of individuals that would like to "do business differently," specifically, in Type IV & V incidents, and that most likely, there will be other words and terminology inserted into this by the Fire Service.
38. Chief Rueda concluded by stating that the use of "mayday" is much more than a word, and its use can have a significant impact on the system that was designed to practice common terminology, and which ultimately allows efficient and effective operations which can, and most likely, will impact firefighter safety.
39. Chief Zagaris stated that at a previous committee meeting, himself, along with other individuals, had worked with NFPA attorney's in an attempt to move the vote forward in the use of "mayday" or

“emergency traffic,” but that the “IFF” wanted to define this as a “life safety” issue, and he thought it was more in line with being a “training” issue and that ultimately, all training curriculum will accurately need to reflect the agreed upon decision.

40. Chief Roper stated that in his opinion, and what is ultimately at the core of what Chief Rueda and Chief Zagaris have mentioned, is that the power of this Board is its ability to have “one voice” within the Fire Service, and that this voice is built by a consensus. He adds that while we may not always agree on everything, we can also learn to “respectfully disagree” on things as well.
41. Chief Drayer stated that one of the challenges the task force will have is how “mayday” is utilized vs. how it’s defined by the NFPA, and that “mayday” has traditionally been used as a firefighting term in relation to the “downed firefighter,” but that it really doesn’t address the “all-hazard” incident, such as when “mayday” is used outside of the Fire Service.
42. Chief Zagaris stated that the task force will continue to work on the “1500 and 1561” issues in the coming months.
43. ***(Chief Butler references the document titled “FIRESCOPE Task Force Report October 2011” that is included in the FIRESCOPE Board Members Meeting packet.)***
44. The MACS orientation for the Southern area that was conducted on July 20, 2011, was attended by forty-four participants including FIRESCOPE member agencies. In addition to this orientation, an exercise was conducted that allowed participants to work through the Incident Prioritization process. Chief Butler concludes by stating that he was very pleased with the outcome of this orientation.
45. The Task Force is currently engaged in a final review of the revisions that were made to the Field Operations Guide (FOG) and that all outstanding issues have been resolved at the “Task Force level” and he anticipates that these revisions will be submitted to the Operations Team in November. He also states that the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary edition of the FOG will be a commemorative edition.
46. The “Marijuana Response Guidelines” have been sent back to the Safety Specialist Group in order to have more work done on it. Particularly, in the area concerning when plantations are discovered within the Wildland environment. He expects this document to be finalized by the Specialist Group in December.
47. The Hazardous Materials Specialist Group has finished their draft of the “Clandestine Laboratory Response Guidelines” they have been working on, and he expects this document to be moved up the “decision process” in November.
48. The document titled “All Hazard Response to Tactical Law Enforcement Incidents,” is currently being worked on by the Safety Specialist Group, and is expected to be completed in November.
49. The Communications Specialist Group continues its work on a draft document titled “Standardized Radio Traffic.” The Specialist Group has made a recommendation that the title of this document be changed to “Standardized Communication Terminology,” with the document expecting to be finalized by the end of the year.
50. The Task Force continues its work on the WUI Placard, and is currently working with CAL FIRE Chief Kelley Gouette to help finalize the concept for Board approval. Chief Drayer states that there has been some legal opposition by the Forest Service Attorney’s concerning the use of the WUI placard and that the Board members will be updated as information is received.
51. It was prematurely reported that Nevada County Consolidated Fire Chief Tim Fike would be stepping down as the Volunteer representative to the Task Force. The Task Force rejected his letter of resignation and asked him to stay on which he accepted and will remain the Volunteer representative.
52. The Task Force recognized Cal EMA Deputy Chief Tom Drayer for his many years of hard work and dedication to FIRESCOPE. Chief Drayer will be retiring on October 31, 2011.

## **40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Discussion**

53. Chief Rueda stated that the Task Force and Operations Teams have held discussions and expressed desire to have the cover of the FOG display recognition of its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Chief Roper stated that for the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of FIRESCOPE, a half day event was held in Sacramento to celebrate the achievements of past and present FIRESCOPE Board members, but understood that budget restrictions and commitment level might make it a difficult task at this time. He adds that he would at least like the Board to consider having a similar event for the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of FIRESCOPE, and would at least like to have something posted on the FIRESCOPE webpage in recognition of this event.
54. Chief Gilbert asked the Board members to consider having a small reception with refreshments directly after a FIRESCOPE meeting. Chief Drayer stated that for the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, a contractor had provided funding for the event, but that this currently is not an option. Chief Zagaris mentioned that a luncheon could be held, but that funding be provided by each individual participant, similar to the way meals are paid for at current Board meetings.
55. When asked how a publication like the FOG is paid for, Chief Drayer stated that from a “document control point,” it is funded through the Fire Service agreement between the U.S. Forest Service and FIRESCOPE, with Cal EMA assuming some financial responsibility as well.

**Action Item – Chief Sheldon motions that the April FIRESCOPE Meeting, to include an event commemorating the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of FIRESCOPE, be held in Southern California. Chief Millar Seconded. None opposed. Motion approved.**

## **Fire Department Privatization**

56. *(Chief Gilbert references the document titled “California Fire Service – Fire Protection Service Privatization” that is included in the Board Members Meeting Packet)*
57. Chief Gilbert stated that in previous conversations with Cal-Chiefs, there is talk of the possibility of allowing private fire protection companies to pursue contracts in municipal agencies. As an example of this, he states that Wackenhut, which is a private company, had placed a bid for municipal jurisdiction in San Carlos, and because of this, Cal-Chiefs had received numerous inquiries regarding their position on this. He adds that in reality, fire service leadership has taken no position on the perspective of privatization of municipal fire protection, and that every organization he has dealt with feels that it is important to have local control and local decision making at the lowest possible level.
- At the request of Cal-Chiefs, this issue was brought to the State Leadership group for direction and that after much discussion, it was decided on that this issue could be broken down into 5 policy level issues.
- Public Policy
  - Legal Issues
  - Transparency and Accountability
  - Long Term Sustainability
  - Fiscal Responsibility
58. Chief Gilbert stated that he had just completed a competitive bid process that would provide protection for a nuclear laboratory at Lawrence Livermore, and had found out that Wackenhut had placed a bid against them. He noted that Wackenhut was very methodical and sophisticated at exposing our faults, and had the funding to allow them to continue doing this, and added that whether the bid is successful or not, he would like to give the Board a detailed presentation in the near future so that others may learn from this experience should any of the jurisdictions be faced with a situation such as this.
59. Chief Millar stated that one of the things his agency has experienced concerning the privatization of certain parts of their program is determining what is or is not “inherently governmental.” He adds that glancing through the “public policy” and “legal issues” sub-sections of the privatization document, it



appears this definition had not been included. Chief Gilbert stated that this type of language was allude to, but that if there is a more direct way of specifying it, he would welcome any input from the Board.

60. SFM Hoover stated that there are clear delineations within the Health & Safety Code that states a government cannot contract for certain duties, and questioned why this type of language was not included within this document. Chief Gilbert stated that he wanted this type of language, but that it wasn't included because there was questions on defining what could or couldn't be negotiated, or delegated within a contract.

## **Old Business**

### **Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Plan Update**

61. Chief Zagaris stated that he is currently working on updating the Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Plan, and will keep the Board members informed of its status.

### **Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Plan Survey**

62. *(Chief Zagaris references the document titled "FIRESCOPE Fire & Rescue Mutual Aid Survey – 2011" that is included in the FIRESCOPE Board Members Meeting Packet)*

63. Chief Zagaris stated that on July 25, 2011, a new Fire & Rescue Mutual Aid survey was sent out to fire departments statewide, and that 409 out of approximately 1000 responded. He stated he would have like to have had more respondents, but is somewhat happy with what was received.

64. *(Chief Zagaris goes over each of the questions that were included in the survey in detail and solicits input from the Board members)*

65. Chief Zagaris also states that the 2012 Survey will most likely be sent out to departments in early 2012 before the next fire season, but that this could change and he will keep the Board informed as to its status.

66. Chief Roper asks the Board members to write down any questions or comments that might have come from this discussion, and to send them to Chief Zagaris as soon as possible for them to be included in, or be used to enhance existing questions for the next survey.

67. Chief Zagaris extends his appreciation to Chief Drayer for his work on the "electronic side" of the survey, and to Chief Dennen for producing the reports.

### **BRC Task Force**

68. Chief Gilbert states that the Blue Ribbon Task Force has not had the opportunity to speak with the Governor's Office, but that an action item that has been brought forward as part of the Fire Service Leadership Group is the "WUI Standards of Coverage." He mentions that the report is close to being in its final form, but that it was not presented at today's meeting because it has yet to be "fully endorsed" by the Task Force. Chief Roper mentioned that he would like to have a copy of this report and discuss it at the January FIRESCOPE BOD Meeting.

## **Federal IMT Succession Planning Study Update**

69. Chief Roper states that the next WFLC meeting will be held in Denver on November 9th and 10th and that he should be receiving a draft copy of "The Cohesive Strategy Part 2" report next week, and once he has received it, he will forward it to the Board members. He also requests that if any Board members have comments, they submit them to him before the WFLC meeting.

## **FIRESCOPE BoD Workshop Update**

### **Establishing BOD Workshop Priorities**

70. Chief Roper mentioned that at a previous Board meeting, it was decided on that the Board members would create a priority list of important topics they would like to have discussed at future Board meetings, and that this is still in effect.

### **MACS (Review of FIRESCOPE MACS 410-1 vs. Geographic/Regional MACS)**

71. ***(Chief Roper references the document titled "MACS Group Procedures Guide MACS 410-1" that is included in the FIRESCOPE Board Members Meeting Packet)***

72. Chief Millar stated that with the current configuration of the MAC Group in Southern California, and relative to its design under the "MAC 410-1" regional and geographical link, he is concerned that it does not represent the current CalMAC configuration, and is asking the Board members for their opinion on whether it's a "Geographical MAC", or a "Regional MAC". Chief Drayer states that Southern California is reflective of the geographic area which includes the Southern California region and all of the agencies that are encompassed within, but adds that this concern has been brought up by other individuals in the past.

73. When asked for his opinion concerning how the MAC configuration has affected "Cost Share Agreements", Chief Millar stated that there were two incidents/exercises that happened in 2007 and 2008 that affected this, *(Chief Millar gives a brief explanation of these events)*, and that ultimately, he doesn't think procedures, as they relate to the "410-1," are currently being implemented. Chief Drayer agreed, but added that the CalMAC portion of the "410-1" also needs to be "brought back in line" with the geographic MAC operating plans.

74. Chief Drayer stated that there has also been concern regarding MAC Groups not having a delegation of authority to make the decisions that they make, and that the "Feds" have been so concerned with this issue as well, they are currently drafting a document that will introduce a delegation of authority process into their NIMS/MAC Model.

75. ***(Chief Osby, Chief Drayer, and Andy McMurray all give examples of their experience with the early MACS system)***

76. Chief Roper described the early implementation of MACS as a "poker game" and that in the past, there were no "written rules" concerning how incidents received priority, and that Incident prioritization was often based on a "synergy" that was created within the group, and even included the personalities of specific members. He added that with the new technologies currently meeting the needs and demands of establishing an incident prioritization process, he feels much more comfortable with this system than at any time in the past.

77. ***(Chief Dyer, Chief Rueda and Chief Zagaris all give examples of their experience with the early MACS system)***

78. Chief Millar stated that one of the lessons he has learned from visiting other geographical area MACs, is the benefit of having "permanency" with the residents who sit in these geographic areas. Chief Drayer stated that the "continuity" of a group's membership, especially during periods of activation, has always been of extreme importance, and implementing the "lessons learned" from 2008 have created much more stability within MAC groups.

79. ***(Chief Dunn gives an example of his experience with the early MACS system)***

80. Chief Roper thanks the Board members for their input concerning this topic, and states that this is exactly what he had in mind when he asked the Board to create "policy level dialog."

**Chief Roper calls lunch break @ 1220**

**Chief Roper calls meeting to order @ 1306**

81. Chief Roper and the Board of Directors recognize Chief Drayer's outstanding achievements he has made to FIRESCOPE and to the Fire Service in general. Chief Drayer will be retiring on October 31, 2011.

### **Duplication of Efforts Study**

82. Chief Richter stated that himself, along with SFM Hoover and Chief Gilbert, have formed a committee to review the various roles and responsibilities of the State Board of Fire Services vs. the roles and responsibilities of FIRESCOPE, and based on what was found, it was determined that at this time, the consolidation of these two entities into one would not be recommended. He adds that a list of recommendations has been created that would help strengthen the existing relationship between these two entities. These are:

- For FIRESCOPE to stay engaged and re-enforce the need for training under the State Board of Fire Services and to maintain the relevance in the area of incident command and the CICCS system.
- To make sure that there is proper Fire Chief Representation between the two entities.
- To work closely with the Cal-Metro Chiefs to ensure that their position on the State Board of Fire Services is filled with the most appropriate person.
- With regard to training, to make sure that any recommendations that come from FIRESCOPE's sub-committees to the Board, are done properly so that all involved are made fully and properly aware of any issues and/or recommendations that may be happening.

83. SFM Hoover was asked if FIRESCOPE is properly represented on the State Board of Fire Services. She answered that it is not, but that there are members of FIRESCOPE that represent their own agencies, and have positions on the State Board of Fire Services. She also reminded the Board that these positions are Governor appointed positions.

84. Chief Richter concludes by stating that the committee is currently in the process of reviewing all comparisons, and once completed, they will be submitted to Chief Zagaris for his approval and for Board dissemination.

### **The sustainability of CICCS**

85. Chief Roper states that many individuals have expressed concerns about the future of CICCS, and asks the Board, "Did we create a system where we cannot maintain the current membership?" He adds that within his own agency, and for a variety of reasons, there has been a sharp decline in the number of people who are on the "qualified list" who can go outside of the County.

86. Chief Duvally stated that the foundation that CICCS was built upon, i.e. the qualification, training and education, are still viable ways of keeping the system sustainable, but that it has become much more difficult to get individuals qualified because of the budget issues that entities are now facing throughout the State.

87. Chief Duvally mentions that the requirements within the CICCS system are a hybrid of the "NWCG 310-1" system, and that in 2002, it was thought that CICCS would need to evolve from its "NWCG roots," based on the fact that there are multiple components within the NWCG system that didn't apply to CICCS.

Chief Duvally states a few examples of these changes:

- Changes have been made that will make it easier on local governments in keeping the Type II Firefighter even though "the Feds" have taken this away and have gone straight to Type I. He states that at the request of the volunteers, it was decided on that it would be in best interest to keep the Type II and have it used as a baseline for a Type I.
- Allow more individuals to qualify in a more timely manner, with the possibility of giving them credit for the background and experiences that they have "brought to the table" through working with local government.

- Changes have been made that have lowered the operations requirements for the Situation Unit Leader position.
- In the Federal system, a position task book was open for 3 years, but in order to keep it in line with FEMA's implementation, we extended it to 5 years.

55. Chief Duvally mentioned that the U.S. Fire Administration has given a \$50,000 grant to a contractor in order to have them evaluate certain NWCG and FEMA classes, and states that all involved he has discussed this with, feel that these class evaluation(s) will be validated. Chief Zagaris added that if an agency is going to be paying for training, then it's completely understandable that they are going to want the most qualified individuals filling the positions. He also adds that over the last few years, training for individuals has become more restricted due to the budgetary problems that have affected all agencies, but unlike previous years when training was almost always approved, it has now become more prudent for the local governments to "choose wisely" the type of training that they are paying for.
56. Chief Duvally stated that in its current condition, the CICCS system has been a lot easier to "tweak and mold" as opposed to the more complicated process of changing the "NWCG 310-1," and added that if anyone believes the "5 year cycle" is better than the "3 year cycle" with our current fiscal condition, then the possibility of changing this can be looked into.
57. Chief Duvally stated that there are a couple of "caveats" to sustainability, and one of the things that he has not seen departments doing enough of, is taking advantage of their day-to-day firefighting operations. He states that Chief Messer has been very good about getting everyone to do their performance evaluations, but also adds that with awareness, there are still quite a few things that can, and should be handled internally.
58. To address the currency issues, Chief Duvally states that DHS and NFPA both have requirements for a qualifying simulation, and that there are a lot of capabilities within our agencies to put together full scale simulations. He adds that some of the components to meet the "qualifying incident" requirement can be met from a simulation, but that guidelines state that a simulation cannot be what qualifies an individual, but can be of some use for later development.
59. Chief Ralston mentioned that at the last CFAA meeting he attended, there was discussion with regard to taking the "310-1" requirement out of the CFAA, but currently, it would be best to leave it as is and revisit this possibility at a later date.
60. Chief Roper asked if there was any way to determine the amount of individuals that are qualified, or to determine if there had been a decline in qualified individuals. Chief Duvally answered that ROSS can be utilized to gauge the amount of qualified individuals, but that those records need to be validated every year and he doesn't know if this is currently being performed in all regions or Op areas. Chief Drayer added that when he was the Southern Region Training Officer at CALFIRE, a annual analysis was done throughout the region to help define the critical needs that would be used to develop training, and from this information, a priority list of trainees would be created to determine those that could be sent out on assignment in order for them to become qualified.
61. Chief Duvally stated that as FEMA gets up to speed, there is going to be more of a need to have an entity within the State that coordinates FEMA changes, and adds that currently, there are multiple items out for public comment from FEMA and as long as CICCS stays equivalent, he thinks California will be instrumental in its effect with helping "steer the nation" through FEMA.
62. Chief Roper asked the Board members if anyone would have any objection to giving CICCS direction with regard to currency, and to look at a way that sustainability could be maintained within CICCS. There were no objections from any Board members.

### **TYPE III Local Government Incident**

63. Chief Zagaris stated that there has been a lot of interest in local government Type III's at the National level, and that federal funds have been provided for work to be performed on the training curriculum for the National Fire Academy, and feels that now might be a good time to determine its direction, with the possibility of adding more parameters to it. Chief Duvally stated that there are currently 126 Type III Teams in the Nation, and with so much grant money being made available from DHS, some States have allowed their teams to "develop," which in effect, has created too many teams with not enough incidents to respond to. He adds that having too many teams has also created a type of "competitiveness" among the incidents that California would also like to be involved in. To help resolve this, Chief Duvally stated that he had talked with other Board members, and one possibility that was suggested to help with oversaturation would be to have FIRESCOPE or CICC help coordinate these teams.
64. ***(Chief Zagaris gives an example of a Type III Team being sent from one State to another)***
65. Chief Duvally states that Type II Teams haven't been fully identified and integrated into CICC just yet, and because of this, they are still waiting on the outcome of the equivalency.
66. Chief Dunn stated that a big challenge that his teams have faced, is when they are requested to respond to an incident out of their State's jurisdiction and once on scene, they find that they cannot "fund themselves" and are sent home.
67. ***(Chief Zagaris gives an example of Type III Teams being sent to Louisiana to help with Hurricane Katrina)***
68. Chief Roper asked the Board members if there are any standards and training criteria that have already been established for Type III Teams. Chief Duvally answered that there isn't because the qualifications guide being developed by FEMA has been sitting with the FEMA attorney's for almost two years. Chief Drayer asked since it has been with the attorney's for as long as it has, is there a time frame when it might be completed, to which Chief Duvally stated that it is currently in the "comment phase," and that these comments still need adjudicating, which can take over a year or more.
67. Chief Hutchinson asked the Board if all of the existing Federal and State Incident Command Teams are automatically listed as Type III Command Teams as well. Chief Duvally answered that the U.S. Fire Administration is the agency currently tracking the Type III Teams, and added that most having very little experience.
68. Chief Rueda stated that currently, the certification for a Type III Team may be a "position" class, with the possibility of being moved to an "NFA" class, or a "420 equivalent." Chief Duvally mentioned that it cannot be a "420," because they are asked if they possess the "03-05" class which for all purposes, is a "320" class. Chief Rueda stated that if someone is going to be sent out, you want them qualified, and that this issue is just "begging" for minimum requirements to be placed on California Type III Teams.
69. Based on previous discussions Chief Roper has had with Fire Chiefs from around the Nation concerning the quality of Type III Teams, and with the Board's permission, he would like to ask the CICC group to create a document that would outline the use and qualifications of a Type III Team. ***(Chief Roper gives an example of problems encountered when a Type III Team was sent to Texas)***. Chief Zagaris added that since this will most likely have training implications, it should also be brought before the Ops Group as well.

### **CFAA Agreement: FIRESCOPE's Stance**

70. Chief Roper stated that the following individuals (Jim Wilson, Darrell Ralston, and Richard Webb) that are currently representing the CFAA, will be meeting on November 1<sup>st</sup> to discuss any changes that might need to be done to the CFAA Agreement, and adds that this would also be a good time for the Board to discuss what *they* would like to see included as well.
71. Chief Roper starts the discussion by stating that currently, there are some entities willing to pay portal-to-portal costs, and others that are not, and asks the Board if there is a possibility of some point in time

where the Board could endorse having a CFAA that contains the items that we agree to, but also have an “FFAA” that will allow entities the ability to not pay portal-to-portal costs. He adds that under the Blue Ribbon Commission, he was under the impression that the goal was to reduce the number of agreements to help ease the ordering and response process, and not make it more convoluted.

**72. *(Chief Roper uses Support Staff Mechanics as an example of issues with having multiple agreements) (Chief Osby gives an example of problems in regard to Mechanics and the Administrative Rate)***

73. Chief Dunn mentioned that he also was under the impression that there had been more of a push toward a “single” agreement rather than having “multiple.” Chief Millar expressed similar sentiment and added that if the CFAA issues can be resolved to everyone’s satisfaction, he anticipates the possibility of doing away with local agreements. Paul Bannister added that he would even go one step further, and possibly combine it with the CMFA.

74. Chief Roper stated that at previous meetings where the CFAA issue has been brought up, one of the core items that had been determined to be an issue, was the individuals who attended these meetings were not empowered with the ability to make decisions. He adds that as this process begins, we will continue to work through the “basic tenants” of sending the “right people” to negotiate on our behalf, and adds that if future discussion were to come to a “stalemate,” the Executive Group could then be called together in order to help move the discussion along.

75. Concerning the “16 vs. 24 hour” issue, Chief Roper states that this is based on a FEMA reimbursement rule, and that multiple individuals have attempted to change this, but FEMA will not budge on the matter.

## **Roundtable**

76. Chief Roper mentions that the meeting agenda incorrectly states the January 11, 2012 FIRESCOPE Board of Directors meeting as being held at the Burbank Fire Department Training Center. It should read that it will be held at Cal EMA Headquarters in Sacramento instead.

**77. *(Chief Millar gives a brief overview of the logistics required with sending personnel and equipment to the Texas fires that had recently happened)***

78. Chief Rueda states that an item that has been called to his attention, and will most likely affect all at the NFPA, is the elimination of the “debriefing part of CISF.” He adds that in his opinion, this is something that has been accepted “as the norm” within the fire industry, but that current research is indicating that it is ineffective and may possibly even be harmful, and adds that as he gets more information, he will keep the Board updated.

## **Meeting Adjourned @ 1430**