

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

Meeting Minutes
OES Headquarters
Mather
October 13, 2004

Members Present:

Henry Renteria, Director- Office of Emergency Services
Kim Zagaris, Chief, Fire and Rescue Branch – Office of Emergency Services
P. Michael Freeman, Chair - Chief, Los Angeles County Fire Department
Jim Wright, Deputy Director- California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
Bob Roper, Vice Chair - Chief, Ventura County Fire Department
William Bamattre, Chief - Los Angeles Fire Department
Ed Wehking, State Director - Bureau of Land Management
Ray Quintanar, Director Region 5 - United States Forest Service
Stewart Gary, Chief – Livermore Pleasanton Fire Department
Larry E. Webb, Chief- San Marcos Fire Department
Nick Dunn- Kern County Fire Department
Sue Husari, Fire Management Officer- National Park Service

Members Absent:

Ruben Grijalva, State Fire Marshal/CDF
Hank Weston, Chief - Grass Valley Fire Department
Julius Cherry, Chief- Sacramento Fire Department
Bill McCammon, Chief - Alameda County Fire Department
John Sherri, Chief - Santa Barbara County Fire Department
Dale Geldert, Director- CDF

Others Present:

Dan Drake, Battalion Chief, Orange County Fire Authority, (Representing Chief Prather)
Steve Vittum, Deputy Chief, SBC – Chair Joint Operations Team
Jon Olney, BC, Kern County Fire Department, Chair Task Force
Dave Stone, Battalion Chief Los Angeles Co. Fire Department,
Steve Turner, Region Chief CDF, Region IV Coordinator – OES
Steve Staump- Santa Clara County Fire Department
Keith Richter, Contra Costa County
Fred Batchelor, CDF- Region VI Coordinator- OES
Wayne Mitchell – Region V Coordinator- OES
Jack Frogget- Kern County Fire Department
Mark Schmitt, Santa Barbara County Fire
Bob Praytor, Deputy Chief, OES
Mike McGroarty, Deputy Chief, OES
Steve Gage, Deputy Chief, OES
Jim Holdridge, Deputy Chief-OES
Paul Beckstrom, Assistant Chief - OES
Bahia Abdallah- OES

Introductions, Logistics & Lunch

Chief Freeman welcomed Board members. Self-introductions were made.

Approval of July Minutes

Michael Freeman

-Review of meeting minutes

-Following review of the July 14, 2004 minutes, a motion was made to amend the minutes with the following information.

Motion

Request to amend the current deadline of the CICCIS certification submission of July 1, 2005 to December 31, 2005, so action is concurrent with the Fire Marshall's Office announcement.

1st Bamattre

2nd Webb

Motion Passed

Motion

Motion to approve July 14, 2004 meeting minutes with the amendment made above.

1st Roper

2nd Vittum

Motion Passed

OES Director's Report

Henry Renteria

-OES attended the NEMA annual meeting in NYC. Topic was the Emergency Mutual Aid Compact. OES has request to become a signatory on the compact. Hawaii and California are only two states not a signatory. Governor's office is review the request from OES.

-OES is moving to reactivate SIMS by the end of the year. The SIMS Board will also be re-activated with old and new members involved.

-OES has tasked CSTI to become more involved in State Training due to DPA state training being closed due to budget constraints. OES will be creating a new training initiative that will be identified in a few months.

-Rich Eisner has been assigned as the Regional Administrator for the coastal region.

-DHS interim director, Dick Andrews, has brought a lot of experience to the department. He will assist in appointing the new director.

-Grace Koch has been appointed as Deputy Director in the Executive office. She has 12 years of experience in many avenues at OES.

California performance review has been processed with the Governor's office. Governor is not embracing any of the recommendations made by OES, at this time.

First Lady Maria Shriver will be the official spokes person for Disaster Preparedness and her main focus will be promoting fire safety.

NIMS Presentation

Kim Zagaris

-Many OES representatives are meeting w/FEMA region 9 representatives to discuss NIMS Mutual Aid initiative.

-Handouts have been given out indicating some of the topics that will be discussed.

OPS Team Report

Steve Vittum

-Major efforts have been made over the past several months regarding the Blue Ribbon Commission issues.

-They will be addressed specifically in the upcoming Ops Team meeting.

Task Force Report

Jon Olney

-Task Force report handed out and reviewed by all members regarding issues the TF has addressed for the board.

Drake-IMS Consortium discussion covered. They agreed to change all documents to conform to NIMS. Will forward a letter to Chief Freeman reference the 25 resources or less information.

-Ambulance Strike Team issue addressed. There has not been a definition adopted of what an AST is. This issue is being driven by EMSA and the board has been trying to ensure it stays within the parameters of the requirements for a standard strike team.

O'Bannon- Draft packet of recommendations from EMSA has been handed to the Task Force and they will be making a presentation at the next TF meeting. Based on the information provided, reimbursement and communication are the biggest issues that need to be discussed.

Roper- recommends a presentation take place so the TF can review their process and provide recommended changes to the board and obtain, if warranted, the board's approval.

Blue Ribbon Commission Action Items

Bob Roper

Zagaris- Discussed handouts that will be pertaining to this report.

1. MACS Conference Calls:

-Weather report will not be eliminated. OES has redone the MACS conference call format and handed to the board for review. Format will be concurrent for North and South ops.

2. Creating a Military Liaison Position:

Praytor- discussed issues with DOD liaison and provided a letter requesting a DOD representative be present on the MACS conference calls. No response yet provided by DOD regarding this request. Peter Verga will be the primary contact and will be available to assist the Board in setting up this position, if it so decided.

3. Consider WUI inventory:

-It was indicated that Type III inventories are appropriate for the wildland mission, as stated on the FOG Guide. Additional Type I or II may be requested; by it might delay the resources in moving.

4. Define terms Evacuation:

-Introduction of Dennis Bean, from Law Enforcement. He indicated that evacuations are typically tasked to Law and there is a current policy in place. Discussed the difference between voluntary and mandatory. Problem seems to be time in enforcing mandatory evacuations. Preplanning evacuations ahead of time make a smoother operation. It is better to have a mandatory request ahead of time to provide the assistance necessary to enforce the evacuations.

-Recommended a one-page synopsis be developed for the regional coordinators defining the information provided.

-Will amend the FOG to reflect the common terminology of mandatory and voluntary evacuations used throughout operations and will define what they are. This amendment will be provided for the next FOG publication.

5. WUI Suppression:

-Board recommended that no sub groups will be needed and they will utilize what is currently in place.

6. Interoperability Issues:

Vittum- Ops team determined that interoperability is electronically tied to communications; it was in turn passed to the communications group. Request was made for them to define the term and explain the timeline of narrow banding.

-Problems discussed were narrow and non-narrow banding radios having problems communicating. Loud talk was cut off or would come out metallic sounding.

Vittum- Ops team felt some of these issues would be resolved when non-narrow banding radios were replaced with narrow banding radios.

Praytor- recommended the group identify how many caches they have that could be replaced using grant money.

-Ops team indicated that is a prime issue that needs to be addressed and worked on.

7. Rapid Demobilization:

Tabled –to be discussed later

8. State EMSA's role during the WUI Fire:

-OES is controlling the issues with state EMSA and they working through several items with the department.

9. PPE Equipment:

Roper- NFPA already types wildland gear. This is limited issue that does not need to be dealt with. If a strike team does not have they equipment required, they should not be sent out. If a resource arrives at an incident with out the equipment required, they should be sent home.

10. Self Sufficiency:

Roper- CSFA indicated that they wanted to ensure that when a resource is sent they are required to be self-sufficient, but only for the initial 24 hours. If reassigned they would not be required to be self-sufficient.

Motion

Request to accept and approve the Self-Sufficiency definition provided by the Ops Team

1st Bamattre

2nd Gary

Motion Passed. Definition will be included in the next FOG addition.

11. EOC Liaison:

Roper-The board does not need to take any action on this item.

7. Rapid Demobilization:

(Tabled earlier) Roper-requested if the system was broke or are there specific incidents that need to be discussed regarding this issue.

-Praytor-there was an issue of getting team off incident and dispatched to another location. Specified that this was one specific incident and not the entire Fire Siege.

Husari- indicated there should be some direction when handing over to the ops team. Should be a stipulation that we will not be reinventing the existing operational procedures, already in place.

Quintanar- Ops team will need to include cost apportionment group and other levels of people who can assist with what they will be trying to determine.

-Ops team will need to do the following:

- Identify the system map ordering and demobilization process.
- Analysis the process of each and identify system efficiencies.
- Roll all items together to streamline a more rapid mobilization or reassignment of resources.
- Address these issues from a major event perspective.

-Ops team will also need to identify what they will need from the board to make/develop this process. They need to send a letter with their needs so the board can address and assist in this process.

12. Double Shifting:

-Request to look into double shifting of Fire Engines where they would be working 24 hour shifts instead of 12.

-No cost increase associated with these changes. Less engines ordered because previous engines would still be on the line.

-Difficult to make this happen in an expanding incident.

-Board determined this would need further research and discussion. Assigned to TF/Ops team to determine recommendations back to the board regarding what issues will arise from this decision and to determine implementation.

California Incident Command Certification System

Steve Gage

-Fire Marshall letter indicated the extension of the review process. Addressed earlier in the meeting.

-Recommended that the CICCS Task Force be put together again to redefine the process and to address any issues that have come up or that will arise later.

Motion

Reactivate the CICCS Task Force committee.

1st Webb

2nd Bamattre

Motion Passed. OES will work with the State Fire Marshall to activate the committee.

Regional and Operational Area Election Process

Bamattre

-Reviewed the election process and determined that there are additional considerations that need to be determined and decided on by the board.

-Sheet handed out listing these considerations for review.

-Ops team did not feel a sense of urgency on this issue with other requests still pending.

-Bamattre, McCammon, and Zagaris will address these considerations and will bring back some recommendations to the board at the next meeting.

Election of Chair and Vice Chair-

-Board needs to reaffirm current participants or elect new bodies for the chair and vice chair of the board.

-Opened nominations to the floor

-Current participants were reaffirmed for their positions.

Motion

Reaffirm current chair and vice chair participants

1st Bamattre

2nd Vittum

Motion Passed.

Fire Branch Report

Kim Zagaris

Holdridge- Reimbursement so far has processed 20 million from Fire Seige. Some payments not being made due to FEMA. Praytor and Holdridge are working on a software program recommendation to replace existing reimbursement program.

Zagaris-attempted to have new engine contract awarded. 19 Engines is the contract, although originally asked for 21. Cost of engines are 253,000 a piece. Will be requesting additional money for the remaining two engines.

All water tenders are assigned and all remaining 21 engines from previous contract, with the exception of 1, are assigned.

-Follow up regarding email notification. Need to ensure that the Operational areas and down are getting the email notifications being sent out.

Region I Report

P Michael Freeman-

-Nothing to report

Region II Report

Wayne Mitchell

-Nothing to report

Region III Report

Alan Stovall

-Nothing to report

Region IV Report

-Nothing to report

Region V Report

Tim Turner

-Nothing to report

Region VI Report

Fred Batchelor

-Nothing to report

CDF Report

Jim Wright-

-Expressed his gratitude for the care and assistance regarding the loss of their firefighter.

-Still in fire season

BLM Report

Ed Wehking-

-Fed agencies under continuing resolution until election on the 20th.

NPS Report

Sue Husari

-Working on memorial for death of employee on a hotshot crew.

Forest Service Report

Ray Quintanar

Nothing to report

Old Business- None

New Business-

Definition of structure protection/perimeter control, draft 3, was handed out for review and discussion. Will address it at the next meeting.

Ops Team gave congrats to Jon Olney for his upcoming retirement. He would like to continue as an ops team rep after retirement. Board does not see that as a problem, provided Kern County sponsors him.

Adjournment 1430

*Next Meeting- January 12, 2005, Orange County Fire Authority HQ,
1 Fire Authority Road, Irvine, CA*