

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

Meeting Minutes
October 14, 1998
Sacramento, California

MEMBERS PRESENT

Richard Andrews, Director - Office of Emergency Services
Daniel G. Clark, Chief - Kern County Fire Department
Gary Costamagna, Chief - Sacramento City Fire Department
Michael Dougherty, Chief - OES Fire and Rescue
Stewart Gary, Chief - Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department
John Jansen, Northern Director - California State Firefighters' Association
Pat Kidder, Fire Management Officer - USDI - Bureau of Land Management
Tom Nichols, Protection Specialist - National Park Service - Fire Management Branch
Charles "Chip" Prather, Chief - Orange County Fire Authority
Ray Quintanar, Director - USDA Forest Service - Fire and Aviation Management
Russell Richards, Fire Warden - Chief Executive Office, Stanislaus County
Bob Roper, Chief - Ventura County Fire Department
Bruce Ward, Deputy Director - Office of Emergency Services

MEMBERS ABSENT

William R. Bamattre, Chief - Los Angeles City Fire Department
James Z. Brannon, Chief - Linda Fire Protection District
Ronny J. Coleman, Chief Deputy Director - State Fire Marshal Office - CDF
P. Michael Freeman, Chief - Los Angeles County Fire Department
Brian Hatch, Director - California Professional Fire Fighters
Roger K. Purdie, Chief - Vista Fire Department
Douglas Sporleder, Chief - Santa Clara County Fire Department
Keith Simmons, Chief - Santa Barbara County Fire Department
Richard A. Wilson Director - CA Department of Forestry & Fire Protection

OTHERS PRESENT

Larry Benson, Op's Chief - CDF&FP South Op's
Tom Bramell - Livermore-Pleasanton Fire Department
Marla Chase, Office Technician - OES Fire and Rescue
Patrick Cooney, Deputy Chief - OES Fire and Rescue
Cary Eckard, Deputy Chief - Kern County Fire Department
Dan Francis, Chief - CDF&FP - State Fire Marshal Office - Training
Mark Ghilarducci, Deputy Chief - OES Fire and Rescue
Gary Glotfelty, Assistant Chief - OES Fire and Rescue - FIREScope South
Mike Harris, Area Chief, South - CDF&FP OES Region VI Coordinator
Richard Helton, Office Technician - OES Fire and Rescue
Neil Honeycutt, Assistant Chief - OES Fire and Rescue - FIREScope North
Jeff Jones - CDF&FP Coast-Cascade Region
John Kraushaar - NPS Pacific West R.O.

Dan Lang, Staff Chief - CDF&FP HQ Op's
Gary Pavusko, Deputy Chief - OES Fire and Rescue
Teresa T. Romero, Office Technician - OES Fire and Rescue FIREScope
Dan Tinnel, Assistant Chief - OES Fire and Rescue Region V
Hank Weston, Chief - Grass Valley Fire Department
Chris Wurzell, Assistant Chief - CDF&FP - South Op's
Kim Zagaris, Assistant Chief - OES Fire and Rescue Region IV
Steve Vittum, Division Chief - Santa Barbara County Fire Department

OPENING REMARKS/INTRODUCTIONS

Meeting called to order at 0950 by Chairman Costamagna.

Chief Dougherty announced Patrick Cooney as the new Deputy Chief for OES Fire and Rescue Branch Fire Operations and Gary Glotfelty as the new Assistant Chief for FIREScope South for OES Fire and Rescue Branch.

APPROVAL OF JULY 8, 1998 MINUTES

Chief Costamagna made the motion to approve the minutes of the July 8, 1998, FIREScope Board of Directors Meeting. So moved by Chief Roper and second by Chief Prather. Minutes approved.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT (Richard Andrews/Bruce Ward)

Director Andrews announced that Michael Dougherty is the new Chief for the OES Fire and Rescue Branch.

Two budget items have been finalized since the last board meeting:

- Thanks to all the hard work and efforts of all those that were involved including Bob Roper, there was an augmentation of \$5 million to the OES Fire Engine Program to accelerate the replacement of the fire engine fleet.
- The budget that was signed by Governor Wilson contains approximately \$25 million to construct the new OES Headquarters and State Emergency Operations Center at Mather Air Force Base. We will have the groundbreaking ceremony in early December and will be in the facility and fully operational by August, 2000. One building will be the Administration Center and the second building will house the Fire and Rescue Branch, Law Enforcement Branch and the State Emergency Operations Center.

With the new elections, there will be a new administration coming on board on January 4, 1999. Since this may be the last opportunity I may have to speak to the Board as Director, I would like to personally and on behalf of Governor Wilson express my appreciation to you for all the work that you have done as a Board and each of you individually over the course of the last seven years and all the support that you have given us. I also want to thank you for the work you do every day in your local jurisdictions on behalf of Governor Wilson and your continued efforts to make California a model of how the fire service should work.

Deputy Director Ward gave an update in the subject of terrorism. On August 27 and 28th in Washington, D.C. the Department of Justice held a state and local domestic preparedness stakeholders forum. There were about 200 state and local multi-disciplinaries there. Chief P. Michael

Freeman and others made presentations to Janet Reno about the local and state perspective on how the terrorism effort is viewed from our level. One of the recommendations was that on a national policy, the President should identify a single lead federal agency to implement domestic preparedness. It was determined that the Department of Justice will be the lead single agency at the federal level for accessing information, training and funding.

There was an article in the New York Times on October 8th wherein Richard Clark, the Administration's National Coordinator for Anti-Terrorism Program, outlined some of the changes. Another thing that OES is doing is sponsoring a symposium in San Luis Obispo during the week of November 16th and inviting both federal and state agencies.

STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT (Dan Francis)

The Certs and Quals Committee will be meeting on October 26th. They will begin to draft the certs and quals and answer some of the questions that need to be answered. Hope to have a draft to present by January.

Chief Francis is currently working in completing with the National Association of State Foresters and USFS 310-1, the computerized incident qualification system. It will be all-risk. The original form will be out for distribution in December and planning on a training session in May. The software will be free of charge to FIREScope partners. They will be meeting in November to start the development and guidelines for a new contract for version two.

ENGINE COMMITTEE (Mike Dougherty)

Engine Types to Order. Chief P. Michael Freeman and his working group are still working on developing what types of engines we should look at for the future.

Engine Placement. A guideline format is being done which will include criteria to determine where engines should be placed. The report states there is nothing wrong with the current distribution, but we don't have anything as to how it got that way. We will also need future guidelines to determine placement in the future.

Chief Freeman has agreed to continue working on these two issues.

Motion was made that Chief Freeman's Working Group would continue working on the two issues of engine types and engine placement and return to the Board with their recommendations. So moved by Chief Clark and second by Chief Richards. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

SEMS RESOURCE ORDERING (Dan Lang)

The SEMS Advisory Committee is continuing to develop procedures that will be implemented under the SEMS Law. Chief Honeycutt and Chief Lang have been representing the fire service on a SEMS Specialist Committee that is dealing with the issue of mission numbers for state agencies and also the resource ordering system that is used under SEMS. The MACS 420 System developed by FIREScope has been used by the fire service since the early 1970's.

There are only two resource ordering systems that have been discussed so far. One is the Response Information Management System (RIMS) and the other one is the MACS 420 System. It was agreed that both of these systems are not incompatible and are intended to serve two different organizational levels under SEMS.

Under RIMS, one of the things that does not work well for the individual agencies is in tracking individual resources, tracking time points and tracking incident assignments from incident to incident.

The MACS 420 System was recommended that it be used for all types of emergency response throughout the state. A document was created explaining how this system works.

The Specialist Committee will be meeting again on October 20th to make a recommendation to the SEMS Advisory Board on what type of a system should be adopted statewide.

The reason this is being brought to the attention to the Board is because if the system that is adopted ends up being different than the MACS 420 System that we currently use, it could force some statewide and profound changes within the fire service as to how we do our resource ordering. It would be helpful to speak with your county EOC Director on how the MACS 420 System works for a better understanding.

It was recommended that this issue needs to be discussed with the law enforcement group to make sure they are aware of how resource ordering works.

SELECTION OF SOUTHERN COUNTY REP FIVE-PARTY COMMITTEE (Gary Costamagna)

With Jim Radley of Orange County retiring, we now have a vacancy for the representative of local government on the Five-Party Negotiating Team. Bill Dean of Orange County will take Jim's place on this committee.

FIRE REP SEMS LAW ICS COMMITTEE (Mike Dougherty)

In order to have a fire representative on this committee, we have asked to move Andy Rosenberger of Santa Barbara County from his duties in the SEMS Technical Committee into the Law Enforcement ICS Committee, which Santa Barbara County has agreed to do. It is important to have local fire representation involved in all these committees early on so that they know what SEMS is all about and the information is getting out to local fire agencies.

CALIFORNIA FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION - FIRE DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA LETTER (Gary Costamagna)

As a follow-up to the concerns and recommendations stated in the letter, Chief Costamagna stated that he attended the Spring Region III and IV meetings with the Area Coordinators and just about every recommendation that had been stated in the letter was discussed. The Fire Bulletin last year also discussed some of these issues. The Region and Area Coordinators take back information to their county chiefs association. Maybe we should also be targeting the regional and operational area dispatchers. It was suggested we continue with the training at the dispatcher level.

Chief Dougherty will take all suggestions from this meeting and respond to the letter since it was addressed to OES. USFS also received the letter but stated it would let OES respond.

PERSONNEL ACCOUNTABILITY, PASS SYSTEMS, EVACUATION ALARMS, FIREFIGHTERS (Mark Ghilarducci)

Personnel Accountability. It was found that ninety percent of the fire service uses the T-Card System. Suggestion was made to use a bar code system that can be worn by each individual. This would be a photo ID with a bar code that could be scanned as each individual reports for duty.

This bar code contains all their medical and personnel information. In this way, you get a printout on what time they came unto the scene and what time they left, etc.

Pass Systems/Evacuation Alarms/Firefighters. There is a standard evacuation system in place used by the US&R Teams across the country. It is based upon a siren type system. It was stated that counties have a standard for both pass and evacuation alarms. The previous question that had been brought up by the Board had to do with universal application of these systems. US&R has a system that comes out of the history from the one in Phoenix that is very workable. In California, Safety and Training Officers have done a lot of work to establish some of these evacuation systems. Question was asked as to what is the Safety Officer's role and who reports to who?

Motion was made by Chief Honeycutt that the Task Force or a working group look at the position statements and systems that are out there, find out what the standards are, look at what US&R and the California Fire Service have already done, and then publish that information not necessarily as a set standard, but as a guideline. So moved by Chief Clark and second by Director Quintanar. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Chief Honeycutt went on to state that as we get through these FIREScope issues of what the position statements are, or what the role of the Safety Officer is and what the rapid intervention company and rapid intervention teams have established at the incident and who those people report to, it all needs to be factored in so that it is consistent at all incidents with haz mat, high rise, and all operations. Once the Task Force looks at it, then we can look at the issue and then tear it down.

OES FIRE AND RESCUE BRANCH REPORT (Branch Staff)

Pat Cooney - Fire Operations: We are ready to go forward on the new fire engine specifications that we had received the money from the Legislation for. We have specifications for the Type I and Type II Engine and are ready to take them out for bid.

Mark Ghildarducci - Special Operations: The California US&R Programs supported Hurricane Georges activities.

Gary Pavusko - Administration/FIREScope: The Five-Party Agreement Committee will be meeting in November. The new F-42 Form was field tested and feedback was received on how to enhance the form and make a few corrections. The Five-Party Agreement Committee will be looking at the F-42 at their November meeting. Gary Glotfelty is working on the FIREScope Historical Library. We are also including past disaster type documents to make up After-Action Books. We continue to get requests for data on past incidents. Please forward to Gary Glotfelty any FIREScope documents or past incident reports you no longer want so that we can include these documents in our Library.

Question was asked if Type II Engines will be included in the ordering of new engines? The issue was how many Type I's and Type III's would be ordered, not Type II's. The committees recommendation was that we stay with Type I's. We need to spend the \$5 million as soon as possible. This money is also to be used to repair or upgrade the existing aging fleet and not just to purchase new engines.

We need to define what type of engines are needed (Type I's, II's or III's) with what capabilities and where they should be geographically located essential to the Mutual Aid System. The OES Engine Program was given \$5 million to upgrade/repair its engine fleet, or purchase new engines if necessary. In addition to the \$5 million, there is an annual \$800,000 apparatus funding allocated to the OES Engine Program. There has also been a BCP submitted for approval in the amount of \$1 million annually to keep up the engine fleet program.

Chief Gary made a motion that the Board recommends OES goes forth and spends the \$5 million now to order new Type I Engines and repair or upgrade the existing engine fleet and then have the Task Force report back to the Board in January how the additional \$800,000 should be spent on the engine fleet with OES's input. Second by Chief Prather. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

A previous recommendation made was to have the current distribution of the engine program put on a computer system. Suggestion was made that policy justifications on the distribution of the engine fleet is needed.

Chief Roper asked Board Members have their staff forward to the Task Force information on what types of engines and with what capabilities they have and why they need these types/capabilities. Also include what types/capabilities they would like to have that they don't have and why. This information can be taken into consideration when decisions are made on how the \$800,000 should be spent. Keeping in mind that this will be included with OES' input.

Chief Gary recommended that Chief Freeman host a summit meeting stating that the FIREScope Board is inviting fire service members to attend to discuss the OES Engine Program purchase and placement policy objectives. A Facilitator would be needed to plan an outline of what will be discussed.

It was agreed that Chief Costamagna and Chief Dougherty will speak with Chief Freeman about holding a seminar or a workshop in his area to include FIREScope Board Members and members of the California Fire Service to discuss policy objectives on the OES Engine Program. Perhaps a couple of meetings can be held to finalize the concept and report back to the Board at the January Meeting.

OPERATIONS TEAMS REPORT (Steve Vittum)

High Rise OSD. Chief Vittum presented to the Board the following high rise documents:

- High Rise Structure Fire Operational System Description
- Base Manager - High Rise Incident
- Ground Support Unit Leader - High Rise Incident
- Lobby Control Unit Leader - High Rise Incident
- Systems Control Unit Leader - High Rise Incident
- Staging Area Manager - High Rise Incident
- Medical Unit Leader - High Rise Incident
- Safety Officer - High Rise Incident

Motion made by Chief Clark to approve and adopt the high rise documents stated above. Second by Chief Callahan. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Chief Gary asked if thank you letters are ever sent out to staff members who work on all these committees and contribute all their hard work to get tasks done? Suggestion was made that a thank you letter be sent out from the Op's Teams Chair and/or FIREScope Board recognizing the staff members time and effort.

Agreement Pamphlet. The User's Guide To Disaster Declarations and Agreements for Cooperation pamphlet was presented for final approval by the Board. One change recommended was under Presidential Declarations that the wording be changed from "A Presidential Declaration **will** provide qualifying Federal funds to State and local governments," to "A Presidential Declaration **may, pending the determination of eligibility**, provide..." The wording needs to be changed to state that they may not always be reimbursed. There is a disclaimer on the last page of this document stating that this document is not policy but is to be used as a guideline.

Motion was made by Chief Callahan to approve the document in concept and ask for a review from OES staff to review the Presidential Declaration section and the disclaimer on the last page and work with the Op's Team to finalize the wording on the document. The document was accepted as final and ready for distribution. Second was made by Chief Prather. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Election Process. Clarification was made that the local areas would handle their own elections and determine what their tie breaking process would be and have this written on a document to use as future reference.

TASK FORCE REPORT (Chris Wurzell)

The FIREScope 1998-99 Work Plan was reviewed. The items discussed in the FIREScope Task Force Activity Report were:

- FIREScope Information Management System (FIMS)
- Graphic Information System Specialist Group (GIS)
- Damage Assessment Working Group
- FIREScope Website Address FIMS along with 209 Form and PFIR samples

To access PFIRS, you will need a password and a user ID which can be obtained by contacting Ray Manzo or Don Weiss at the OCC in Riverside. This website is still in the developing stages and would appreciate input as to what is working good and what is not. Expect full implementation in about six to eight months. Submit your E-mail comments to the IT group if any problems arise.

OLD BUSINESS

Chief Dougherty will try again to have the presentation on the Florida fires presented to the Board at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Chief Harris gave an update on a workshop he attended in Mexico City with Northern, Central and South American countries reviewing the Mexico fires. This workshop will be linked to a meeting that will be held next week in Rome, an international meeting on wildland fire sponsored by an organization in the U.N.

Director Quintanar announced that Joe Cruz will be the new National Fire Director in Washington, D.C., which means that there will be some significant changes on the Forest Service side.

OES REGION COORDINATORS REPORTS

Region I: No report.

Region II: No report.

Region III and IV: Quiet. Nothing to report.

Region V: Chief Dougherty reported that Tim Turner has been elected as the new Region V Coordinator.

Region VI: Chief Harris reported that CDF lost a tanker pilot and Orange County lost a fire fighter. Riverside County doubled their acreage burned all in one day than they have burned in one year.

NEXT MEETING

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| Next meeting will be held on January 13, 1999, at the USFS Logistics Support Center in Ontario. |
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ADJOURNMENT

A moment of silence was held in memory of those firefighters that we lost.
Meeting was adjourned at 1315 hours by Chairman Costamagna.