

**Office of Emergency Services
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE/
FIRESCOPE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

MEETING OF OCTOBER 2, 1991

MEMBERS PRESENT

William Maxfield, Chairman - Chief, Contra Costa County Fire Department
Donald Manning, Vice Chairman - Chief, Los Angeles City Fire Department
Rich Aronson, Chief - OES Fire and Rescue Division
Jim Brannon, Chief - Linda Fire Protection District
Ken Brown, Deputy Chief for James McMullen - State Fire Marshal's Office
Frank Buscher, Chief - Tiburon Fire Protection District
Earl Fordham, Deputy Chief for Michael Freeman - Los Angeles County FD
Dick Henry, Director - U.S. Forest Service, Region V
Larry Holms, Chief - Orange County Fire Department
Pat Kidder, Fire and Aviation Officer - Bureau of Land Management
George Lund, Chief - Ventura County Fire Department
Loren Pettis, Chief - Montclair Fire Department
Donald Perry, Deputy Chief for Al Faoro - Santa Barbara County FD
Bill Teie, Deputy Director for Richard Wilson - California Department of Forestry

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Chris Cameron - National Parks Service, Branch of Fire Management
Gary Costamagna, Chief - Sacramento City Fire Department
Al Faoro, Chief - Santa Barbara County Fire Department
Michael Freeman, Chief - Los Angeles County Fire Department
James McMullen, California State Fire Marshal
Richard Wilson, Director - California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection

SPECIAL ADVISORS ABSENT:

Brian Hatch, Director - California Professional Firefighters
Eldon Nagel, General Manager - California State Fireman's Association

OTHERS PRESENT:

Will Brock, Assistant Chief - OES Fire and Rescue Division
John Bryant, Emergency Operations Coordinator - U.S. Forest Service, South
Gary Buzzini, Region Chief - California Department of Forestry, Region III
Mike Dougherty, Assistant Fire Coordinator - U.S. Forest Service, North
Mike Douglass, Emergency Services Coordinator - OES Fire and Rescue Division
Jim Dykes, Region Chief - California Department of Forestry, Region VI
Mark Ghilarducci, Emergency Services Coordinator - OES Fire and Rescue Division
Mike Guerin, Assistant Director - OES Response & Recovery
Bill Imboden, Region Chief - California Department of Forestry, Region II
Stanley Lake, Deputy Chief - California Department of Forestry, Sacramento
Merrill McMurray, Deputy Chief - Sacramento County Fire Department
Jim Owen, Region Chief - California Department of Forestry, Region V
Bev Passerello, Legislative Liaison - Office of Emergency Services
Cindy Shamrock, Chief Deputy Director, OES
Bob Solari, U.S. Forest Service
Dick Starr, Deputy Chief - OES Fire and Rescue Division
Sherri Stromlund, Office Technician - OES Fire and Rescue Division
Kim Zagaris, Assistant Chief - OES Fire and Rescue Division

The meeting was called to order at 0939 by Chairman Maxfield. Chief Maxfield introduced Mike Guerin, the new Assistant Director, Response and Recovery for OES. Mr. Guerin addressed the Board, and guests briefly on his background, and stated that he was looking forward to working closely with the Fire Service in the future.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Bev Passerello updated the Board on the year-end wrap up of the legislative bills. (See attached Legislative update for complete list of all pending bills.) Mrs. Passerello advised the Board that SB 1250 is slated for public hearings sometime in the Spring of 1992 and those who have submitted letters of interest will be notified of the application process when it is determined. This bill involves the Seismic Safety Retro-fit money, and it has been determined that it will be used specifically for Seismic Zone 4, which includes Sacramento and San Diego Counties. Bill Teie asked about the status of AB 959 - Disaster Relief, and Mrs. Passerello advised that OES Administration has not stated an opinion on that bill at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - JULY MEETING

Members Present - Michael Dacy, Sacramento County Fire Protection District
Move Chief Dacy to Others Present as he is not a Board Member.

IT WAS MOVED BY CHIEF MANNING, SECONDED BY CHIEF BRANNON AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE JULY MEETING WITH THE ABOVE CORRECTION.

Rich Aronson, introduced Cindy Shamrock, as the new Chief Deputy Director of the Office of Emergency Services. Ms. Shamrock welcomed Board members and guests and expressed her interest in learning more about the Board's activities and how they affect the State and OES.

AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE PACKAGE

John Bryant asked for the Board's decision on the Agency Representative Package that the Operations Teams North/South submitted for consideration after the July meeting.

IT WAS MOVED BY CHIEF HOLMS, SECONDED BY CHIEF FORDHAM AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO APPROVE THE AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE PACKAGE AS SUBMITTED BY THE OPERATIONS TEAMS.

OES BUDGET REPORT

Chief Aronson updated the Board on the current status of the OES Budget and distributed several handouts explaining where the budget cuts had been made and how it would affect the fire service and the mutual aid program. Chief Buscher asked if the cuts would reduce any of the current fleet of OES engines. Chief Aronson explained that it would not affect any of the engines already purchases, however, it will reduce the number of new engines acquired over a period of time. Bill Teie questioned the elimination of the Prime Computer in Sacramento. Chief Aronson explained that the Prime Computer was not going to be sold, but rather dis-connected, in hopes of re-connecting it sometime in the future. Chief Fordham asked about the elimination of the Coordinator position at the OCC-Riverside. Chief Aronson advised that this is a vacant position and therefore, even though it is being eliminated, no one is losing his/her job due to this cut. (See hand-outs for detailed description of phase 2 budget cuts within the Fire and Rescue Division).

REIMBURSEMENT REPORT

After discussion of the letter from Chief McCarthy, Kern County Fire Department, regarding local governments not responding out of their own region due to financial hardship, unless they receive full reimbursement, the Board referred the issue to the Reimbursement Committee for further study, consideration and review of the system's resource management. The Board would like to have a recommendation back from the Committee by the January 8, 1992 Board meeting.

ICS MEETINGS - CHESTERFIELD AND PHOENIX

John Bryant reported on the Chesterfield meeting, advising the Board that the meeting was mainly East-Coast fire department representatives and NFPA. It was decided to form a Consortium consisting of fire service representatives. The Consortium will be looking at an all risk incident management system, with a national focus, compatible with other emergency operations. The group agreed that it was necessary to establish a Decision Process and work from there. Overall, there was a very good response to, and presentation of, ICS. Represented agencies included the Coast Guard, EPA, and Atomic Energy Commission.

The Phoenix Seminar was attended by Rich Aronson, Don Perry, Pat Kidder, and Bill Maxfield. This was a joint sponsored event, however, FIREScope did not participate officially. (Handout of Student Manual from Phoenix Seminar.) ICS was used to manage the Seminar and the emphasis was definitely on ICS and IMS. Chief Maxfield stated that he felt it was unfortunate that FIREScope did not have a representative there to make a presentation. Bill Zeason did make a presentation on Unified Command, and Don Perry presented the Planning Process, both of which referred to FIREScope, however, they were not officially representing FIREScope. Olan Greene, Administrator, U.S. Fire Administration, expressed concerns, at the Phoenix Seminar, with regard to changing the ICS System. His concerns focus around the number of people who have already been trained through NFA in FIREScope ICS and the possibility of those people having to be re-trained if FIREScope ICS were significantly changed.

Bill Vandevort, Monterey Fire Department, is the Chair of the Curriculum Documentation Committee for the Consortium and will be working on re-writing the Consortium document. The document was originally supposed to look like the ICS Organization chart, and it will be revised to reflect that when re-written. The Committee has asked for comments on the document from Jim McFadden and Steve Brown, CDF, and they will be working with Bill Vandevort in the revision of this document. Terminology is still an unresolved issue.

The next Consortium meeting is scheduled for January or February, 1992, to take place in San Diego. Alan Brunaccini has already scheduled his next seminar for September 16, 17, 18, 1992 and will proceed with that regardless of what California and FIREScope decide to do.

After lengthy discussion, the Board generally felt that FIREScope should actively participate and contribute to any changes, and the forming of a National Incident Management System. Recommendation that if the Consortium becomes affective and FIREScope decides to participate in it, it should not be considered a replacement for FIREScope, but rather a vehicle to add to, and modify California's current Incident Command System to fit the national need. It should not eliminate the need for the close cooperation and development that goes on within the State of California. The National System should not replace the State system. The State should be involved, at various levels of participation, to ensure that any changes will be compatible with California's needs.

OPERATIONS TEAM REPORT

John Bryant asked the Board to consider the Operations Team North and South proposal that:

1. FIREScope Board of Directors, through the decision process, take an active role in the work of the IMS Consortium.
2. One Operations Team member and one Task Force member represent FIREScope at all Consortium meetings.
3. The Task Force review the IMS Consortium document and make comments back through the decision process.

Chief Holms recommended that item #2 of the above proposal also reflect one member of the Board of Directors, to be present at all Consortium meetings, in addition to a Task Force Member and an Operations Team member.

Mike Dougherty recommended that the Task Force be allowed to develop a new Consortium document, instead of revising the current document. Mr. Dougherty feels that the Task Force will be able to produce a better document, and should have it ready to submit to the Board at the January meeting. The Task Force would work in conjunction with Bill Vandevort in their re-writing of the Consortium document.

CHIEF HOLMS MOVED, KEN BROWN SECONDED AND IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO ADOPT THE ABOVE PROPOSALS AS AMENDED.

Chief Maxfield asked that any member interested in representing the Board at the Consortium meetings, contact him prior to the next Board meeting in January.

OPERATIONS TEAM NORTH REPORT

Stan Lake reported that the Operations Team North has not met since the last Board meeting, therefore, he had nothing new to report. Chief Lake advised the Board that the North Operations Team is scheduled to meet again later in October and will be following-up on the Board's decisions at today's meeting.

OPERATIONS TEAM SOUTH REPORT

John Bryant addressed several items on the Operations Team South handout. The FIREScope Internal Review Team has so much information that it has been difficult to put it all together in a format that would be beneficial. They have asked for assistance from Bill Hanna, one of the original members of the FIREScope process, and will be meeting with him in San Luis Obispo to wrap-up the report and hopefully have it ready to submit at the Joint Operations Team meeting in January. Mr. Bryant stated that from what he has seen of the report it is very positive and futuristic, and he feels that it will be a beneficial report.

There has been some ongoing discussion with NWCG Training, and the ICS Working Group, with concerns about the new proposal for training format and training systems. The Task Force met with NWCG Working Group members and sorted out details and the document is being submitted to the Board today. The Operations Team South, in concurrence with the Operations Team North, is proposing approval of the Task Force report, and signature of the letter to NWCG, identifying two positions on the NWCG ICS Working Group and NWCG Training Group, as FIREScope positions. FIREScope will agree to fill those positions on the termination of either of the people who are currently serving.

Stan Lake advised that NWCG met and adopted the new proposed training curriculum for ICS that includes four all-risk ICS courses. NWCG will be developing skills courses aimed specifically at wildland protection, however the numbering system leaves a lot of room for expansion into all risk areas such as, Haz Mat or EMS. Some of the courses are yet to be designed and the proposal ensures that FIREScope will have input into that process and maintain as much of the all-risk elements as possible, as well as trying to minimize the impact or need for retraining for previously trained personnel.

Bill Imboden raised the issue that those positions are representative of the Western States. They are currently filled with people from California, however, NWCG will have to consider changing that to a representative from California, specifically FIREScope, which may not be acceptable to the other Western States.

Chief Maxfield is in receipt of the above mentioned letter to NWCG, which he will sign and a copy will be included in the member's packets for the next Board meeting.

NFPA POSITION

Chief Manning stated that he is on a Search Committee and NFPA is looking for a new President to replace Bob Grant. NFPA has hired a firm to recruit applicants, and the final date for submitting applications will be towards the end of the year. The salary will be between \$165,000 and \$200,000.00 per year with other benefits. Anyone interested should submit their name to Chief Manning. He will forward the information to the firm, who will be advertising and putting out the information on the position. They are currently working on the job specifications, and basically they are looking for someone with an undergraduate degree, management experience, background in standards and codes, public speaking capability, and a motivator. The position is currently vacant and the intent is to hire by mid-April. An internal audit is being conducted within the organization at this time.

TASK FORCE REPORT

Mike Dougherty distributed a hand-out, outlining some of the issues the Task Force is currently working on. Hazardous Materials Working Group is working on training materials and position manuals, however, the Task Force has not received anything back from them yet. Larry Whalen with Ventura County Fire Department will be meeting with the Working Group and giving the Task Force an update on their progress with the training and position documents.

Multi-casualty is completed with the exception of the ground and air ambulance staging area, which is a self-paced course. The Task Force has received a draft of that document from the Specialist Group, which turned out to need a considerable amount of work. It is hoped that all multi-casualty documents will be completed for the next joint Operations Team meeting and ready to submit for Board approval at the January meeting.

US&R Specialist Group has submitted several documents to the Task Force. The Task Force will be meeting next week with Jim Hone to discuss their recommended changes to those documents. US&R Specialist Group has been pared down to three people north and three people south, plus Jim Hone. Between the group of seven, they will try to complete that package.

Dan Francis and Gary Nelson have submitted a final draft from the NWCG Group with their recommendations. NWCG has asked the Operations Team for a Task Force member to help in the development of the generic I-courses. The Task Force recommended Mike Coggan of Orange County to work with them, and he will be representing the Task Force at the next NWCG meeting in Boise, Idaho.

New projects include generic MACS Procedure Guide, which should be completed by April. The Task Force will also be discussing some issues as to "immediate responsibility", to try to clean-up the decision process.

The Task Force has two new members. Santa Barbara Fire Department has replaced Marshall Goddard with Dave Bianchi, and Ken Brown is representing the State Fire Marshal's Office. Both are doing a great job.

Chief Maxfield asked Mike to go back to the Task Force and express the Board's appreciation for the quality and quantity of work they have been doing.

CDF/FISH AND GAME AGREEMENT

Bill Teie advised the Board that CDF is in the process of finalizing an agreement with the Department of Fish and Game to provide all command and control, and logistical support on any major spill in the State. CDF has been providing ICS training for Department of Fish and Game personnel over the last couple of months and they will be assisting under Fish and Game authority, just as they did on the Cantara Incident. Rich Aronson stated that he would like to have the training package used on the Cantara Incident for a presentation at the next Board meeting.

CWCG PREPAREDNESS LEVELS

Bob Solari reported that the CWCG Task Force had representatives from USFS, NPS, BLM, OES, and CDF, with contract counties represented by CDF also. They have successfully expanded the previous 1990 contingency plan for prescribed fire, from three levels to five levels, to align it with the National Plan. As a consequence of that exercise, some of the decision matrixing that was used in the 1990 plan has been eliminated. They have formulated a five level plan, to be implemented in the first year and re-visited in the second year. Unfortunately, there has not been an opportunity to exercise the plan this year, certainly not past level two. Mr. Solari briefly went over each level of the preparedness plan and the Board members were given a hand-out of the plan which contained detailed information for each level, a communication flow chart, and a geographical zone map for the State.

USFS BUDGET REPORT

Dick Henry reported that the USFS budget was expected to go up to \$60 million in 1992, from the previous \$57 million in 1991. However, USFS implemented the balancing of acres with the State and BLM a year earlier than expected, which as created a short-fall of \$6 million in green-book dollars. USFS is also facing two mandated Pay Acts which will impact the fire budget in California by \$6.6 million. The combined short fall is expected to be 12.5 million dollars. It was expected that October 1, all temporary employees in the Region, who were being charged to the Fire account, would be laid off. Due to the fires during the end of September, 19 of the 20 hot-shot crews were committed, so the lay-offs did not occur. As crews have been released, they have been laid off, but as of this date, there are still 13 hot-shot crews on fires in California.

The weather forecast for the next ten day period is reported as "hotter and dryer" with a slight cooling trend at the end of that period, however, the cooling trend is a result of 30 mph North winds. The 30 day forecast from Boise is also "hot and dry" for California, and that may run through December. Extended contracts for air tankers and helicopters will be considered. Mr. Henry stated that they would be considering how many hot-shot crews needed to be kept on, due to the current weather patterns throughout the State.

CDF BUDGET REPORT

Gary Buzzini reported that CDF has come long-term budget problems associated with the general condition of the State budget and CDF is preparing their response to that this week. On a short-term outlook, due to some augmentation, they are currently where they would normally be at this time of year.

US&R REPORT

Mark Ghilarducci introduced Michael Douglass, OES Emergency Services Coordinator, who is working on the Urban Search and Rescue Program. Mr. Ghilarducci reported that eight agencies have been identified to participate in the Federal US&R Task Force Sponsoring Agencies, being developed by FEMA for multi-discipline response. California is going to establish a total of 18 Task Forces, made up of multi-discipline, multi-agency representation, which includes fire service, engineers, medical specialist, heavy equipment and rigging specialist, haz mat, search dogs, etc. These Task Forces will be brought together as a unit, training as a unit, and mobilized and equipped as a unit. Out of all the agencies that could have participated in the Federal program, eight were submitted to FEMA to act as sponsoring agencies. (Each sponsoring agency will be augmented by other disciplines and by State resources.) The eight agencies that applied were: L.A. City, L.A. County, Riverside City, San Diego City, Sacramento City, Menlo Park City,

Oakland City, and Orange County. There were 38 applications Nationwide for federal matching dollars to develop these teams, and 25 of those were funded. Negotiations are currently underway with FEMA to determine how much money will be coming in. It is believed the dollar amount will be somewhere around \$710,000.00 in matched state and local contributions. A significant amount has been committed from the State US&R budget as well as a specific amount from each sponsoring agency. There will be a press conference tomorrow at OES Headquarters in Sacramento, with representatives from FEMA, OES, and each of the sponsoring agencies to announce the eight participating agencies. These first eight Federal Teams will also be the first eight State Teams of the 18 total in California. FEMA has stated that next year about this time, they will probably be coming out with a second grant application process, and hopefully California will be able to get additional Task Forces funded by the federal program at that time. California will also be continuing to develop those additional Task Forces needed to complete the total of 18, prior to next year's grant application process. The Task Forces must be fully operational within the next 6 months, and Mr. Ghilarducci advised the Board that he will be working with the local, State and Federal agencies to get a Memorandum of Understanding worked out and will begin to purchase equipment.

Mr. Ghilarducci also reported on the FIREScope Specialist Group, and ICS typing on heavy rescue equipment, apparatus, and training. The heavy rescue portion, which would be equivalent to Rescue Systems III, is not yet developed. Rescue Systems II development is on line and the re-write of Rescue Systems I is occurring. The FIREScope Specialist Group has been scaled down, due to the budget, but is now working on finishing some of the specifics on that program.

A Training Center has been developed at Camp San Luis Obispo. The Classroom is now complete, training materials are in place, office space, resource area, and US&R is working closely with the Department of Defense and the US Army Corp of Engineers. The US Army Corp of Engineers and Department of Defense Engineers, along with State Engineers will be training at the Center. The Center is designed for multi-discipline use and will have the ability to train all disciplines. Classrooms are expected to be fully operational by the end of the week, and the Site Design Committee will be meeting there on October 7th and 8th. The first eight Task Forces, plus other Western Task Forces including, Washington, Peirce-Kings County, Clark County Nevada, Phoenix Arizona, and Salt Lake City Utah, are expected to be orientated in the Federal Response System and the State Response System, starting sometime in March. Negotiations for on-site development of props and plot plans are now underway to include an on-site disaster city for search purposes, and an indoor collapse structure. The US&R Advisory Committee is still in place and meeting regularly, in addition to numerous sub-committees. They have all been very active and instrumental in program development. The Committees have identified, and are currently working on the specification for, and doing the ordering of, the specialized equipment that OES will be purchasing and assigning to the Task Forces.

NEW BUSINESS

The 1992 meeting dates will be as follows:

JANUARY 8, 1992

APRIL 8, 1992

JULY 8, 1992

OCTOBER 14, 1992

JANUARY 13, 1993

Having no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Maxfield at 1320 hours.