

FIRESCOPE BOARD MEETING MINUTES



DATE: Wednesday, October 10, 2018
TIME: 10:00 AM
LOCATION: Cal OES Headquarters

Call to Order

A FIRESCOPE Board of Director's meeting was held on Wednesday, October 10th, 2018 at 3650 Shriever Avenue, Mather, CA 95655. It began at 1010 hours and was presided over by Vice Chair Chief Ken Kehmna, with Chief Kim Zagaris as Secretary.

Attendees

Voting members in attendance included:

David Richardson, *representing* Los Angeles County Fire Department
Ken Kehmna, FIRESCOPE Vice-Chair, County Fire Departments North
Kim Zagaris, Executive Coordinator, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES
Ken Pimlott, CAL FIRE
Brian Marshall, Kern County Fire Department
Brian Fennessy, Orange County Fire Authority
Woody Enos, *representing* Santa Barbara County Fire Dept.
Chris Schow, *representing* U.S. Forest Service
Mark Lorenzen, Ventura County Fire Department
Van Arroyo, *representing* Dept. of Interior, BLM
Jeff Meston, City Fire Depts. North
Rich Webb, Fire Districts North
Dennis Mathisen, Office of State Fire Marshal
Brian Rice, California Professional Firefighters
Joe Stewart, *representing* California State Firefighters' Association

Members not in attendance included:

Daryl Osby, FIRESCOPE Chair, Los Angeles County Fire Department
Ralph Terrazas, Los Angeles City Fire Department
Eric Peterson, Santa Barbara County Fire Department
Bob Baird, U.S Forest Service
Sam Marouk, Dept. of Interior, BLM
Mark Hartwig, Fire Districts South

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Robin Wills, National Park Service
Steve Kovacs, Volunteer Fire Departments
Mike Shrout – California State Firefighters' Association

Guests in attendance included:

Mark Ghilarducci, Director, Cal OES
Brian Woodbeck, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES
Art Torrez, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES
Jim Johnstone, FIRESCOPE, Cal OES
Scott Vail, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES
Mike Lococo, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES
Larry Collins, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES
Cathy Johnson, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES
Pete Mercado, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES
Corey Zander, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES
Dave Franklin, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES
Kit Bailey, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES
Lori Lopez, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES
Joy Budnovich, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES
Yesenia Serafin, FIRESCOPE, Cal OES
Tim Kelly, FIRESCOPE Task Force, Los Angeles FD
Thom Porter, CAL FIRE
Dan Johnson, CAL FIRE
Jen Ricci, CAL FIRE
Mike Mohler, CAL FIRE
Mike Bradley, CAL FIRE
Tracy Hansen, Cal Chiefs
David Barnett, San Jose Fire Department
Matt Farris, Santa Barbara County Fire Department
David Witt, Kern County Fire Department
Kyle Heggstom, Linda Fire Protection District
Eric Walder, South Placer Fire Department
Tony Bowden, Santa Clara County Fire Department
Rick Zombeck, Alameda Fire Department

Approval of Previous Minutes*

A motion to approve the minutes of the previous July 11th 2018 meeting. Motion was made by Webb and seconded by Fennessy. Motion approved.

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Cal OES Director's Report

Cal OES Director's Report was presented by Director Ghilarducci.

- Alert and Warning Bills:
 - SB 901- CPUC, CALFIRE, and OES related items under this bill. Resets stage going forward for insurability for investor owned utilities and how to coordinate utilities and fire service.
 - SB 833- Bill sets statewide standards guidelines for emergency notifications. OES working with a Standardized Emergency Management Standard Committee to get jurisdictions in place and develop warning guidelines (expected to be completed by July 2019).
 - SB 821- This bill will allow the public to automatically opt-in into warning systems and they will have to opt-out of the alert and warning systems to not participate.
- Legislature:
 - 1217 bills on Governor's desk this year.
 - Governor signed 1016 bills.
 - 201 Bills were vetoed.
 - 26 Bills pertaining to emergency services
- Budget:
 - Additional funding for fire engines
For the first time Cal OES will be able to meet the Blue Ribbon recommendations for engines.
- Hazmat Rigs:
 - Have deployed all rigs except for 2 rigs.
 - Primary source of funding for the hazmat project is currently tied up in a legal battle with railroads.
 - Project is still moving forward and is currently being funded by the state.
- Debris Clean-up update:
 - 2017 fires debris has been completed in record time.
 - 2.1 million tons of debris cleaned up from the North Bay fires.
 - 1.3 billion dollars spent on the clean-up.

CAL FIRE/SFM Update

CAL FIRE update was presented by Ken Pimlott.

- CAL FIRE continuing peak staffing until winter.
- Fire Prevention:
 - Aggressive goal to complete 25,000 acres of prescribed burnings and 20,000 acres of fuel treatments.
 - 250,000 defensible space inspections throughout the SRA.
- Cap and Trade programs are strongly supported through grants.
- Helicopter replacement:
 - Funded for the next several years to replace all 12 helicopters.
 - One Blackhawk helicopter is currently in Texas for paint then to Colorado for outfitting and hopefully to California by the spring.

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- Four helicopters currently on the production line and will be ready in a year.
- Going to be replace 3 or 4 helicopters at a time throughout the next 3 years.
- National Defense Act:
 - CAL FIRE currently working on exclusive use contracts to add large air tankers to the California fleet.
 - Hand Crews should be available within a week.

State Fire Marshal update was presented by Dennis Mathisen.

- Fire Marshal's Office has moved:
 - 2251 Harbor Street
 - Open House early December invitations will be sent out.
- Fireworks:
 - Previous budget proposal trailer Senate Bill died.
 - Budget proposal included one-time funding from a special fund.
 - New budget proposal included revising previous budget proposal trailer to be able to access funds for this year.
 - Currently there are 150 to 200 thousand pounds of seized fireworks
 - Currently asking local fire agencies and law enforcement agencies to submit inventory forms in order to know a total inventory.
- Fire Prevention Grants:
 - 143 grants were awarded (80 million dollars)
- SB 901:
 - Directs us to get more engaged and involved in the utility wildfire mitigation plan and process.
 - Currently working on development of plan.
- State Fire Training:
 - Continuing to finalize transition of updating curriculum certification tracks to align with National Professional Qualifications Standards.
 - Many certifications expiring this year.
 - Currently evaluating State Fire Training fees (fees were last updated in 2008).

USFS/DOI Update:

USFS update was presented by Chris Schow.

- To date for 2018 U.S Forest Service has spent 2.8 billion on fire suppression.
- Decision to not purchase air tankers was difficult
 - Legislation allowed US Forest Service to keep some of the funding that was dedicated for the aircraft to do infrastructure improvements.
 - U.S Forest Service currently looking into how to use military classified infrared data and declassify it to use for live fire tracking on fires.

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- Staffing:
 - Acting Deputy Regional Forester –Vice Jeanne Wade Evans.
 - Acting Forest Supervisor for Lassen National Forest-Chris Schow (120 days)

DOI update was presented by Van Arroyo.

- Nationally DOI has had major organizational changes over last 2 years.
 - Reorganizations changes in regards to the regions
- Staffing:
 - We have new agency administrators in different positions
 - Jerry Perez is new Angeles Forest supervisor.
- 155,000 acres of BLM land involved in 6 major fires (all 6 fires under CALFIRE DPA).
 - An after action review will occur next month
- Fire Prevention:
 - Treated 24,000 acres of fuels projects.
- Helicopter Contracts:
 - Helo contracts for the 2 helicopters in the state have expired.
 - Currently renegotiating Helo contracts for a Type 2 out of Apple Valley and Type 3 out of Ravendale.
- Hot Shot Crews:
 - Hired personnel to make the Kern Valley Hot Shots back to Type I status.
- Information Memo from Washington office:
 - We will now be able to transfer excess fire engines and other equipment directly to local departments.
 - We have an official policy/ process in place.
- Infrastructure changes:
 - Attempting to change radio system from standard to internet.
 - Attempting to use vehicles with tracking devices.
 - Currently looking into the use of drones.

EMS Update

No EMS report to present.

CFAA Update

CFAA update was presented by Chief Zagaris.

- Meeting scheduled with U.S Forest Service sometime in October to review the results of the Audit.

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Comment: Chris Schow advises he has been informed that the meeting has been rescheduled for some time in December.

CWCG Update

CWCG update was presented by Kim Zagaris.

- CWCG will meet tomorrow October 11, 2018.
- Regions struggle to maintain teams.
 - Currently a total of 11 Teams
 - A recommendation has been made to the CWCG to make one team smaller. (Recommendation will be reviewed tomorrow and discussed).

California Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System

Mutual Aid System Update presented by Zagaris, Torrez, and Mercado.

- Pre-Incident Preparedness Guideline document (packet given to all FIRESCOPE Board Members).
- Pre-Position Guideline Power Point developed by AC Mercado for the op areas (Power Point presented to Board of Directors).
 - Topics Presented:
 1. Cap and Trade History
 2. Pre-Incident Preparedness/Mobilization Objectives
 3. FIRESCOPE MACS modes
 4. CWCG Pre-Preparedness levels
 5. Significant Large Fire Potential
 6. Scoresheet
 7. Approval Process
 8. Communication
 9. Resource Request Process
 10. Reassignment and Demobilization

Comments/Questions

Q: Hansen-Who handles lodging for Pre-Po?

A: The strike team leader has been tasked to the lodging (the process is no different than if they were on a real incident).

Q: Hansen-What happens when the Op-Area does not have enough engines for the strike team?

A: This needs to be discussed with the OA coordinators at the time of the call.

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Q: Lorenzen- Score sheet has 12 factors what's the reasoning?

A: We took the CALFIRE model scoresheet and used OES guidelines to create scoresheet.

2nd A: Johnson- Our document may not look exactly like that but every criteria mentioned in this document is discussed and considered at CALFIRE when making decisions.

Comments:

Mercado- We have received the evaluations that have been submitted and the feedback has been very constructive. The goal is to have the Power Point completed by this week.

OES Engine Purchase Plan presented by Zagaris.

- Working off the CALFIRE contract for the purchases of Type III engines. Currently working with DGS to add our type of equipment package added to the contract to avoid writing a separate contract.
- Type VI contract will be done early next week. DGS agreed to expedite the process and they are prepared to move it forward quickly.

SB 901 update presented by Zagaris and Pimlott.

- SB 901 gives OES authority to the augmentation fund (pre-position items).
- SB 901 affected CALFIRE's SRA fee. The SRA fee has officially died with SB 901. Anything that was funded by the SRA fee is done and will now be funded by Cap and Trade.
- Fire Marshal's Office will be working along with others to further develop plans to reduce fire risk in communities deemed fire risk.
- Fire resiliency program will be housed in CALFIRE
 - Fuels reduction, forest management, and other cost share programs and permitting processes will be ruled in a single place under the fire resiliency program.
 - Next June CALFIRE will be launching grant programs (200 million dollars per year for the next five years).

Privately Contracted Engines update presented by Rice and Zagaris.

- Rice- AB 2380 deals with private fire prevention resources.
 - Professional Firefighters worked very hard to make sure that private fire prevention resources were not identified with "Emergency" markings, did not have the same capabilities, nor receive the same recognition as professional firefighters. They are not able to circumvent the incident commander.
 - AB 2380 gives the incident commander the ability to either affirm or deny private fire resources the ability to communicate directly with the command.
 - Professional Firefighters made sure private resources could not do anything outside of

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the incident command.

- Legislation states regulations need to be developed for private contracted engines.
 - OES and CALFIRE with FIRESCOPE (representing local government) will develop regulations together. There is a clause in the bill that states we will work with a private sector.
 - The FCC regulations state private resources are not able to use radio frequencies without authorization.
 - Private resources can't use sirens and lights.
- PG&E email:
 - PG&E email chain presented and discussed between board members.

Comments:

Discussion amongst Board members regarding working issues with private sectors.

Board of Directors will reach out for volunteers from FIRESCOPE Board members to assist and work on the development of regulations for implementation on private resource agencies as specified per AB2380.

Task Force/Ops Team Report*

Task Force /Ops Team Report was presented by Chiefs David Richardson and Tim Kelly.

- FIRESCOPE Plan of Work:
 - Adopt the Plan of Work plan we have in place in order to look deeper into the data and metrics we receive to better improve our product.
 - Would like to gather more data and come back with recommendations moving forward for our products.

Motion to adopt the FIRESCOPE Plan of Work. Moved by Fennessy and seconded by Meston. All in favor. Motion approved.

- Task Force update:
 - Staffing update;
 - James Tomaselli- New SOPS GACC Manager replacing Elizabeth Barrera on Task Force seat.
 - Volunteer Fire Departments position remains unfilled.
 - Van Arroyo (DOI) is retiring at the end of the year.
 - Jen Ricci (CALFIRE) has been promoted to a Deputy Chief position and is leaving the Task Force in November/ December.
 - Dave Barnett (San Jose FD) Task Force Vice-Chair representing City Fire

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Departments North is leaving due to department funding issues.

- Letters of Appreciation have been created for all members that are leaving.
- Specialty Group Members that are also leaving:
 - Daron Pisciotta- Safety Specialist Group
 - Jack Fry –HazMat Specialist Group
- Plan of Work update:
 - MACS 400-1 document revisions are complete and posted.
 - Damage Inspector Course Plan Position Manuals and Task Book completed in April.
 - Critical Incident Stress Management White Paper (Behavioral Health) projecting to be complete in July 2019.
 - CAD to CAD Interoperability White Paper projected to be completed by January 2019.
 - FIRESCOPE Marketing Messaging White Paper projected to be completed by January 2019.
 - Finalizing Aviation Hoist Guideline projected to be completed by January 2019.
 - SCOUT Procedure Manual draft completed.
 - S-219 will go to vote on Friday at STEAC Meeting.
- FIRESCOPE White Paper Channel Limitations:
 - Document postponed to January pending survey approval.
 - Increase statewide channel load to 400
 - Recommendation from the Task Force is to put out a survey to the Op Areas and Regions to make an impact study.
 - Task Force has begun to develop a survey and draft format is ready.
 - When the survey is approved by the BoD, we can distribute the survey and collect data and return to the BoD with results.

Comment:

Marshall- The Blue ribbon has a recommendation on portables. I think we should implement those as well.

Richardson- Taking in consideration to what Marshall said I think we can develop the survey and get better input.

Motion to approve distribution of Channel Limitations survey. Moved by Marshal and seconded by Webb with changes. All in favor. Motion approved with changes.

- FIRESCOPE Quarterly Briefing reviewed for approval for distribution along with the briefing cover letter from Chief Zagaris.

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Chief Kehmna moved and approved distribution.

Old Business

Old Business update was presented by Chief Zagaris.

- First Net Update:
 - Power Point presentation topics: [First Net Power Point](#)
 1. Connecting the Technology
 2. Cal OES & Initial Consultation
 3. California Opting-In
 4. Role of Cal OES
 5. Next Steps
- Blue Ribbon update:
 - Nothing to report.
- Haz Mat by Rail update:
 - HazMat rigs for San Bernardino and Los Angeles City should be going out soon. Agreement for San Bernardino should be arriving by the end of the week and the agreement for Los Angeles City should be finalized by next week.
- Fire and Rescue Response to DOD incident update:
 - DOD is still not a signatory to CFAA.
- CICCIS Update:
 - July 1st, 2018 the new CICCIS went into effect.
 - One slide needs to be added regarding difference between Type III Information Officer and a Field PIO.
 - Chief Torrez will be taking over Type III Teams and working on tracking and mobilization.
 - Trainee requirements for Paramedics and EMT's.
 - Chief Vail is retiring but still going to be Chair of the committee until the transition is made.

New Business

New Business was presented by Chief Zagaris.

- Representation on BoD:
 - Position for Statewide Volunteer Fire Department Rep. has been announced.
 - Vacant-City Fire Department South
 - Vacant-County Fire Department North
 - Volunteers needed to form sub-committee to review applications, and make recommendations for appointments.

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- Chief Fennessy, Meston, and Kehmna assisting in selection process.
- Incident Communications Advisory Council (ICAC) update:
 - There was a recommendation made to NIMS ICS to create a new section chief to specifically oversee communications (Comms Section). This new position would oversee the traditional communications unit and information services on incidents. There is a concern from some communications based organizations that information technology requirements are more complex than traditional communications and Communications should be raised to a “Section” level.
 - Chief Kehmna and Chief Johnstone are the assigned FIRESCOPE members of the Incident Communications Advisory Council. Other organizations represented are: All Hazard Incident Management Teams, FEMA, National Council for Statewide Interoperability Coordinators, NWCG, DHS Office of Emergency Communications, and the U.S Coast Guard.
 - Kehmna and Johnstone have collected input from the impacted FIRESCOPE stakeholders and based on that input they recommend that the Board of Directors compose a letter to ICAC expressing its position on whether or not to support the establishment of a Comms Section.
 - In person meeting in Seattle in the beginning of November taking place. Kehmna and Johnstone will be attending the meeting.

Motion to write recommendation letter to keep ICS as is. Moved by Enos and seconded by Meston. All in favor. Motion approved.

- FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 Unmanned Aerial Systems. Document included for BoD information purposes.
- Rehab Unit ICS 020-1
 - Recommendation to gather data and investigate further into adding a rehab. unit to resource listing.
 - Adding a call sign for rehab
 - Assign Task Force to look into rehab vehicle's

Motion to have Task Force gather info on rehab vehicle. Moved by Fennessy and seconded by Richardson. All in favor. Motion approved.

Cal OES Fire and Rescue Report

Cal OES update was presented by Chief Zagaris

- I-Chiefs developed a new committee. I-Chiefs USAR Committee to work with the 20 National Teams and the State USAR group. Their first meeting is in November.

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- Hiring additional staffing to assist in the reimbursement processing.
- MARS continuing to move forward.
- FIRESCOPE website moved to a government site.
- 10 out 20 replacement engines going out soon.
- 5 engines sold to San Francisco Fire Department.
- 4 Communication Units in the process of being replaced.
- Replacement WT for Ventura County Fire cleared the process from DGS and coming out soon.
- Moving forward with AVL. Making the switch to move AVL services from Verizon to AT&T - First Net.
- There have been several firefighter fatalities this year including one from out of state.

Question:

Lorenzen- does the Governor have a plan to create a climate change report?

Zagaris- I will need to follow up on that.

Roundtable

Roundtable was presented by all Board of Directors.

- Lorenzen reporting:
 - Just purchased a 3rd L model Blackhawk.
- Zagaris reporting:
 - Recognizes Chief Kehmna for his years of service and presented a letter of appreciation.
- Kehmna reporting:
 - Recognizes Chief Zagaris for all his support and knowledge. Thanks Chief Zagaris for everything he has been able to do in the fire service.
 - Kehmna has retired and accepted a new position as Fire Chief for Redmond Fire and Rescue in Oregon.
- Pimlott reporting:
 - Progress in the new SOPS building. Scheduled for a February 2019 grand opening.
- Meston reporting:
 - Recognizes and thanks Chief Barnett for all his work.

Adjournment

Ken Kehmna moved for the meeting to be adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 02:56 pm.