

**OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES  
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE/  
FIRESCOPE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 13, 1989 - OES SACRAMENTO HEADQUARTERS**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

William Maxfield, Chairman - Chief, Contra Costa County FPD  
Donald Manning, Chief, First Vice Chairman - Los Angeles City Fire Department  
Larry Holms, Chief, Second Vice Chairman - Orange County Fire Department  
Rich Peterson, Chief - Santa Barbara County Fire Department  
Loren Pettis, Chief - Montclair Fire Department  
Randy Coggan, Chief - Ventura County Fire Protection District  
Earl Fordham for Michael Freeman, Chief - Los Angeles County Fire Department  
Jim Brannon, Chief - Linda Fire Protection District  
Ken Brown, Chief - Rio Linda-Elverta Fire District  
Paul Beckstrom for James McMullen - State Fire Marshal  
Ken Clark, Asst. Regional Forester, A&FM - U.S.F.S.  
Dick Day, Deputy Director - Calif. Dept. of Forestry and Fire Protection

**SPECIAL ADVISORS PRESENT**

Harry Steimer - California State Firemen's Association

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT**

Gary Costamagna, Chief - Sacramento City Fire Department  
Bill Wirth, Act'g Chief - OES Fire and Rescue Division  
Pat Kidder, Bureau of Land Management  
Michael Freeman, Chief - Los Angeles County Fire Department  
Chris Cameron - National Park Service  
James McMullen - State Fire Marshal

**SPECIAL ADVISORS ABSENT**

Brian Hatch - California Professional Fire Fighters

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Mike Dacy - Regional Fire & Rescue Coordinator, Mutual Aid Region IV  
Merrill McMurray - Mutual Aid Region IV, Sacramento County F.P.D.  
Jim Owen - CDF, Cal-Rural  
Stan Lake - CDF  
Andy Anderson, Chief - Quincy Fire Department  
Don Irwin, OES Chief Deputy Director  
Richard Andrews - OES Deputy Director, Southern California

**OTHERS PRESENT (Cont'd):**

John Passerello - OES Asst. Director  
Bev Passerello - OES Legislative Liaison  
Kim Zagaris - OES Fire and Rescue Division  
Will Brock - OES Fire and Rescue Division  
Rich Aronson - OES Fire and Rescue Division  
Mike Scherr - OES Fire and Rescue Division  
Dick Starr - OES Fire and Rescue Division  
Dianne Wirth - OES Executive Office

**OPENING REMARKS**

Chairman Maxfield opened the meeting, welcoming members and guests.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 14, 1989 MEETING**

Chief Coggan noted a correction to Page 8, Item 2, which should read "Type 2 truck does not show 3 people -- this should be added."

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IT WAS MOVED BY CHIEF PETTIS, SECONDED BY CHIEF BROWN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 14, 1989 MEETING, AS CORRECTED.

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**NFPA 1561**

Chief Coggan distributed a Position Statement for a Public Comment to NFPA. The statement recommends that NFPA delete their existing Appendix containing five different management systems, replacing it with the NFA Incident Command System as the only system referenced in the appendix to NFPA 1561. This will ensure that all organizations implementing ICS will begin from a common point.

Chief Coggan requests Committee approval of this statement for submission to NFPA. He stressed this comment must be promoted on a national basis, not only California. Members of this Committee must make national contacts to encourage submission of this comment.

Dick Day stated this document will be sent to all CDF ranger units to solicit like comments from their jurisdictions.

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IT WAS MOVED BY CHIEF PETERSON, SECONDED BY CHIEF MANNING AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO ADOPT THE POSITION STATEMENT AND PUBLIC COMMENT DEVELOPED BY CHIEF COGGAN FOR SUBMISSION TO NFPA, AND SO MODIFIED TO SHOW ADOPTION BY THIS COMMITTEE.

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Chairman Maxfield thanked Chief Coggan for his outstanding efforts in producing an excellent final product.

### OES ORTHOPHOTO MAPPING PROGRAM

Dick Starr reported the vacant Mapper position in Fire and Rescue Division has been filled. The new employee (Dave Kehrlein) has excellent skills in geography, cartography and computer operation (specifically PRIME).

### OPERATIONS TEAMS REPORT

Stan Lake briefly summarized the recent joint Operations Teams meeting in Quincy. The Hazardous Materials Specialist Group in Southern California will obtain input from several representatives in Northern California before they produce a final product.

Mike Scherr has requested the Group meet at a central location to accommodate attendance by Northern California representatives.

### URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE/HEAVY RESCUE SPECIALIST GROUP

Mike Scherr submitted a proposal to establish an Urban Search and Rescue/Heavy Rescue Specialist Group whose ultimate objective is to develop the ICS Module for Urban Search and Rescue/Heavy Rescue operations, personnel and equipment. The Module would then (through the State Fire Marshal's Office) become an approved document and training course. He requests approval of this Committee to form the Specialist Group. Membership will be comprised of representatives from Northern and Southern California.

He explained the purpose of the Specialist Group as that of consolidating the efforts and ideas of the many and diversified Search and Rescue groups, programs, and workshops which now exist in California and nationwide. These include:

NASAR	FEMA
USAR	OFDA
NISAR	USAR
SAR	IAFC
LAST	SB-359

Most of these organizations work independently, rather than in cooperation with each other. Consequently, when major disasters occur of a magnitude requiring urban search and rescue operations from several organizations and jurisdictions, efforts are often random and uncoordinated.

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IT WAS MOVED BY CHIEF COGGAN, SECONDED BY CHIEF HOLMS AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO APPROVE FORMATION OF A SPECIALIST GROUP ON URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE/HEAVY RESCUE ACCORDING TO THE PLAN OUTLINED BY MIKE SCHERR, WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THIS COMMITTEE, AS THE FIRESCOPE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, SUPPORT A NATIONAL UNIFIED EFFORT, TAKING THE PROGRAM TO THE NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY.

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Extensive discussion ensued with Chief Peterson voicing his concern that rather than consolidate some of the existing search and rescue groups, this action would merely create another one. He suggested this be included in the objectives of the Specialist Group.

There was also consensus that concise definitions are needed for the terms "URBAN" and "SEARCH AND RESCUE."

Chief Manning feels an objective should be to define what "heavy rescue" encompasses. Stan Lake suggested these concerns be incorporated into the Group Charter.

Dr. Andrews described a survey which will be distributed by California and approximately 14 other states to establish a baseline data inventory and serve as a model, or test case, for FEMA in their efforts to develop a national inventory.

Chief Coggan suggested fire departments may be inundated with survey forms, citing the recent survey conducted by IAFC.

Mike Scherr has been working with Dr. Andrews and OFDA on a California response model.

It was agreed that California needs a decision process which will be recognized by those other SAR organizations as a workable process and a model for urban search and rescue objectives.

Chief Dacy mentioned the extensive urban heavy rescue operations taking place in the Eastern states, and beneficial information could be obtained from their experiences with building collapse, etc.

It was agreed that in major incidents, most rescue work is done by hand, regardless of how much equipment is available. Dr. Andrews agreed that most efforts resulting in the saving of life have involved first responders. He would like to see a system wherein the Fire Service, as first responders, would assist in organizing volunteer efforts.

Chairman Maxfield opened a discussion on the advantages of having a representative from the National Fire Academy sit on the Fire Advisory Committee as a Special Advisor. The Committee agreed it would be worthwhile. Chairman Maxfield suggested the term "Associate Member" rather than "Special Advisor." Dick Starr will review the original charter and bylaws for this committee to determine the framework of the Committee and its membership.

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IT WAS MOVED BY CHIEF PETERSON, SECONDED BY CHIEF BROWN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO INVITE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY TO SERVE AS SPECIAL ADVISOR TO THIS COMMITTEE.

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Chief Coggan will contact Charles Boehme at the Academy to coordinate the process of sending a letter of invitation.

### SENATE BILL 359

Dick Andrews reported the bill will establish a formal Heavy Rescue Advisory Committee to the Director of OES and the Governor's Emergency Council. OES Director Bill Medigovich has directed establishment of the Advisory Committee, which will include five representatives from the California Fire Service.

Dr. Andrews would like guidance and/or recommendations from this Committee as to the process for selecting the members. The Bill stipulates nine persons would comprise the Advisory Committee -- five from the California Fire Service, one each from OES Fire and Rescue, State Fire Marshal's Office, California State Firemen's Association and California Professional Fire Fighters.

Discussion lead to the recommendation of Oakland Fire Department, San Francisco Fire Department, Los Angeles County Fire Department, Los Angeles City Fire Department, Santa Barbara Fire Department and Orange County Fire Department. Dr. Andrews will send letters soliciting membership.

Since some prospective members sit on the Fire Advisory Committee, Kenton Clark asked if they could represent both groups (i.e., City of Sacramento Fire Department). Dr. Andrews said there would be no problem.

### SENATE BILL 27

OES Legislative Liaison Bev Passerello reports that as of this date, SB-27 is on Assembly Floor, having gone through the Policy and Financial Committees. She thanked those who wrote letters of support, stating they were very instrumental in changing the position of the Department of Finance from opposition to neutral. Mrs. Passerello encouraged members to continue sending letters of support to the Governor's Office.

Chief Coggan suggested that when the timing is correct, a broadcast should be placed in the PRIME computer to solicit letters of support for the bill.

Don Irwin, OES Chief Deputy Director, commended Mrs. Passerello on her outstanding efforts.

### S.A.F.E. ACT

Kim Zagaris reported the remaining OES engine to be sold under the SAFE Act was purchased by Georgetown F.P.D. OES will have no more engines until November or December from last year's budget replacement engines. The Project Manager will also look for surplus apparatus which will require some refurbishing before sale.

Because of cash engine sales and sales contracts, SAFE Act funds will be up to their original amount in the near future.



## EQUIPMENT BUDGET

John Passerello reported that because of a shortage of funds in OES' Equipment budget, 10 chassis will be purchased this year, with 10 body buildups purchased next year. A Budget change proposal will be submitted to bring the fleet up to standard over the next 4-5 years. The Governor's Office is generally in agreement. Mr. Passerello further stated the Equipment budget will not increase, but will probably decrease next year. Heavy rescue vehicles are no longer a base line item, and a report must be submitted to the Legislature, describing the use of the vehicles and how they should be equipped.

Chief Coggan noted the OES budget increased significantly this year, while Fire and Rescue Division's budget decreased. Also, he would be hesitant about purchasing ten chassis based on the purchase of ten bodies next year in an eroding budget.

John Passerello explained there were several unanticipated expenses which necessitated redirecting equipment budget funds to other programs; i.e. Administrative costs for the Hazmat Program, recovery costs from a damaging fire at the SCEPP Office and printing of the State Emergency Plan.

Chief Holms, speaking as Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator for Orange County, explained the dilemma he has faced in reassigning an older model OES engine. He feels the quality of equipment is getting so bad in some of the older engines, departments do not want the assignment. It is not reliable as a viable option in emergency situations. As the equipment continues to degrade, assignees will be more difficult to find.

Mr. Passerello would like to meet with the Fire and Rescue Advisory Committee Equipment Sub-Committee. He agrees this is a problem, but if the BCP to upgrade the fleet is approved, there will be no problem.

General discussion followed regarding the purchase of the ten chassis this year. There was consensus that should next year's budget decrease, the ten chassis may have to wait for 2 or 3 years to be outfitted with bodies. Mr. Passerello noted there is enough money in this year's budget to purchase three fully-equipped fire engines. Chief Manning noted that three fire engines can fight fires -- ten chassis can do nothing. Chief Coggan asked that if we have an Equipment Sub-Committee, why wasn't it consulted? Chief Dacy explained several circumstances which have prevented the sub-committee from meeting for the last year.

*After extensive discussion,*

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*IT WAS MOVED BY CHIEF COGGAN, SECONDED BY CHIEF BRANNON AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO PLACE A HOLD ON THE ORDER FOR TEN CHASSIS PENDING AN EQUIPMENT SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING TO MAKE FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS. THE SUB-COMMITTEE WILL MEET AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO WEIGH ALTERNATIVES BETWEEN PURCHASING TEN CHASSIS AS CURRENTLY PROPOSED, OR BUYING AS MUCH APPARATUS AS POSSIBLE WITH EXISTING FUNDS.*

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*John Passerello will track the chassis purchase order to see where it is in the procurement process. He encouraged the Equipment Sub-Committee to meet within the next week.*

*After discussing the apparent use of the Equipment Fund as a contingency fund,*

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*IT WAS MOVED BY CHIEF PETERSON, SECONDED BY CHIEF MANNING AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED TO ADVISE THE OES ADMINISTRATION TO USE THE EQUIPMENT FUND FOR ONLY THAT PURPOSE RATHER THAN A CONTINGENCY FUND FOR UNEXPECTED EXPENSES.*

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*Mr. Passerello explained that OES has no contingency fund -- it must operate within its own budget. Deficiency requests could be submitted, but there is no guarantee they will be approved.*

*Don Irwin further explained other requirements of the agency such as salary savings (6.5% of the total budget), and said that a deficiency request was submitted to the Department of Finance for the recovery costs for the SCEPP fire, but that DOF denied the request.*

#### **REIMBURSEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE**

*No report -- will meet in the near future.*

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

*Chief Coggan asked for an update on the Modoc County Area Coordinator issue (Sheriff was elected as O/A Coordinator). Kim Zagaris reported the base radio has been moved, and will be upgraded before installation in the Sheriff's Office. No further action can be taken until the next election, other than convincing the county fire chief's of the importance of electing a fire official as Area Coordinator.*

## NEW BUSINESS

### Universal Fire Apparatus Numbering System

Chief Coggan received a letter from the Chief of City of Tracy Fire Department regarding a universal, statewide numbering system for apparatus. He wants to come before this Committee with his proposal. Kim Zagaris recently attended a San Joaquin County Chief's meeting where he learned that since they had problems in their own county and since the State had developed the three-letter identifiers and the Strike Team numbering system, the State should be responsible for creating a universal fire apparatus numbering system.

Mike Scherr mentioned a similar proposal in the early years of FIRESCOPE which was not accepted because of the tremendous amount of apparatus (14,000+) and the lack of cooperation by all departments.

Chief Maxfield will contact Chief LaVoie to get his concerns. A reply will be drafted, encouraging a system for use by the county only. Kenton Clark agreed it is essential to discourage the idea based on results of early efforts by FIRESCOPE. The idea is unproductive and unattainable.

### Retirement - Chief Dave Stoddard

Chief Dacy announced the retirement dinner for Chief Stoddard is Saturday, September 30.

## NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of this Committee is scheduled for THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1989, 0930, at Sacramento OES Headquarters.

There be no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1150 hours.