

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

DRAFT MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 30, 1983

ONTARIO AIRPORT CONFERENCE ROOM

In Attendance:

J. Chaffin, USFS
J. Englund, LAC
D. Manning, LFD
W. Medigovich, OES, Chairman
J. Partain, CDF
R. Peterson, SBC
M. Scherr, OES, Exec. Secty.
M. Sellers, VNC
B. Spada, USFS
R. Tyrrel, USFS

R. Barrows, OES
R. Griggs, CDF
R. King, LAC
J. Letson, CDF
W. Patterson, FEMA
J. Uribarri, OES

Chairman Medigovich opened the meeting with a discussion of the lack of coordination among proposals and research being conducted in the field of emergency services. He said that there was sufficient funding available but no firm direction.

He also discussed the role of OES as the facilitator for the development of a statewide emergency management plan. Such a plan would encompass agencies statewide, such as CDF, National Guard, CHP, Cal Trans.

Chief Englund, LAC, presented a history of the FIREScope program, beginning with the problems identified in the aftermath of the 1970 fire season. He reviewed the program's Mission, Components, Direction and Management Structure. He reviewed the functions of the various levels of the Decision Process (Board of Directors for Policy; the Operations Team for Direction; and the Task Force for Development).
* A copy of the view graphs used for this presentation are included with these minutes.

R. Barrows pointed out that the FIREScope program did not reach the goals set in 1972, and the Board of Directors needs to look at program direction and point us down the proper road.

Chairman Medigovich discussed some of the available computerized systems for geographic and demographic data display.

Barrows reviewed the FIREScope 1983-84 budget for Operations and Maintenance. \$423,000 per year is the static maintenance level of funding. "Are we going to move forward with development into the rest of the state and into other emergency services, and how do the partner agencies fit into the movement?"

* A copy of the budget view graph is included with these minutes.

General discussion followed regarding the expansion of FIREScope products statewide:

- the individual products (ICS, Mapping) are exportable;
- we should not expand under the banner of "FIREScope". Is a name change in order?
- we should finish what we have started here, and use the state organizations (USFS, CDF, OES) as the nucleus for statewide implementation;
- perhaps the Governor's Emergency Council could fill the need as a forum;
- we need to protect the investment we already have in the south;
- FEMA is making a turnaround and is accepting and training in FIREScope concepts;
- the broader the participation in FIREScope, the harder it will be to achieve consensus and make progress;
- USFS and FEMA should be dialoging;
- USFS and CDF will be sharing a joint facility in Redding similar to the OCC;
- there is increased interaction between program components and other agencies, exemplified by the US Geological Survey and Orthophoto mapping.

Director Medigovich summarized the discussion as follows:

- there is a commitment to the FIREScope program;
- inroads have been made, and the users of the system are being served;
- any resistance to the ICS is a resistance to change;
- CSTI (California Specialized Training Institute) in San Luis Obispo is teaching the ICS;
 - ICS and Mapping are the only really deliverable products;
 - significant progress is being made in county adoption of ICS, especially in San Bernardino and Inyo/Mono counties.

The chairman discussed the million dollar Budget Change Proposal (BCP) which OES has submitted to the state. The BCP calls for the addition of a Mapping Coordinator, an Administrative Assistant for the south, and about \$900,000 for a computer system in Sacramento. Included in the \$900K are funds for a Programmer, a Steno Clerk, the computer hardware necessary to provide a redundant backup system and to extend current usable programs to the North. The intent is to provide the same kind of computer network that exists in the south.

Next, discussion focused on the Mapping products and the current status of the Mapping program:

- Peterson said that in Santa Barbara County, the products (orthophoto maps and response booklets) are not being well received. Complaints are that they are hard to read and follow, and that the grid system is confusing.
- Scherr reviewed the current usage in San Bernardino County.

The Forest Service and the Sheriff's Office have been using the map products for a variety of functions, and thus far results have been good.

The ROLE of the Board of Directors, now and in the future, was discussed. The following points were made:

- Is the composition of the Board correct?
- Santa Barbara County has a concern about this (Southern California) Board making decisions which will be used statewide. As examples, Training courses and the Resource Designation System were cited.
- Southern California is the most complex fire situation nationwide. This is why we are being used as the prototype for development.
- Santa Barbara feels that, whatever the statewide decision process is, it should absorb the current organization.
- The current Board of Directors should be maintained at least until the work designed to be done here is finished.
- The chairman should pursue whether the Governor's Emergency Council should be the catalyst in forming a statewide board.
- Should this Board support the development of a statewide decision process?
 - we should go forward to finish the initial objectives. If others want to use the products, let them. We shouldn't concern ourselves with it.
 - there must be a link between the FIREScope Board of Directors and the statewide decision process.
- B. Spada brought up the inclusion of Forest Service Research as a Board member. He feels that one Forest Service representative would be sufficient.

The following points were raised during the general discussion which followed:

- There is a possibility of letting a \$50K grant, over the period of 12 to 18 months, for an analysis of current program status. From this study, it is hoped to result in a prepared grant application for continued program funding.
- R. Griggs feels that our highest priority should be to examine the availability and accessibility of mapping data which ESRI has.
- The Board reviewed the assignment of priorities on the FIREScope components which the Operations Team did at their meeting of April 11 - 12. The Board directed that the Operations Team should reevaluate priorities for all program components and investigate the possibility of funding for each. The Board would like a summary of the results prepared.

- Acceptance and backing of FIREScope by the state Office of Emergency Services will have a positive influence on FEMA.
- The Operations Team should be looking at the structure for transferring FIREScope products statewide.
- What are the plans, in the next six months, for helping the people who are using the system and the products day to day?
 - how do we help fix the mapping problems?
 - should we be investigating the implementation of a statewide document delivery system?
 - agency representatives do not understand their agency's commitment to the program.
- a comprehensive MACS exercise will be held at the OCC in April.
- Statewide, virtually everyone is interested in Hazardous Materials, from the Governor to the local agencies.
- IEMS (Integrated Emergency Management System) is generic planning for emergencies.

ACTION: Review and direction on training system for ICS.

6. PROGRAM OFFICE REPORT J. MONESMITH

BACKGROUND: The FIREScope Program Office has undergone a number of changes since October 1, 1982. There is a need for an updating on the transition that is taking place.

ACTION: Updating

7. OCC STAFFING PLAN AND BUDGET REPORT R. LAND

BACKGROUND: As part of the changeover from Research and Development (USFS) to Operation and Maintenance (OES) an OCC Staffing Plan was presented to the Board of Directors. The Board approved that plan, and efforts began to fill the positions that had been identified as support functions. The cutting of funds by the federal government altered the plan and caused the staffing function to accelerate.

ACTION: Report on staffing at the OCC, and resulting budget changes. Breakdown of 82/83 budget, and presentation of 83/84 budget.

8. OPERATIONS TEAM REPORT R. LAND

BACKGROUND: There is a need to keep the Board apprised of the actions taken by the Operations Team.

ACTION: Updating and clarification.

9. NEXT MEETING ALL

PLACE:

TIME:

DATE:

AGENDA ITEMS:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

~~DRAFT MINUTES~~

SEPTEMBER 30, 1983

APPROVED
8/15/84

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OES
Contract
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Updated
Report

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