

OES FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING OF JANUARY 16, 1986
SACRAMENTO FIRE DEPARTMENT - DIVISION OF TRAINING
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

MINUTES OF MEETING

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Bill Powell, Chairman - Chief, Sacramento Fire Department
Loren Pettis - Chief, Montclair F.D. and Monte Vista F.P.D.
John Englund - Chief, Los Angeles County F.D. and OES Region I
William Maxfield - Chief, Contra Costa County F.D.
Jerry Letson - California Division of Forestry
Ken Brown - Chief, Rio Linda Fire Protection District

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Pat Kidder - Bureau of Land Management
Jim Brannon - Chief Linda Fire Department
Don Manning - Chief Los Angeles City Fire Department
Chris Cameron - Regional Fire Coordinator National Park Service
James Wait - Deputy Director, State Fire Marshal
Richard Montague - Director, Aviation and Fire, U.S.F.S. for Zane Smith

SPECIAL ADVISORS

Harry Steimer - General Manager, California State Firemen's Association

SPECIAL ADVISORS ABSENT

Brian Hatch - Director, Federated Fire Fighters' Association

OTHER PRESENT

Jim Dykes - Chief C.D.F. Southern California Region
Will Brock - OES
Richard Barrows - Chief, Fire and Rescue Division OES
Bob Lerch - Rancho Cordova Fire District
Walt McDermott - State Fire Marshal's Office
Rich Arronsen - OES

OPENING REMARKS

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Powell at 9:50 after much rhetoric. Dick Barrows, Chief OES Fire and Rescue Division, handed out sample forms for reimbursement, explaining the process as presented to the fire service. Chief Powell provided information regarding lunch, which was to be put on by the Sacramento Fire Department Reserves at no cost. There was much light humor made of the "no cost."

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Chief Englund moved to approve the minutes as written; seconded by Jerry Letson. Motion passed unanimously.

PURPOSE OF OES FIRE ADVISORY BOARD -- "WHY WE ARE HERE"

Chairman Powell discussed the purpose of the Advisory Committee. It is to meet, identify and make recommendations to the OES Director on matters relating to the OES Fire and Rescue Division and statewide mutual aid system. The committee meets every three months and can accomplish only so much. Chairman wants to target in on two or three items which are felt to be the top priority of the group. Hot items will be dealt with as they come down.

Dick Barrows brought and distributed an historical brochure from the 1950's giving the whole format of the Advisory Board Committee. Dick read two paragraphs. "It is obvious that any State Fire Disaster Plan must be sufficiently flexible to permit departments to exercise reason and judgements in accordance with disaster conditions. Likewise, it is a recognized fact that the local fire official is the most familiar with the conditions in his community and he therefore should remain in command of fire fighting activities occurring within areas of his jurisdiction."

"It is considered advisable to develop the State Fire Disaster Plan along the lines of day-to-day mutual aid in order that in the event of a state of extreme emergency is declared it will not be necessary to operate under a different plan. The plan should be such that when a disaster occurs, the fire service might immediately proceed under a day-to-day mutual aid plan and as conditions warrant, permit step-by-step advancement from city to county to region to statewide plan. The group stated the document helped put things in perspective even by 1986 standards.

ITEMS THE COMMITTEE SHOULD DEAL WITH

Chairman Powell asked for suggestions from the floor on the group's interests and the interests of their constituents. The following list was established:

1. Extension of Firescope products - Letson.
2. Mutual Aid Reimbursement - Maxfield

3. Review and update Fire and Rescue Plan - AB 2185 - State Plan - Englund.
4. Mutual Aid Liability - Englund.
5. Emergency Fire Services Preparedness Training - Englund.
6. How Haz-Mat fits into Fire and Rescue Plans - Maxfield.
7. Legislative Input - Englund.
8. OES Equipment Systems (Apparatus) - Englund.
9. Statewide Mutual Aid Communication Systems - Powell, Barrows, Englund.

Chairman Powell asked the members to prioritize the items listed---- by consensus.....does not want this committee to be just a "stamp" committee.

EMMETT CONDON'S REPORT ON THE EARTHQUAKE TASK FORCE

Chief Condon gave a report on committee work to date, including some recommendations. He recommended an increase in certain items carried on OES heavy rescue vehicles; and based on the events in Mexico City, suggested that OES heavy rescue trucks be increased from 3 to 22, providing 4 in each region. He recommended that TV companies be used starting the first day of the disaster due to their satellite capability. The responsibility of the local fire chief to target problem buildings. Use postal zip codes for recall of personnel. Chief Condon asked Chief Barrows for the locations of aluminum pipe storage. Chief Barrows stated there were approximately 20 locations in the state and that he would send the list to Condon. Condon recommended there be one SHARPS unit in each region (6). Suggested chlorinators be included as part of equipment. Chief Condon also brought up the question of feeding civilian and fire personnel.

Chief Barrows commented on the importance of the SHARPS unit and how it was designed and built. Chairman Powell told of several incidents regarding the unit; from the flood on I-5 to the laying of hose at 50 mph (joke). Specifications on the unit will be sent to Chief Condon. Copy of Chief Condon's report will be sent to all members sometime in February.

CALFIRMS ACTIVITY

Jim Dykes, Calfirms Chairman, is resigning due to his promotion to Chief, CDF Southern Region. New chairman is current vice-chairman Chief William Neville of Hayward. CDF administration will assign a new representative to the committee.

It was proposed to go to Riverside OCC to get information from them on their operation. Group agreed.

Dykes will be missed!

LUNCH

Guests requesting to speak to the Advisory Committee did not arrive.

REVIEW OF PRIORITIZED LIST

Chairman Powell passed out the list to the remaining members based on their prioritization.

Item	Priority
1	9
2	2
3	1
4	8
5	3
6	4
7	7
8	5
9	6

Chief Barrows discussed the need for another meeting of the Advisory Committee, hopefully before 3 months. They can do a lot of the staff work but do not want to spin their wheels in a lot of unnecessary paperwork. Englund already has a committee in OES Region I that he can use to review mutual aid plans. The Chairman asked if anyone else had anything to say regarding Priority 1. Someone said they thought they were all having problems wrestling the plan.

Priority 2 - Mutual Aid Reimbursement

Much discussion on this item. Chief Barrows stated there is nothing in the existing State Fire and Rescue Emergency Plan about money or time. When talking about mutual aid, some groups wrestle with the question of should we, or shouldn't we pay? If so, when? It becomes a factor then it really needs to be documented someplace. Certainly the issue demands our immediate attention and recommendations for solutions.

Four of the top items tie together with the mutual aid plan one way or another. Chairman Powell sees the committee starting to function on the mutual aid reimbursement right away. Regarding 2185, Chief Barrows stated a report was due on January 22 or 23 and had top priority of OES. Chief Englund asked the question, "How then does the fire service, other than through the Fire and Rescue Division, get input into that system?"

Chief Barrows stated that what should come out of the committee meeting today may be general, but it should say that with your understanding of OES's role in the implementation of 2185, you feel there should be strong fire service representation in the planning. At the present time, CHF apparently has a problem because of the way it is written. There is some conflict between other existing laws. He thinks it has to do with existing

versus potential hazards on the highway. That has nothing to do with us right now but they can't get into gear and write regulations until they get a clear understanding of what the intent of the legislation was and how it affects the laws. Chief Barrows stated, "I am sure there is going to be something that will affect the fire service. It might be well to query the Director. Find out how the committee can fit in to this."

Chief Englund stated he felt we needed to have more than just response; we need to have involvement. Chief Barrows stated the mutual aid system will ultimately be involved because they have already discussed it with him.

Chairman Powell asked what the Committee's desire was. Do they want him to advise the 2185 Committee that we would like input...is that what they are saying? Chief Englund stated he would so move that we do that. There is no other vehicle if they are not coming to us then we need to go to them. Chairman Powell suggested a letter to OES Fire and Rescue Division and the Director of OES, asking if there is a committee that we be involved in order to make recommendations relative to the plan. Motion to write to the Director; seconded by Letson. Motion passed unanimously.

The Chairman is to write a letter to Director Medigovich advising of the priority list the committee developed, and our request to be involved with planning, specifically 2185.

Priority 5 (Barrows) You do have some ongoing input into that. The earthquake group has itemized some recommendations they they are going to make.

Priority 6 Statewide communications systems. The SMARS committee is looking at that, the Cal Chiefs Communication Committee is looking at that. So there is some work being done there.

Priority 7 Legislative Input. That is kind of an ongoing thing, but we can do more.

Priority 8 Mutual Aid Liability. There is a lawsuit going on that came about from the Camino Fire. (Englund) He thought the fire departments were immune, but it needs to be looked at again.

Priority 9 Extension of Firescope Products. Calfires is working on that.

It was agreed that Barrows would use John Englund's OES Region I group as a model group to work with.

GENERAL DISCUSSION: Barrows brought up the subject of protective clothing. It has always been the priority that OES provides the rigs and the fire departments provide the personnel, complete with proper protective clothing. Wants to see the committee discuss this matter at their next meeting.

NEXT MEETING: April 10, 9 AM. Sacramento Fire Department Training Division
3230 J Street Rear, Sacramento
(Underneath water tower).