



FIRESCOPE OPERATIONS TEAM MEETING SHELL BEACH



January 31, & February 1, 2008

Date: January 31 & February 1, 2008

Time: 0915 Hrs.

Attendees:

Brian Kelly X	Mario Rueda X	Darrel Ralston X	Paul Bannister X	George Maier
Dave Pierce X	Dave Franklin	Jim Troehler	Michael Dougherty	Bob Neamy X
Mark Schmitt X	Ralph Domanski X	Del Walters	Nick Dunn X	
John Tripp	Andy Anderson	Jim Middleton X	Jim Little X	
Tom Drayer X	Joe Millar X	Jack Hickey X	David Giordano	

Additional Attendees Present:

Geoff Wilford X	Jim Hollingsworth X	Pat O'Bannon X	Jack Froggatt X	Orbrad Darbro X
Dan Drake X	Greg West X	Deneen Philips X	Ramiro Rodriguez X	

Adoption of Previous Minutes: Minutes of October conference call approved by team

Motion Dunn
Second Neamy

Agenda Items:

MACS activation and After Action Report (AAR)-Drayer/Dunn/Stone
2008 MACS Workshop (Riverside, Redding, Region I-West/Kelly/Drayer
Resource Typing-Incident Management Teams, Equipment, Specialized Equipment (CAFFS,Gel,etc).- West/Drayer
Replacement for Geoff Wilford (IOS Working Team)-West
Night Flying Guidelines Status-Schmitt
New SFM Task Force members/CICCS-West
CICCS Report-Little
ICS Competency Change Board/NIMS Decision Process-West/Kelly/Drayer/Wilford
All Hazard FIRESCOPE Documents/ICS Curriculum Development-West
BRC Report-Pierce
Added Agenda Items:
October '07 "BOD meeting
Mayday Issue
Ops Team Representation

Discussion Notes:

January 9th BOD meeting at Burbank Fire Dept. Training Center-

- OES Director's Report
 - Discussed Governor's Emergency Response Legislative Initiative-Sheldon Gilbert
 - Kate Dargan presented a lengthy presentation on the use of Information Technology in situational awareness. Chief Freeman proposed forming an ad hoc committee including himself, Sue Hasari, Pat Deenen, Keith Richtter who will work with the group of industry presenters to move this concept forward.
 - This report generated discussion by the Ops Team on what our level of involvement should be. We should expect to be tasked with items that come from this group.
- Mayday vs. Emergency Traffic Issue:
 - Seems that a compromise with IAFC is possible retaining "Emergency Traffic" as the nomenclature the captures control of the radio frequency, then an IC is free to use whatever term is appropriate to describe the nature of the emergency traffic, including "Mayday."
 - Letter to IAFC by Chief Freeman describing FIRESCOPE's position was handed out
- CFAA
 - Waiting for Fed Agencies to weigh in on the draft agreement.
- Fire Rescue MMA Plan
 - No report
- Private Insurance Firefighting Resources
 - What is fire service's position
 - Determined it will be agency specific decision whether or not to allow them entry into a fire area
 - OES is working on seeking legal opinion on this issue, it was suggested that the FIRESCOPE represented fire agencies do the same.
- BRC Task Force Report
- Ops and TF Reports
- Next BOD meeting is April 9th at Sacramento International Airport

- IOSWT
 - Appears to be disconnect between NIMS and IOSWT
 - The all hazard focus is de-smoking the NIMS products, meaning that influence of an ICS presence is being diluted.

- NIMS/Incident Mgt. Working Group
 - IMWG is primarily Law, USCG, EOC groups from smaller, more rural areas across the nation
 - They feel they cannot afford to take several years to qualify positions to create an Incident Management organization similar to what we have in the west. Their incidents typically don't involve the complexities or require the level of incident management we are used to
 - Steve Gage is Chairing Incident Management Working Group
 - Geoff Wilford, working as a private contractor with DHS and supporting IMWG, was asked why FIRESCOPE had no representation
 - Greg West (FIRESCOPE) and Jim Hollingsworth (NWCG) are now our representation
 - Currently working on a national set of ICS forms. Most original ICS forms have been

- changed. Some are not practical for fire's use
 - Greg and Jim will stay involved in the development of these forms, with input from the TF, and participate in the monthly conference calls, with a meeting scheduled in May in San Antonio, TX. They will continue to attempt to influence the maintenance of ICS as this process evolves
 - Instead of Qualifications, the IM Working Group is looking at credentialing to make it a more streamlined qualification process to yield "Type 3" level position
 - They will be utilizing task books and will require some level of shadowing before being "signed off"
 - Common communications and ICS 209's will be major challenges. They have no Comm. Plan in their forms package and do not plan to electronically transmit 209's to the famweb website
- Inter Gathering and LE Operations: Rueda
 - Law Enforcement is emerging with their own version of intelligence gathering work groups that is not coordinated with FIRESCOPE.
 - Intelligence/Investigative Function Guidance NIMS Working Group Document handout passed around by Mario...
- California Firefighters History Project: Sara Wheelock
 - Sara is director of the project from UC Berkeley
 - Will be interviewing individuals from the fire service and posting them on a website for access by others as raw data
 - The ultimate product will be a compilation of interviews, transcribed into searchable documents on the internet, as they relate to the history of the fire service in California. A book on the topic will also be published along with a series of articles. It is estimated that the project will take about 7 years
- FIRESCOPE Ops Team Relationships: All
 - Discussed how issues are tasked to the TF or Working Groups and the general hierarchy of the FIRESCOPE organization
 - Tom Drayer explained the structure of the FIRESCOPE Organization
 - The position of Executive Coordinator (currently Kim Zagaris) is the line of authority between the Ops Team and the BOD and is appointed by the Board. (Reference 410-4)
 - Discussion resulted in acknowledging that complete communications has to occur between the Ops Team, the Task Force and the Specialist and Working Groups, and the Executive Coordinator
 - **ACTION:** Dave Pierce will schedule a meeting with Tom Drayer, Kim Zagaris, and a member of the Task Force to have a discussion about improving communications up and down the line of authority within the FIRESCOPE organization. All Ops Team members should have a similar discussion with their Fire Chief
 - **ACTION:** Whenever a meeting agenda is sent out to the BOD, the FIRESCOPE plan of work and status of projects will be attached. Greg West will discuss this with the TF to determine the appropriate format of this report
 - **ACTION:** Dave will determine the status of the BOD summit items that may still be pending
- BRC Task Force: Pierce
 - BRC Task Force work with Chief Warren is complete and now disbanded
 - Don't know which recommendations will end up with FIRESCOPE
 - Dave read from the BRC TF Report

- The BRC recommendations will be tasked to FIREScope for action
- NRP to NRF Discussion:
 - National Response Plan is now known as the National Response Framework.
 - Gets broader in scope
 - Gives DHS more authority for “implementation of national level policy and operational coordination for domestic incident response”
 - Some may view this as licensing FEMA to more easily intervene in local emergency operations using reimbursement as the carrot
- SRA/LRA Reclassification: Little--Laytonville
 - Jim attended a district meeting with legislative VIP’s set up by Principle Consultant of the Senate Appropriations Committee without fire service participation
 - Move Cal Fire under OES, New SRA study that does not include land with x numbers of structures per x number of acres is among the list of proposals.
 - How does the state finance fire protection in the SRA. Should not be the state’s responsibility to provide structure protection in the SRA when the municipality allows such development
 - Group felt that structure developed was not the responsibility of the state to protect
 - Lead to discussion on reclassification of SRA to LRA and shifting the cost for fire protection accordingly
 - Group had no concept of Schedule A, Contract Counties, Amador Plan, etc.
 - LAO’s office recommends legislature does not support the Insurance Policy assessment plan. But instead assess an SRA fee to the tune of approx. \$310 per structure and \$1 per acre within the SRA
 - This is also a topic of discussion with the Lake Tahoe Blue Ribbon Commission according to Joe Millar
 - Staff will draw up legislation to redefine SRA land, provide fees for fire protection on SRA, with a second proposal from the Resource Dept for a fee structure for fire protection on the SRA, and it appears that the fire service has no strong position at this point
- Aviation Issues: Schmitt
 - Discussed status of the FIREScope Aviation Specialist Group
 - Night Vision Guidelines complete and posted to website
 - Military MOU’s and Communications Subcommittees reports are nearly completed and in draft form. These two reports will be reported and submitted to the TF for review and forwarding to the Ops Team soon
 - The Specialist Group will develop the California rotary wing inventory for federal, state, local and military assets. Regular Military assets will be a snapshot in time because of their transient nature.
 - Discussed the status of the Aero Medical Task Force
 - **ACTION:** Mark Schmitt will send a summary report on the Aero Medical Task Force to Dave Pierce. Dave will inquire about the status of this issue with Chief Zagaris
 - **ACTION:** Schmitt will also follow up with Chief Scherrei (SBC) on status of ground ambulance situation that developed on the Zaca Fire Department
 - Discussed the request from the BOD for a state-wide inventory of qualified Helicopter Managers and qualified Military Helicopter Managers
 - Discussed the request from the BOD to identify the process to access UAV’s
- CFAA Report: Ralston
 - No news to report

- IMS Consortium Report: Drake/Neamy
 - Now referred to as the NIMS Consortium
 - Discussed two books being developed by consortium
 - Bob Neamy is back on the NFPA 1500 Committee, which is the umbrella Committee for the 1561 Committee (Incident Management System)

- **DAY TWO**

- Position Elections and Terms: Pierce
 - Maintain two year rotation for Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary as currently stated in 410-4, or change to a one-year rotation
 - Terms will stay as stated in 410-4 with two year terms for all positions
 - Elections were held with the following results: Dave Pierce- Chair, Mario Rueda- Vice Chair, Mark Schmitt- Secretary

- Task Force Report
 - FOG is complete and at printers
 - Geoff Wilford will be retiring from KRN and will need a replacement to represent FIREScope on NWCG Training Working Group
 - NWCG Resource Typing is being monitored and IOS Working Team went with the recommendations for wildland Engine and Water Tender typing that conflicts with FIREScope typing
 - Specialist and Working Groups are all very busy. Plan of Work and minutes from all Specialist and Working Groups with rosters have been compiled. The **EMS Working Group** met in December with a draft charter and Plan of Work, their next meeting is Feb. 5-6. **USAR Specialist Group** has been reactivated to work on OSD's to address resource typing conflicts. **The Safety Specialist Group** has completed a draft "All Risk Safety Officer" curriculum. Next meeting is Feb. 12-13. **Communications Specialist Group** is addressing issues that came up during the Siege. The **Aviation Specialist Group** met in Jan to address issues brought by the Board including Military Helicopter Manager inventory and use of UAV Resources as well as creating a state-wide rotary wing inventory for 2008. The **High Rise Specialist Group** has nearly finished their work. Their next meeting is Feb 5-6. The **Haz Mat Specialist Group** is finalizing the Specialized Equipment List. Their next meeting is Feb 4th.
 - Planning, with Chief Drayer for the Spring orientation and exercises for the MACs at Redding in May and Riverside in June. Current MACs procedures will be included in the curriculum with review of the lessons learned and AAR from the 2007 Siege.
 - Greg circulated a draft copy of the FIREScope Orientation Document that will be provided to all new FIREScope members. Once complete, it will be forwarded to the Ops Team.
 - West and Hollingsworth were selected to participate on the DHS/FEMA Incident Management Working Group, chaired by Steve Gage. The Task Force reviewed proposed ICS Forms and made recommendations that will be forwarded back to the IMWG.
 - Chief Ramiro Rodriguez, from State Fire Training, has joined the Task Force to assist with the connection between the TF and State Fire Training.
 - Greg West was re-elected as TF Chair with Dave Stone and Brad Darboro re-elected as vice chair and secretary respectively.
 - Updated the Plan of Work

- Discussion occurred on the Ambulance Strike Team issue. Pat O'Bannon is involved in this issue with EMSA. It was noted there is currently no fire service model for fire-based AST's. Greg

West was asked to discuss this issue with the TF and Pat O'Bannon to determine if the issue of fire-based Strike Teams should be addressed by FIRESCOPE, and bring it back to the Ops Team. If the answer is yes, it will be pushed up to the BOD for consideration.

- NWCG Training Working Team: Geoff Wilford
 - Field Managers Course Guide not always being followed. It's updated quarterly and available on the website
 - The Instructors qualifications has just been updated and will also be used by DHS
 - Interchangeable courses use the same SME's and are different than equivalency courses
 - ICS for Executives has been eliminated
 - Position Task Books have been converted, and competencies have been updated
 - Trying to eliminate overlaps and gaps between courses
 - Kim Zagaris sits on the Competency Change Management Board and is the clearing house for curriculum change
 - I-420 does not work as it was intended with overload in some positions and vacancies in other positions. It works best in California, but fails the further east you go.
 - Skills Crosswalk with NFA and NWCG is working and courses will be maintained by Training Working Team (TWT)
 - Waiting for final NIMS 5-year training plan. Now that the National Response Framework (NRF) is out, it will be incorporated into the NIMS 5-yr training plan.
 - Fed Grant teleconference occurred today. UASI funding has added 14 new cities and municipalities. Will be posted on the internet today
 - Geoff will be staying with the TWT through 2008, then retires...but looking for replacement
 - NWCG courses must be taught by a NWCG qualified instructor, using the Field Managers Course Guide, and only NWCG member agencies can use the NWCG certificate. Non NWCG agencies must use agency specific certificates which currently are not accepted by State Fire Training. This disconnect is being worked on by NWCG and State Fire Training.
- CICCIS Update: Little
 - Skills Crosswalk was reviewed by the CICCIS TF and came to the conclusion that skills equivalencies were being met
- Old Business:
 - Discussed the letter to ICHIEFS on the term Mayday
 - The term Mayday becomes a permissive term used to follow the hailer "emergency traffic" for radio silence as a firefighter/responder is known to be down and in need of rescue.
- Time, Date and Place of next meeting
 - Bucks Lake will be planned in June
 - Dates will be evaluated by Tom Drayer and Dave Pierce will schedule a conference call to discuss the agenda
- Round Table:
 - VNC- No special problems so far with rains in the burn areas
 - Jack Hickey- Lots of rain and wind
 - Jim Little- Nothing to report
 - LFD- Struggling with budget
 - Neamy-
 - BLM/DOI- rumors of reduced budget, but agencies may be spared. Engine staffing at 7 day level for 08 season

- North Ops- rain and snow. Lots of federal employees migrating to state jobs. Conducting DPA review
 - ORC- moving to 20 year contracts with consolidated agencies
 - KRN- building up second Super 205 helicopter. Turbo Aero Commander being purchased and will be used as Air Attack platform by this fire season. Just completed academy and planning another, working toward full 3.0 staffing. Getting Battalion 5 back. Broke ground on new EOC.
 - USFS/South Ops- Operating under 2006 budget numbers. Planning to staff all equip. 35 helicopters on contract nationally with 16 stationed in CA. Company. Officers migrating to Cal Fire.
 - SBC – still trying to break from Sheriff’s dispatch center with increasing interest from other Op Area agencies interested in forming a regional fire dispatch center. Academy starting in April. Consolidated with Solvang PCF Fire Department and looking at same with Orcutt Volunteer FPD. Relocating Lompoc fire station into new facility
 - OES- 10% funding cut across the board, looking at contracting with Cal Fire for dispatching services. Scott Vail planning to retire. If Insurance Initiative goes through OES will purchase 130 additional engines, took delivery of 3 type 3 engines
- Ralph Domanski and USFS thanked for their continuing financial support of the Ops Team meetings in Shell Beach
- Meeting adjourned @ 1030 hrs.