



FIRESCOPE



OPERATIONS TEAM Conference Call Minutes

July 17, 2007

Attendees

Brian Kelly-SMC (**Chair**)
Dave Pierce OCFA (**Vice Chair**)
Mark Schmitt-SBC (**Secretary**)
Jim Little-Laytonville
Joe Milar-N.OPS
Tom Drayer-OES
Dave Franklin SFD
Mario Rueda-LFD
Greg West-LFD
Jim Middleton MPC FD

Meeting Called to order: Tuesday, July 17, 2007 @ 1400 hours (951.782.4210)

Welcome: Brian Kelly, Chair

Minutes: From April 12, 2007 Conference Call not reviewed/approved

AGENDA REVIEW: Brian Kelly

DISCUSSION: Brian Kelly

Brian had a phone meeting with Chief Zagaris regarding the make-up of representatives on the Task Force and Operations Teams.

No codified language exists in 410-4 to address proper distribution of membership representation. The Task Force mirrors the representation of the BOD, but the Operations Team does not. Since the merging of CALFIRS with FIRESCOPE, and the combining of the North/South Ops Teams, representation has been somewhat altered.

This issue needs some clean up which Brian would like the Operations Team to address.

Chief Zagaris has asked Chief Drayer to draft a white paper with the purpose of ensuring that the original intent of representation from the OES Regions and the Forest Agencies is maintained. A formal process for the selection of agency and region successors also need to be formulated.

Chief Freeman has asked for a list of representative positions on the Operations Team and Task Force that are currently vacant, or who are chronically absent.

A group discussion asked the question of whether or not the Operations Team should scale back the number of representatives from the OES Regions from the current two, to one per Region. The group agreed to keep the existing configuration of two reps from each OES Region and one rep each from the north and the south representing each of the Forest Agencies. Brian also suggested including two IMS Consortium reps to the team, recommending George Mayer and Bob Neimi, as well as one rep each from the US Coast Guard and the National Fire Administration.

BOD MEETING REVIEW: Brian Kelly/Tom Drayer

The FIRESCOPE Board of Directors met on Wednesday, July 11, 2007 at the Sacramento International Airport. This venue proved logistically beneficial to those flying in for the meeting.

AB-38/Nava proposes combining State OES with DHS. One assembly person opposing the bill suggested it become a 2-year study bill. The governor could move the bill forward without a study period. If approved, either Bittenhauser (DHS) or Renteria (OES) could be elevated to a cabinet level position.

The DC-10 damaged earlier this fire season is expected to be back in service this week.

SRA fees are currently in "suspense."

The Blue Ribbon Commission is still active as an Ad Hoc Committee.

Regarding interoperability, Cal Fire has plans to have all their radios narrow banded by 2010, and strongly suggests other agencies consider the same to stay ahead of the 2013 deadline.

Greg West drafted a letter to the Eldorado FD explaining that FIRESCOPE is assembling an EMS Specialist Group to work on the Fireline Paramedic position they have proposed.

CICCS is the process that yields the qualification for that process in the form of a red card. Scott Vail has been asked to better define the CICCS process, including a description of how and when it should apply at the 200 and 300 levels to departments who self-certify. Some Forest Agencies are concerned that the physical fitness standards of some of the local agencies are not up to an equivalent level and are not in compliance with 310-1.

Mike Dougherty/NFA has been selected as the primary arbitrator on the CFAA rewrite committee. A draft document is due out in October. Because this topic generates so much discussion relative to Master Mutual Aid and Crosswalk Programs designed to accept each other's standards for qualifications, and their associations to CICC vs NWCG vs Self-Certification, Greg West has proposed that the FIRESCOPE Training Working Group be assembled to work on this issue. The team felt this was an excellent idea.

The Resource Ordering System Feedback form will soon be available on the FIRESCOPE website and will be shared with Region Chiefs and Chief Zagaris, who will share the information with the Board. Eventually a database of the responses will be created.

Brian shared that a Regional Coordinated Response Plan for the 10 Counties in Region 2 is being developed to integrate multi-disciplined agencies into a coordinated response. He feels the plan is good in concept, but it interferes with existing fire/police mutual aid plans and gives excessive authority to the local OES Organization.

Chief Hollingshead/USFS spoke about the OIG report on the Esperanza Fire. He indicated that there was a need to re-educate the Forest Service on structure protection issues.

OES Fire and Rescue Branch is working without a budget until the governor approves and signs the new budget.

The Ambulance Strike Team meeting was cancelled. Highlights as follows:

- Numbering system to mirror ????(Brian, please fill in the blank).
- Disaster support and Strike Team vehicles are being provided
- Discussion about incorporating an 8-hour AST module into the existing STL course as a final curriculum. This could be coordinated/facilitated by the FIRESCOPE Training Working Group.

The 2007/2008 nominations for the Board of Directors Chair and Vice-Chair positions were held with Chiefs Freeman and Roper staying seated.

OPERATIONS TEAM ISSUES:

Leadership succession was discussed with Dave Pierce agreeing to assume the position of Operations Team Chair in January when Brian Kelly retires. Brian plans to attend the January 2008 meeting in Shell Beach as his final farewell. Mario Rueda was nominated again for the position of Vice Chair. Formal announcements will take place at the January meeting.

Cycle of meetings was discussed at length. Brian suggested, and the group agreed, that it would be more efficient to schedule meetings after the Task Force meetings, but before the BOD meets, so information and work assignments could flow in a more logical sequence. The Ops Team will also attempt to schedule one meeting a year to coincide with a BOD meeting and a Task Force meeting. The team will also try to schedule at least one 2-day meeting each year, similar to the Shell Beach meeting.

Tom Drayer led a discussion on the proper decision control process, confirming that any recommendations coming from the Task Force or the Ops Team go directly to Chief Zagaris for review prior to being presented to the Board.

ACTION: The Buck's Lake/Conference Call Agenda will be reworked and refined and will be presented as the Agenda for the August 14-15th meeting at the OCFA.

NEXT MEETING: The next Operations Team meeting will be held at the Orange County Fire Authority Headquarters on August 14th and 15th, 2007. We will meet from 1000-1700 on Tuesday the 14th and jointly with the Task Force from 0900-1200 on Wednesday the 15th. See the attached flyer.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 1500 hrs.