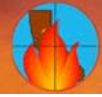




# FIRESCOPE



## FIRESCOPE OPERATIONS TEAM CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES

Monday, September 17, 2007 @ 1500 Hrs.

**Attendees:** Brian Kelly, Mark Schmitt, Kim Zagaris, Tom Drayer, Mike LaPlant, Jim Middleton, Dan Drake, Dave Pierce, Les Materazzi (for Paul Bannister), Andy Anderson, Jack Hickey, Mario Rueda, Dave Stone

Minutes from the August 14 & 15, 2007 meeting at the Orange County Fire Authority approved as published.

Tom Drayer briefly discussed a couple of recent accidents and incidents.

- A strike team of local government Type Three Engines were returning from Prado Staging, enroute back to Northern California, when a sudden stop of traffic on Interstate 5, near Magic Mountain, created a chain reaction accident involving 4 of the 5 engines in the strike team. 3 of the 4 damaged engines had to be towed back the manufacturer for repairs. Two minor injuries resulted in one being transported to Henry Mayo Hospital in Santa Clarita for observation and subsequent release. Assistance by LA County Fire, who arranged transportation for the crews and mechanical support, was much appreciated.
- The forced “off airport” landing of a SEAT aircraft following an engine trouble light caused the landing gear to collapse when the pilot was forced to land in a field. The pilot was uninjured.
- The city of El Centro, in San Diego County, reported a series of micro bursts last Thursday and Friday night from the recent thunderstorm activity that caused significant damage to approximately 30 buildings in the area of the bursts.

The next CICC meeting is scheduled for October 1, 2007 at McClellan in Sacramento.

### **State Fire Training:**

Stone, West and Drayer are drafting talking points on the workload and plan for State Fire Training to be discussed at the Task Force meeting in Sebastopol this Thursday and Friday.

### **CFAA:**

Discussions surrounding a 16-hour vs. 24-hour “free period” are being discussed by the Forest Agencies and Local Government representatives.

The daily rate for engines is also being discussed.

**NIMS/NRP:**

The group briefly discussed the NIMS component of the National Response Plan.

The National Response Framework is out for public review. LaPlant will review this document with Bob Neamy. Rueda and West will also be reviewing the document.

**IAFC/Mayday vs. Clear Text Issue:**

Kim Zagaris noted that there is some language in the National Response Framework referencing Clear Text as a matter of safety.

The Health Safety and Survival Section of the IAFC have recommended to the IAFC Board that the term Mayday be used to describe firefighters in trouble with a life-threatening emergency. The term “Emergency Traffic” should be used to describe other types of emergencies. IAFC’s position is that FIRESCOPE should make the change and endorse the use of Mayday.

Chief Freeman wants to discuss this issue further with the IAFC Executive Board.

Chief Zagaris suggested that FIRESCOPE should to assemble a single-topic focus group to look at some language adjustments.

NFPA 1500 and 1561, both containing language referencing the use of Emergency Traffic, will also be looked at by the IAFC committee.

Cal Fire’s Northern Region is also getting pressure to adopt “Mayday.”

It was mentioned that Cal Chiefs and Cal Chiefs Training Officers is another avenue to explore to garner support for use of “Emergency Traffic.”

**Task Force Report:**

**ACTION:** The Task Force revised Work Plan is due for presentation at the October 10<sup>th</sup> Board of Director’s meeting in Sacramento.

**Membership:**

The group feels that the original Cal Firms members, organized in 1985, should be treated like the FIRESCOPE partner agencies.

Considerable discussion took place with the conclusion that the FIRESCOPE membership should include Volunteer Agencies (North and South), San Francisco City (an original partner) and a representative of DOI, representing all four Interior Agencies (BLM, NPS, BIA, FWS).

- **ACTION:** Les Matarazzi will query the four Interior Agency Chiefs and report back before the October 10<sup>th</sup> BOD meeting.
- **ACTION:** Tom Drayer will amend the draft language in 410-4 to outline the process for filling member vacancies as follows:
  - 1. Starts as a member recommendation from the Operations Team.

- 2. The Name is submitted to the Board of Directors, Executive Director, currently and Kim Zagaris for consideration.
- 3. The Board of Directors approves or disapproves the recommendation.
- Tom Drayer's draft will include these elements:
  - Original Cal Firm members will receive FIREScope partner agency status.
  - Membership will include original FIREScope partner agencies represented during the merging of the North and South Operations Teams in 2005.
  - Membership will include Northern and Southern Region Volunteer Agencies.
  - Membership will include a member representing the four agencies of the Department of the Interior.

**Upcoming Dates:**

- October 3, 2007—Operations Team conference call 1000hrs. (951.782.4210).
- October 3, 2007—Task Force Plan of Work update due for Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> Operations Team conference call for review
- October 10, 2007—Board of Directors meeting at Sacramento International Airport
- November, 2007, TBA—Operations Team follow up conference call to discuss elements of Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> BOD meeting