



San Mateo County Fire Chiefs Association

ADVANCEMENT THRU UNITY IN ADMINISTRATION

John Healy - President
Jim Skinner - Vice President
Joe Telles - Secretary

March 15th, 2007
Minutes
Operations Group

Meeting called to order at 0900 hrs.

Rough Draft

Member Attendance

Belmont/San Carlos	Doug Fry
Central County	Drew Flinders
Foster City	Tom Reaves
Foster City	John Mapes
Menlo Park	Harold Schapelhovman
Menlo Park	Frank Fraone
Millbrae	Ron Lavezzo
Redwood City	Jim Skinner
San Bruno	Joe Telles
San Mateo	John Healy
North County	Mike Velesquez
South San Francisco	Tom Azzopardi
Woodside	Dan Ghiorso
Woodside	Emil Picchi
Colma	-----
Half Moon Bay	-----

Outside Representative Attendance

Fire Chief Liaison	Fire Chief Doug Fry
OES	Stephen Mahaley
PSC	Don Maynard
TO	Kevin McWhirter
EMS	Emil Picchi
FPO	John Mapes

Rough Draft

Approval of Minutes

Ron Lavezzo made a motion to approve the February 2007 minutes.
Drew Flinders seconded the motion. Minutes passed.

Fire Chiefs' Report

Report given by Fire Chief Fry

- Chiefs met with College of San Mateo to initiate discussion on regional training center.
- Approved membership of the JPA Operations' Group. The list of members will come out in the next couple days. This is a reinstatement of a previously established group.

OES Report

Report given by Stephen Mahaley

- OES is distributing satellite phones to each jurisdiction. Each City will receive one satellite phone. The first 500 minutes on the satellite phone are free. The phones will come with directions on their use and will also come with chargers.
- OES is giving HAM radios to non-profit agencies.
- OES is getting video conference equipment that will be available to outside agencies for use.

EMS Report

Report given by BC Emil Picchi

- JPA is tracking fines for AMR BLS response by zone. They are trying to narrow down the tracking of the fines even further to cities. JPA has already collected \$45,000 in fines for January and February of this year. Chiefs would like money to go to affected agency not to the city.
- More involvement is needed by fire personnel in the EMS committees in preparation for the RFP for a County EMS provider. County Health has a list of members for each committee. County health also has a calendar of the scheduled meetings for each committee. JPA coordinators are currently involved with 6 of the 8 committees but are finding it difficult to attend all the meetings.

PSC Report

Report given by Don Maynard

- Beginning 4/19/2007 any BART incident on the tracks or in a tunnel will get a RIC component with the response.

FPO Report

Report given by Fire Marshal John Mapes

- The new National Fire Codes to be adopted July 1, 2007.

Rough Draft

TO Report

Report given by Training Chief Tom Azzopardi

- Quarterly Chief Officer CE training on policy review was well attended. Next quarterly CO CE will be Strike Team Leader refresher.
- Major drills for this year will be High Rise and WMD. The WMD drill will be a table top drill for managers and supervisors. Drill will be funded by County OES.
- RIC Committee to look at Command and Control functions of RIC.
- Looking into having training for elevator emergencies. Class would be 2 hours on elevator systems and how to get people out.

Old Business

Communication Response Plan Operations' Subcommittee

Report given by Battalion Chief Skinner

- Working on completing draft policy.
- Meeting planned for April 6th.

Rehabilitation Policy

Report given by Battalion Chief Healy

- Draft of policy to be presented at next OPS meeting for vote.

Technical Rescue Equipment and Rescue Capabilities

Report given by Battalion Chief Flinders

- Handout of County Rescue Resources given to all in attendance. If any mistakes are found on list, please contact BC Flinders so corrections can be made.
- BC Flinders will make a PowerPoint presentation of the Central Zone's rescue capability to OPS in April. He will get an e-mail copy of the PowerPoint out to all the fire agencies.
- Don Maynard stated that for PSC to process a call for special rescue resources that the BCs in the jurisdictions with the equipment have to be called to arrange the response. USAR terminology shouldn't be used yet when requesting rescue resources. The committee needs to keep a coordinated effort to have terminology and a unit specific response all come out in one package.
- Chief Schapelhovman stated that when a unit is typed by OES that unit becomes available to the region for response.

Pandemic Flu

Report given by BC Healy

- Staffing patterns for fire service will be based on colors. Green will be used for normal operations. Yellow will be used when 25% of the work force of the Fire Service is sick,

Red will be used at 35%, and Black for 50% or more. Depending on the color one or more of the following elements will have to be considered: staffing, response, personnel's family care, and recovery.

- Pandemic OPS Committee to look at San Jose Pandemic Flu plan.

New Business

Rough Draft

BC Response to Critical High Threat Medicals

Report given by BC Fraone

- Discussion on whether BC response to critical high threat EMS calls that includes stabbings, gunshots, and suicides should be a standard for the county instead of agency specific.
- Currently gunshots, stabbings, and suicides are currently typed by PSC as a medical response. PSC can make rebalance the alarm to include a BC after a determinant is made that it is a high threat call. It is quicker for the Captain to request a BC then wait for that determinant.
- PSC can have an agency specific BC response on these calls. Menlo will put in for this response.

CERT

Report given by BC Fraone

- Menlo has over 400 CERT members. Menlo to include CERT members as part of the emergency operations for the jurisdiction. ID tags will be issued to each member and they are to be certified as Disaster Service Workers (DSW) so that they qualify for worker's compensation from the State.
- Steven Mahaley of OES stated that he would research using County OES to certify all CERT members county wide DSW so that they can work anywhere in the county and be covered by the State for worker's compensation.

Significant Calls

FIRE INCIDENTS:

Designation of divisions at a kitchen fire, in San Bruno, in a split-level two story residential structure caused confusion among crews. One crew was assigned to division 2 on fire attack and primary search and another crew was assigned the primary search on division one. On the radio both crews stated primary search completed for their respective divisions. Both crews searched the top story and the bottom story did not have a primary search completed until later in the incident where two people were discovered watching TV, in an illegal unit, at the rear of the garage. After incident everybody was reminded that divisions begin above grade and that subdivisions are below grade. IC also could have notified everybody on scene that garage level was division 1 and that living area was division 2. A dog was also rescued and administered O2 after Red Cross in a local hotel housed three families.

Crews had to back out of a structure fire in two story single family residence in Burlingame after being informed that over 2000 rounds of shotgun shells were in the home. Once location of ammunition was identified, fire was extinguished. Two shotguns were exposed to fire and had fire damage. Nobody was hurt in a dangerous and unexpected situation.

Roundtable

Rough Draft

Belmont/San Carlos:

- Will hire 1 lateral within next month.
- Received a \$178,00 grant from through the AFG program to purchase SCOTT SCBAs.

Central:

- No report.

Foster City:

- Four candidates took the BC test. All four candidates did well.
- Four Firefighters to be hire in mid April.
- New SCOTT air packs delivered on March 16.

Menlo Park:

- Have a new truck and trailer for water rescue
- Frank Fraone is new coordinator for USAR Task Force 3.

Millbrae:

- New Pierce engine to be delivered in May.

RWC:

- Hiring two lateral Firefighters

San Bruno:

- No report

San Mateo:

- To submit grant with Colma and Woodside for new SCOTT SCBAs through the AFP program.
- Ed Hawkins to retire May 1st. Luncheon at S27 from 11:30 to 2. Everybody invited.

South San Francisco:

- Upcoming BC test on April 3rd and 4th.

Woodside

- Closed promotional BC test in June.
- Captain test to be in either in the Summer of Fall of 2007

Meeting adjourned at 1200 hours.

Next Meeting: April 19th @ Foster City Community Center at 0900 hours