



# San Mateo County Fire Chiefs Association

ADVANCEMENT THRU UNITY IN ADMINISTRATION

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

April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
Minutes  
Operations Group

Meeting called to order at 0900 hrs.

*Rough Draft*

### Member Attendance

Belmont/San Carlos	Doug Fry
Colma	Geoff Balton
Foster City	Tom Reaves
Foster City	John Mapes
Millbrae	Ron Lavezzo
Redwood City	Jim Skinner
Redwood City	Stan Maupin
San Bruno	Joe Telles
San Mateo	John Healy
North County	Anthony Maffei
Central County	-----
Half Moon Bay	-----
Menlo Park	-----
South San Francisco	-----
Woodside	-----

### Outside Representative Attendance

Fire Chief Liaison	Fire Chief Doug Fry
OES	Bill O'Callahan
PSC	Don Maynard
TO	Stan Maupin
EMS	-----
FPO	John Mapes

## **Approval of Minutes**

Ron Lavezzo made a motion to approve the March 2007 minutes.  
Bill O'Callahan seconded the motion. Minutes passed.

## **Fire Chiefs' Report**

Report given by Fire Chief Fry

- Chief White is working on coordinating local grants. He will be gathering information on the needs of the county fire service so that when last minute opportunities for grant funds present themselves the county fire service will be prepared with a list of priority needs.
- The JPA OP'S committee is meeting at least once a month in order to prepare the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the new ALS contract.
- Chiefs are discussing how penalties for AMR late arrival and AMR BLS response to be distributed among fire agencies.
- Table top drill on Pandemic Flu to be held on May 4<sup>th</sup> at Crowne Plaza Hotel.
- Chief Officer CE on Strike Team Leader scheduled June 4<sup>th</sup> and June 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Camp Park's wildland drill scheduled June 26<sup>th</sup> and June 27<sup>th</sup>.
- All CICC applications for level 300 positions to be sent to the Peer Review Committee prior to May 1<sup>st</sup>. Applications to be sent to Chief Reaves.
- San Francisco International Airport (SFO) annual exercise to be September 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Golden Guardian drill on "Dirty Bomb" to be held November 14<sup>th</sup> in Santa Clara County.
- Breathing Support Unit for North Zone has been moved from S61 to S86. The unit will be OOS until needed repairs are completed.
- New air truck being provided by OES is almost completed. It is still to be determined where the unit will be housed. OES will own the vehicle and the Fire Service will maintain it.
- A schedule will come out for reprogramming mobile and portable radios when new radio plan is implemented.

## **OES Report**

Report given by Bill O'Callahan

- OES has completed the County Emergency Operation's Plan. The plan will be presented to Board of County Supervisors for approval.
- A template on an emergency plan for schools is available at the OES web site.
- The distribution of satellite phones to all county fire agencies has been completed.
- A new county CERT coordinator to be hired in the near future.
- OES is getting video conference equipment that will be available to outside agencies for use.

## **EMS Report**

Report given by BC Healy

- Central giving a test for EMS Chief position on April 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **PSC Report**

Report given by Don Maynard

- Working on standardizing USAR responses
- Brian Sasaki received the “Dispatcher of the Year” award at the recent dispatcher’s award meeting. Brian received a 100% on audits for the year where each dispatcher is evaluated on a minimum of ten calls each month. Brian also received recognition for his outstanding work on an EMS save on a full arrest in Redwood City.

## **FPO Report**

Report given by Fire Marshal John Mapes

- Solar panels on residential roofs becoming more prevalent. The panels generate a lot of electricity that can’t be turned off. There is currently no safety protocol on dealing with these panels when they are exposed to fire. The matter will be referred to TO group to provide training to companies on the danger of solar panels.

## **TO Report**

Report given by Training Chief Stan Maupin

- Planning on having a Fall Recruit Academy
- Firefighter Safety Stand Down to be the week of June 18<sup>th</sup> through June 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Redwood City BC Cavallero was on a panel that discussed RIC and 2 in 2 out. BC Cavallero represented the county well in answering questions from the audience. The symposium will continue at a future date in Fresno.
- This year’s high rise training will be on basic skills
- Attendance has not been good for CO CE. BCs need to be at the forefront of knowing county policies.

## **Communication Response Plan Operations’ Subcommittee**

Report given by Battalion Chief Skinner

- Draft communications policy presented
- Draft communication policy consisted of the following elements:
  1. Dispatch Channels will be used for dispatching and tracking units and communicating with single unit responses.
  2. Command Channels will be used for multi-unit responses. Once dispatched all units on a multi-unit response shall respond on the assigned command channel. Command Channels will be used for initial size-up, establishing IC, and initial instructions to incoming units. All communications to and from Dispatch and the IC will be on the Command Channel.
  3. Tactical Channels will be used for full assignments and above (Battalion Chief included). PSC’s reception coverage is limited due to the restriction of

mobile/portable use only. The IC may request additional tactical channels if necessary. After IC is established all units will switch to the tactical upon arrival at the incident

- After policy presented, discussion took place on when companies should switch to the tactical channel. One view is that after IC is established that companies should switch to the tactical upon arrival. Other view is that companies should wait until the IC directs all companies to switch to tactical. It was decided to field test both methods at RIC training that will take place later this year.

### **Rehabilitation Policy**

Report given by Battalion Chief Healy

- A draft of policy will be sent out to all the OPS members for a vote. Members are to respond via e-mail. If approved the policy will be forwarded to the Chiefs for approval.

### **Technical Rescue Equipment and Rescue Capabilities**

Report given by Battalion Chief Healy

- There is a concern on the training element for personnel assigned to a USAR typed rescue unit. It was discussed that if USAR units are typed and put in CAD then that unit must be able to provide the trained people that can perform the functions of that typed USAR.

### **Pandemic Flu**

Report given by BC Healy

- Last meeting a zone concept was discussed for handling the Flu and developing a county plan for all agencies.
- Pandemic OPS Committee to look at San Jose Pandemic Flu plan.

### **New Business**

No new business.

### **Significant Calls**

#### **FIRE INCIDENTS:**

Fire in two story residential structure in San Mateo trapped three people inside the home. Firefighters successfully removed the people by bringing them out through the burned area by supplying them air through SCBA masks. The fire started on deck and spread into the structure.

Salvage operations at a San Bruno Fire on April 7<sup>th</sup> saved hundreds of tax returns before the April 15<sup>th</sup> deadline. The structure had an apartment on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor and a tax accountant's office on the first floor. The fire started on the second floor. Firefighters during their primary search of the first floor noticed box after box of tax returns and took immediate action to cover the returns with plastic. A lot of water came through the ceiling of the first floor but four rooms of tax returns were undamaged because of good salvage work by firefighters.

## **Roundtable**

Belmont/San Carlos:

- The JPA of the two cities reached an agreement to keep the Fire District intact for the next 15 years.
- Preparing E14 to become a RIC engine.

Foster City:

- No report.

Millbrae:

- Expect delivery of new Pierce 1500 gpm pumper on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Put in for two grants through the AFP program, one grant for SCBAs and the other grant for vehicle exhaust systems.

North County:

- Getting ready to put two new Smiel engines into service.

RWC:

- Waiting for delivery of new Seagrave 1500 gpm pumper that sits six people. It is currently getting a manufacturer's test.

San Bruno:

- No report

San Mateo:

- Captain Bill Eichner moving from line position to Deputy Fire Marshal.
- Will be interviewing 4 candidates from existing Captain's list for the vacant Captain's position

Meeting adjourned at 1200 hours.

**Next Meeting: May 17<sup>th</sup> @ Foster City Community Center at 0900 hours**