

**North County Zone Operations & Training Officers**  
***San Marcos Training Facility***  
**Minutes for April 12, 2006**

**Members Present:**

*Camp Pendleton Fire* – William Frankel  
*Carlsbad Fire* – Mike McFadden, Jeff Sprague  
*Del Mar Fire* – Tom Wolf  
*Elfin Forest* – Dawn Pettijohn  
*Encinitas Fire* – Mark Muir  
*Escondido Fire* – Scott Alvord, Randy Licata  
*North County Fire* – Dan Goldberg, Randy Meers, Kathy Ford-Brodersen  
*North County JPA Dispatch* – Denny Neville  
*Oceanside Fire* – Mike Margot  
*Rancho Santa Fe Fire* – Jim Sturtevant  
*San Marcos Fire* – Brett VanWey, Greg Woolf, Rick Vogt  
*Solana Beach* – Dismas Abelman  
*Vista Fire* – Randy Terich, Jeff Hahn

**Call to Order:**

Mark Muir called the meeting to order at 0908 hours.

**Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes were disseminated and reviewed.

**Motion:** Bill Frankel moved to approve the minutes from the March 8, 2006 meeting. Jeff Sprague seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved.

**Academy Report:**

Pete Montgomery requested special time to discuss some issues regarding the resources for the current academy. He noted that there have been a couple of incidents where agencies that have committed equipment and personnel have cancelled and sent no replacements. He reinforced how crucial this academy is for the future of our industry and hiring pool. He requested that agencies be courteous and send replacements when possible. It seems the problem lies when the committed personnel receive an overtime shift or are mandatoried by the department. It was agreed that the chiefs would reinforce the importance to the obligation and acquiring substitutes if an unforeseen event occurs.

**Committee Reports:**

**Equipment**

Scott Alvord told the group his department is currently looking at vendors for new EMS jackets. When they come to a decision he will pass the information along.

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### Communications

Denny Neville reported that the County Chiefs Committee was still working on a new fleet map. No agreement has been made with Mexico yet, so it is unlikely that they will be reprogramming this year.

He told the group the CDF would be doing no re-banding or have a new fleetmap until 2008.

### Zone Qualifications

Rick Vogt distributed the current zone qualification list with the member's information. He noted that it is also posted on the website.

### Regional Blending

No report.

## **Old Business:**

### 2006 Goals

Mark Muir reviewed the 2006 goals that will be presented to Zone Chiefs. The group discussed the goals:

#### **Element 1 – Pre-Fire Planning**

There will be a meeting on April 25 @ 0900 at the Oceanside City Hall for the pre-fire planning and mapping group. Communications has been lacking between these two groups.

#### **Element 2 – Mapping Program**

**Task #1** - All agencies need to make sure their GIS MOU's have been signed. This process should be completed by September 30, 2006 pending any glitches.

**Task #2** – The RFP will be going out soon for the MDC computers. A UASI Technology Partnership Grant has been received and should cover the costs for about 30 MDC's for the North Zone. This task should be completed by January 2007.

**Task #3** – This task will cover dispatch-to-dispatch communications.

#### **Element 3 – Engine & Truck Components**

The only components outstanding for training manual completion are Search & Rescue and SCBA.

#### **Element 4 – Zone Integration**

A handout was disseminated of a matrix of the EOM/Training Manual adoption sections. Agencies need to submit their level of completion to Rick Vogt.

It was suggested that Section 6 (Safety Procedures) be adopted as guidelines only. Policies should be agency specific. This subject will be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

#### **Element 5 – Zone Company Evaluation Program**

Zone training will start with ladders at San Marcos Training Center on May 12<sup>th</sup>. The training officers will discuss evaluation procedures. A complete schedule will be distributed by the next meeting. The training schedule will consist of drills every other month with two (2) sessions per day.

#### **Element 6 – Zone Training Coverage Plan**

A tentative schedule will be presented at the next meeting.

#### **Element 7 – Training Exercises**

This section is complete. Scott Alvord is the contact for the county drill. He would like two or three Strike Teams from the Zone to attend. This drill will substitute for the Zone Wildland Drill.

#### **Element 8 – Usage of Teleconferencing Equipment**

Mark Muir discussed the teleconferencing classes. EMS classes will be completed by teleconference. The Novato (Steve Rucker incident) class will be presented in June.

#### **Element 9 – High Wildland Criteria**

Mark Muir reviewed the objectives. Todd Newman will continue to be project manager until further notice. The goal will be to have forecasts out by 06:30 daily with updates at 09:00.

#### **Element 10 – Zone Website**

Rick Vogt asked for suggestions regarding the website. Dan Goldberg suggested hyperlinking the table of contents to the chapters. Scott Alvord suggested including hyperlinks to other common websites (State Fire Training, etc.)

**Motion:** Dan Goldberg made a motion to approve the 2006 North County Operations and Training Goals and Objectives as discussed. Randy Terich seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved.

#### **County Chiefs Strategic Plan**

Mark Muir discussed the County Chiefs Strategic Plan. He will review the 2006 North Zone Goals with them at tomorrow's County Chiefs Meeting.

#### **Strike Team Leader Scheduling**

Rick Vogt distributed the current STL schedules. The group discussed their concerns.

- Mark Muir asked if the current depth in the scheduling is needed all year. Denny Neville stated that history shows that only three months out of the year (February, March and April) the zone has **not** needed to go two deep.

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- Randy Terich discussed the possibility of scheduling by shift. Rick Vogt said that when all Battalion Chiefs become certified it may be a possibility.
- Dan Goldberg noted that North County Fire has designated Kathy Ford-Brodersen as their STL Scheduling Coordinator. All North County Fire STL scheduling correspondence needs to be emailed to her at [kbrodersen@ncfire.org](mailto:kbrodersen@ncfire.org).

These suggestions will be taken back to the committee.

Rick Vogt reminded everyone that the certifications would be checked prior to going on scene at a federal fire.

### **New Business:**

#### Size-up of Single Unit Responses

Randy Terich discussed the possibility of deleting the radio size-up on routine medical and traffic collision calls. This would ultimately cut unnecessary radio traffic.

Mark Muir suggested reviewing this as a training issue. Agencies need to be training their crews on proper radio communications and radio etiquette. Randy Terich will send out a power point to the group to be used for this training.

#### Haz-Mat Response

Denny Neville discussed with the group a haz-mat incident that recently occurred where there was miscommunication and error in dispatching. He wanted the group's opinion on dispatching all haz-mat incidents as a full first alarm.

Scott Alvord suggested looking at the call types and response matrix. The group agreed.

### **Roundtable:**

It was announced that Training Officer Mike McFadden of Carlsbad Fire was recently promoted to Battalion Chief. The group congratulated him.

*Scott Alvord, Escondido* – Their technical rescue trailer is up and running. Their truck has been relocated to Station 2 during construction. They have hired someone to manage their CAD update.

He apologized for the cancellation of the RIC drill. The ventilation drill was a success though; he hoped everyone was able to attend.

*Greg Woolf, San Marcos* – They have had numerous personnel injuries lately. Station 2 was vandalized with tagging and Station 4 had some items stolen from

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a reserve engine. They are currently conducting chief's interviews for their three (3) FF/PM vacancies.

*Bill Frankel, Camp Pendleton* – The base will be transitioning the EMS system from the Navy to the Fire Department. They plan on putting two (2) ALS units in place by October 2006, with a 3<sup>rd</sup> unit sometime next year. They are in the RFP process for a new station. He will be attending a meeting to preview a landing craft vehicle that will be capable of moving Type I engines up and down the coast.

*Randy Licata, Escondido* – He reported that the wildland pre-plans are ready for implementation. The department has four (4) FF/PM completing the academy. An engineer exam will be taking place soon.

*Dan Goldberg, North County* – The department is about halfway through their study of a BLS ambulance. They are currently renegotiating their contract with Pala Fire, Mercy Ambulance has also bid on the contract. Station 3 is being remodeled; it will go from a 3 to 5 person station. They are discussing a land swap with the Bonsall School District where they will rebuild Station 5 next year. A Pardee Homes development that is going in east of the I-15 and Hwy 76 has committed to build a new fire station to replace the existing Station 4, this won't occur until 2008. The department promoted five (5) new captains on April 18.

*Randy Terich, Vista* – They have a captain's test in May, they still need two (2) raters. The city council has approved a ½% sales tax increase that will be voted on by the residents.

*Brett Van Wey, San Marcos* – Regional FF/PM testing is this Saturday; they have almost 100 applications. The current academy will be graduating on April 18<sup>th</sup> at the high school.

*Mike Margot, Oceanside* – They opened Station 8 in March. He recently attended a class by Fire Nuggets; it was the best class he has ever taken. This company is looking at putting on a 2-day Fire Command or Division Sup class in our area. One of their fire captains, Kurt Krebb passed away at his home recently. Everyone will be notified about the services for Captain Krebb as soon as they are scheduled.

*Mark Muir, Encinitas* – They will be having an engineer's test soon. Encinitas and Carlsbad are discussing a joint training facility. They are still interviewing for fire chief, announcement likely by next week.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10.

## Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on May 10, 2006, 0900 hours at the San Marcos Safety Center.

The Training Officers will meet at 0800 hours, prior to the general meeting.

Minutes submitted by:

*Kathy Ford-Braderson*

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### Training Officers Meeting Minutes April 2006

- Discussed monthly meeting time change to allow extra time for TO business – decided on meeting second Wednesday of the month from 0800 to 0930 hrs
- RIC drill cancellation discussed. Possible use of VTA Woman’s Club in our future (later this plan was killed during the Zone Operations Meeting). Keep an eye open for large drill buildings as lots of the preplan efforts are already finished.
- Strategic Plan: Operations Chiefs want more specifics. Discussed and decided every other month cycle beginning with a single-day rollout at the San Marcos Training Tower on May 12<sup>th</sup> (morning and afternoon session) that will cover ground ladders. Still left open possibility of having multiple sites to allow north and south sections to stay closer to home base. As many Training Officers as possible will attend this kick-off to better work through issues and get everyone looking at these the same way. All agencies should RSVP with an engine count and which session they will attend to Mike Margot (OCS) by May 1. Session times: 09:30 – 11:30 and 13:30 – 15:30.
- Reminder of STL Working Group Meeting 0900 – 1200, May 23, SMC Training Tower
- Rick Vogt discussed EOM Agency Training Status tracking system. Send Rick your agency level and he’ll plot your progress
- San Diego County Training Officers by-laws re-write still in progress
- SMC advised a one day Data Analysis class still open for 4/17 (one slot left)
- Southern California Training Officers San Diego / Zone representative will be Don Shellhammer (VTA)
- Randy Meers (NCF) discussed high-rise and advised that Pala FD was going to adopt Riverside’s Plan
- Zone Wildland Drill will be held May 15, 16, and 17 – more to follow. Van Wey to get additional information from Poway’s John Canavan.
- VTA is planning a North Zone experiment with Video Conferencing a 2-hr class on the Steven Rucker incident to all participating agencies. This class was presented in Poway last year and was very well received. More information to follow.

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**Round Table**

- Mike Margot (OCS) shared the sad news of Captain Kurt Krebbs' passing. His agency is dealing with it as best they can and family decisions regarding burial and any ceremony/celebration of life are still pending.
- Pete Montgomery (ESC / Palomar College Fire Academy) reviewed some recent challenges with AWOL apparatus and instructors. The overall impact to the academy is lack of opportunity for the recruits. The impact to the Zone is a weaker product to ultimately hire. The college would appreciate any increased level of ownership along with a willingness to cover the responsibilities of the assigned days by your personnel.

Brett Van Wey added that the college is looking into the possibility of an extended version academy (2 weeknights and 1 weekend day per week). Will know if this will fly by May. They might also be looking for more lead instructors to step up for this new academy and possibly replace some of the more veteran instructors

- Escondido looking for how other agencies handle their confined space rescue (requirement for FF II)

Submitted by Mike McFadden