

**North County Zone Operations & Training Officers**  
**San Marcos Training Facility**  
**Minutes for September 13, 2006**

**Members Present:**

*Carlsbad Fire* –Chris Heiser, Mike McFadden  
*Elfin Forest Fire* – Dawn Pettijohn  
*Encinitas Fire* –Joe Bunn, Darrin Ward  
*Escondido Fire* – Pete Montgomery  
*North County Fire* – Dan Goldberg, Randy Meers, Don Stevens, Kathy Ford-Brodersen  
*North County JPA Dispatch* – Denny Neville  
*Oceanside Fire* – Rob Dunham, Bob Cotton  
*Rancho Santa Fe Fire* – Tony Michel, Jim Sturtevant  
*San Marcos Fire* –Brett VanWey, Greg Woolf, Rick Vogt  
*Vista Fire* – Randy Terich, Jeff Hahn, Don Shellhammer

**Call to Order:**

Dan Goldberg called the meeting to order at 09:39 hours.

**Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes were disseminated by e-mail prior to the meeting and were reviewed by the members. No corrections were made.

**Motion:** Denny Neville made a motion to approve the minutes of August 9, 2006. Tony Michel seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved.

**Committee Reports:**

Equipment

No reports or updates.

Regional Training

Randy Meers reported that they would be concentrating this month on completing the Highrise and MCI training guidelines. The SCBA section is complete and will soon be posted on the North Zone website. A committee has been established to work on the Search & Rescue policy; they anticipate completion by the end of the year.

Randy also reviewed the upcoming training dates:

**Highrise** at Del Mar Fairgrounds (Grandstands) **October 30, 31 & Nov 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Multi-Casualty** at Carlsbad (Legoland) **Nov 7<sup>th</sup>**,

Randy Meers announced that he would be stepping down as North County Fire Battalion Chief to Captain for personal reasons. This will create an opening for his Zone Training Officer Chairperson position. He encouraged anyone who was interest in the chairperson to contact him.

### Communications

Denny Neville distributed the latest 800 MHz fleetmap Version 8b. This version reflects the County RCS staff's requested changes. The command numbers now match the position on the radio. They have not received final approval from County RCS; there is still a debate over talkgroups. Reprogramming will take place at each agency's site. They hope to have this to County Chiefs for final approval no later than December 2006.

Denny noted that the emergency talkgroup would be on Channel 15, which should make it easy to access if needed (click to the end, back one). The emergency radio button will also access this channel. By designating a specific channel for emergencies, the dispatch center for the call will monitor this channel, opposed to your agency's dispatch center.

All agencies need to determine what will be in their Zones 15 & 16 agency specific talkgroups. Don Stevens or Denny Neville will review each agencies Zone 15 & 16 talkgroups if they'd like. You may contact them at: [Neville@ncdjpa.org](mailto:Neville@ncdjpa.org) or [dstevens@ncfire.org](mailto:dstevens@ncfire.org)

The travel channels have been altered. In the new fleet map, Escondido/North Comm. will have their own travel channel, as will Heartland and San Diego.

There will be a cross-reference matrix available during the transitional period.

**Motion:** Bob Cotton made a motion to approve the Version 8b of the 800 MHz fleetmap. Chris Heiser seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved.

Denny reminded the group that agencies need to replace their early generation analog Spectra radios, used for central locks, if they still have them. These radios cannot be reprogrammed by the county. North Comm still has two (2) of these types of radios, but if they break, they cannot be replaced.

The North Comm JPA will begin using the new talkgroup use plan as of October 1<sup>st</sup>. The latest version of this PowerPoint training can be found on the North Zone website.

### Zone Qualifications

*CICCS Qualifications* - Rick Vogt discussed the CICCS Peer Review Committee meeting in which he attended as an observer. Their current approval method adheres strictly to NWCG 310-1 guidelines. Since areas of the application process were not clear, the approval process was tabled. The applications were sent back to the applicants noting the required corrections. The peer review committee will set a future date to review the corrected applications. They will then meet on a quarterly basis. Rick distributed the 310-1 requirement matrix and class equivalencies to the group. He also included a description of the CICCS certification system.

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Rick Vogt led a discussion on Strike Team Leader requirements. He distributed a draft of the CICCIS Applicant Review Checklist. The R-130 Annual Fireline Safety Refresher requirement would be met by all agencies participating in regular annual safety training (fire shelters, PPE, etc.) There is no curriculum for this requirement. The NWCG S-215 requirement can also be met with Command 1C. He noted that some of the CICCIS changes could affect our ERD as to the new requirements for Trainees and other Operational positions.

Our zone must pool their resources for training and remain proactive in encouraging captains to take the required classes. They discussed the NWCG requirements for teaching such classes and were reminded that anyone qualified at a certain level may teach that level or any lower level, there is no formal instructor certification. [Dan Goldberg, Brett VanWey and Don Shellhammer will meet to discuss our zones needs and coordination of training and make their recommendations at the next meeting.](#)

Denny Neville asked about the qualifications for agency rep. It was noted that it is currently approved by a Fire Chief recommendation only. Don Shellhammer stated that there would be an upcoming agency rep training class at Heartland in the near future and encouraged those interested to attend.

Rick Vogt discussed the fact that there are no current classes for Line EMT. This is a Firescope position, not a NWCG position. This position is arduous and has a couple of required classes, which are not clearly defined.

*Zone STL Scheduling-* Rick Vogt noted that the STL Working Group is working on a new scheduling matrix for next year. This matrix will allow three (3) STL per agency, thus utilizing the agencies shift Battalion Chiefs. They may have the schedule complete by November.

Randy Terich discussed how to handle the scheduling of STL's when OES agencies have their monthly OES assignment. This has created quite a burden on those agencies in the past due to dual STL responsibility. The group suggested that when an agency has the monthly OES assignment, they remove themselves from the zone schedule for that month. Denny Neville suggested adding a line on the Zone STL scheduling form to show the monthly OES assignments and to take that into consideration when assigning the agency weeks.

Regional Blending

No report.

San Diego County Operations Section

Dan Goldberg reported that he attended September's San Diego County Ops Section meeting as the North Zone rep. The committee is working on a countywide highrise plan. Scott Alvord is currently involved with Firescope in rewriting the highrise policy. During the county Ops meeting the decision was made to wait until the highrise rewrite committee completes their work to move

forward with developing a county policy/guideline. It was discussed that the county's policy should mirror Firescope. The county section committee's group also discussed the development of a countywide website similar to the North Zone's to provide the mechanism for displaying information. The website could include a link to various websites, such as the North Zone, Southern Cal TO's and etc. He also recommended to the county group that they use the North Zone EOM format as a guideline. The committee meets on the first Wednesday of each month.

## **Old Business**

### STL Policy Review

Randy Terich reviewed the currently revised STL policy. This will include the STL scheduling policy. This will be sent to all agencies with this month's minutes.

### August 9, 2006 Action Plan

Dan Goldberg reviewed the Action Plan from the last meeting. All action items have been complete with the exception of 1-A. Rick Vogt is still waiting for the completion of the Search & Rescue policy. All other completed policies have been posted.

### North Zone EOM Project Report

Dan Goldberg reported that Captain Keith McReynolds of North County Fire will assist with editing the North Zone website. Initially Keith will be creating a table of contents hyper link to the appropriate policies both in the EOM and Training Manual.

Rick Vogt noted that no agencies have sent in their updates designating completion of the engine module, truck module and EOM. He distributed a copy of the website matrix. Please send him your agency's status of these policies by the next meeting for website posting.

## **New Business:**

### Draft Policy Review

*Life Hazard Identification* - The group reviewed the policy and agreed that it was more robust than the NWCG standard. Agencies will need to acquire the necessary equipment prior to training and implementation of this policy. [Approval of the Life Hazard Policy will be voted on at the October 2006 meeting.](#)

*Heat Illness Prevention* – This policy originated from a new OSHA requirement. The heat index chart was not included in the draft policy, but will be attached as the last page. It was noted that this policy is only a guideline for emergency events, but should be adhered to for non-emergency events and training. The consensus of the group was to eliminate the last paragraph of Section 6 referring to first aid.

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*Other Policies* – Dan Goldberg noted that the current communication policy should be edited to reflect the new dispatch center title “North Comm”. [Denny Neville will review the policy and forward recommended changes to the policy working group.](#)

### **Roundtable:**

**Brett VanWey, San Marcos Fire** –The next JPA testing will be on October 21, 2006.

**Mike McFadden, Carlsbad Fire** – They are still down three (3) FF/PM, but have four (4) in backgrounds.

**Don Shellhammer, Vista Fire** – There are still openings in the upcoming Command 1C class, please e-mail him if interested.

**Joe Bunn, Encinitas Fire** – They are in the process of hiring one (1) FF/PM, the candidates chief interviews are scheduled for next week.

**Randy Terich, Vista Fire** – His department is currently down four (4) FF/PM, they have another retiring next month. They are looking at lateral hiring; they have several applications from out of state candidates. They are anticipating approval of a bond that will be used to build two (2) new fire stations.

**Randy Meers, North County Fire** – North County will be completing FRO/WMD Training this month. This training will be funded by a UASI grant.

**Bob Cotton, Oceanside Fire** – Interim Fire Chief Bowman has begun his service with their department. He is already beginning the strategic plan process. They currently have fifteen (15) FF/PM openings. They have taken delivery of a 105' quint and two (2) pumpers.

They will be breaking ground in January 2007 for the new Station 7 near the old drive-in off Highway 76.

**Rob Dunham, Oceanside Fire** – The department is facing a lot of shuffling of responsibilities under Interim Chief Bowman. Rob is now the Training Officer; Mike Margot will remain as an Assistant Training Officer.

**Pete Montgomery, Escondido Fire** – They will be breaking ground for Fire Station 4 soon - it will be combined with their administration offices. The three (3) neighborhood fire stations are coming along well. They will be receiving three (3) new engines from Pierce within the next few months.

**Darrin Ward, Encinitas** – The City of Encinitas had just passed a 20 million dollar bond. These funds will be used to remodel three (3) of their fire stations in the next three (3) years.

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**Tony Michel, Rancho Santa Fe** – His department is currently fully staffed.

**Denny Neville, NCDJPA** – They have hired six (6) new dispatchers in anticipation of Oceanside Fire coming on-board in January. They will be beginning an 8-week academy next week. Their academy will include station visits and ride-alongs to witness operations first hand. The dispatch center is also gearing up for the upcoming fall weather. He recommended <http://www.wildfirealert.com/> to view current wildland conditions.

Elfin Forest Fire is anticipating delivery of a new engine. All volunteers will be going through wildland training. Dawn Pettijohn was promoted to Battalion Chief.

**Greg Woolf, San Marcos Fire** – They have just put out a bid for building their new Station 4. They are receiving a new ambulance in November. Their new BLS ambulance is on duty three days a week and is working well. One of their captains is at the Shasta/Trinity Fire as a field observer.

**Rick Vogt, San Marcos Fire** – He reminded everyone of the STL meeting on Tuesday, September 19, 2006.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30.

**Next Meeting:**

The next meeting will be held on October 11, 2006, 09:30 at the San Marcos Safety Center. The Training Officers will meet prior to the operations meeting at 08:30.

Minutes submitted by:

*Kathy Ford-Broderson*  
North County Fire  
Operations Assistant