



## NORTH COUNTY ZONE

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### OPERATIONS & TRAINING OFFICERS MEETING MINUTES

#### Minutes for June 13, 2007 *San Marcos Training Facility*

#### **Members Present**

*Camp Pendleton Fire* – Bill Frankel  
*Carlsbad Fire* – Chris Heiser, Ed Sprague  
*Encinitas Fire* – Joe Bunn, Scott Henry  
*Escondido Fire* – Randy Licata  
*North County Fire* – Dan Goldberg, Gary Lane, Don Stevens, Mark Strikwerda, Kathy Ford-Brodersen (recorder)  
*NCDJPA* – Denny Neville, Lesli Wilson  
*Oceanside Fire* – Rob Dunham, Mark Alderson, Terry Garrison  
*Rancho Santa Fe Fire* – Tony Michel, Jim Sturtevant  
*San Marcos Fire* – Dave Schloss, Brett Van Wey, Chuck Morton, Rick Vogt  
*Vista Fire* – Randy Terich

#### **Call to Order**

Dan Goldberg called the meeting to order at 09:45 hours.

#### **Introductions**

Denny Neville introduced Lesli Wilson as the new administrator for NCDJPA. Denny reported that he will be staying on for another three (3) months to assist in the transition.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the May 9, 2007 meeting were disseminated by e-mail prior to the meeting and were reviewed by the members. A couple of corrections were noted.

**Motion:** Chuck Morton made a motion to approve the minutes of May 9, 2007 with the noted corrections. Randy Terich seconded the motion. Motion unanimously approved.

#### **Standing Committee Reports**

Communications - Dave Schloss reported that the committee has been working on the EOM Section 203 guidelines. They are working with the RIC committee to fine tune their communication guidelines. Don Stevens and Mike Gibbs have been doing a lot of work with VHF policies. Data files and spreadsheets are being posted on the North Zone Website.

EOM Guidelines – Randy Terich reported that he was waiting for the final draft of the RIC communication guideline.

Equipment – Randy Licata reported that the committee met yesterday. Representatives from LN Curtis and Fire Etc were present to address the committee and to provide samples of their products. The committee emphasized that service after sales was a

high priority and the language would be written into the contract. The committee hopes to eventually send all new hires to one location to be outfitted with all their safety gear/uniforms. They still have a few agencies that have not submitted their equipment lists. The equipment standing committee meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month.

ERD – Rick Vogt reported that the next meeting will be held on June 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **Working Group Reports**

North Zone Administrative Guide – Dan Goldberg reported that they were still waiting on the flag guideline. Chris Heiser stated he will contact Mike McFadden and ensure the guideline is forwarded to Randy Terich by the end of the day.

Sprinter Committee – Rick Vogt discussed the progress of the Sprinter project. He felt that the December 2007 start date may be delayed. Rick noted that the orientation session dates are posted on the website and open to all agencies. Due to the potential of multiple fire agency's response to a Sprinter related incident, it was suggested that North Zone agencies attend an orientation session.

Mapping Project – Randy Terich read a memo from Joe Napier updating the progress of the mapping project.

- The Emergency Response map and the resource guides/street index information have gone to the printer.
- The 230 West and 230 East emergency response books will be complete after July 4<sup>th</sup>.
- June 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> are the final dates for train-the-trainer classes on the Panasonic laptops and Visinet software.
- The laptops with Verizon and Sprint modems are currently having their software installed. The MDC's will be distributed to the agencies by month end.
- Escondido, Deer Springs and Camp Pendleton will be using Mobile Mapping Solution until they are configured with a CAD/GIS/AVL oriented solution.
- North Comm is completing negotiations for the T-1 lines needed to complete the AVL loop. They anticipate to go live by the first week of July.

Mark Strikwerda reported that the mapping group/pre-fire plan committee recently had a meeting in Poway. He stated that interns may be available from Mesa College for ARC/GIS preplan development. Rob Dunham mentioned that SDSU also has a large GIS program that may be able to supply interns. Mark reported that our Zone's mapping system is so advanced that we will eventually be able to track firefighters inside buildings.

### **Standing Committee Reports**

Training – Joe Bunn reported the highlights from today's training officer's meeting:

- The committee discussed making consistent training guidelines to use at each zone drill, whereas each training location will cover the same syllabus and use the same method of evaluation.
- The committee is working on the BA section and the RS1 section of the EOM. The Search & Rescue section is complete and posted.

- The RIC committee continues to meet; they have been getting input from each agency regarding communication options.
- Palomar College Revenue Sharing grades were all sent in on time. Brett Van Wey thanked everyone for their cooperation.
- There are several upcoming classes throughout San Diego County.

Joe Bunn welcomed the new BC/Training Officer for North County Fire, Gary Lane to the group.

NCDJPA – Denny Neville reported that Lesli Wilson, their new administrator started last week. The board authorized Denny to stay for three (3) more months. Lesli can be contacted at the previous phone numbers utilized by Denny.

The NCDJPA board authorized the dispatchers to work 24-hour shifts on a trial basis. This trial period will run through the end of January, 2008. The dispatchers will mirror the platoon schedule in place at San Marcos Fire.

Lesli Wilson reported that they have hired three (3) part-time dispatchers. She is also meeting with the Fire Chiefs of each district/department and touring their areas.

Dan Goldberg thanked Denny for his service to the North Zone and stated that it has been a pleasure working with him and how greatly he will be missed by all.

North Zone ERD - Rick Vogt reported that he recently updated the ERD member's information. He reminded all members to keep him informed if your current information changes.

Rick reported that the area CIGCS committee met yesterday and Mike Kennedy was approved as STL; he will be on the schedule as of Week 30. Oceanside, Escondido and Rancho Santa Fe will be adding new STL Trainees soon.

Rick distributed and discussed the STL currency list, showing currency expiration dates. He requested that everyone list their estimated retirement date to use for succession planning.

Bill Frankel stated that agencies will soon be receiving their "red cards" from Firescope. These cards will be sent blank; each agency will be responsible for disseminating a card to all certified personnel above the rank of captain (i.e. STL, Division Group Sup and etc), authorized by the respective Fire Chief. These cards must be available on all federal fires if requested.

Bill noted that NWCG 310 Standards may be changing soon; this will affect mostly company officers of urban cities that have a problem obtaining and maintaining the 310 requirements. Rick Vogt and Dan Goldberg stated that requirements of the current NWCG standards in some cases are very difficult to complete and maintain currency and that certain position's flow charts are in conflict with the written requirements.

Denny Neville requested that agencies who have OES STL assignments consider taking our zone STL trainees along to speed up their certification process. Dan Goldberg reported that he will speak to his Fire Chief regarding the STL Trainee scheduling matrix and felt that NCFPD would be willing to assist the zone in maintaining this particular position's currency. Vista Fire was encouraged to do the same.

County Ops – Dan Goldberg reported that the San Diego County Operations Section was initially formed to address high-rise planning. This section over the past few months directed their efforts to conduct the county wild land drill and hopes to be back on track with a county highrise drill by early next year. He will keep the group posted.

### **Old Business**

Review EOM Guideline 203.00 – Dan Goldberg noted the North Zone Communications Committee completed updating this guideline in the following areas:

1. Recommendation for changes in the 4 digit unit numbering system.
2. Review/recommendation to the TAC vs. Command issue.

Dave Schloss discussed the recommended changes and additions to the TAC vs. Command guidelines in Section 203. The general rule being that Command channel will be used as the primary means of communication between the communications center, I/C, division and groups. The divisions and groups will utilize the designated tactical channel to communicate between their respective assigned resources. He reiterated that TAC could be used for minor crew crosstalk when long conversation is necessary (i.e. incident directions) but is not the preferred. Fire Air channel will be used for San Diego City and County copters. When a full air response is ordered, the communications will revert back to CDF Air Ops.

Rick Vogt reported on the four-digit unit designator system and distributed EOM 203.03 guidelines. The system will currently stay as is for a trial period. In radio communications, the unit type and number needs to be stated (i.e. Engine 1111). When outside the zone, the radio communications need to also include the agency name (i.e. Carlsbad Engine 2211). The other change will be to use the "30" series to identify reserve apparatus. This will leave numbers 10-29 available for agencies with multiple engines.

Dan Goldberg noted he will meet with Joe Bunn to discuss a training plan for these changes and will bring the training plan back to the group next month. Dan will also meet with Lesli and Denny at North Comm to identify performance criteria. (6-A)

Life Hazard Identification – Randy Terich distributed EOM Section 615 regarding life hazard marking. They have had a difficult time finding a vendor to print lettering on the tape. He demonstrated the two types of tape that will be used until the tape with the "life hazard" lettering can be ordered. He noted that there has been some confusion with the color of tape to use. Dan Goldberg reminded everyone to reference the 2004 version of the Fireline Handbook and our Zone's EOM guideline for the requirements.

Action Items - The group reviewed the action items from the May 9, 2007 meeting:

**10-F Annex D Communications** – **Remove**. This issue needs to be addressed by the county.

**1-B Fail Soft Protocols – Remove.** Waiting for the county to complete testing and develop training. Rick Vogt will post the current guidelines on the website (6-B)

**1-E Flag Policy - Pending.** Chris Heiser will have Mike McFadden send the draft policy to Randy Terich today.

**1-F EOM Agency Training Status - Remove.** Rick Vogt listed the agencies that have not yet submitted their status to him. Dan Goldberg encouraged all agencies to update their status as soon as possible as the zone Fire Chiefs will be reviewing this matrix.

**3-C 4th/5<sup>th</sup> Alarm Recommendation – Remove.** This issue will be addressed in the strategic plan's enabling objective: Standardize North Zone Response Plans.

**4-A Safe Surrender Baby Program – Pending.** Rick Vogt reported that the program has been stalled with the County Board of Supervisors.

**5-A Command vs. TAC Draft Policy – Complete.**

**5-B EMS Group – Complete.**

### **New Business:**

Camp Pendleton Radio Communications – Bill Frankel discussed Camp Pendleton's radio communication issues. He noted that every communications plan is situational driven. He requested that all units entering the base communicate on White-3. Large incidents will be transitioned to VHF. A discussion ensued.

Denny Neville discussed the safety issues regarding limited VHF capabilities in the Pendleton dispatch center. Bill Frankel noted that they are working on getting VHF availability in their dispatch center. Don Stevens is also working on installing a repeater on the base. Denny Neville and Lesli Wilson will work with Bill Frankel on solutions to this communications issue. (6-C)

North Zone EMS Section – Dan Goldberg reviewed the North County drop boundary project and the subsequent decision to develop an EMS section as part of our zone's Operation Chiefs.

Chris Scott, MSO for North County Fire gave a report on the drop boundary EMS activities and their suggestions/thoughts for establishing a North Zone EMS section:

#### **Education**

- Developing North Zone topics to be shared with all agencies
- Recording video conference training to be viewed by absent personnel at a later date.

#### **Equipment**

- Agencies using standardized disposable goods that could be exchanged between units.
- Purchasing like equipment for consistency and financial savings.

#### **Policies**

- Protocols are standardized by the county.
- Standardization of other EMS related policies throughout the North Zone.
- As a large group, could have some influence on countywide policies.

The group agreed that an EMS section would be beneficial to the North Zone ops group. One representative would attend the monthly zone ops meeting to discuss information relative to EMS activities.

**Motion:** Randy Terich made a motion to form the North Zone EMS Section as a Zone Ops standing committee. Chris Heiser seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Dan Goldberg will report this recommendation during the next North Zone Fire Chiefs meeting.

**Roundtable:**

*Joe Bunn, Encinitas* – He encouraged everyone to attend the upcoming Unified Disaster Council (DUE) meeting regarding the HIRT issue.

*Brett VanWey, San Marcos* – He reported that the next regional firefighter test will take place in July.

*Randy Licata, Escondido* – Randy reported that Scott Alvord was on vacation this week. Demolition has been completed on their old Station 1. They have hired a couple of new firefighter/medics. On a personal note, he reported that his son has passed the chief's oral for Ontario Fire.

*Bill Frankel, Camp Pendleton* – His department just awarded the contract for a new fire station. This will be the first new station since the President Roosevelt era. They just lost three (3) firefighters to Cal Fire.

*Tony Michel, Rancho Santa Fe* – The cooperative efforts with their JPA venture is going to their board for approval. It will then be forwarded for approval to Del Mar and Solana Beach. They will have a new BC starting soon. Tony asked all agencies to take an inventory of their "move-up" keys and forward the list to him with ID #'s. (6-D)

*Chuck Morton, San Marcos* – They just purchased a new off-road trail system vehicle. Station 4 construction is moving along as planned. A new firefighter/medic will be starting this month; they have two (2) in background. They will be implementing the use of Fieldsaver in July.

*Lesli Wilson, NCDJPA* – She reported that their dispatchers will be starting 24-hour shift duty on a trial basis beginning the end of this month. They have hired three (3) part-time dispatchers.

*Rob Dunham, Oceanside* – Oceanside just completed a Battalion Chief/Division Chief exam process. They currently have a vacant fire marshal position; he wasn't sure how they will be handling the hiring process for that position. Due to the new fire chief's recommendations, their department's chiefs may be reorganized.

Denny Neville added that Oceanside's recent BC testing process was done by CWH of Colorado. They included a one-day evaluator training. He reported that it was an excellent process.

*Randy Terich, Vista* – He reported that they were in the process of hiring 3 new firefighter/medics. They plan on hiring about 15 more by next March to fill their new stations. Stations 5 and 6 construction is currently about three weeks ahead of schedule. They have contracted with Katz to redesign their Station 1 remodel; he is the same architect that designed their new stations. They are interviewing their new

engineer candidates today. They will also be purchasing two (2) engines and two (2) ambulances soon.

*Mark Strikwerda, North County Fire* – He added to his previous report that their Poway meeting had three (3) Zone 4 representatives. The Zone 4 individuals would like to be included in future meetings. Mark gave them a copy of our EOM pre-plan guidelines to assist them in developing their documents and encouraging countywide consistency.

*Gary Lane, North County Fire* – Dan Goldberg introduced Gary as the new North County Fire “C” Crew Battalion Chief and Training Officer. Gary stated he started as a reserve firefighter in Fallbrook and has served with Hemet Fire for the last 23 years. He also was a member of the Riverside County USAR team. He was happy to be a new member of the group and was very impressed on the group's progress in regionalization.

*Dan Goldberg, North County Fire* – Dan reported that tomorrow's North Zone Fire Chief's meeting was cancelled. The JPA Chief's meeting is still being held.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55.

**Next Meeting:**

The next meeting will be held on July 11, 2007, 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-Brodersen*

North County Fire  
Operations Assistant

**ACTION ITEMS**

**June 13, 2007**

	<b>WHO</b>	<b>WHAT</b>	<b>WHEN</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
<b>4-A</b>	Vogt	Safe Surrender Baby Program	Waiting for county adoption	Pending
<b>6-A</b>	Goldberg, Bunn	Meet to develop 4-number designator radio training	Draft by July meeting	Pending
<b>6-B</b>	Vogt	Post current Failsoft guidelines on website	ASAP	Pending
<b>6-C</b>	Frankel, Wilson, Neville	Meet to discuss solutions to Camp Pendleton VHF communications issue	ASAP	Pending
<b>6-D</b>	All Agencies	Forward an inventory list of all “move-up” keys to Tony Michel	ASAP	Pending