



California Fire Chiefs Association Southern Division Communications Section Newsletter

The Meeting Minutes

From the meeting January 3rd, 2002

The meeting was held at the Torrance Fire Department and hosted by Peggy Piscopo.

The Secretary's Report:

The November meeting minutes were approved as written on a motion made by Steve McClellan and seconded by Gabby Moreno.

The Treasurer's Report:

Balance: \$5475.96.

In the absence of Treasurer Susan Wysong, President Steve McClellan presented the treasurer's report.

Training:

Mark Barber (Ontario FD) advised that he had talked with Ontario PD about their "VIPER" program for school violence. He advised that the class is an 8-hour class and he will try to set up some tentative dates.

Mark is an instructor for the APCO Fire Communications class. The class is a 16-hour class and can be broken up. Mark needs at least one-week notice to put on the class.

Mark is also a CPR instructor and can put on CPR classes.

Gary Stevens advised that his agency is hosting a Powerphone EMD class in February and to contact the Personnel/Training Manager Bonnie Agee at SBRPCA (310-973-1802 xt 210) to reserve a spot.

New Business

Steve McClellan advised that Rancho Santa Fe Fire has created a new position, Communications Administrator, the pay scale should be \$70-90,000 per year, applications can be submitted to the City of Encinitas, with a closing date of 1/18/2002.

Steve McClellan also advised that Monterey County is looking to hire a Deputy Director of Communications.

The annual Cal Nena Conference and Trade Show is January 29-31st, 2002 in Anaheim. The State 9-1-1 Office is scheduled to give a presentation on the new state 9-1-1 funding program.

The 2002 International CAD Consortium Conference is being held April 28-May 2nd, 2002 in Universal City. It is expected that there will be between 300-500 attendees.

Website:

www.CalChiefsSouth.org.

Links have been added to the website for Cal Nena and the International CAD Consortium.

If anyone else has links that they would like added to the website, contact the Webmaster Jason DeVita on the website.

Old Business:

There was no Old Business

Committee Report:

Steve Holtrust (Ontario Fire), is serving as the Nominating Committee for the election of the 2002 Officers. Email Steve with any and all nominations. The nominations that have been received so far are as follows:

President – Jeff Fehlberg

Vice President – Don Wise

Secretary – Gary Stevens

Treasurer - Gabby Moreno

Northern Update:

No Report.

Round Table:

Peggy Piscopo (Torrance Fire) – Advised that their call volume went from 10,000 calls in 2000 to approximately 12,000 in 2001. Torrance recently lost 2 part-time dispatchers and that they have no forced overtime.

Gary Stevens (South Bay Regional Public Communications Authority) – Advised that the new dispatch center is moving along with a substantial completion date of February 28, 2002. Currently fully staffed.

Gabby Moreno (Mercy Air) – Advised that Mercy Air was down one operator. Mercy Air recently purchased their competitor in Las Vegas (Flight 4 Life) which added another 3 helicopters to their fleet. December was a busy month for Mercy Air and they are in the process of looking at new radios and consoles.

Mark Barber (Ontario Fire) – Reported that Ontario Fire handled 32,000 calls in 2001. Ontario dispatchers are currently working a team shift rotation working 3 days on, 3 days off then 4 days on, 4 days off. They currently have 2 supervisors per shift. Ontario is three dispatchers shy of having all personnel trained at both the police and fire dispatch positions. Ontario is currently planning for their new dispatch center which will be housed in the new police department building.

Steve McClellan (Ventura Co. Fire) – Reported that they recently broke a water main under the floor of their dispatch center. Ventura is currently 30 days away from assuming the dispatching for Ventura City Fire. Ventura's call volume more than doubled in 2001, up to nearly 72,000 calls mostly due to assuming the dispatching for AMR. Ventura Co. has 4 dispatchers in the dispatch academy, 5 more new hires starting in February and looking to hire 4 more dispatchers.

2002 Meeting Schedule:

March 7th – Rancho Fire
May 2nd – To Be Announced
July 11th – Mercy Air
September 5th – South Bay Comm.
November 11th – To Be Announced

Members in Attendance:

Gary Stevens, South Bay Regional Communications-
(KVUL88.CS.COM)

Steve McClellan, Ventura Co. Fire –
(Steve.McClellan@mail.co.ventura.ca.us)

Gabby Moreno, Mercy Air Service –
(GMORENO@Mercyair.net)

Mark Barber, Ontario Fire/Police –
(MBARBER@ontariopolice.org)

Steve Holtrust, Ontario Fire
(SHOLTRUST@ci.ontario.ca.us)

Peggy Piscopo, Torrance Fire
(PEKIPEGGY@msn.com)

Meeting

Upcoming Meeting:

March 7th, 2002 at 10:00 a.m.
Location: Rancho Fire
North County Dispatch
(858) 756-6010

Directions: From I-5, take Lomas Santa Fe east approx. 4-5 miles. Lomas Santa Fe changes name to Linea del Cielo. When approaching downtown Rancho Santa Fe, there will be a blue Fire Dept. sign and school crossing painted on the ground. Turn Left on El Fuego. Rancho is the 2nd story admin. building.

From the I-15, take the Valley Parkway exit (Escondido area). Go west approx 6-7 miles. Valley Parkway turns into Del Dios Hwy. This will take you around the dam Lake Hodges. You will go thru downtown Rancho Santa Fe. After you go thru the last 4 way stop, continue to El Fuego, turn right, Rancho is the 2nd story admin. building.

2002 PAID MEMBERSHIP ROSTER:

As of February 1, 2002:

Gabby Moreno – Mercy Air
Steve McClellan – Ventura Co. Fire
Don Wise – Verdugo Fire
Olivia Ramirez – Costa Mesa Fire
Deborah Keyworth – Brea Fire
Brian Acosta – San Bernardino City Fire
Denny Neville – Rancho Santa Fe Fire

****** REMINDER ******

2002 Dues are due on or
before January 31st. If
you do not pay your
dues, you may not
receive further
newsletters !!!!!