



California Fire Chiefs Association Southern Division Communications Section Newsletter

The Meeting Minutes

From the meeting March 7th, 2002

The meeting was held at Rancho Fire/North County Dispatch and hosted by Susan Wysong.

The Secretary's Report:

The January meeting minutes were approved as written, with a change made to the November 2002 meeting date, on a motion made by Don Wise and seconded by Steve Holtrust.

The Treasurer's Report:

Balance: \$5620.96.

Treasurer Susan Wysong advised that as of this meeting date, there are 12 paid members for the year 2002. The Treasurer's Report was approved on a motion made by Don Wise and seconded by Gary Stevens.

Training:

Steve Holtrust (Ontario Fire) reported that Mark Barber has been having difficulty getting the VIPER school violence program scheduled.

After some discussion, it was decided that Cal Chiefs South will try to schedule and sponsor either a PSTC or APCO class in the 3rd quarter of 2002. Verdugo Fire is willing to host the class. Steve McClellan will contact PSTC and schedule.

New Business

Steve Holtrust recommended that to increase membership at the meetings, maybe it would be a good idea to schedule a one hour informative overview on points of interest to the fire service.

Susan Wysong reported that approximately 40 applications were received for the position of JPA Administrator for Rancho Fire. She advised that of those 40, 10 were moving on in the hiring process.

Website:

www.CalChiefsSouth.org.

Steve McClellan commended Jason DeVita for the work that he has done on the website. Jason has worked hard to see that the links and contacts are up to date.

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:

Membership Committee – No Report

Northern Update:

The only thing to report is that Don Stabler was elected as President of the Northern Section.

Legislative Report:

Don Wise reported that SB695, dealing with dispatcher retirement has been changed to include only HAZMAT personnel. The bill now excludes Communications Operators, Supervisors and Managers. Don will contact Lori Camden of Sebastopol PD and see where she is at with her retirement bill.

Board Elections:

Steve Holtrust of the Nominating Committee presented the following persons for the 2002 Officers:

Jeff Fehlberg – Heartland Fire – President

Don Wise – Verdugo Fire – Vice President

Gary Stevens – South Bay Communications – Secretary

Gabby Moreno – Mercy Air – Treasurer

On a motion made by Steve McClellan and seconded by Chuck Alexander, the above subjects were appointed 2002 officers by a unanimous vote.

Round Table:

Susan Wysong (Rancho Fire) – Susan reported that long time member Denny Neville recently suffered a heart attack. He is home and recuperating after undergoing angioplasty. Susan advised that they are recruiting for and hiring one dispatcher. Rancho has started the process of having a company evaluate the JPA. The evaluation will start in April and will include staffing, standard operating procedures, technical aspects and the JPA assessment formula among other things. Ultimately, they are looking to attain accreditation.

Chuck Alexander (Heartland Fire) – Advised that the position he had previously held had been split into two positions. Kim Ellis is now in charge of personnel while Chuck is in charge of equipment. Heartland is in the process of upgrading their CAD and RMS systems.

Jeff Fehlberg (Heartland Fire) – Advised that they have added one shift supervisor position and currently have 10 dispatchers and 4 supervisors. Jeff advised also that he is on the Cal Nena EMD Vision Committee. Jeff also questioned those in attendance about their procedures for advising fire units to stage prior to PD arrival. There is a court case ongoing in the San Francisco area related to this where fire units were advised to stage, police responded on a lower priority, and the victim subsequently died. Contact Jeff by email if you would like a copy of the legal briefs.

Peter Diehl (San Diego City Fire) – Reported that since 9/11/01, San Diego has been reexamining their security. Since 9/11/01, San Diego has removed glass doors, added new security cameras and installed cardkey type entry pads. In addition to this, they are fingerprinting and doing backgrounds on employees. San Diego currently has three dispatchers in training and is looking to hire three to five more. San Diego's Fire Chief recently retired and they are interviewing for his replacement now. San Diego is currently working on their action plans for the Superbowl.

Steve McClellan (Ventura County Fire) – Reported that on 2/13/02 they started

dispatching for Ventura City Fire. Currently Ventura County is in negotiations with Santa Paula. Ventura County will be building a new dispatch center and have hired RRM Design as the architects. Ventura County will also be looking for a new CAD system. Ventura has five new hires in training and still has three vacancies.

Don Wise (Verdugo Fire) – Reported that they have one person in training and one supervisor position open. With in the next two years, Verdugo will be looking to replace their CAD system. Recently, Verdugo has rebuilt their microwave radio system and has just recently installed RediNet for up to date hospital status'. RediNet was installed with an MDT interface.

Gary Stevens (South Bay Communications) - Reported that their new dispatch center is progressing with a cut over date scheduled for June 11th. Currently South Bay has three supervisor openings.

Steve Holtrust (Ontario Fire) – Reported that Ontario has four to five dispatcher openings and currently has 20 candidates in backgrounds. Recently Ontario has gone from 10 hour shifts to 12 hours shifts. Ontario is running two day shifts and two night shifts.

Gabby Moreno (Mercy Air) – Advised that Mercy has one dispatcher opening. Mercy Air has recently started a new base in California City located in Kern County. In May, Mercy Air is scheduled to open a base in Thermal.

2002 Meeting Schedule:

May 2nd – Verdugo Fire
July 11th – Mercy Air
September 5th – South Bay Comm.
November 7th – San Bernardino EOC

Members in Attendance:

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

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

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

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

Jason DeVita, South Bay Regional Communications -
(JasonRCC@jdservices.com)

Don Wise, Verdugo Fire-
(Dwise@glendale.ca.us)

Peter Diehl, San Diego City FD –
(SDFD@aol.com)

Jeff Fehlberg, Heartland Fire –
(jfehlberg@hcf-fire.org)

Kim Ellis, Heartland Fire –
(kellies@hcf-fire.org)

Chuck Alexander, Heartland Fire –
(cjalexander@hcf-fire.org)

Susan Wysong, Rancho Fire –
(wysong@ncdjpa.org)

DeAnn Pressley, Mercy Air –
(dpressley@mercyair.net)

Upcoming Meeting:

May 2nd, 2002 at 10:00 a.m.

Location: Verdugo Fire
421 Oak St.
Glendale, CA
(818) 548-3330

Directions: From I-5, take Exit Colorado Blvd. Stay on the exit and it will turn into Colorado. Turn Left on Columbus 1 block. Left on Oak. Verdugo Fire is located on the corner of Oak/Columbus on the top floor of the fire station.

From 134 Freeway, Exit Pacific. Go south on Pacific to Oak. Right on Oak to Columbus. Verdugo Fire is located on the corner of Oak/Columbus on the top floor of the fire station.

2002 PAID MEMBERSHIP ROSTER:

As of March 23rd, 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
Janey Hall – South Bay Communications
Gary Stevens – South Bay Comm.
Jason DeVita – South Bay Comm.
Isabel Dean – La Habra Fire
Tom Hayward – La Habra Fire
Sheryn Ballard – La Habra Fire
Susan Wysong – North Co. Disp. JPA

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

2002 Dues are due on or before January 31st. If your dues have not been paid, this will be the last newsletter that you will receive !!!!!