

Stanislaus County Fire Authority
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 7, 2011– 8:30 a.m.
Regional Fire Training Center – Modesto, CA

Chief Skiles called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. The flag was saluted.

2. Roll Call:

The following agency representatives were present:

CalFire SCU	Chief Barrett
City of Ceres	Chief Lillie
Keyes Fire	Chief Watt
City of Modesto	Chief Kraus
City of Patterson	Chief Hall
Salida Fire	Chief Skiles
Stanislaus Consolidated	Chief Mayotte
Stanislaus County Fire Warden	Chief Hinshaw
City of Turlock	Chief Lohman
West Stanislaus Fire	Director Kimball
Westport Fire	Chad Hackett
Woodland Ave. Fire	Chief Passalaqua

Also Present: Mike Payton, Alicia Hinshaw, Tim Tietjen, Modesto Fire; Ray Jackson, Mimi DeSimoni, Ken Slamon, Fire Warden's Office; Chad Homme, Stuart Dutter, Salida Fire; Marilyn Smith, MVEMSA; Shana Jones, CalFire SCU; Paul Speer, CalFire TCU; Eric Klevmyr, Keyes Fire.

Guests- None

3. Public Comment:

- Chief Watt and Asst. Chief Klevmyr - Reported on volunteer Captain with the Keyes Fire District that has been diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. He is a veteran and has worked for CalFire. He has been taking all the steps necessary to become a firefighter. He has been a member for 5 years and has been a driving force in their department. Keyes FPD is asking all firefighters in the County to participate in the MS Walk on May 30th. He asked the Chiefs to spread the word to all of their agencies and ask for participation or support. Mimi will distribute electronic flyer to Fire Authority distribution list.
- Chief Kraus provided a report on the house fire on Roselawn St. on Wednesday, April 6th. A firefighter fell through the floor and sustained injuries. Thanks to the way crews handled the call, the outcome was good.

4. Approval of Minutes: Chief Watt made motion to approve the minutes of the 3/3/11 meeting, Chief Hinshaw seconded the motion. Motion was passed.

5. **Staff / Committee Reports**

- 5.1 Management, Fiscal, Legislative- Chief Slamon reported on legislation that may exempt the 5000 square foot sprinkler ordinance. If this passes, the sprinkler ordinance in the County will not be in effect. Each agency-having-jurisdiction will have the ability to pass a more restrictive ordinance, as they have in the past. It was suggested to address this at the next meeting to develop a unified response to the legislation to Senator Berryhill. The Fire Marshal will put a response together for the group to consider. There is also legislation to allow a second fireworks season at new-years. The work-load issues related to fireworks was discussed. Mimi discussed the financial aspect of the regional fire RMS project and the MDC program. There are still a few Form 700s outstanding. County budget is 14 million short which has affected all departments. The Fiscal Year 11-12 Proposed budget is under development; new information affecting the budget is still coming out.
- 5.2 Fire Investigations- Reports were distributed. 17 fires were investigated.
- 5.3 Fire Prevention- Report was sent out with agenda.
- 5.4 Fire Communications- Chad went over items in his report including CAD, MDC grant and Fire RMS. Chad and Chief Jackson are doing a pre-fire season training with SR-911 on the 19th and 22nd of April. Any policy updates from agencies should be sent to either Chad or Chief Jackson. Mimi reported on the service level agreements that are being developed and the transfer of licenses that were purchased.
- 5.5 Fire Training- Stuart reported on 5 classes that were offered in the last month either for a reduced price or free through Homeland Security Grant funding. There is a County-wide training calendar on the Salida web-site. There are several training opportunities- flyers are attached to agenda.
- 5.6 EMS – Alicia reported on the exposure training classes. There is only one agency that does not have a designated Infection Control officer. Proposed SB 63 would require that on or before July 2011 any school having students on site will be required to have an AED. There is a possibility that schools may be contacting fire departments for direction. SB1051 will allow that in the absence of a credentialed health care provider, teachers may be trained to administer rectal valium. Cal-Chief EMS group discussed the impacts of this proposed legislation. Possible changes to First Responder training from a 40 to a 60 hour training. Whooping cough update- this year to date there has been 25 confirmed cases reported to Public Health. She encouraged the TDAP shot and face masks to all agencies.

6. **Agenda Items**

- 6.1 **Operational Area Coordinator-** Chief Jackson reported on Region 4 Coordinators meeting on at CalEMA; it is a good opportunity to get information on resources. Two agencies have responded on the dispatch matrix, this information is needed by the region; please forward yours as soon as you are able. An IQS / ROSS audit was conducted by the CalEMA Assistant Chief; our Operational Area did well. Chief Jackson asked for an update on where your

resources are kept. Engines are moved around or retired and this information needs to be with SR911. XST refresher/re-qualification is scheduled for May.

6.2 Fire Support Service Levels- Chief Skiles gave a brief back ground on the development of the Fire Authority and how service levels were determined. This group needs to revisit what their agency's needs are. The floor was opened for discussion. The following issues were identified-

- Regionalization
 - Delivery systems
- Legislation and legal
- Grant writing
- Fire Prevention
- Fire Investigation
- Communications
- Training
- EMS
- Admin/Finance

Cost recovery in all areas was suggested. The budget projections were provided which detailed a \$189,796 shortfall. There was discussion on what services are most important. Chief Mayotte suggested that each agency identify what services they need. Each service provider can suggest ways to restructure their services for a lower cost and the finance committee can make a recommendations. Chief Watt suggested that law enforcement be held accountable for investigating crime scenes, instead of Fire Investigators. Insurance companies may also provide a source for cost recovery. There was concern over operating at a deficit each year. Chief Jackson suggested that each service level expectation has been met or exceeded. What can be adjusted within those expectations to create cost savings? Recommendations will be brought forward at next meeting to be incorporated into the business plan.

Chief Watt reported that AE BioFuels will be opening and they have not cooperated with the Keyes Fire District for training or equipment needed for ethanol incidents. The Keyes Board has made the decision to not respond into the plant until a determination is made what is involved in the incident. If a responding officer determines that they don't have adequate training or resources, they will not respond. He hopes to have the support of the other chiefs. Chief Hinshaw believes that the company may shop for fire service, he has a meeting scheduled with them. If they are going to contract, why not pay for training and equipment for the local agency?

The next meeting is scheduled for May 5, 2011

Respectfully Submitted,
Mimi DeSimoni
Stanislaus County Fire Wardens Office