

Stanislaus County Fire Authority  
Meeting Minutes  
October 2, 2008

1. Chief Skiles called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. The flag was saluted.

2. The following agencies were present:

Chief Barrett	CalFire SCU
Chief Curnow	Denair Fire District
Chief Benavides	Keyes Fire District
Chief Miguel	Modesto Fire
Chief Botto	City of Oakdale
Chief Hoyer	Oakdale Rural Fire
Chief Skiles	Salida Fire
RaeLene Brown	Stanislaus Consolidated Fire
Chief Jackson	Stanislaus County Fire Warden
Chief Kimball	West Stanislaus Fire District
Chief Passalacqua	Woodland Ave. Fire

Also in attendance: Chad Homme, Salida Fire; Ken Slamon, Mimi DeSimoni, Wendy Mirassou, Bill Houk, Stanislaus County Fire Warden's Office; Mike Kraus, Mike Payton, Modesto Fire; Dennis Wister, Stanislaus County Building Department; Shirley Koelmans, Stanislaus Consolidated; John Borges, Burtons Fire Inc.; Deborah Espinoza, Modesto Fire; Robert Beckler, City of Modesto.

3. Public Comment: Chief Houk spoke on the vests for emergency responders. November 24 is the deadline for the federally mandated high-visibility clothing. CalFire is asking for a waiver for the deadline. Chief Houk will have a report next meeting.
4. Approval on Minutes: Chief Benavides made a motion to approve the minutes, Chief Jackson seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.

**5 Staff Committee Reports**

- 5.1 Finance / Admin- A quarterly meeting for fire district finance/administrative managers will be held Monday October 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 at 3705 Oakdale Road; chiefs are welcome as well. This will provide an opportunity for district representatives to share ideas, voice concerns and seek solutions to common problems.
- 5.2 Fire Investigation – A report of all of August investigation activities was provided.
- 5.3 Fire Prevention- An updated report of August fire prevention activities was distributed.
- 5.4 Fire Communications- Chad was contacted by 4 agencies during the month of September for help with radio programming and voice pager support. Salida changed their paging tones last month to be in line with the new Countywide Paging Tone scheme, there were no problems. He addressed some issues with RAWs (Remote Automated Weather Stations) interface, as it relates to the new CAD. A letter was provided outlining some of the changes that will be coming due to the new CAD; Chad will be making appointments with each district.
- 5.5 Fire Training- Captain Bartley handed out and discussed the October Fire Training Report including a list of classes currently being offered. Wildland 2009 is in the early stages of planning the date is April 24-25 2009.
- 5.6 Special Operations- Chief Houk reported that he having a problem determining which curriculum is certified to use for Swift Water Rescue. Cal Fire recently had a state wide meeting regarding standards and guidelines. Chief Houk has made numerous changes in the policy including re-naming it the Swift

Water "System" as opposed to "Team" and will continue to work on it. Chief Houk reported that the Confined Space Rescue group met. There is training money available, and he is trying to find out what departments are interested in sending personnel to RS2 training. If you have people that would like to be part of a confined space team, send Chief Houk their names. Chief Wilkinson noted that OES has a grant to write an Emergency Response Plan for ethanol. Chief Skiles said the confined space grant has \$20,000 for training and the cost of the class.

**6. Agenda Items**

- 6.1 Operational Area Coordinator- Chief Jackson spoke about the upcoming Wildland 2009 drill; it will include a mutual aid workshop on Friday night. A new salary survey letter is posted on the Fire Warden web site. Please provide an update to the State when any changes occur in your salary rates.
- 6.2 Annual Report- Annual report was distributed for review and comments in August. There being no comment, Chief Barrett made a motion to approve the report; Director Kimball seconded the motion. A roll call vote indicated unanimous approval.
- 6.3 Viper CAD- Deborah Espinoza and Robert Beckler from the City of Modesto presented a power point and provided a handout regarding mapping for the CAD system. The current option presents limitations and problems with the new ViperCad. The current maps cannot be imported into the new CAD system. Additionally, Compass Maps is going out of business, so no more updates will be available. The US National Grid is the best solution, it is the standard for public safety providers, and it works with GPS. Grids and maps can be maintained by SR911, and published in PDF on the web. They recommend we use USNG for our new county-wide mapping system. There was additional discussion regarding fire hydrant and water supply locations, and if mapping them in the unincorporated area was a possibility. They could be done manually or by GPS. If anyone had questions they were urged to call Robert Beckler at 571-5596.
- 6.4 Fire Protection Water Policy- Chief Slamon gave a presentation at the September meeting regarding water supply. He is seeking a standard that he may apply to projects, although the Fire Chief may exempt projects as they see fit. There was lengthy discussion. The question was raised whether the group could agree on a few exceptions rather than throwing out the whole standard? Chief Miguel stated that the sprinkler ordinance is one of the most cooperative things that has happened in the fire service, and all boards and councils should get behind it. Chief Slamon will hold a workshop to see if they can come to some agreement on a threshold. ISO is revamping the rating for credit on the residential sprinklers.

Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 1050 hrs.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mimi DeSimoni  
Stanislaus County Fire Wardens' Office