



# EL DORADO COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION MEETING

## MINUTES

Wednesday, May 27, 2020, 9:30 a.m.

Diamond Springs-El Dorado Fire, 501 Pleasant Valley Road, Diamond Springs, CA 95619

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chief Tim Alameda, LAV Fire   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unit Chief Scott Lindgren, CAL FIRE AEU         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asst. Chief Kit Bailey, Cal OES   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Division Chief Paul Lohan, ECF Fire             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asst. Chief Linda Szczepanik, GRV Fire                       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chief Mark Matthews, PIO Fire, <b>Treasurer</b> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asst. Chief Mike Blankenheim, CAL FIRE                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Division Chief Steve McNamara, NTF Fire                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chief Glenn Brown, Georgetown Fire                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Battalion Chief Jon Michaelson, GRV Fire                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chief Tim Cordero, ECF Fire <b>Vice Chair</b>                           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asst. Chief Sherry Moranz, CAL FIRE CAM Fire    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Division Chief Paul Dutch, ECF Fire                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Battalion Chief Brian Newman, CAL FIRE ECC AEU             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chief Eddie Dwyer, MQT Fire   | <input type="checkbox"/> Battalion Chief Dion Nugent, MQT Fire                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deputy Chief Ken Earle, DSP Fire                             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chief Bryan Ransdell, DSP Fire                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Battalion Chief Jed Gaines, CAL FIRE CAM Fire                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Chief Clive Savacool, SLT Fire                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chief Gary Gerren, FLL Fire   | <input type="checkbox"/> Chief Mike Schwartz, NTF Fire / MEK Fire                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deputy Chief Dustin Hall, EDH Fire                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Battalion Chief Mike Stutts, PIO Fire                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Division Chief Todd Hern, MQT Fire                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Deputy Chief Jon Michealson, GRV Fire                      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chief Maurice Johnson, EDH Fire                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Deputy Chief Nickie Washington, USFS                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chief Jay Kurth, USFS   | <input type="checkbox"/> Chief David Whitt, Tribal Fire                             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Division Chief Steve Leighton, NTF Fire                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Asst. Chief Corey Zander, Cal OES                          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deputy Chief Mike Lilienthal, EDH Fire (Rescue) <b>Chair</b> |   |

### Pledge of Allegiance - Conducted

#### 1. Call to Order and Introductions - Meeting called to order at 9:29 am

##### Others in Attendance:

- Sue Hennike, CAO Office
- Ron Phillips, El Dorado Hills Fire
- Michelle Patterson, EDC EMSA
- Steve Willis, Fire Safe Council
- Casey Ransdell, Diamond Fire
- Tami Martin, American Red Cross

#### 2. Public Comments – No comments.

#### 3. Approval of Agenda – Chief Matthews motioned to adopt agenda with a request by Chief Lilienthal to put 9.3 and 10.2 at the beginning of the meeting. Chief Johnson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

#### 4. Approval of Minutes – Chief Johnson motioned to approve the minutes; Chief Matthews seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

#### 5. Treasurer's Report – Chief Matthews reported the balance of account and activity. \$54.00/year for the website.

#### 6. Fire Advisory Board – Nothing new to report.

#### 7. Fire Insurance Adhoc Committee – Chief Johnson reported that there have not been any meetings lately due to COVID-19, meetings will commence now that the Shelter in Place in ELDO County has been lifted.

#### 8. Old Business

None

## 9. New Business

- 9.1 Fire Chiefs to review level of commitment for the USAR program (Ransdell):  
Chief Ransdell gave a brief history of the USAR program. This program was built but we need a commitment at the Chief level, there will be OT generated for those members of your individual departments that are on the team. Chief Moranz gave 100% commitment, as did Chief Lindgren with Cal Fire.  
Chief Ransdell recommended Chief Hall send out the information to all the Chiefs to what this program looks like and would like to see a vote taken at the next FCA Meeting for individual department commitment on participation.  
Chief Lilienthal recognized four elements that need to be looked at: 1. MOU needs refreshing 2. Response plans need refreshing 3. Training needs to be implemented 4. Commitment level of the Chiefs that the individuals will be able to go out when needed.  
Chief Lindgren made a motion to support the USAR Team as County Fire Chiefs and move forward. Chief Johnson amended the motion to request more information and be given a plan when incidents occur. OPS will bring a presentation to the next meeting and also a clear picture of the level of participation from each agency. Chief Matthews seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.  
Chief Szczepanik requested an updated list on the individuals on the list for the USAR team. Chief Leighton requested a copy of the contract.
- 9.2 COVID-19 Update – Chief Lilienthal gave a brief update on the current situation in the County due to COVID-19. Reported that there have been 80 cases in the County, 57 recovered.
- 9.3 EDC Vegetation Management Ordinance Update/Discussion of Complaint Triage Process – Ron Phillips gave us an update on the Vegetation Management ordinance. There has been significant progress, held two community workshops, completed train the trainer, next step is to get process up and running.  
Sue Hennike – working on a complaint form, seamless docs being used to keep everything uniform which could be a link on individual department websites. The process would be to Intake complaints, put on a tracking sheet, triage them and then assign them out to districts for inspections. Requesting a representative from each agency to make a commitment to attend weekly meetings as a triage group to review complaints. We also need a representative from each agency to do these inspections.  
Lengthy discussion on the pros and cons of this process and the level of complaints that come in.  
County has hired one full time Inspector and one seasonal.  
There is an understanding that not all agencies can opt in and in that case it would be helpful to utilize the other agencies that have adequate resources.  
Commitment has been received by Diamond, EDH, Cameron Park, and Rescue.  
Chief Lindgren thanked everyone for their hard work, Chief Barkley from Cal Fire was also recognized as being an integral part of putting this together.  
Request to let County know by June 2<sup>nd</sup> if the individual agencies are willing to commit to the inspections or give direction on how each agency wants to handle all the complaints that come in.
- 9.4 Fire Chiefs' Association Website Review – Chief Lilienthal gave a brief history of the website and current items/information listed on the site. Discussion on whether or not we should keep the financial commitment of \$54.00/year. Chiefs are in agreement to continue paying for the website.
- 9.5 WL Deployment – Chief Matthews reported on the documents included in the packet. County Fire stated reasons why they are not in support of this. California does not need this for in state incidents because the supplies needed are already supplied by Cal Fire. Cal Fire does not support this, it is not practical in California.  
Chief Matthews stated that this trailer is very beneficial for out of state fires.

## 10. Section Reports

- 10.1 Training Officers – Chief Earle gave a power point presentation on the EMR program in our county and the issues we face. The EDCTOA is presenting a program that will work with all agencies. Curriculum has been updated and approved by Dr. Brazzel. EDCTOA will provide instructors that have been approved by Dr. Brazzel. Every three years the curriculum will be reviewed and updated. The certification will need to be renewed every two years with a 24-hour CE's every 2 years requirement. EMR's can not operate as the lone provider in the back of the medic unit or be able to drive, but they can assist under an EMT or Paramedic.

Chief Johnson voiced concerns regarding the level of EMRs v. EMTs and if the Departments want to lower this standard level of practice we currently have with EMTs and Paramedics. Chief Matthews pointed out the differences in the Departments we have in our county, career departments v. combination departments (volunteers/career). Having EMR's will make things more efficient in our County. This program is designed to bring up the skill level in the County from what it is now with volunteer programs. Lengthy discussion took place on the pros and cons of the EMR Program.

Chief Matthews made a motion to accept the recommendations of this program as presented, Chief Brown seconded the motion. Chief Johnson requests this group explore a little further into using National Registry for the EMRs as we do our EMTs and Paramedics. It was stated that National Registry does not certify EMRs. Voted in favor by Chief Matthews and Chief Earle, all others abstained.

- 10.2 Fire Prevention Officers – Title 14 Fire Safe Regulation Changes – Ron Phillips reported on the three areas that have been changed as of January 1, 2020: 1. How to deal with applying title 14 to dwelling units. 2. Made changes to small developments. Four or fewer parcels 3. Working on changes to the rules on who can be delegated as the inspection authority on behalf of Cal Fire for the County
- 10.3 Operations – Chief Ransdell reported on the OPS meeting that took place on May 13<sup>th</sup>, topics covered: USAR program was the main discussion, Multi-agency truck company training is coming soon, recommendation for each agency to look at their Mobilization Plans currently in place, changes to the radio-call plan, this will be out soon and SOG's need to be updated on the website.  
Chief Ransdell also gave an update on the Region 4 meeting with OES that took place last week. Still portal to portal. Update on COVID-19 procedures and response plans for deployments. Chief Lindgren reported that Cal Fire teams across California are all in agreement with a plan developed by Cal Fire, so for California fires Cal Fire units will not be operating differently, however you may see differences in other State/Federal Fires. MARS needs to be updated by agencies. Fire apparatus numbering system is going to change. Whats App is being used to coordinate right now. Google Docs needs to be kept updated.
- 10.4 CSA 3 – No report
- 10.5 USAR Task Force – Previously discussed.

## 11. Standing Committee Reports

- 11.1 EMS Agency – Sue Hennike reported that EMSA is opening a recruitment for an EMS Supervisor.
- 11.2 OES, State and Local – Previously discussed.
- 11.3 Fire Safe Council – Steve Willis updated the Board. Welcomed a new council in Pilot Hill, which brings them up to 25 total councils. Continue to get inquiries from different communities, still working with communities that want to be a firesafe council however rather than forming their own council they would join an existing firesafe council. Fire-wise how-to workshop was held last January, 8 of the 25 councils are fire-wise. High call volume for tree removal, which is an issue. There is no funding source for this right now. 4291 Training class is currently scheduled for June 15<sup>th</sup>. Chipping program is now closed to new applications. Senior Veterans low-income program is now on hold. Community clean-up day dumpster program is still going. Presented an updated on all the grants that have been applied for, which ones are coming through, and which ones they are still waiting on.
- 11.4 LAFCO – No report
- 11.5 CSDA – No report
- 11.6 Red Cross – Tami Martin gave us an update on the trailers, smoke alarms, volunteers, sheltering and the changes that are needing to take place due to COVID-19.
- 11.7 Environmental Health – No report

## 12. District Reports

- 12.1 CAL FIRE ECC AEU – Chief Lindgren reported that their annual reports are out. Partners up at the Lake, Lake Valley new Fire Chief, Brad Zlendick. Still trying to hire an ECC BC and an Assistant Chief for the Admin position. Eric Schwab is the Assistant Chief for the North Division.

- 12.2 CAL FIRE Cameron Park – Chief Moranz reported that Callen Richards is their new Fire Marshal replacing Mike Smith. FVA Grant for equipment. Weed abatement update. Pine Hill preserve work to control fires in that area.
- 12.3 City of South Lake Tahoe – Not Present
- 12.4 Diamond Springs-El Dorado Fire – Chief Ransdell reported re-opening office after COVID-19. Confined Space training. Expanding swift water program. Dave Phillips will be retiring, Captain testing coming up.
- 12.5 El Dorado County Fire – Chief Lohan reported: Hiring three people right now, Captain's test coming soon, New Type III. Station 74 (Coloma) now staffed on the weekends with two firefighters.
- 12.6 El Dorado Hills – OES Engine is in service at Station 91. Apparatus maintenance issues high right now.
- 12.7 Fallen Leaf Lake Fire – Not Present
- 12.8 Garden Valley – Staffing 1-0 on A-shift, unknown at this time. As of July 1, B-shift will be 2-0 during the day, 1-0 at night. C shift – 2-0 though the end of August. Update on current apparatus situation. ALS every shift currently as long as supplies last.
- 12.9 Georgetown Fire – Chief Brown reported department hosted an Apparatus 1A class and a 1B class will beginning in June 18th. In late June they will have a Type I Engine going out as Engine 61. Riverview had a break-in and one of their units was there. Equipment was stolen off their apparatus, it was all recovered.
- 12.10 Lake Valley Fire – Not Present
- 12.11 Mosquito Fire – Not Present (Currently interviewing for a Chief)
- 12.12 North Tahoe/Meeks Bay – Chief Leighton reported: Been in position for 8 months – very complicated district. Operational changes have been made. Call volume has been down 50% due to COVID-19. Hired three Firefighter Laterals. Captain and BC promotions. Station 55 Cal Fire is a great addition to the area. Chief Leighton's phone number is 530-536-8363. Chief Swartz retiring within the next year, succession plan is in place.
- 12.13 Pioneer Fire – Chief Matthews reported that Station 36 is up and running in Leonie Meadows as a volunteer station, they are part of the 35 families that live there. Station 35 in Grizzly Flats will have their own Chief there with an office and residence in June. Signed a JOA with Amador Fire Protection District with the plan to consolidate. Fiddletown cross staffing with a Type 6, combination of career/volunteer. Name change for the district is being explored.
- 12.14 Rescue Fire – Chief Johnson reported hiring an administrative assistant, Engine 83 caught fire four times now, it will be replaced. Also going to surplus two patrol units.
- 12.15 Tribal Fire/ROP – Not Present
- 12.16 US Forest Service – Not present
- 12.17 JPA – Not Present

### **13. Good and Welfare**

- 13.1 Nothing to report

### **14. Executive Session – None**

- 15. Adjournment** – At 12:15, Chief Brown motioned to adjourn; Chief Matthews seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Next meeting: 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, July 22, 2019

All Fire Chiefs Association meetings are recorded. The agenda packet may be reviewed at the El Dorado Hills Fire Department's Administrative office located at 1050 Wilson Blvd., El Dorado Hills, CA 95762