



**WESTERN PLACER COUNTY  
FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION**

# MINUTES

AN ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO THE DELIVERY OF EXCEPTIONAL FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY SERVICES THROUGH COLLABORATION AND TEAMWORK

**March 31, 2022, at 09:00  
South Placer FPD  
6000 Eureka Road, Granite Bay, CA 95746  
IN PERSON MEETING**

**Call to order / Flag Salute:** Meeting called to order by Chief Bartee at 0908-flag salute  
**Agenda/Minutes approval:** March Agenda, February Meeting Minutes  
Motion To Approve: Chief Estes, 2<sup>nd</sup> Chief Gow  
**Treasurer's Report:** March Treasurer's Report  
Motion to Approve: Chief Estes, 2<sup>nd</sup> Chief Gow  
**Presentation:** N/A:

## OLD BUSINESS

1. N/A

## NEW BUSINESS

1. N/A

## DIVISION REPORTS (brief reports)

1. EMS/Ambulance/SSV: Vicki Pinette / Gabe Cruz AMR  
Vicki Pinette discussed continuing weekly basis issues, Kaiser still struggling  
A Committee to work with hospital people issues and meeting the APOT standard. Sutter Roseville doing well.  
Sac County new policy implemented for ALS medics-not waiting for patients any longer –SSV watching what happens and it remains to be seen if will be done in Placer County, a lot of criteria for care - will send out the information. Not sure where the medics are leaving them  
Chief Williams requested info for Pilot program –Vicki responded training set for next week, starting in Placer County and will discuss once training is done. Pilot program- critical patients will go by ambulance, implemented in other states w great success- physicians are required to contact back in narrow time frame. Step forward for EMS in the future for patient care.
2. OAC: Chief Spencer; OES Chief Zander  
Chief Spencer noted a quiet period at moment, drought conditions will make for busy fire season  
On the 28<sup>th</sup> strike team leader/overhead refresher – could make arrangements for a zoom link/recorded training
3. Operation/Training: Chief Hudson / Chief Nelson  
Chief Hudson gave an update from March meeting:
  - strike team rotation 7 vs 14 days discussed – concern over continuity of crews and logistics with negotiations going on between departments; each department to make own decision. Would like it to be coordinated and not swapping engines on daily basis.
  - Discussed potential county wide CISM team, preliminary discussion post Hillsdale incident –good discussion some interest in it- beginning stages.

**Chief Rick Bartee, President**  
Roseville Fire Department  
316 Vernon St., Ste. 480, Roseville, CA 95678

**Chief Brian Estes, Vice President**  
CAL FIRE – Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit  
Placer County Fire Department  
13760 Lincoln Way, Auburn, CA 95603

**Chief Reginald Williams, Secretary**  
Rocklin Fire Department  
4060 Rocklin Road, Rocklin, CA 95677

- Strike team refresher for strike team leader and overhead positions, open to all
- Had lengthy discussion on software interface between the cad's could have interface between agencies and has significant possibilities,
- Chief Diemer noted on the interface that the group is supportive and optimistic of its capabilities between agencies
- Assisting Natalie with signatures for SOG's - would like all to sign and return to Natalie
- Still working on fire and rescue mutual aid agreement, prepared to make adjustment from the chiefs

#### Training

- Multi company drill hosted by Rocklin Fire will be at skating rink on Taylor Road in Rocklin – May 13-18<sup>th</sup> with 16 engine 16 truck companies, morning, and afternoon sessions. Details being ironed out and mapping out the drills.
  - 1st week of June wildland fire training
  - Possibility of structure to burn in Rocklin – more information to come
  - Chief Estes noted his appreciation and support for OES mission: harder and harder for all of you- thanks to Chief Hudson
  - Cooperators meeting during April 28<sup>th</sup> WPCFCA meeting to discuss operating plans and ABH agreement – general overview and changes that were made that may affect operations
4. Fire Prevention / Fire Investigations: Chief Rizzi  
No report
  5. Sierra College Advisory: Jason Hemler  
No report
  6. Communications/CAD: Chief Diemer
    - Chief Diemer reported a schedule to meet April 20<sup>th</sup> in Rocklin
    - MACs 441 guide out last month discussed channels, tones, etc. Good group effort to get help needed to program radios will forward out details
    - Chief Bartee asked to look into radio grants and more research was needed
  7. Placer Co. OEM/HSGP: Dave Atkinson, Assistant Director / Brandy Dunkle
    - Brandy Dunkle noted that Rod on his way, ICS 300 course in March at EOC went well and there is another coming up in June.
    - River Fire debris removal at all properties but one is finished, and residents are rebuilding.
    - CA winter storms packages for Placer delayed until all are finished. Should be in next few weeks
    - Chipper crews are backlogged and there is a 6-week waiting period, working with 3 crews and are adding a 4<sup>th</sup> crew to drop wait times
    - Grants: 2019 funding items please send to Brandy then done with 2019.
    - Approval for 2020 and 2021 approval for items for expenditures- 2 grants need FEMA historical.
    - 2022 HSGP – Board meeting on April 21 for approval

WORKING ISSUES (Items for discussion, action, and implementation, or to “park” for now) Open forum to discuss issues, solutions, and list future issues for work sessions.

Chief Bartee- had discussion with Sac Metro – \$61 billion surplus per the Governor, Sac Metro lobbyists are putting in for funds for training facilities with tech rescue, hazardous materials, drivers training track- throwing it out there to the group. Roseville is supportive of it. Metro would like a letter of support from group. Let him know if you'd like to see the letter, he'll forward it out. Would be nice to have a driver's training course to utilize for agencies.

Chief Estes- Met with Sac State President and Sierra College President to explore regional public safety center at Sac State annex, they've secured funding and are working on acquiring additional funds – could potentially be built soon. We will all benefit from the center. CSUS noted they need to have a higher education discipline, but it will have elements of full-service fire training grounds, 50,000 sf facility with ancillary off site for fire grounds. Sheriff's office is a partner as well. Conceptual at this point, County fire in support, location to be in Placer Ranch.

### GOOD OF THE ORDER

Chief Duerr:

Reported on promotional process, BC vacancy filled 4/8, Captains testing on the 2nd day for two positions to be filled. Still short 3 ff's dependent on Prop. 218 assessment success. Board to vote at 4/13 meeting with June 8 ballots are due- 50% +1 weighted vote then we can continue with 3/0 staffing. Two type 1s coming May/June  
Firefighter hiring awaiting funding decisions, were previously funded by safer grant

Chief Gow:

Fully staffed all 3 agencies, working on architect for new station in Meadow Vista and working on funding now. Ordered next type 1 and rescue early – due to increasing costs and long production timelines. Newcastle ground-breaking for new station in April. Funded by dept of agriculture loan. Boards are in discussion about possible merger. Penryn to have contract with PERS by next meeting.

Chief Spencer:

Settled on staffing – moving forward with community risk reduction manager, a full-time position

Chief Diemer:

Matt Lauchner promoted to Division Chief – congrats  
Met with management regarding Station 8 – will be finished in 2 years – discussed ordering another engine for Station 8  
Firefighter recruitment closed today  
CAD/AMR software test update last week, testing this week looking good, deploy in June live in July

Chief Ridley:

Losing people at Foresthill, gone to extremes thinking outside the box for hiring, firefighters, engineers, firefighter paramedics, currently 2-0 staffing all stations. Thanks for Chiefs supporting us all, looking forward to Station 11 coming back online. Lost Chief Witt, now admin. Chief duties spread from 3 to 2. Currently in budget process along with everybody else. Would love to get to full staffing. Hanging in there.

Chief Hudson:

Burn complaints; fire season opens shortly, complaints during open burning will always respond but dispatch centers asking questions – clarifying that appropriate response is important. If within regulation, they will send a code two apparatus for response. If out of control, but still on property, they will refer to Air Pollution Control for citation. If fire expands past property into SRA, Cal Fire will mitigate. In a few weeks summer cad will turn on and things will change. Agencies do not need to request Cal Fire for burn complaints. Chief Estes noted as well it's our responsibility as leaders to analyze every call.

Chief Williams:

Structure fire other day, thanks to all for help, an attic fire in sprinklered home  
Looking to discuss lift assists with AMR – feels ambulance company should have resources to conduct the transport not to call the fire department. Looking to implement discussion with Alpha One, AMR, etc. Looking to fix that. Chief Diemer noted he had some calls at the hospital for that as

well from gurney but not at a private residence. Promoted BC and Fire Captain, and Engineer. Two conditional offers to two firefighters. Still looking for more positions in July

Chief Estes:

Need to have that conversation with dispatch during open burn season- permit seasons are getting smaller.

Moving to level 2 staffing 4/11 - one engine at all state stations, level 3 and 4 forthcoming based on conditions.

\$400 million augmentation funds with governor – looking to see where it lands in May at the rewrite – certain one helicopter back in Auburn and one Truckee helicopter June 15

Two additional state engine companies slated but staffing not funded in this fiscal year – authorized at surge capacity this year, funding coming 23/24 year. One in Placer County, one in Nevada County. 4<sup>th</sup> surge dozer coming back to Placer County.

FYI - Folsom lake training with Blackhawks utilizing Night Vision in case of complaints.

Successful getting \$950,000 to Placer County for storm debris and mitigation to fund public works and OES

County side has two medic positions open, approval to move all to ALS, purchased hardware for 100 then moving thru County

Congrats to Josh to integrate into 6 type IMT as officer liaison.

Chief Alves:

New city manager- hopeful to get 9 new firefighters to get 3-0 staffing once approved, anticipate it getting approved. BC vacancy and Captain vacancy, job description issues fixed, hiring.

Looking for feedback: handle on backgrounds, medical, psyche, polygraphs? All Chiefs responded yes on backgrounds with psyche.

Staying BLS for now, not ready for ALS yet but will pay those with certs.

48/96 for BC, put in for Deputy Chief for next budget year, maybe hire from within and once more settled get Fire Chief.

Mike Webb, PG&E:

As a public safety specialist, this time of year to be proactive and outreach with all. Will dispense Brent's contact information. Here today as a liaison for the company to support. Many thanks to Chief Bartee and Chief Diemer for support at simulations event-good event for training for work together. Another Sacramento County drill in May.

Starting outreach and enhanced power line safety settings- installed throughout high fire areas- once sensors engaged, they shut down circuit. Implemented with little outreach last summer.

EPSS pushed out- some concerns with that.

New cameras in auburn-at pilot peak and devil hill for wildfire alerts

1<sup>st</sup> responder workshops – enjoying them- good information, rewarding for situational awareness for firefighters w scenario-based training free of charge.

Chief Lauchner noted there were good learning points at training– appreciate knowing who's there and good info for gas incidents.

Same infrastructure teams for wildland this year and hiring more – to support incident commanders at the incident with type 6 brush units around.

Robust helicopter footprints around and patrol system in place.

Chief Hudson added great success with type 6 teams and holds and communicate where they want to go – had no issues with close coordination.

Capt. Wright:

Gratitude with three recent incidents- suicide over at bridge, also offer thanks to Roseville for South Placer fire response at jail, and the shooting a couple days ago will discuss more at a later date but had 1 min medical treatment response.

Josh Tindall:

Here as sheriff's office/ fire/oes/mutual aid coordinator: Offering anything sheriff's office can do or any training from law enforcement side let me know what we can offer.

In process of finding command boxes search if anyone has any suggestions

Chief Williamson:

Thanks to all for unified command recently.

Chief Bartee:

70 candidates – need 8 – 15 possible firefighters, have 5-6 looking to retire this year

Like to do academy for 12-15 this year

Lauchner taking over operations and would like to elevate Diemer to strategic level. BC's will report to Div. of operations, good move for us, thanks to Matt Lauchner

Thanks to Rod for support to Placer County Chiefs, offering grants for us, training through your organization.

Chief Diemer added appreciation for assistance and expertise in grant applications, amazing job educating us all especially in hazmat teams. Rod Rodriguez given plaque of thanks for service to Placer County Chiefs for upcoming retirement.

Rod Rodriguez: thanks to all I've worked directly with over the years, started with Chief Gow 23 years ago. It's been a tremendous pleasure working with the county, after active duty from the coast guard settled down here. Will be hard to no longer be involved officially but will support in any way I can.

ADJOURNMENT 10:39

CLOSED SESSION FOR CHIEF OFFICERS

Next Meeting Thursday, April 28, 2022  
Roseville Fire Department  
316 Vernon Street, Ste. 480