



# Trinity County Fire Chief's Association

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## MEETING MINUTES

March 7, 2011

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Dave Loeffler at 1902 hours.

### **Personnel in Attendance:**

David Loeffler	HYF	Flavia Dexheimer	JCF
Mel Deardorff	LEW	Joe Hernandez	CAL FIRE
Gary Standley	HBV	Nancy Standley	HBV
Clarence Rose	MCHD	Tom Pyper	MCHD
Matt Hudson	MCHD	Jack Branham	SOT
Dan Pulizzano	DOU	Rob Barcellona	TCLS
Kathy Ratliff	TCLS	Kevin Cahill	Trinity Cares/State Farm
John Hall	TC Comm.	Larry Masterman	TC OES
Alex McBath	USFS	Larry Helsley	WEA
Frank Moore	HYM	Kara Davis	Nor-Cal EMS
Scott Alvord	WEA	Scott Alvord	WEA
Pat O'Bannon	CAL EMA	Larry Hayes	USFS
Andy Reiling	CAL FIRE		

### **Approval of Minutes:**

No action

### **Hospital Board Presentation:** (Clarence Rose, Tom Pyper, Matt Hudson)

In 2006 a Health Care District was formed and a parcel tax was voted in to provide the funding needed to keep Trinity Hospital open. That parcel tax was for 5 years. With the expiration of the parcel tax the Hospital Board is opting to place a measure on the June Ballot requesting a parcel tax. The tax will be for the same amount as the 2006 tax. The District boundaries are from the eastern county line to Del Loma and from the northern county line to the Forest Glen area. In the 3.5 years of tracking, 240 lives have been saved at the Hospital. These are patients who most likely would not have lived if they had to travel to another facility. The hospital employs 175 personnel and is responsible for over \$14 million of economical activity in the County. Should the measure fail, health services in the county will have an extreme change. Since services within the district are interconnected (hospital, emergency room, skilled nursing, clinics, and labs). The hospital and emergency room would likely close. State law requires an Emergency Room be in conjunction with a hospital. If the hospital does not have the funding to remain open a domino effect will occur. Closing the Emergency Room and closing and/or severely curtailing the remaining services. Trinity County Life Support (TCLS) would have to transport patients to

Redding. Most transports would be over 100 miles with commitment time of 1.5 hours per call. This would require back filling behind the transporting unit(s) causing TCLS to hiring additional personnel, further straining an already fragile budget. By law the Hospital Board members can only state their view of the issue, they can not ask for support of tax measure.

Kevan Cahill: Trinity Cares is an organization of community members working for the passage of Measure "T", the parcel tax for the Health Care District. The measure will require a 2/3 vote to pass. People need to understand, if measure "T" does not pass the hospital will close. There are a few ways you can help. Talk to your neighbors and friends. If there are people against the measure, find out why. Issues being brought forward are being addressed by the Health Care District Board. In some cases they are mitigating issues that needed attention. Another way to support the measure is to give permission for Trinity Cares to publish your name as a supporter of measure "T". A third way to support the measure is to make a financial donation. You can contact Kevin's office @ 623-4000 or Trinity Cares @ 623-2100, [trinitycares2011@gmail.com](mailto:trinitycares2011@gmail.com) or P.O. Box 459 Weaverville CA 96093.

**CAL EMA Representative:** (Pat O'Bannon)

Pat O'Bannon is the new CAL EMA representative for the North State. He started his career with California Department of Forestry in the mid 60's. After servicing in the military and working with California Department of Forestry for a couple of season he switch agencies and began working for USFS. He worked with the USFS for 34 years. He worked with CAL EMA for 6 years in the north state focusing primarily on FIRESCOPE issues. He retired for a couple of years and accepted this job with CAL EMA after Dan Tinnel retired in November of 2010.

- March 24<sup>th</sup>, local government workshop on the new California Fire Assistance Agreement (CFAA) 0900 Redding City Hall must pre-register
- March 31<sup>st</sup> Agreements workshop CFAA, Operating Plans 0800 Avtech Way Redding must pre-register
- Pre-registration 916-845-8711 to attend above workshops

**Changes in the CFAA**

- ❖ Equipment is paid for 16 hours personnel for 24 hours per day
- ❖ Administration personnel that normally do not respond to daily department calls are paid for hours worked. Personnel that respond to incident on normal bases are paid portal to portal.
- ❖ A maximum administration charge of 10%. Departments can submit a form with justifications to CAL EMA for charges over 10%. Scott Alvord has looked into this for Weaverville Fire and came to the conclusion that most volunteer departments would not qualify with the justifications being considered by CAL EMA.

Assessing the need for personal gear compartments on the OES water Tenders.

**State Fire Marshal Investigation assistance:** (Andy Reiling)

Handed out a copy of the Health and Safety Code §13107 (see attached). This section of the Health and Safety Code establishes who can request a State Fire Marshal investigator and under what circumstances need they to be present.

**AB 82 updates:** (Scott Alvord)

Assembly Bill 1648 went into effect January 1, 2011. The bill changed the way firefighters were licensed to drive fire equipment. The way AB 1648 was written, a firefighter must have a firefighter endorsement to operate fire apparatus as defined by the laws. It did not take into account the class of license. Assembly Bill 82 is being proposed to separate the classes of licenses. If passed the firefighter endorsement would still be needed for non-commercial Class A & B, and Class C license holders driving fire apparatus defined in AB 1648. Commercial A & B license holders would not be required to have a firefighter endorsement.

**CSTI CFSA meeting:** (Dave Loeffler)

On April 3, 2011 Chiefs McIntire, Coleman and Williams will be traveling through Trinity County. They have scheduled a meeting from noon to 3:00pm. The purpose of the meeting is to share information with the Association and gather information on concerns related to rural fire departments.

**Treasurer's Report:**

There is \$1890.46 in the Association checking account.

**CAL FIRE:** (Joe Hernandez)

- The proposed realignment of State Response Area to Local Response Area has been tabled by Sacramento. The projected realignment acreage, amount of funding and the complexity of the realignment did not make sense. However, the contract counties are still being assessed.
- As stated in the governor's press release CAL FIRE will experience a reduction in cell phones, vehicle home storage permits and reduction in the number of vehicles in the fleet. The final number is yet to be determined.

**USFS:** (Alex McBath)

- The Croffin burn is progressing with an average of 5 acres per day
- Starting the seasonal hiring process. Anticipating full coverage this fire season
- Wildland preparedness exercise: A meeting was held Monday morning to develop training subjects and identify time frames for the training. The working group has been assembled into an ISC format; Alex McBath and Joe Hernandez are the Incident Commanders. Training topics proposed are Communications, Hose lays, Fire Shelters, and I-Zone. Chiefs can submit other potential training topics to Scott Alvord. The day will be set up similar to a fire camp with the major functions areas being addressed (check-in, supply, briefing, time recording, demob). The exercise is tentatively planned for June 11 & 12. The day will start at 0730 hours and end around 1700 hours. One day in the Weaverville area the second day in the Hayfork area. This will be dependant on the number of departments that are going to participate. The planning group needs a firm number of personnel going to attend at the April Association meeting. The logistics and complexity of the training will require multiple personnel hours to implement.

**CALEMA Op Area:** (Scott Alvord)

- Scott will be attending a Recruitment and Retention seminar in Sacramento the weekend of March 12-13
- S-130, S-190, I-180 April 1-3 and April 8-10. Need the minimum amount of personnel to ensure class can be held. Will contact Shasta and Humboldt counties
- S-215 May 13-15
- There is \$569.00 of Title III funds left over from the purchase of fire shelters. Assessing if training shelters can be purchased with the funds.

**County OES:** (Larry Masterman)

- Anticipating the Housing and Community Development to reopen the Disaster Recovery Initiative.
- Presentation to the Board of Supervisor on NIMS for Executives April 6
- Two flyers passed out, Basic and Advanced Multiple Causality Incidents March 16, 30 and April 16

**Nor-Cal EMS:** (Kara Davis)

- Nor-Cal EMS has started using an online Patient Care Report (PCR). There are some bugs being worked out.
- At the last meeting it was suggested that the Nor-Cal EMS policies and procedures be searchable. The search function has been added.

**Communications:** (John Hall)

John gave an over view on the current status of the communications system.

- Oregon Repeater
  - ❖ Back-up power now for all repeaters
  - ❖ Negotiating with Cal Trans for repeater placement
- Hayfork Repeater
  - ❖ Solar with automatic Thermo Generator back-up
  - ❖ Enclosure built inside to protect repeaters. Exterior leaks
  - ❖ Antennas had 6"-12" of ice build-up. There is a problem with the antenna but it will have to wait until conditions are better to repair the problem
  - ❖ Negotiating with Cal Trans for repeater placement
- Pickett Peak
  - ❖ Solar with manual thermo generator back-up
  - ❖ Negotiating with Cal Trans for repeater placement
  - ❖ County is assuming the maintenance of the cellular Site. The generator is running often requiring oil changes monthly and large amounts of propane. The solar panels keep up with the demand for 4 months; the other 8 months require the generator.
- Carrville
  - ❖ Solar, no back-up
  - ❖ The site is being developed. A concrete vault is planned.
- Ironsides

- ❖ Working towards tribal and USFS approval
- Horse Mountain
  - ❖ Commercial power with no back-up
  - ❖ Assessing possible antenna relocation for better coverage in the Down River area
- Repeaters are tone protected to reduce interference from others using the same frequency. If you are experiencing inference check to ensure your radio is programmed correctly.

**Open discussion:**

Association: Does the Association want to support the Health Care District proposed parcel tax? The issue will be brought forward at the April Association meeting. It was discussed that organizations that have a 503(c) (3) exemption have limitations placed on them in regards to political activities.

Jack Branham: Southern Trinity is in need of more radio identifiers for personnel. He requested that the 51 series be assigned to Southern Trinity to alleviate the problem. Association requested the purposed assignments to share with Trinity Control.

Dave Loeffler: March 14<sup>th</sup> 2011 is the tentative ground breaking date for the Hayfork Fire Department construction.

Next meeting April 4, 2011

Adjourned 2115

Andy Reiling  
Secretary-Treasurer