



# Trinity County Fire Chief's Association

P.O. Box 1296, Weaverville, CA. 96093  
(530)623-4226 FAX (530)623-5444



## MEETING MINUTES April 2011

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Dave Loeffler at 1900 hours.

**Personnel in Attendance:**

Andy Reiling	CAL FIRE	Jerry Hlavac	HYF
Steve Scott	DOU	Joe Hernandez	CAL FIRE
Gary Standley	HBV	Nancy Standley	HBV
Ken Rieke	TCC	Justin Kerwick	JCF
Frank Moore	HYM	Tim Spiersch	PMT
Brain Craig	ZEN	Ellen Craig	ZEN
Martin Dooly	DWN	Barbara Heinrich	TC CUPA
Larry Masterman	TC OES	Eric Rudnick	Nor-CAL EMS
Kara Davis	Nor-Cal EMS	John Hall	TC Comm
Eric Palmer	TCSO	Kathy Ratliff	TCLS
Rob Barcellona	TCLS	Alex McBath	USFS
Pat Frost	RCD	Bill Britton	WEA
Scott Alvord	WEA	David Loeffler	HYF
Flavia Dexheimer	JCF		

**Approval of Minutes:**

M/S/C to approve the March 3, 2011 meeting minutes as submitted.

**Measure "T":** (David Loeffler)

The areas of Hawkins Bar, Salyer, Southern Trinity and Zenia-Kettenpom are outside of the hospital district and will not be directly affected by the tax. Some departments expressed concern over 501(3) (c) status and regulations in relation to political activity. M/S/C to support ballot Measure "T" in the up coming election. Six members vote in favor for the measure and two abstained (Loeffler and Dooly).

**CAL EMA Operation Area Coordinator:**

The retirement of Richard Smith created an Operational Area Coordinator (OAC) vacancy. In addition, it was brought to the attention of the Association that an alternate must be selected. Nominated for the position of OAC was Scott Alvord and nominated for Assistant OAC was Bill Britton. No other nominations were received by the Association. Scott Alvord is the Trinity County OAC and Bill Britton is the Assistant OAC.

**Wildland Preparedness Drill:** (Alex McBath and Andy Reiling)

The planning for the drill is progressing. An ICS structure has been developed to facilitate the training. Alex McBath is the Incident Commander, Andy Reiling is Operations, Kyle Johnson is Planning Section, Jason Ownbey is Logistics, Stu Richter is Safety and Scott Alvord is assisting with the Wildland Interface operation in Weaverville. The training will consist of one day in Weaverville (June 11<sup>th</sup>) and one day in Hayfork (June 12<sup>th</sup>). Personnel and equipment will be assembling into task force(s). A briefing will cover the objectives, safety concerns, and assignments for the tasks force(s). Topics the drill will be focusing on are Communications, Fire Shelters, Hose Lays, Supply, Wildland Interface Operations, and Documentation. Because of the commitment of time, a request of resources that will commit to the drill was requested. The Members present committed enough personnel and equipment to have 2 Task Forces at the Weaverville drill and 1 Task Force at the Hayfork drill. It is desired to have a mixture of paid and volunteer staff instruct the subject matter. Six Rivers Nation Forest personnel will be assisting in instruction. If you have personnel that are available to assist contact any of the above personnel.

**DMV Physical:** (David Loeffler)

Hospital administration is assessing if they can provide DMV physicals to Fire District Personnel. In order to provide this service the hospital needs the number of personnel that would use the service per year. When calculating, remember those personnel with Class A and B licenses have a physical ever two years. Those personnel with that will be driving with a Class C licenses with endorsement will need a physical ever 4 years. Information can be submitted to David Loeffler or Andy Reiling.

**Standard Operating Guidelines:**

A draft of a proposed highway safety guideline was passed out to the Association. The guideline is used in Humboldt County. Some alteration will be needed. The draft refers to on ramps and off ramps. The guideline was tabled until the next meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:**

There is \$1940.46 in the Association checking account. The Trinity Journal is soliciting advertisers for this years Wildland Fire insert. Deadline was last March 31, 2011. Last year the ad was sponsored by the California State Firefighters' Association. Dave Loeffler will work with paper staff to develop a ½ page ad. The ad will focus on the need for volunteers and measures that can be taken around the home to reduce the impact of wildland fires. The Resource Conservation District will fund the ad.

**CAL FIRE:** (Joe Hernandez)

- Interviews for the new Shasta Trinity Unit Chief will be conducted this week.
- Air attack will not be on contract until July 1

**USFS:** (Alex McBath)

- Croften burn complete. Working in the Haylock Ridge and China Gulch Areas.
- Working on hiring next week

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

- May 4<sup>th</sup> is the CAL EMA Region meeting. Need to know what Trinity County Departments can provide for in County and out of County assignments by next Association meeting.

- Propane class is scheduled for Oct 8<sup>th</sup>. Need a minimum of fifty students.
- S-215 class is full
- S-212 class (Chain Saw Operations) is going to be schedule November 3, 4, 5, and 6<sup>th</sup>. Students will need to preregister with Scott for the class.

**TC OES:** (Eric Palmer and Larry Masterman)

- Trinity County declared a local emergency for damage to the road system caused by the recent heavy rains. Early estimates have the damage over \$1.5 million.
- 2010 Homeland Security Grant has been approved by the Board of Supervisors. \$55,000.00 to be used to purchase pagers/radios. Purposed purchase date is July 1<sup>st</sup> to ensure revenue flow.
- 35,000 sand bags are in the county with another 60-65,000 enroute. Storage of the bags will be spilt between Hayfork and Weaverville.
- No movement on the Disaster Initiative Grant. Those entities that request hydrant systems in areas not damaged by the 2008 fires will more than likely be declined
- Advanced MCI class April 16<sup>th</sup>
- Dieter Heinz passed away at the age of 70. Dieter was instrumental in Haz-Mat Response, developing the Heinz Five Step kit for categorizing Hazardous Materials.

**Trinity County Communications:** (John Hall)

- Cal EMA has renamed the WHITE Nets.  
White Fire 1 is now called VFIRE21 (154.2800)  
White Fire 2 is now called VFIRE22 (154.2650)  
White Fire 3 is now called VFIRE23 (154.2950)
- Some Departments are not receiving page outs on Sundays. One suggestion is to use a positive check back for Sunday pages. Another suggestion is to contact dispatch after 1800 to find out if paging test were conducted. Eric Palmer will contact personnel in Dispatch and find a workable solution for the problem. Trinity Control will start paging Coffee Creek and Trinity Center on both Carville and Oregon Mountain to ensure the most coverage possible.
- Room is coming available at the Hoadley Peak site. Space for two repeaters has been requested.
- The interoperable radio cache battery life is starting to drop. May need to find a funding source to replace batteries.
- Carrville repeater site maybe modified. CAL Trans working with SPI to develop access.

**Fire Safe Council:** (Pat Frost)

The draft of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) is out for review

[http://www.tccrd.net/fsc/pdf/CWPP\\_2010\\_Update\\_DRAFT.pdf](http://www.tccrd.net/fsc/pdf/CWPP_2010_Update_DRAFT.pdf). The plan is for prevention and suppression of wildland fires. Departments need to verify the information with the plan. One of the items the plan is used for is securing Federal funding to reduce wildland fire impacts. The CWPP has to be approved by the Board of Supervisor, Trinity County Fire Chiefs Association and CAL FIRE. The goal is to present the plan to the Board of supervisor during the month of May. The Willow Creek CWPP has moved through the Board of Supervisors.

**TCLS:** (Kathy Ratliff)

- EMS week Starts May 15<sup>th</sup>. TCLS planning on Reach at Lowden Park on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

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

- Office will be moving April 28<sup>th</sup> to Bechelli Lane in Redding. The current office is 6600 square feet and the new office is 2300 square feet.
- North State Pre-hospital Conference Registration is available online. [www.norcalems.org](http://www.norcalems.org)
- EMT certifications. Hayfork Fire is experiencing difficulty in getting members renewed. One of the problem areas is the background check. Nor-Cal EMS cannot receive the background check directly it must go through a third party. Recertification should take 2-3 weeks. Nor-CAL EMS has initiated a system to assist in tracking problems. Some Departments already do background checks on their volunteers and the state does not recognize those background checks. The Department must pay for two checks for the same volunteer. The departments do not want to rely on the EMS background check because the Departments typically do their check before they commit funds and time to training the volunteer. AB 1245 (Williams) would require all fire fighters in the state to submit fingerprint images to the Emergency Medical Services Authority for a specified criminal background search.

**CUPA:** (Barbara Heinrich)

Departments should have received the up-dated Hazardous Materials Business Plans in the form of spreadsheets.

**Open discussion:**

There was an April 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting with a CSFA representative, Sonoma County Fire Marshal Robert MacIntyre to discuss issues that affect Trinity County Fire departments. CSFA has a five question exercise to better understand the issues.

1. What do you like about your Department?
2. What do you think is the public perception of the fire department in your area? How could this be improved?
3. What could your fire department do to be even more effective in improving recruitment and retention of fire fighters?
4. What is the most important general area to be improved upon in the next 12 months? What could CSFA do to help?
5. Are there any other specific programs or procedures you'd like to see implemented in the fire department that would encourage retention? ( examples: more family events, a scheduling system, etc)

A CSFA Rural services Leadership Retention and Recruitment Workshop is scheduled for May 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> in Redding. To sign up for the workshop go to [csfa.net](http://csfa.net) or contact John Ossenkop at 855-VOL-FIRE.

Next meeting May 2, 2011 at 1900 hours at Weaverville Fire Department

Adjourned 2056 hours

Andy Reiling

Secretary-Treasurer