

# Trinity County Fire Chief's Association

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## MEETING MINUTES

July 1, 2013

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Martin Dooly at 1803 hours.

**Personnel in Attendance:**

Jerry Hlavac	HYF	Steve Scott	DOU
Chris Hamous	PMT	Tim Spierch	PMT
Frank Moore	HYM	Carol Minor	HYM
Bill German	SOT	Alex McBath	SHF
Curt Stanley	SHF	Pat Frost	RCD
Rust Mauk	CCV	Martie Muller	TCC
Steve Renten	TCC	Jennifer Hart	Reach Air
Kathy Ratliff	TCLS	Dan Spiess	Nor-Cal EMS
Larry Masterman	TCOES	Mel Deardorff	LEW
Scott Alvord	WEA	David Murphy	SLV
Martin Dooly	DWR	Andy Reiling	SHU

A moment of silence was observed for the 19 firefighters kill in Arizona on the Yarnell hill fire.

**Approval of Minutes:**

M/S/C to approve the June minutes with the following correction under the Nor-Cal EMS report: Dr. Rudnick was in Texas learning about Community Paramedic Programs.

**Fire Recovery:** Chris Valenzuela

Chris is a consultant for Fire Recovery USA. The Downriver and Post Mountain Fire Departments use Fire Recovery USA. Fire departments only have certain ways to raise funds. They can raise taxes either by property or sales tax. Engage in fund raisers. Or bill for services allowed under the current laws. Fire Recovery USA bills responsible parties for certain emergency responses. Some of the incidents they bill for are traffic collisions, vehicle fires, special rescues, power lines down and leaking pipelines. When working with Fire Recovery the fire department has the option to proceed with billing. For example some departments elect not to bill if a fatality occurs. Fire Recovery gets paid 20% of collected revenue. Rates for billing can either be based on Fire Recovery USA data or your own rate schedule. The claim process is fairly simple once you sign-up for the program. While at scene you fill out a Fire Recovery incident report. Having the persons' insurance policy number improves the efficiency. Complete an online report. Recovery Fire USA will open a claim and bill the appropriate person and/or insurance. Claims can be monitored online. Departments handling their own cost recovery have a 10% success rate. Fire Recovery USA has a 70% success rate.

**Safety Element:** Pat Frost

The General Plan is in the process of being updated. This version of the Safety Element has been worked on for approximately one year. The Safety Element has been expanded to include Smoke Issues, Climate Change, and Military Operation Areas. Edits and comments are being solicited and are due by August 1<sup>st</sup>. You can view the Safety element at <http://www.tcrd.net/pdf/SafetyElement2013draft.pdf>

**Reach Air Membership:** Jennifer Hart

Jennifer Hart is the Reach Life Membership Sales Manager. Reach and Cal-Ore Life Flight have merged. Discount membership rates for 50 people or less is \$60.00 for family, \$55.00 for couples and \$50.00 for individuals. The membership would cover 28 states with over 200 bases. You can contact Jennifer at (530) 510-2915 or [jennifer.hart@amgh.us](mailto:jennifer.hart@amgh.us)

**Committee Report:**

Training: Dooly

Downriver Fire will be sponsoring a Swift Water Awareness Class. The class is tentatively scheduled for September. \$70.00 per student for the class, Trinity County Department members will receive a \$30.00 discount.

**Treasurer's Report:** Andy Reiling

There is \$6920.83 in the Association Checking account.

**CAL FIRE:** Andy Reiling

All stations are at peak staffing

The burn ban is in effect. The recording at Air Quality can be confusing to some people. The Air Quality Management areas are different than the CAL FIRE Administration Units. The problem will most likely continue until the Humboldt Unit declares a burn ban.

**USFS:** Alex McBath

Alex has accepted the Chief 3 position for the Shasta Trinity Forest. He will assume the Chief 1 duties until that position is filled. Sharron Hayward turned in her resignation on Wednesday and was out of the office Friday.

**TC OES:** (Larry Masterman)

- Cooling Centers have been opening in neighboring Counties. Trinity County is monitoring the situation but does not plan on opening any Cooling Centers at the present time.
- The Emergency Operation Plan is available. The confidential list will be distributed at a later date. Request for updates and changes can be made thru Larry.
- The Communication Trailer project is almost complete

**TCLS:** Kathy Ratliff

- About two years ago Dave Loeffler notified TCLS of possible funding source. TCLS actively pursued the source and was recently notified they were successful in being awarded the funds. Kathy thanked Dave for passing the information forward.
- TCLS is down one unit for a chassis change
- Title 22 Curriculum is being developed

**Nor-Cal EMS:** Dan Spiess

Southern Trinity has been working under the North Coast EMS. A few years back the State passed a law that required counties to have only one EMS authority. When the law went into effect Nor-Cal EMS and North Coast EMS worked together to limit the change to the Southern Trinity area. Southern Trinity area has recently sent a letter to the Trinity County Board of Supervisors requesting to work directly under Nor-Cal EMS.

**Open discussion:**

None

Next meeting  
August 5, 2013

Adjourned  
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Andy Reiling  
Secretary-Treasurer