



Monterey County Fire Training Officers Association General Membership Meeting Minutes – November 12, 2014

Location: Monterey Peninsula College Public Safety Training Center

I. Call to Order / Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 1015 hours by President Jason Black.

Attendees:

Jason Black	Seaside FD	Deano Lindsey	MCRFD
Brad Hinckley	Marina FD	Dave Wilcox	POM FD
Dan Gearhart	Seaside FD – Retired	Martha Karstens	BSVFB
Tammera Badano	AMR	Mike Meddles	CAL Fire BEU
Arron Young	Cal Fire BEU	Cary Lesch	Salinas FD
Doug McCoun	NCFPD	Humberto Arista	NCFPD
Chris Knapp	Salinas FD	Greg Greenlee	Monterey FD
Brian Nichols	CAL Fire BEU		

II. Minutes:

Review of the minutes from the meeting of October 9, 2014 taken by Pat O’Connell. During a review of the minutes, several items were found that needed correction. Jason Black asked Dan Gearhart to make the needed corrections. **Motion by Greg Greenlee, second by Deano Lindsey, to accept the minutes as presented with the needed corrections. Motion carried.**

III. Treasurer’s Report:

Tammera Badano provided and reviewed the Treasurer’s Reports for the months of August, September, and October, 2014 as follows:

August 2014:	Beginning checking balance:	17,940.28
	Revenue:	73.05
	Expenses:	300.00
	Ending balance as of Sept. 1, 2014:	17,713.33
	Total Assets as of Sept. 1, 2014:	85,028.05

Sept. 2014:	Beginning checking balance:	17,713.33
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	Revenue:	0.00
	Expenses:	20.95
	Ending balance as of Oct. 1, 2014:	17,692.38
	Total assets as of Oct. 1, 2014:	84,939.93
Oct. 2014:	Beginning Checking balance:	17,692.38
	Revenue:	173.05
	Expenses:	20.95
	Ending balance as of Nov. 2, 2014:	17,934.48
	Total assets as of Nov. 2, 2014:	85,260.78

Tammera reported that we have received an invoice from the State of California for our annual non-profit fee which she will pay. Tammera also reported she will be updating the information with the US Postal service for our P.O. Box and that she will need to close our PayPal account in order to remove the previous Treasurer's email address. She will then reopen a new PayPal account with an updated email address. Tammera asked about an official email address for the organization and Dan Gearhart stated that we have mcftoa@att.net which he set up several years ago as a sub-account from his personal yahoo account. Dan recommended creating a Gmail account for the organization with access for the appropriate personnel. Tammera said she would set up a Gmail account for the MCFTOA.

Martha Karstens then pointed out an account balance difference between the September and October reports. The amount should be the same on both reports. Tammera said she will make the correction and will re-submit the reports. (Corrected amounts are shown above)

Motion to accept and receive the 2014 August, September, and October Treasurer's Reports as presented with the needed corrections was made by Martha Karstens, second by Dave Wilcox. Motion carried.

Treasurer's reports for August, September, and October 2014 are included as attachments to these minutes.

IV. Correspondence and Announcements:

1. Jason Black stated that he recently attended a Volunteer Firefighter Retention Workshop sponsored by the California Firefighters Association in San Diego. Jason said there are several grant opportunities for volunteer fire departments with the emphasis on retaining volunteer firefighters through a specialized program. Jason said the grants can also apply to combination departments. Jason said agencies would need to attend the symposium in order to apply for one, or more of the grants. The grants can be used for equipment, medical examinations, and other retention related items. Jason said he is hoping to bring the workshop to the central coast in 2015. Jason said he will keep the group updated as more information becomes available.

V. Committee Reports:

- A. Fire Chiefs Liaison Report

Jason Black said he attended the October Fire Chiefs Association meeting held in Marina on October 16, 2014 along with MCFTOA members Brad Hinckley, Doug McCoun, Dan Gearhart, and Dave Brown. Jason Black reported on the following topics from the meeting:

- A report from the MCFTOA was provided by Jason Black including an upcoming drone demonstration, volunteer firefighter retention program, future of the Wildland Fire School, future movement drills, and a proposed report writing class. As part of the discussion, Chief Orman asked about the efforts of the TO's in providing SLICERS training for County fire agencies. Although the TO's have no planned classes at this time relating to the topic, the TO's website has extension information on SLICERS available on the "Fire Suppression" page. Chief Orman would like the TO's to arrange a class taught by Dan Madrzykowski from NIST on SLICERS for Monterey County agencies.
- Fire Investigators. The Chiefs were reminded that the fire investigators task force is for assisting agencies with suspicious or intentionally set fires and not for routine cause and origin determination. There are (5) investigators on the task force with (3) in training.
- Operations Committee / DFD. The OPS committee reports that work continues on a single countywide dispatch frequency. The active shooter policy is being reviewed by Monterey County law enforcement. PG&E would like to coordinate a standardized response countywide when they are requesting our assistance to a natural gas incident.
- Monterey County OES. A test of the Everbridge system for ALERT Monterey County was recently conducted. Discussions are on-going at the State and local level concerning issues and response procedures relating to Ebola.
- NGEN / ECUAC. Challenges are still being encountered with repeater sites and use of frequencies. Several agencies are reporting challenges with Harris radio products.
- EMS / EMCC. Issues being discussed and reviewed include the County Trauma Center officially going into operation on October 6, 2014, at Natividad Hospital, the EMCC approving the 2014 EMS Plan Update and the 2014 Trauma Care System Plan, CSA 74 checks becoming available on December 10th, the EMS Summit scheduled for October 23rd, and an Unknown Injury Accident study being conducted by Salinas FD, AMR, and the Monterey County EMS Agency.
- Firefighter of the Year Awards. Nomination criteria forms have been sent out and nominations are now being accepted. The Chiefs Association awards are for Monterey County Firefighter of the Year, Volunteer Firefighter of the Year, and Support Person of the Year. The awards ceremony is scheduled for January 2015.
- MPC Re-accreditation. The County Fire Chiefs approved delivering a letter of support to State Fire Training for the MPC fire academy re-accreditation process.
- Standardized Terminology for Citizen Evacuations during an Emergency Incident. The Chiefs Association will be sending a letter of support for the use of standardized

terminology relating to citizen evacuations based on FIRESCOPE standards to Monterey County OES.

- Air Ambulance. The updated EMS policy has been adopted and on-scene incident commanders have the authority and responsibility to utilize air assets as needed. Concern among various fire chiefs about paramedics requesting firefighter riders to the Country Trauma Center outside the agency's jurisdiction, and the ability to retrieve the firefighters in a timely fashion. Apparently there is a taxi voucher provision in the County ambulance contract that may be an option for retrieving firefighters from the trauma center.
- Monterey FD ALS. The Monterey Fire Department is moving forward with becoming an ALS provider.
- Marina FD Retirement. Chief Kelley has announced his retirement effective December 26, 2014.
- Upcoming Training at CSUMB. CSUMB will be hosting an ICS 300 class in January and an L-363 class in February. CSUMB has also purchased a drone for use in conjunction with the regional EOC.
- Grant. North County Fire Protection District is applying for an AFG grant for fire hose.

B. Wildland Committee:

Dan Gearhart reported that a wildland committee meeting had been planned for this morning but had to be cancelled due to a committee member not being able to attend. Dan said he had recently spoken with Assistant Chief Clinton Tolle from Fort Hunter Liggett and Chief Tolle assured him that there was no negative fallout from the wildland training exercises earlier in the year. Dan said he attended the Chief's Association meeting last month and from the standpoint of that association, they are OK with the continuation of providing wildland training next year in the same format that has been occurring for the past several years. Dan said that we should seriously consider reaching out beyond Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties to increase our agency participation. (Although not mentioned during the meeting, proposed dates for the wildland training exercises in 2015 are June 2, 4, and 6, 2015.)

C. Programs / Training Classes:

Brad Hinckley reported that the SAR group stationed at Naval Air Station Lemoore would like to conduct training in the Monterey County area. The SAR group has proposed providing "debris field" training that would be beneficial in the event of a downed aircraft. Brad said the training could be conducted in one of the abandoned housing areas in Marina or on the beachfront property in Monterey owned by the Navy. Brad said the SAR group will work with the Naval Post Graduate School to coordinate the training for local first responders. Brad said the training could be provided in the form of a countywide movement drill. Brad said he would follow-up on the training opportunity and provide more information as it becomes available.

Jason Black reported that PG&E would like to provide standardized response training for local fire agencies. The goal is that PG&E is hoping for a standardized response from all Monterey County agencies to a natural gas leak. Jason said there has been discussion about incorporating the training into a countywide movement drill. Jason will follow-up with PG&E and the Operations Committee.

D. Website:

Dan Gearhart reported that the website is up-to-date and running well with no technical issues. Dan reported that from the period October 13th to November 12th, there were 1278 views of the site which is 42.6 per day. Dan said he will be working with Redshift in the near future about changing the theme of the site.

E. MPC / California Fire Academy at Monterey Bay:

Jason Black reported that the current MPC fire academy for the fall semester will be coming to a conclusion soon with the final examination exercise in the near future. Jason reported that Dave Brown would like to get input from local agencies and personnel about the types of classes they would like to see provided by MPC and the California Fire Academy at Monterey Bay. Jason also said that Dave Brown would like to develop a master email list of as many local fire service personnel as possible for a method of providing information on training opportunities and a way for the personnel to provide feedback to the fire technology program.

Greg Greenlee said that the MPC fire academy is looking for either a command vehicle or a utility vehicle, and the equipment typically carried in a command vehicle, for use by the fire academy. Greg said the fire academy is hoping for a donation of this equipment or vehicle. Greg also announced that the MPC fire academy graduation will be held on December 12, 2014 at 0900 hours in the MPC Performing Arts Theatre.

F. Countywide Movement Drills:

Jason Black reported that the coordination and planning of the movement drills is moving forward and he will work closely with the Operations Committee as the work continues. Jason said the first drill planned will be hosted by Salinas FD and is scheduled for January or February 2015. Jason said the Movement Drill committee will meet at 0800 hours on December 11, 2014. Other possible topics for movement drills include the debris field training and the PG&E response training.

Chris Knapp then provided an overview of the proposed movement drill planned for the first part of 2015 hosted by Salinas FD. Chris said the proposed location is a large agricultural building and the emphasis will be on sharing skills and experiences to accomplish the desired learning outcome. Rather than the drill being solely incident based, the practical application portion of the drill will be broken down into three separate educational modules. Units will be dispatched and respond to the training areas following normal response procedures and then once arriving on scene, engine / truck companies will be divided into three groups and assigned to one of three separate training modules. The units will then rotate through each training module. Chris said this would help solve the continuing problem with incident based training when units from the host agency receive the first several assignments, and units arriving later having to wait long periods of time to get an assignment. The drill would then end with very little practical training opportunities for several of the participating personnel and agencies.

Chris said the three modules planned are: 1) ICS breakdown and evolutions, 2) water supply / truck operations, and 3) hose movement and nozzle work. Each group would spend about 1 hour in each training module and then rotate through all three for a total time of between 3-4 hours. For this movement drill, Santa Cruz County agencies can also be involved. Chris said this could be a good opportunity for personnel attending to bring the training back to their agencies such as a train-the-trainer situation.

A general discussion then ensued about the merits of “train-the-trainer” classes and the view that often times when train-the-trainer classes occur, there is limited effort to provide the training to agency personnel by those who attended. The general feeling was that this movement drill should provide the training opportunity and that agencies should consider sending personnel that they feel could benefit mostly from the training. Any special requests from the hosting agency concerning the amount of engines, trucks, or overhead personnel can be arranged prior to the movement drill.

Doug McCoun said that it was his impression from the Operations Committee that the first scheduled drill should be the PG&E response procedures drill. Jason Black said that since there appears to be an unclear understanding of exactly what the intent of the PG&E training is, he would follow-up directly with PG&E and stay in communication with the Operations Committee. Cary Lesch said the PG&E training could be several hours long and would not fit into the timeframe of the proposed three module movement drill. Dan Gearhart said that there should be no reason why both drills could not be accomplished and that unless there was an immediate need for the PG&E drill, he recommended that we move forward with the proposed Salinas FD hosted drill and schedule the PG&E drill for later in the Spring after more information is obtained about the PG&E training proposal. Jason said he would provide follow-up on the movement drill proposals.

VI. Old Business:

A. Training Trailer Sale & Purchase

Deano Lindsey provided a report to Dan Gearhart who then related the report to the group. Deano reported that we are under budget with modifications and improvements to the new trailer and would like to move forward with selling the old trailer. We need to locate a “title” for the old trailer prior to selling. Deano is requesting that the approved amount of \$500.00 be increased to \$1,800.00 for the exterior signs / logos on the trailer. Deano reported that it is his and Ron Lemos’ recommendation for the additional amount based on the upgraded quality and larger size of the signage needed for the larger trailer upon the recommendation from the sign vendor. **Motion by Tammera Badano, with a second by Martha Karstens to increase the amount for the exterior signage on the new trailer to \$1800.00. Under discussion, Tammera said that the trailer was purchased with the CAL AM grant money (\$12,000.00) and that no general fund monies were used to purchase the trailer. (The trailer was purchased for \$8,250.00) Motion failed.** The general feeling from the group was that at least three bids should be received for the exterior signage due to the unexpected increase.

B. Challenge Coins:

Jason Black reported he and Pat O’Connell are still working on the project and would like to have the coins available before the start of the movement drills.

C. Pacific Gas & Electric Movement Drill:

This item was covered during Committee Reports; item F, Countywide Movement Drills.

D. Election of Officers and Board Members:

Jason Black stated that the nomination period remains open for both the 2015 MCFTOA Officers, and a three year term (2015 through 2017) for the Board of Directors. Jason then called for any additional nominations. Dan Gearhart said that Deano Lindsey stated to him that he would like to self-nominate for the position of vice-president. Jason Black then directed Deano Lindsey’s name be added to the list of candidates. Hearing no other nominations, Jason Black called for a motion to close the nominations. **Motion by Greg Greenlee with a second by Martha Karstens, to declare nominations closed. Motioned carried.**

The following are the nominated candidates for the upcoming election to be held during the annual MCFTOA membership meeting on December 10, 2014:

President:	Jason Black	1 year term
Vice-President:	Dave Wilcox	1 year term
	Deano Lindsey	1 year term
Secretary:	Martha Karstens	1 year term
Treasurer:	Tammera Badano	1 year term
Board Member:	Pat O’Connell	3 year term
	Humberto Arista	3 year term
	Daniel Gearhart	3 year term

E. Re-imbusement for Website Work.

Jason Black said he would like to revisit the issue of re-imbusement for the website work to after the first of the year.

VII. New Business:

None

VIII. Good of the Order:

- Greg Greenlee stated that the MPC fire academy graduation is scheduled for December 12, 2014 starting at 0900 hours at the MPC Performing Arts Theatre.

- Tammera Badano said that the Paramedic class is scheduled to begin on December 2, 2014 and runs through April 2015.
- Tammera also stated that the motorcycle group that she belongs to will host the MCFTOA membership meeting on December 10, 2014 by providing refreshments.
- Dan Gearhart thanked Martha Karstens for providing an appropriate selection of pastries from Red's Donuts and Jason Black for providing Starbucks coffee.

IX. Adjournment:

With no further business, Jason Black declared the meeting adjourned at 1225 hours.

Next meeting:

Date: December 10, 2014
Time: 1000 hrs.
Location: MPC Public Safety Training Center

Minutes prepared by:
Dan Gearhart
November 19, 2014

MCFTOA Treasurer's Report – August 2014
Reporting period: August 11, 2012 through September 1, 2014

Checking Account Balance as of August 11, 2014: 17,940.28

Revenue:		
8/14/2014	S-234 Ignition Ops Robert Marques (75.00-1.95)	73.05
Total Revenue:		73.05

Expenses:		
8/20/2014	Big Sur replacement tarp	-150.00
8/07/2014	Deano Lindsey for wash and wax of new trailer	-150.00
Total Expenses:		-300.00

Checking Account Balance as of September 1, 2014:	17,713.33
Wildland Fire School Training Fund: (Savings Account)	60,000.00
Unrestricted Savings: (Savings Account)	7,314.72
Savings Account Balance as of September 1, 2014:	67,314.72
Total Assets as of September 1, 2014:	85,028.05

NOTES:

Invoiced 2014 Wildland Participant no payment to date:

Spreckels 6/30x2= \$20.00

Salinas FD 6/30x3= \$30.00

Presidio of Monterey FD 6/30x4=\$40.00 (called for Tax ID for payment)

Tammera Badano, Treasurer
September 1, 2014

MCFTOA Treasurer's Report – September 2014

Reporting period: September 1, 2014 through October 1, 2014

Checking Account Balance as of September 1, 2014:	17,713.33
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Revenue:

Total Revenue: 0.00

Expenses:

9/2/2014 Red Shift Internet fee -20.95

Total Expenses: -20.95

Checking Account Balance as of October 1, 2014: 17,692.38

Wildland Fire School Training Fund: (Savings Account) 60,000.00

Unrestricted Savings: (Savings Account) 7,320.60

Savings Account Balance as of October 1, 2014: 67,320.60

Total Assets as of October 1, 2014: 84,939.93

NOTES:

Invoiced 2014 Wildland Participant no payment to date:

Spreckels 6/30x2= \$20.00

Salinas FD 6/30x3= \$30.00

Presidio of Monterey FD 6/30x4=\$40.00 (called for Tax ID for payment)

Tammera Badano, Treasurer
September 1, 2014

MCFTOA Treasurer's Report – October 2014

Reporting period: October 1, 2014 through November 2, 2014

Checking Account Balance as of October 1, 2014: 17,692.38

Revenue:

10/9/2014	S-234 Ignition Ops- Stewart Roth (75.00-1.95)	73.05
10/9/2014	Membership Dues- Mike Meddles	10.00

2014 Wildland Participant

10/16/2014	Presidio of Monterey FD 6/30x4	40.00
10/16/2014	Salinas FD 6/30x3	30.00
10/16/2014	Spreckels 6/30x2	20.00

Total Revenue: 173.05

Expenses:

10/2/2014	Red Shift Internet fee	-20.95
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Total Expenses: -20.95

Checking Account Balance as of November 2, 2014: 17,844.48

Wildland Fire School Training Fund: (Savings Account) 60,000.00

Unrestricted Savings: (Savings Account) 7,326.30

Savings Account Balance as of November 2, 2014: 67,326.30

Total Assets as of November 2, 2014: 85,170.78

NOTES:

Tammera Badano, Treasurer
November 2, 2014

Corrected: 12/08/2014