



# STATE BOARD OF FIRE SERVICES

## APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, May 20, 2021

CAL FIRE – Office of the State Fire Marshal

2251 Harvard Street, Rm 441, Sacramento, CA 95815

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

- \*Mike Richwine, State Fire Marshal, CAL FIRE – Office of the State Fire Marshal, Chair
- \*Jerry Davies, California Fire Safe Council and Insurance Industry, Vice Chair
- \*Ed Foster, California State Firefighters Association
- \*Moke Simon, County Government
- \*Pete Muñoz, CAL FIRE Firefighters, Local 2881
- \*David Rocha, California Metropolitan Fire Chiefs
- \*David Gillotte, International Association of Fire Fighters
- \*Michael S. Williams, California State Firefighters Association
- \*Michael Smith, California Fire Chiefs Association
- \*Robert Magee, City Government

### MEMBERS ABSENT:

- Craig Tolmie, Chief Deputy Director, CAL FIRE
- Dan Terry, California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee
- Mark Ghilarducci, Director, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services
- Brian K. Rice, California Professional Firefighters
- Frank Lima, California Labor Federation

### STATE FIRE MARSHAL STAFF:

- \*Wendy Collins, Assistant State Fire Marshal
- \*Daniel Berlant, Assistant Deputy Director, Fire Engineering & Investigations and Wildfire Planning & Engineering
- \*Andrew Henning, Assistant Deputy Director, Fire & Life Safety, State Fire Training, Code Development & Analysis
- \*Steve Hawks, Forestry and Fire Prevention Administrator, Wildfire Planning and Engineering
- \*Kevin Chan, Special Assistant to the State Fire Marshal
- \*Chris Fowler, Supervising Deputy State Fire Marshal, State Fire Training
- \*Vickie Sakamoto, Supervising Deputy State Fire Marshal, Fire Engineering and Investigations
- \*Patricia Setter, Deputy State Fire Marshal III, Fire Engineering and Investigations
- \*Caryn Petty, Deputy State Fire Marshal III, State Fire Training
- \*Mark Bisbee, Fire Training Specialist, State Fire Training

### GUESTS:

- \*Mike Bradley, Northern Region Chief, CAL FIRE
- \*Brian Marshall, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services
- \*Taral Brideau, California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee
- \*Deborah Halberstadt, California Department of Insurance
- \*Phil Irwin, California Fair Plan Association
- (\* attended via Zoom Virtual Meeting)

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mike Richwine called the State Board of Fire Services (SBFS) meeting to order at 1330 hours.

## 2. ROLL CALL

Roll call was held, and quorum declared at 1334 hours.

## 3. INTRODUCTIONS

Self-introductions of staff and guests were conducted.

## 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Mike Richwine asked for approval of the Minutes of the March 4th, 2021 meeting, with minor corrections to remove duplicate entries.

**It was moved by Member David Gillotte to approve the meeting minutes with corrections; motion seconded by Member Pete Muñoa. Motion was carried unanimously at 1337 hours.**

## 5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Mike Richwine announced that May was Mental Health Awareness Month and CAL FIRE participated in behavioral health and suicide awareness. He also announced that Andrew Henning had been promoted to the Assistant Deputy Director over the Fire & Life Safety, the State Fire Training, and the Code Development & Analysis programs.

## 6. CONSENT ITEMS

Chair Mike Richwine asked if anyone wanted to pull any items off the consent items for discussion. The Members declined to do so.

Caryn Petty requested to approve the reaccreditation of the Glendale Fire Department Accredited Local Academy (ALA), the Lake Tahoe Basin Fire Academy Accredited Regional Training Program (ARTP), and the Solano Community College ARTP.

The Lake Tahoe Basin Fire Academy Accredited Academy site evaluation took place on September 18, 2020, and has met and exceeded all the requirements of the self-assessment report criteria. It is recommended that they be reaccredited for a four and a half year period, as they were granted a six-month extension due to some staffing changes within the training program.

The Solano College site evaluation took place on November 20, 2020, and all of the self-assessment report criteria were met and satisfied. Site evaluation went well, and they are recommended for a recommendation three to five years as an ARTP.

The Glendale Fire Department site evaluation took place April 1, 2021. The self-assessment report criteria were met and exceeded. The site evaluation went very well, and they are also recommended for a reaccreditation period as an ALA for three to five years.

Andrew Henning then requested approval of the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) course update. State Fire Training (SFT) is in the process of updating their catalog of courses that instructors can deliver. There were several NWCG courses that have been updated, but not reflected, in the SFT Course Information and Required Materials Manual (CIRM), so it's

just a more of a house cleaner for instructors to start delivering the latest versions of the NWCG courses. They also identified a total of three courses that had not been delivered by SFT in at least five years, and so the recommendation was to retire all three of those courses. When this was presented to the Statewide Training and Education Committee (STEAC), it was also recommended to retire the S-420 Command and General Staff course, but the Metro Chiefs representative asked SFT to keep that course available for delivery. Even if they do decide to retire some of these courses, they always have the opportunity to bring them back.

Chair Mike Richwine asked for a motion, then opened the floor up for public comment. No comments were made.

**It was moved by Member Pete Muñoz to approve the consent items; motion seconded by Member Moke Simon. Motion was carried unanimously at 1344 hours.**

## 7. PROGRAM AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS

Caryn Petty provided information on the Fire Fighter Certification Exam Simulation Provision. The Fire Fighter Certification Exam Simulation Provision is based on the July 2020 decision by SFT to implement an Alternate Psychomotor Skill Evaluation. This allows for the delivery of Fire Service Training and Education Program (FSTEP) courses to occur in the course of the Academy, and to pull related skills from the certification exams completed that same day. Because the skills are associated with the courses, and require specialized equipment and props, the intent was to alleviate any undue costs or personal scheduling and additional equipment, acquisition, or provision. Because there is a rule that no instructor of record shall serve as the evaluator of record for the exam, the intent for the alternate delivery failed to reduce the cost for personnel or logistics, given that there was a need for duplicity with personal regardless. Because SFT already allows for simulation on exam day for live-fire simulation related to Fire Fighter 1A (FF1A) Skill Sheet 3-10c, the attack of simulated interior structure fire, and if that FSTEP course completed during the course of the academy, the ALA or ARTP is then allowed to provide a simulated fire attack for that skill. Under that same idea, SFT evaluated the additional skills to see what other FSTEP courses would be applicable for this same sort of simulation, which resulted in the FF2A 2019 skills, specifically the 3-1: Extinguishing an Ignitable Liquid Fire, 3-2: Control a Flammable Gas Cylinder Fire, and 4-1: Extricate Victim Entrapped in a Motor Vehicle. The Fire Control class would relate to the first two and the Vehicle Extrication class relates to the extrication skill. If the FSTEP classes are delivered within the first week of the Academy, the simulation would be permitted for the FF2A exam. There is an additional requirement that candidates who have not completed the FSTEP courses, or have course completion diplomas exceeding the three (3) year time limit, are not eligible for the simulation. The requirements are outlined in the staff report.

Member Mike Williams asked what happens if candidates are unable to meet this requirement.

Caryn Petty responded that they must complete the skill without the simulation. They may simulate the foam application by verbalizing the appropriate foam concentration and its concentration preparation, then they would need to go line item by line item to demonstrate the skill using the product in hand and to simulate the gas cylinder fire by completing all the skill sheet line items without the live fire. For the extrication, they may utilize a simulation prop for still completion, the props will be constructed of material similar to that of a passenger vehicle and be equipped with a minimum with to direct access points, including roofs, doors, windshield, windows, steering wheel and column, and/or dashboard vehicle props are being manufactured by a professional contract company.

Chair Mike Richwine wanted clarification on the process. Caryn Petty reiterated that they could demonstrate proficiency by verbalizing the steps correctly and then perform the skills under simulation once they reach the end of academy.

Andrew Henning moved on to give a report on the Rope Rescue, Rescue Systems, River and Flood Rescue, and Structural Collapse Updates. The implementation plan for the new rope rescue courses that were implemented a year ago was to move forward with developing the structural collapse technician courses. Due to COVID-19 and SFT's financial situation, the structural collapse cadres were unable to meet. With that, there was a need to modify the planned retirement dates for rescue systems 1, 2 and 3. They essentially suspended those retirement dates indefinitely until they can bring forward the implementation plan for the new structural collapse technician courses. That is to ensure that they give adequate time to transition and not delay it by six months or a year. They realigned the course prerequisites to be able to use both the legacy courses, as well as the new courses, so there wasn't confusion.

They weren't forcing people who already had the legacy courses to go take the new courses, or vice versa. It was just to give an even playing field for people to get in to the river and flood rescue technician courses. They revised the rope rescue technician courses to update those prerequisites to be old or new.

Andrew Henning asked if anyone had questions and there were no questions.

Mark Bisbee gave an update on the California Fire and Emergency Services Higher Education (FESHE) program update. This project started as an outgrowth of Blueprint 2020 goal number 2. This was started a few years ago, in order to implement the goals that were contained in that document and it's broken up into three phases with phase one's alignment with the company officer as degree with the California Fire Technology Directors Association. They created a degree option at the associates level that incorporated SFT certified company officer courses, as part of the requirements for that degree.

They were able to get the Chief Fire Officer Certification Track courses embedded within a bachelor's degree at Humboldt State University, and both of those programs are ongoing. Phase one was completed in 2019. Phase two is to try to do the same process with the Executive Chief Fire Officer courses articulated into a masters of Public Administration and we're focused on the Cal State Dominguez Hills Campus at this time. Phase III consists of forming a Center of Excellence and is now represented through the California FESHE Consortium with the California Fire Technology Director's Association (CFTDA) and the CSU Chancellor's Office Professional and Continuing Education (PACE) and several campuses.

This is now represented through the California FESHE consortium, which is a consortium that's been stood up largely last year with community colleges, so the fire tech directors have a seat on the consortium, and there are several CSU campuses that either have fire related curriculum, or are interested in partnering with SFT. They have gone through a vision statement and what the intent is, and basically there's three main words that represent this consortium, and that is to collaborate, coordinate and connect all the CSU campuses and the 50 community college campuses to create a seamless pathway for our workforce.

The consortium is for focus around four work groups. One is focused on curriculum while the other is on prior learning or prior learning assessments. The third is focused on creating the Center of Excellence and it could be a virtual Center of Excellence that encompasses many

campuses. The last workgroup is looking at ongoing sustainable funding for fire education and training in the state.

The users of this are professional and continuing education firefighters who are already in service and have jobs. The platform is for them to attend the courses that SFT has and do things online. The second group is your traditional pre-service students for college programs focused on fire and emergency services. The third group is fire scientists and researchers, and other folks that are really going to be instrumental in helping California solve some of the fire problems that we've seen in the past years with these mega fires.

Mark Bisbee opened the floor to questions.

Member Pete Muñoa asked if the goal is to give a platform for people to go to university or a state college to pursue a career in fire service.

Mark Bisbee responded that there was an issue paper written on it and that it was to give people an opportunity to bring a certificate track into education for people who already have a career to allow them to obtain an education while working on their certification.

Chair Mike Richwine stated that he would like to revisit the issue paper.

There were no further questions.

Andrew Henning gave an update on Title 19 updates. He noted that the State Certified Prescribed Fire Burn Boss Certification had been implemented. SFT put a new procedure manual out to address the instructor requirements for some California Fire Service Training and Education System (CFSTES) courses, as well as the certification requirements. Those were approved at the end of March and the very first Burn Boss was delivered in Eureka the prior week.

SFT is also going through a procedure manual update and are currently in the early rulemaking process. It has to go through the internal review from CAL FIRE before we go to the 45-day public comment period. There is a lot of cleanup of retiring out legacy courses making changes to our new business processes. One of the bigger changes that will be in this procedure manual is that SFT is going to require payment prior to processing courses and issuing course diplomas. SFT will be implementing a way for payments for courses to be made with credit card to ensure that they are not delaying the issuance of the course diplomas.

Andrew Henning also reminded the Board that there are significant course retirement dates coming up, such as the FF1 2013.

## 8. OLD BUSINESS

Chair Mike Richwine addressed the Board about the California Highway Patrol (CHP) collaborative training video. It was discussed in the last meeting that the CHP was reluctant to engage in a proposed training program that could be used at firefighter and CHP academies regarding the roles and responsibilities of the respective agencies, especially on highway incidents. This was able to be escalated up to the new CHP Commissioner who supports the training and would like to see it come to fruition. Andrew Henning has already made contact with the new CHP training chief. Things look positive with the new points of contact and the concept is moving forward. It now becomes a matter of tying up a few loose ends on the actual video production, whether it will be done by the CAL FIRE Communications Office, CHP, or

another entity. We will be working collaboratively to storyboard and script the concept and move forward with it. We still plan to involve Gordon Graham and Joe Castro and will need to reach out to them once again. The main takeaway is that we have the support of the CHP Commissioner.

Member Ed Foster asked if the problem was from resistance from CHP officers. Chair Mike Richwine indicated it was not, and the problem was that the momentum for the project had taken so long that the prior team we had been working with had retired.

Chair Mike Richwine asked if anyone else wanted to participate in the project and Member Pete Muñoa indicated that he would like to participate, as it was an issue initially brought forth by Local 2881.

## 9. NEW BUSINESS

Chair Mike Richwine turned the floor to Member Jerry Davies, who introduced Deborah Halberstadt, the senior climate policy advisor, from the Department of Insurance to make a presentation on insurance and homeowners living in high fire risk areas.

Deborah Halberstadt spoke about California being devastated by fires over the past few years. She spoke about how fire season was beginning early and the fires during the past week. Under the circumstances, homeowners are left wondering how they are going to find another way to keep insurance. Commissioner Lara has met with thousands of California residents in the wake of the fires, and some of the main concerns they have heard are ones of frustration and anxiety with a huge increase in non-renewals of policies. From 2018 to 2019 Homeowners policy not renewals increased 31% statewide and 61% in areas with moderate to very high fire risk. The department has been hearing of a strong desire for home hardening and community mitigation to be recognized, for consistent statewide mitigation standards, and the need for more transparency around fire risk scores.

In response, Commissioner Lara and the department have taken several important actions. First, Commissioner Lara protected wildfire victims in obtaining their claims benefits so after last year's fires, the Commissioner asked insurance companies to help wildfires survivors, by providing up to 100% of personal property coverage limits, without having to provide a detailed inventory, for those who suffered a loss. He wanted to ensure that the insurance companies pay benefits out as soon as possible, without requiring a very detailed inventory, so that the survivors could begin to recover and to rebuild.

Second he sought to ensure that insurance remained available and affordable. Rising rates and non-renewals are hurting the people who can least afford it, and there are working families and retirees on fixed incomes, who are the same people who have been hurt this year by the pandemic.

In order to address the issue of affordability and availability, he conducted the department's first ever investigatory hearing on homeowners insurance. As a result, he initiated a series of regulatory actions that will protect homeowners from the increase in risk of wildfire. He also convened a separate meeting with mitigation and science experts to explore the issues of home hardening, community mitigation, prescribed burns, wildfire catastrophe modeling, and insurance rate making. At that meeting were 14 wildfire science and actuarial experts who presented their research on wildfire threat modeling and on different risk reduction strategies. They had research that was presented showing the positive impact of fire mitigation, including hardening efforts. More information is available on their website. A lot more information is

available on those two hearings. Commissioner Lara ordered a temporary freeze on insurance non renewals for 2.4 million Californians, which translates to more than 18% of this state's residential insurance market. But if we have another State declared disaster this year, wildfire victims will again be protected from non-renewals.

Finally, the Department of Insurance has established a wildfire partnership with Governor Newsom's administration to work together to establish home and community hardening measures for purposes of insurance.

Deborah Halberstadt then gave a few more details on home hardening and community mitigation. Their investigatory hearings showed there is a lot of momentum from the insurance sector to recognize home hardening and community mitigation efforts. They know that home and community hardening techniques are effective, and they are essential to reducing wildfire risk. In 2020, the National Association of Insurance Commissioners worked with a company called RMS, which is a catastrophe risk management company, and the Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety, to test a suite of best practices for wildfire mitigation in several locations in California and in Oregon. The results of that study demonstrates the importance of wildfire risk reduction and the economic benefits that come from investing in that type of risk reduction effort.

These studies are going to be critical to encourage home and community hardening before the next big wildfire and, while insurance plays a vital role in recovery, many households and many small businesses do not have sufficient coverage to fund repair and rebuilding. There is a need to narrow this protection gap and to explore innovative insurance that takes a more holistic and community wide approach.

They are looking into collaborating on educational programs that translate that into a certification program that is recognized by insurers which can offer mitigation credits on premiums or provide insurance in the first place.

Ultimately, as they look ahead to increasingly early and increasingly intense fire seasons, they need to understand the risks they face when optimizing awareness and ways to motivate risk reduction efforts. There is a need to employ assurance as a strategy to plan for recovery and resilience. And as the senior climate policy advisor, she would be remiss if she did not emphasize the link between catastrophic wildfire and climate change. We are really at a climate crossroads and we are already seeing the impacts of climate change and it can be a bit overwhelming, causing us to give in to climate fatigue. There needs to be thoughts about ensuring against natural disasters in resourceful and visionary ways. There is an opportunity right now to plan for instability and, at the same time, restore our national systems. Investments in resilient infrastructure and system restoration can protect climate vulnerable communities in a cost effective way. We should think about ecosystem resilience as a form of insurance and can reduce future rebuilding costs. Commissioner Lara is the Chair of the climate resiliency executive task force of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, and they are working with jurisdictions from all over the United States on climate risks and resilience to explore new types of insurance products.

Member Davies opened the floor for questions from the Members, and started with his own question. He asked about their conversations with the insurance companies, if they got any response from the companies in terms of the future discounts or looking at things that would reduce the cost of a policy and asked if she would quickly go over the freeze on cancellations by insurance companies that Commissioner Lara put in place.

Deborah Halberstadt responded that insurance companies are beginning to be a little bit more interested in credited crediting mitigation efforts that individuals take. One of their goals is to increase that interest, to find a way to have them take into account mitigation efforts more than they already do. Some of it goes to risk modeling and catastrophe modeling. On the moratorium side of things, Commissioner Lara instituted a moratorium this past year that covered 2.4 million homes, which is a 2% of California's residential insurance market so that's a one year moratorium. Under the law he's not allowed to institute more than one year, at a time.

Member Gillotte expressed his thanks for the work of the Department of Insurance and stated he was going to coin her phrase "wildfire fatigue."

Member Moke Simon noted the Valley Fire in Lake County in 2015 and how people are being hit by wildfires year after year. He thanked the Department of Insurance for all their work. Member Moke Simon then spoke about the impacts of COVID-19 and the pandemic, and it's devastation to businesses and asked about the possibility of business interruption insurance.

Deborah Halberstadt did not have an answer as she had not been working with the pandemic side of things. The only information she could offer was on parametric insurance, which could trigger within certain parameters and would not have to go through the indemnity process.

Member Moke Simon thanked Deborah again.

Jerry Davies introduced Phil Irwin, the public relations representative from the California Fair Plan Association, to present information on the California Fair Plan.

The fair plan rights fire insurance coverage for Homeowners who cannot obtain coverage from a traditional insurance carrier. Known as the insurer of last resort, the fair plan is a private association comprised of all insurers licensed to write property insurance in California, with about 100 of its own employees. The fair plan is overseen by a governing board that includes the California Insurance Commissioner and insurance company executives. The goal is to be available for market when it is needed, and then ultimately not be needed anymore, because the market has been restored.

The Fair Plan will insure a home in California if it's in insurable condition and that really comes down to not being vacant for more than a year, no illegal activities taking place in the property, and no major unrepaired damages. The fair plan is required by law to issue policies with actuarially sound rates sufficient enough to cover the risk exposure and anticipated losses.

Unlike normal insurance carriers and insurance markets, the Fair Plan cannot manage its concentration of policies. When policies are more concentrated, that obviously drives up the risk of any one catastrophic event, and all these additional risks reflect in the fair plan rates in in wildfire exposure areas.

California now has 78 more annual fire days than it did 15 years ago and nearly one in three homes are in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) area. In claim experience, the Fair Plan is paying up to 50% of fair rental value dollars up front and they have also implemented a service for inventory specialist at no charge to help claimants during this process, and to help expedite the payment of repairs during a claim. Policies can now also access increased deductible and added additional deductible options. These are directly a result of feedback from customers. They have now increased deductible options to \$15,000 and \$20,000 in addition to the \$10,000, \$7,500, and \$5,000 options.



They also have an extended dwelling coverage, which was a new addition last year. In traditional markets, you have the option to get an additional 50% or 25% of dwelling coverage on existing coverages, so the Fair Plan added a 25% option and increased their fair value coverage up to 50% of the dwelling amount.

Last year, they increased their total insurance value up to \$3 million, which is an increase for some of the markets with higher value homes, and have added credit card payment options.

Member Jerry Davies asked Phil Irwin to go over the structure of how the fair plan is set up, how did the insurance companies work within the fair plan, and how are the claims paid or they paid by the plan.

Phil Irwin responded that from the customer side, it feels the same as the experience of working with any insurance carrier. They file a claim with through their broker or directly with the Fair Plan. They do use third party adjusters who are not their employees, but are managed by their claims team. A person would get a policy through a broker, and there are over 10,000 brokers available, which can be found on their updated website.

Member Jerry Davies opened the floor for questions.

Member Moke Simon brought up low income households and asked what kind of opportunities existed for reductions or grants for people who cannot afford to do anything to help themselves.

Phil Irwin responded that he had spoken to many people in Member Simon's area and stated that the Fair Plan was customizable where people could purchase what they could afford and choose what to cover.

With no further questions, the floor was given to Daniel Berlant to give an update on OSFM's partnerships that have been formed to address this issue.

Daniel Berlant talked about what is happening in the space of wildfire mitigation community hardening. The Governor and the Legislature took early action funding \$533 million immediately for different wildfire and forest management resilience. As part of that, and as the State's overall strategy, there's a number of state agencies, not just the OSFM and not just the Department of Insurance, that have different pieces of this problem. One thing was to work together to make sure that the strategy is consistent and that each different department is aware of what is happening. Everyone is getting the same State message and leveraging the different programs that are out there. The Department of Insurance, CAL FIRE, the Office of Emergency Services, and the Office of Planning and Research have been meeting and working together to ensure that they are aware of what the others are working on and identifying the connections between their work.

He stated that they had been working with the Department of Insurance and, as required by Senate Bill 824, are charged with making sure that the fire perimeters and zip codes are being provided to the Department of Insurance so they can make sure that insurance companies are providing that relief.

A pilot program was funded by the State that involves \$25 million, with the opportunity to leverage an additional \$75 million from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), for a total of \$100 million dollars to help vulnerable populations with retrofitting for their homes. Additionally, all the standards already exist in Wildland Interface Building Codes, Chapter 7A.

We were collecting a lot of data that has shown that mitigation efforts, home hardening, and defensible space do ensure that homes have a greater chance of survival, and this data is being brought back to the Department of Insurance. As the regulator of the insurance industry, they can then incorporate those findings that work and make sure that homeowners are getting the discounts that they deserve or the ability to hold on to their policy and not be non-renewed.

Chair Mike Richwine thanks all the guest speakers for their presentations.

The update for Senate Bill 817 was postponed as the presenters were not present at the meeting.

## 10. ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATES

Mike Bradley gave a report on behalf of Member Tolmie. He provided a quick overview of some stats and then the Governor's May revise as it is reflected for CAL FIRE. In 2021 so far there have been 2,340 fires over 14,340 acres. That is an increase of 1,200 fires and 12,000 acres from prior year, which was a devastating fire year. Call volume has increased and CAL FIRE has responded to about 187,000 calls, which is an increase of about 15,000 calls from last year. In the governor's May revise, there are several items related to firefighting assets that CAL FIRE is looking to get approved. The assets include sixteen firefighting hand crews in early action, as well as eight augmented firefighter hand crews, six exclusive use CCC crews, and funding to continue our partnership with the California National Guard for a total of thirteen National Guard crews. In Resource Management, \$491 million is budgeted for grant opportunities, unit projects, and other projects.

Member Jerry Davies informed the Board that he was the new Chair for the California Fire Safe Council, which is continuing its activities in terms of fire prevention grants. Information is available on the California Fire Safe Council website. The Council is also hiring new people and expanding.

Member David Gillotte reported that the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) held their elections. Ed Kelly is the General President, Frank Lima is the General Secretary Treasurer, and Steve Gilman is the 10<sup>th</sup> District Seat. There were also some changes to the California Professional Firefighters (CPF) executive board.

Member Ed Foster reported that the California State Firefighters Association (CSFA) held a mini conference business meeting, which was required by bylaws to induct the new executive board. The president is Eddie Sell from the Long Beach Fire Department and there are eight board members that were inducted at the conference. Also, CSFA passed a resolution to positively support the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) program titled "Out Think Wildfire," which is a program that recommends five significant issues that would address the spread of wildfire.

Brian Marshall reported on behalf of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES). The biggest issue that they are dealing with is the California Fire Assistance Agreement (CFAA) and it affects everybody in California fire service. Staff processed \$420 million in invoices, so far, and that is over 12,000 F42 Emergency Activity Records, whether it be single overhead or strike teams. That generated almost 6,000 invoices, the largest payer of the California fire assistance agreement is CAL FIRE and the next is the US Forest Service (USFS).

Member Mike Smith thanked Brian Marshall on the CFAA topic. The CFAA has a disproportionate impact on the 70 California travel fire departments. CalOES has been very supportive as they continue to negotiate that with the Federal Wildland Agencies. Next, he congratulated Andrew Henning on his promotion. Finally, he announced that the Cal Chiefs annual conference is from September 14<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup> in San Diego.

Member Moke Simon reported that all the counties he spoke to are preparing for wildfire season. They are attempting to do some heavy lifting and create a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) Lake County Risk Reduction Authority, looking at all opportunities as a Firewise county. They are working on a contract with the USFS for a community mitigation assessment team and are preparing for the long term future of climate change and living environments. They are preparing locally and, like most northern counties, have declared a proclamation of drought it's obviously a slower moving disaster, but it is one that everyone is addressing, especially in the northern region and throughout the state.

Tara Brideau informed the group that the California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee (CalJAC) has been busy with distributing materials for the behavioral health safety stand down and the suicide awareness safety stand down. She is thankful for CAL FIRE's participation and there are resources on the Healing Our Own website, where talking points and other resources are available on a tab for safety stand down.

## 11. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public in attendance.

## 12. UPCOMING MEETING DATES

Upcoming meeting dates are August 19th and November 18th.

## 13. ADJOURNMENT

**Chair Mike Richwine adjourned the meeting at 1528 hours.**