



**VERDUGO FIRE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER  
TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2016**

**Attendees:**

Agency	Primary	Alternate
Alhambra - ALH	Battalion Chief Shonkwiler	
Arcadia - ARC	Battalion Chief Cody Cerwin	
Burbank - BRK	Battalion Chief Ron Barone	
Angeles Nat'l Forest - ANF		
Bob Hope Airport - BUR		
Glendale - GLN	Battalion Chief Bill Lynch	GLN PIO Brandy Villanueva
LA City - LFD		
LA County - LAC		
Monrovia - MRV		
Montebello - MTB		
Monterey Park - MPK		Captain Ryan Weddle
Pasadena - PAS	Battalion Chief Seaton King	
SGB-SNM-SPS = SSS	Fire Chief Mario Rueda	
Sierra Madre - SMD	Captain Brent Bartlett	
Vernon – VER	Battalion Chief Andy Guth	Captain Craig Peltier
Verdugo Fire Comm.	Don Wise	

**Housekeeping: PULSEPOINT Presentation for agency representatives and PIOs (City and Fire Dept.) / Verdugo Personnel Input Form has been updated to include VER.**

**I. New Business:**

- A. AAR – HOUSE – 07/12/16 – 1751 Windsor Rd., SNM:** Reverse this sentence: This was a cypress tree vegetation fire that extended to a house a block away resulting in a second alarm. Engine 91 had some transmissions that were digitized/unreadable. It was initially unclear that the incidents were related between house and vegetation fire. Staging & CP were not established. Confusion on I.C. name (Warwick vs. Windsor). Radio Dispatcher did not catch that AU81 is cross-staffed with Engine 81. Contact timer was started at 15 minute marker on the 2<sup>nd</sup> alarm.
- B. AAR – APT – 07/27/16 – 1136 N. Columbus Ave., GLN:** This was a second alarm apartment fire. No communications/operational issues noted.
- C. AAR – HOUSE – 08/02/16 – 424 N. Cordova Ave., ALH:** Fatality fire, 1<sup>st</sup> alarm house fire. Fire was a defensive fire due to being too hot for initial entry however the incident eventually transitioned to an offensive fire. An additional RA and two engines were requested. No communications issues reported.
- D. CESRS vs FDUMA Travel Channel:** For Immediate Need Strike Team responses within Los Angeles County, CESRS is not a viable travel channel as it is Direct/Simplex and responding engine companies cannot communicate with each other if responding separately to a form-up location outside of the incident. **FDUMA must be used for responses WITHIN Los Angeles County.** Outside of LA County, Immediate Need responses should form-up first, then use CESRS as a Travel Channel. When traveling, users must be aware of the MPL tone changes needed for CESRS, depending on team geographic location within the State. Local channels may not be used due to potential interference, in this instance.

**E. Nationwide Emergency Alert System (EAS) Test:** FCC's Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau announced that FEMA, in collaboration with the Commission, plans to conduct a nationwide test of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) **on Sept. 28. A secondary test date has been set for Oct. 5, if necessary.** The nationwide test will be the second such test ever conducted. All TV, radio, cable and satellite providers (EAS Participants) are required to participate in this nationwide test. The nationwide test will assess the reliability and effectiveness of the EAS, with a particular emphasis on testing FEMA's Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS), the gateway through which common alerting protocol-based (CAP-based) EAS alerts are disseminated to EAS participants. The test will provide an opportunity to evaluate this and other measures that the FCC has adopted to address issues identified in connection with the 2011 Nationwide EAS Test. The Bureau is advising EAS participants to take steps to be ready for the test, including updating state EAS plans, upgrading equipment and software, and synchronizing EAS equipment clocks. The FCC's announcement of the test can be found [here](#).

**F. On-Scene Operations - Agency Name Preceded by Unit ID:** An operational concern was identified to the Verdugo Fire Operation Committee that poses potential conflict with the current agency identifiers. The committee has agreed to a six-month trial to determine operational benefits with the following:

*When Battalion Chiefs are on scene of an incident and another agency's apparatus are being utilized, the I.C. shall state the agency name followed by the Unit Identifier. E.g., "Alhambra Engine 71 copy assignment to Division B - Bravo, Vernon Engine 77 copy assignment to Division C - Charlie" etc.*

This action will support lessening of confusion with the I.C. using just the Unit Identifier.

**G. SSS (Verdugo Cities) Rescue Ambulance Coverage:**

In SPS: When RA81 is not available for response, CAD will recommend unit SNMRA for response. If RA91 is available, RA91 will be dispatched. If RA91 is not available, the next closest RA via the 8-City EMS Agreement will be dispatched.

In SNM: When RA91 is not available CAD will recommend unit SPSRA for response in the western part of the city (see map below...west of the purple boundary line.) If RA91 is available, RA91 will be dispatched. If RA91 is not available, the next closest RA via the 8-City EMS Agreement will be dispatched.

In SNM: When RA91 is not available CAD will recommend RA81 OR RA51, whichever is closer, in the eastern part of the city (see map below...east of the purple boundary line.) RA81 and RA51 will respond automatically into SNM as recommended by CAD. If RA81 and RA51 are not available, the next closest RA via the 8-City EMS Agreement will be dispatched.

In SGB: When RA51 is not available in SGB, CAD will recommend RA91 for response into all of SGB. If RA91 is not available, the next closest RA via the 8-City EMS Agreement will be dispatched.

**H. Verdugo Fire Communications System Organizational Chart:** With the development of several new Area C Committees versus that of standing Verdugo Fire Communications System committees, a new organizational chart has been developed reflecting the Chain of Command for any changes within the Verdugo Fire Communications System (attachment).

**I. WestNet Text to Speech Radio:** Demo of Metro Communications (Anaheim) method of voice radio dispatching. Is there desire/interest to potentially use this method? Yes. EA Wise and radio communications personnel will vet the technical and operational aspects.



II. **Update on Continued Areas/Projects/Issues:**

- A. **ISO and Accreditation Surveys** – BRK Fire undergoing ISO review.
- B. **TICP 2016** – Approved locally by Area C Coordinator.
- C. **FOOTHILL RADIO PLAN** – No Change.
- D. **ROSS/CICCS Data Entry Project** – No Change.
- E. **NG-9-1-1 (RING) Project** – No Change.
- F. **Disaster Recovery Center (DRC)** – No Change.
- G. **ICI System P25 RADIO** – No Change.
- H. **Operations Committee Updates** – No Change.
- I. **State 9-1-1 Working Group, Long Range Planning, and Advisory Board, LARICS, FIRSTNET** – No Change.
- J. **CAD Projects** –
  - 1. **CAD-to-CAD:** RFP closed by Mayor’s Office.
  - 2. **CAD Replacement: No update/change.**
  - 3. **GIS** – Reviewing potential vendors and workflow processes for GIS updates.
- K. **PulsePoint Project** – Webex for TF members. **Follow-up to occur next month with method of agency registration for AED database and agency alerts!**
- L. **TF Action Items** – None.
- M. **Verdugo Staffing** – Approximately 40 candidates passed the typing test and are now in the Oral Panel phase. Oral Panels conducted August 8 & 9. Approximately 20 candidates attended the voluntary Background Orientation.



III. **Roundtable:**

- ALH** – Working on 5-city training calendar; training calendar is now online.
- ARC** –
- BRK** –
- BUR** –
- GLN** –
- LAC** –
- LFD** –
- MPK** – Thanks to Kadia & Crystal – Pub. Ed 9-1-1 Campaign; crew benefited. MPK has a Capt translating the current 9-1-1 Education video into Mandarin.
- MRV** –
- MTB** –
- PAS** – Recruit academy on the 22<sup>nd</sup>; BC academy coming up; Captains panels.

SSS –  
SMD –  
VER –  
VFCC –

**Next Task Force Meeting:** Tuesday September 13, 2016 at Verdugo Fire Communications at 09:00 hours.  
**Next SOG Meeting:** Tuesday September 13, 2016 at Verdugo Fire Communications at 08:00 hours.