



**VERDUGO FIRE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER  
TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2017**

**Attendees:**

Agency	Primary	Alternate
Alhambra - ALH	Battalion Chief Doug Shonkwiler	
Arcadia - ARC	Deputy Chief Barry Spriggs	
Burbank - BRK	Assistant Chief Eric Garcia	
Angeles Nat'l Forest - ANF		
Bob Hope Airport - BUR		
Glendale - GLN	Battalion Chief Brian Julian	Deputy Chief Bill Lynch
LA City - LFD		
LA County - LAC		
Monrovia - MRV		
Montebello - MTB	Deputy Chief Dan France	
Monterey Park - MPK	Captain Ryan Weddle	
Pasadena - PAS	Training Chief Seaton King	Steve Page
San Gabriel - SGB	Captain David Pacela	
SNM-SPS = SS	Fire Chief Mario Rueda	
Sierra Madre - SMD		
Vernon – VER		
Verdugo Fire Comm.	Don Wise / Jason Pfau / Alison Finch	Oscar Barrera / FCSS Soto

**Housekeeping: Radio channel recordings 7/19 – 8/6. Recordings can be obtained off of ICI Nice System.**

**I. New Business:**

- A. Wildwood Canyon, BRK (Brush) Incident 7/26/17:** 3<sup>rd</sup> alarm fire in Burbank with 4 additional engines. Using the multiple alarm level command by staff as an “immediate” alarm to a 3<sup>rd</sup> alarm caused a Water Tender to not be recommended; 2 Water Tenders were assigned when one was needed. One unit self-dispatched to the fire. Radio position was overwhelmed with requests to repeat the comm plan, location, TBG and to page/text the information due to comm plan not being supplemented on 3<sup>rd</sup> alarm until much later in the incident. LA County was contacted for camp-crews and 2 water dropping helicopters for a Burbank area fire; this area is not covered by LA County for auto-aid. Resource requests were subsequently filled by LFD and ANF. CH2, DC3 and BC5 responded to Verdugo to support operations. Paramedic Engines were moved up from other Area C agencies and key stations to cover GLN PE’s assigned to fire; GLN key stations should’ve been skipped. A number of units were documented in Incident History however not actually assigned as a unit to the history. Dead radio coverage areas found (using RED-10-D) during after-action review (due to ridge line), inclusive of other radio platform types. Steep terrain on this fire, 3 FF’s transported for heat-related injuries. LARTCS-3V (repeated) was a challenge (LFD will be contacted as to whether we should continue use or remove from radio plan). Discussion on Arroyo and area west of Brookside being a comm’s challenge. Need to re-review comm plan channels and whether LAC V-xx would be better option. Review to be done before Sep. TF meeting w/results by Steve Page. Helispot lookup – use the LV command on the MCT; training documentation forthcoming. Add to LA County app?
  
- B. 832 Fairview, ARC (Apt) Incident 8/3/17:** 3<sup>rd</sup> alarm fire in Arcadia. Numerous calls received. No communications or operational issues noted. Chief Valentine IC. Chief Dondanville was Safety initially until made Operation IC. 3<sup>rd</sup> called and then subsequent BC became S.O. Handled Red-Cross and DMAC on their own. One person transported + two Arcadia FF’s transported during incident. Learning lessons

in supporting resident's needs. Lessons learned on Rehab. 4<sup>th</sup> alarm considered for support. Discussion with impacts of 48/96 schedule with a multiple alarm incident; overhaul, pick-up, escorting residents, etc. Discussion on relief.

- C. **GETS & WPS Changes:** services from legacy second and third generation (2G/3G) wireless technology to fourth generation (4G) Long Term Evolution (LTE) wireless technology. Though development is underway to provide WPS on the LTE networks using Voice over LTE (VoLTE) technology, until this development is complete, WPS calls will continue to rely on the carriers' 2G/3G networks. Depending on the carrier, these legacy 2G/3G networks may also be referred to as Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA), Global System for Mobile Communication (GSM), or Universal Mobile Telecommunications Service (UMTS). In concert with the transition, the carriers will soon begin offering single mode, i.e., 4G/LTE-only, mobile devices. These devices currently do not support WPS. For the present time, WPS subscribers should avoid the use of these new single-mode devices. For continued access to WPS features, WPS subscribers should ensure their devices are dual-mode, i.e., compatible with both 2G/3G networks and 4G networks. This recommendation for WPS users to obtain only dual-mode devices is temporary until WPS over VoLTE is available on your wireless carrier. (Attachment)
  
- D. **Nationwide Emergency Alert System (EAS) test:** The 2017 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 integrated gateway through which common alerting protocol-based (CAP-based) EAS alerts are disseminated to EAS Participants. The test message will clearly state that the alert is only a test of the EAS. FEMA's alert will be transmitted in English and Spanish and include both audio and the text of the test message, which can be used to populate an accessible video crawl. The primary test date is scheduled for September 27, 2017, at 2:20 PM EDT. If conditions on the day of the test require the rescheduling of the test, a secondary test date is scheduled for October 4, 2017. All EAS Participants are required to participate in this nationwide test. (Attachment)
  
- E. **ICI Radio System issue 7/31/2017:** Backhaul outage involving an older network switch. Motorola technicians resolved within a few hours. Affected sites Oat Nike (Chatsworth) and Hauser Mountain (Acton) and some of the RF sites within the Glendale cell. Verdugo Fire radio consoles and data system were also affected. 1:52 duration. Discussion on need for quarterly training exercise system-wide, involving purposeful failure of system, inclusive of Failsoft. Orange County does this type of training regularly. The ICI Technical Committee will be asked to discuss feasibility.
  
- F. **Move-Ups:** A move up company is always an engine company. While a key station may have a TRUCK AIQ, an engine will be moved-up. Move-up engine companies are apportioned from all Area-C cities. PARAMEDIC ENGINES (PE): PE's are not moved up to *another* city as an ALS resource to cover PE's that have been dispatched to an incident. The radio dispatcher retains (by-passes) PE's and keeps them within their agencies as an available ALS resource as needed to cover key stations (at minimum.) An engine that is AIQ at a KEY station (exception E29) ae not be moved up to cover another key station. Intra-city move-ups are initiated first, before inter-city move ups are initiated. E56 can be used as PE move-up per MTB. MTB Type III's are also available for Brush incidents.

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

- A. **ISO and Accreditation Surveys** – ARC and SNM/SPS/SGB are each undergoing Standards of Cover Survey. **Congratulations to Monrovia from Class 3 to Class 2!**
  
- B. **TICP 2017 – No Change.**

- C. **FOOTHILL RADIO PLAN** – Working on new boundary map. EA Wise recommended use of the Los Angeles County Fire Hazard Severity Zone map as compiled by CalFire as a starting point:  
[http://www.fire.ca.gov/fire\\_prevention/fire\\_prevention\\_wildland\\_zones\\_maps](http://www.fire.ca.gov/fire_prevention/fire_prevention_wildland_zones_maps)  
  
**Los Angeles County Fire Hazard Severity Zone Map (PDF=8MB):**  
[http://frap.fire.ca.gov/webdata/maps/los\\_angeles/LosAngelesCounty.pdf](http://frap.fire.ca.gov/webdata/maps/los_angeles/LosAngelesCounty.pdf)
- D. **NG-9-1-1 (RING) Project – No Change.**
- E. **Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) – No Change.**
- F. **ICI System P25 RADIO – No Change.**
- G. **Verdugo Fire Operations Committee Updates – No Change.**
- H. **State 9-1-1 Working Group, Long Range Planning, and Advisory Board, LARICS, FIRSTNET – No Change**
- I. **CAD Projects –**
  - 1. **CAD-to-CAD:** No update/change.
  - 2. **CAD Replacement:** City Council agenda item for 8/8.
  - 3. **GIS:** No update/change.
- J. **Text-to-911: No Change.**
- K. **Verdugo Staffing – No Change.**

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### III. Roundtable:

**ALH** – Couple of new engines coming and in service in a few weeks. Thanks to all for assist on reserve engines. Today is Ray Mosack’s last day. BC test coming in Sept. Eng, Capt. FF recruitment by end of year. Seeing same issues with IOD issues.

**ARC** –

**BRK** – Recruitment going for 6 (poss 8). Tower in Feb. Staffing issues as well.

**BUR** –

**GLN** – 3 significant arson arrests in the last month. Joint effort with GPD and GLN arson got the folks. 19 fires in GLN/BRK. Hiring 11 recruits in Oct. Police & Fire games going on in GLN at Sports Complex this week. Having tough time sending Single Resource and Strike Team, driven by staffing.

**LAC** –

**LFD** –

**MPK** –

**MRV** –

**MTB** – MTB Cell – VER site at water tank is complete; not powered up yet. MPK is supporting effort by supplying Garvey site. MPK putting in P25 system at that site with MTB spectrum. Another site in Santa Fe Springs – going from 8-12 channel system. Should be done in next 6 mos. Should help with not having to switch; help tremendously with coverage issues. 95% coverage with MTB and GLN system alone in basin. Having staffing issues; backed off on Single Resource. Area E/Area C issue/discussion. Chief’s test upcoming with 5 applicants. Dan France is participating. Ongoing testing process; hopefully for academy in fall. Trying to address long-term injuries/staff/city management. BRK and GLN have similar situations and can help with issues.

**PAS** – With change for Fall2 to single engine. Had a recent call was actually Full Arrest. Disaster Area Coordinators trying to fill classes with local agencies. Aug. 22-24 LA City hosting succession planning training. PAS will be hosting in Jan or Feb/2018. Possible lateral class in Sept for 10.

**SGB** – Hosting a lateral test for FF/PM. Open recruitment soon.

**SS** – Attic fire recently; digitized- went to MTB and worked fine. Some areas of SPS don’t do well with P25. Chief Riddle is new Fire Chief. Eric Zanteson and Mark Dondanville are BC9 to cover ops and admin for each city.

**SMD –**

**VER –** Thank you for helping with Engineers exam.

**VFCC –** Don and Alison in Denver, CO for APCO and Don on vacation thereafter. Question about number of phone calls from PD vs transfers by PD and whether any changes; EA Wise will review.

**Next Task Force Meeting:** Tuesday September 12, 2017 at Verdugo Fire Communications at 09:00 hours.

**Next SOG Meeting:** Tuesday September 12, 2017 at Verdugo Fire Communications at 08:00 hours.