



VERDUGO FIRE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER Task Force Meeting Minutes March 10, 2020

Present: ARC, BRK, GLN, MPK, PAS, SGB, SNM, SPS, VFCC

Absent: ALH, BUR, MRV, MTB, SMD

Presentation/Power Point

911 call – BRK- Baby Delivery

CAD upgrade update:

- Go live date is planned for May 12, 2020
- Log-in day – Over the next few weeks expect to perform log-in tests. You will be contacted by VFCC to perform simple tests of the new CAD to help find any issues before deployment
- Printers – paper print outs will no longer be available under the new CAD. This is due to various issues. Printers are currently the responsibility of the individual agency. We are exploring low cost work arounds but be prepared that printing and paper jams will go away.
- Recommended New CAD Mobility Training April 9th and 10th in the morning and evening. This is a new train-the-trainer class that will go over updated material. Class is four hours. Morning sessions are booking up fast.
- Fire Agency Status- Everyone is tracking well, only a few agencies are a bit behind. BRK updated that they will be on USDD platform prior to go-live date.

VFCC update:

- Finance- As conveyed, the 5% contract agency increase was implemented and the budget was approved this morning at the Tri-City Executive Committee meeting.
- Staffing- Fire Communications Shift Supervisor position currently open as promotional opportunity, we also have dispatcher vacancies with a bulletin going out next week. If you know of anyone who would be a good fit, please refer them.
- Coronavirus EMD – We have a list of questions and a well vetted EMD. (Dr. Loza): we are identifying breathing problems and febrile persons showing any signs of cold, flu symptoms and fever. Discussion on changes to the call screening to continue to provide best information for responders. This is a rapidly changing screening based on the most current and accurate information available.
- Dispatch appreciation week – April 8-14, 2020 contact Julie or shift supervisors to arrange meal delivery. We are also planning a raffle as was done in past years.

Updates:

- Mayday Policy Update- (MPK) Presentation was provided to LAAFCA Chiefs. Waiting on the RTG to roll out the training delivery. Initially it was due to be released in February. It was decided that Mutual Threat Zones would be released this month and Firefighter safety awareness thereafter. LAAFCA policy from 2014 only change is the IC is the



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generator of the warble rather than the dispatcher. Procedurally would go across all channels. Second part of the training is the radio/E-trigger. Mayday heard whether on L.A. channel or they are on ours. This will likely be going into next year's TICP which was recommended as the central clearinghouse. We will continue to track these changes and how they would effect changes to VFCC policy.

- Comm Plan – (Ambrose) – Recommend having a comm plan on every dispatch.
 - Tac channel traffic not recorded
 - (GFD) Does everyone have two radios- unconventional and trunked?
 - We can revisit the former discussion of adding additional talk groups
 - Right now everyone can ask for any frequencies they want
 - (SNM) At the time of dispatch when you get a comm plan, it is one less thing you have to think about

Request: By the next meeting requesting a summary com plan for the initial dispatch
- Second BC on working Fire, still pending at the Fire Chief's level.
 - (BFD) relying on dispatcher to add what is appropriate is a problem that leaves gaps
 - It should be common knowledge/a common practice that they are coming especially on fires
 - Ambrose: If you need one now – ask for it and one will be added.

New Business:

- BC dispatched to Verdugo: (SNM): Clarification regarding whether this means to move to Glendale (Station 21) or to move to Verdugo to assist.
 - A Chief should be in Verdugo during significant events
 - DC Lynch to provide draft guidelines of Duty Chief. Guidelines to be reviewed and updated.
- Operational Modes (ARC)
 - Offensive/Defensive mode
 - RTG will be releasing this down the road – ICS document 500 will be covered in Part II of Operational Risk Management
- Call Volume Work Group (First meeting today)
 - Reviewing call type codes and what data will be required to make a valid process.
 - (BRK) – The intent is to reduce potential risk- concerned about the cost of managing what we put out, does this put us at a disadvantage, specifically looking to potentially increase response to fires
 - (Dr. Loza) – Same agency, same dispatch is easy. For Verdugo it is hard to implement tiered dispatch as there are many different agencies that have many different response units/models. The task group has to consider the different



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resources and whether the agencies will commit to that model. Do all responses have to be Code 3? The answer is no.

- (PAS) Accreditation process has a critical tasking that shows what you are supposed to use to appropriately manage
- (SNM) there are algorithms that support sending less. NY sends an RA by itself.

Roundtable

SNM: We are using the RTG for the BC exam. One practice day, one test day will make up the operational component of the exam. Hopefully this will be a model for everyone.

SPS: Three new FF's are hitting the floor; we will have full staffing for a bit

ARC: Thank you for help sending raters. Engineer's exam today, four new FF's starting in the first week in April. Three months into the Sierra Madre trial period, nothing has popped up yet, nothing significant call wise. Faster for them – apparatus goes automatically. (PAS) Training with them in tactics and safety.

BRK: Just completed re-accreditation, 15 recruits hiring in May, BC exam in May.

SGB: Sales Tax measure passed 64%, six vacancies, San Gabriel academy will be held in June for 6 recruits

PAS: May 15 recruit academy. In December we are expected to be down by 25. Second academy will be Jan/Feb – 24 week academy. Promoted one BC, two Capt.'s, one engineer. Pursuing re-accreditation (ALA- state training) Capt. Exam in mid- April, Engineer's exam after that. Area C training officers group – look for an email invitation to do breakfast.

GLN: We had an Engineer's exam then a two week academy, all passed and we found it very helpful, we can provide curriculum. MTZ luncheon coming up.

MPK: New quint will be in service soon, with two new engines. Fire Station 62 construction, Division Chief's test April 2nd, Capt. Exam at the end of April, Mid-May Engineers exam, three new council members

BC Ambrose: Next meeting is a quarterly meeting so LACO, LAFD and ANF will be invited. Its dispatcher's appreciation week April 8-14. If you are having a test and need a dispatcher, let us know and we will accommodate. Went to the Porterville Funeral, large turn-out- Library is located next to the Fire Station. Area C can car pool for future events.

NEXT MEETING: April 14, 2020