



California Fire Technology Directors Association

Meeting Minutes

February 20th 2003

2003 Executive Board

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Tracy Rickman
Rio Hondo Community
College

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Rick Vogt
Riverside Community
College

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College of the Canyons
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City College of San Francisco
College of San Mateo
Crafton Hills College
CSU Los Angeles
East Los Angeles College
El Camino College
Glendale College
Long Beach City College
Modesto College
Miramar College
Mt San Antonio College
Mt San Jacinto College
Oxnard College
Palomar College
Rio Hondo College
Riverside Community College
Santa Ana College
Santa Rosa College
Sierra College
Shasta College
Yuba City College

I. Call To Order by President Rick Vogt at 9:10 am

In attendance: Tracy Rickman, Myrna Reyes, Dr. Barry Dineen, Gary W. Morgan, Jim Petersen, Dan Sullivan, Neal Allbee, Diana McDonald, Gerry Gardner, Steve Dixon, Norm Scott, Terry Koeper, Rick Vogt, Art Cota, Bob Feliciano, Sylvia Beanes, Dr. Jennifer Fernandez, Dan Coffman, Dr. Ray Shackelford.

II. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

It was motioned by Tracy Rickman and seconded by Terry Koeper to accept the minutes of the last meeting held in Sacramento on November 7th & 8th 2002. Unanimously approved with corrections.

III. Financial Report-

Terry Koeper reports that we do have a TAX ID #. Steve Dixon (New Treasurer) will find all tax related items and have them prepared for next meeting held in April 2003.

IV. Correspondence-

- ❖ Phone call and letter from Sylvia Beanes from the American Heart Association pertaining to upcoming seminar for AED usage.
- ❖ Bob Feliciano from Rio Hondo College requests time to speak about GIS/GPS program and the Fire Service.
- ❖ Quynh Gonzales from Delmar publisher would like time to discuss textbooks and pass out additional information and tapes.
- ❖ Jennifer Fernandez is present and will speak on the "Education Plan" she has developed for Fire Technology students.

Va. Legislative (Committee Report)

Neal Allbee discusses the FTE cap (exception for Public Safety Training). He feels that the timing is not right and that we should contact the Chancellor's office to see if there was something we could do. Due to massive budget cutbacks the Association feels that the timing is simply not conducive to make a formal request at this time.

Art Cota states that 60% of the Public Safety personnel will be retiring by 2006. Dave Senior states that there will probably be many opportunities for "Golden Handshakes". Consensus is that the CFTDA should be patience and wait for the budget crisis to subside.

Action Item- Neal Allbee will let the Chancellor's office know that the CFTDA is in support of and in need of Public Safety Training funds. Exception to FTE cap will be placed on hold for time being.

VI. Roundtable-

Steve Dixon reports, "No Cuts" at the college of the Canyons at this time. The Public Safety program is actually expanding.

Terry Koeper Reports that Crafton Hills has a 149 Million bond (infrastructure only, no additional staff). ARFF facility is still alive and well and should begin by the end of the Spring 2003 semester. Terry has information about the Phoenix FD "Rapid Intervention" training program. Dave Senior asks Terry if it is something that can be posted on the website? Rick Vogt thanks Terry and tells the group he can handle getting it on the website.

Gary Morgan reports that the Oxnard College summer academy has been canceled. EMT program is running very well. A 356 million bond was passed. Gary says 3.5 million is for new Burn Building. Approximately 235 million is for the Public Safety program. Gary says that 103,000 square foot police and fire building includes showers, lockers, classrooms, HAZMAT lab, and a 100 person auditorium. Gary says that the CPAT is running well. Dave Senior asks for a plan on when the CPAT test will be ran. A discussion about the CPAT and a vehicle donation from Barbara Ford ensued.

Dan Sullivan reports that East LA College is rebuilding the Fire Technology program. Four classes are being offered and there are about 55 students in each class. Dave Senior states he will give Dan copies of his "Wildland Program" and Tracy Rickman will assist in the curriculum for the "EMT" program.

Rick Vogt reports that Riverside Community College has serious budget problems. About an 8 million dollar deficit. The FLAG trailer is being built at this time for RCC's program. Rick has two mini-grants and he passed out a copy a matrix for the "Marketing of Special Populations" in the Desert Region. Rick says that the Riverside County area continues to grow.

Tracy Rickman reports that the Fire Technology program at Rio Hondo received a grant for "Marketing and Recruiting Wild land Firefighters." He is looking for minorities and women to apply for Rio Hondo's Type II Hand crew to fight wild land fires during the 2003 fire season. He says that Rio Hondo has a contract (3-year) with LA City Fire Department to conduct the Physical Abilities Test.

Neal Allbee reports that Sierra College has had some budget cutbacks. A bond initiative will go on the ballot in 2004. A joint Police and Fire Facility are needed. The District is at 98.8% currently and the College is "Bursting at the Seams" as noted by Neal.

Diana McDonald reports that Los Medanos College is experiencing a 20% cutback. They will offer nothing during the summer of 2003. Los Medanos just graduated a fire academy last month and started a new class in February 2003.

Dave Senior reports that the Fire Technology core courses are online for the Summer and Fall semesters in 2003 at Allan Hancock College. Wildland Fire Classes are online as well.

Dave states that he working with Crafton Hills College pertaining to 29 FTE's. Students at Crafton Hills need College Credit. The Regional Deans approved the paramedic program and the Chancellor's office now has it. The first class should be about a year from now. Dave discusses the "Leadership & Ethics" program and gives highlights on where this program is at currently. If anyone is interested in sponsoring a class please contact Dave or Art Cota. Dave also discusses homeland security and funding mechanisms for police and fire.

Karl Smith reports that Antelope Valley has also seen budget cuts due to the budget crisis. Whole programs have been cut. The Fire Technology program is doing well.

Gerry Gardner reports there are some program cut backs at Glendale College but not in the Fire Technology program. Gerry states that he will be offering more fire officer courses. The only fire class offered during the summer of 2003 will be the fire academy.

Dr. Ray Shackelford reports that he now has the Safety and Environmental four-year degree programs at California State University, Los Angeles. He is meeting with San Luis Obispo pertaining to the Wildland Fire/Forestry classes. Dr. Shackelford reports to the Association that the quality of instruction is poor from students leaving the Community Colleges and entering the Cal State system. He suggests we look hard at this problem. Students are not going to the University prepared. A discussion on this topic takes place.

VII. State Report- Art Cota

- ❖ Art asks that we go to the Public Safety Symposium. Stipends are available.
- ❖ Art reports that the budget problems have left him with unfilled positions.
- ❖ Art states that curriculum development is taking place on Driver Operator 1A/1B, Fire Prevention 1A/1B and Large Animal Rescue.
- ❖ Kevin Brame is working on Management Level II and III.
- ❖ Fire Command 1C was approved but never finished. Dan Coffman asked the status of this class.
- ❖ Art offers to give us a list of instructors since the online format does not operate.
Rick Vogt will handle getting the list of instructors from Art to put on the CFTDA website.
- ❖ Art Reports that the State Fire Training is going through an internal audit.
- ❖ Art reports that the State Board of Fire Services had a meeting in October of 2002. A suggestion not to reaccredit additional academies was addressed at that meeting. Art states that ALL academies currently accredited will remain this way until further notice.
- ❖ Art Suggest two resources "*Ladders of Opportunity*" and "*Economic Development Program*".

(During the meeting we heard from the Following Guest Speakers)

Dr, Jennifer Fernandez provided a copy of a Fire Technology Education Planner. She spoke to the group about making our fire technology students successful. She was told about our “Needs Assessment” survey and that she could look at it online. The Association thanked Dr. Fernandez for her time and efforts in developing this guideline.

Sylvia Beanes, Regional Director of the American Heart Association spoke to the group about “What it Takes to Become a Training Center” and about the upcoming seminar entitled “Jolting the Norm”. She stated that she is available to help our members when called upon.

Bob Feliciano (GIS/GPS coordinator at Rio Hondo) spoke to the group about GIS and GPS. Mr. Feliciano discussed how this technology could help the fire service in many arenas to include but not be limited to Arson Investigation, Wild land firefighting, and Fire Prevention.

Quyhn Gonzales from Delmar Publishing presented information pertaining to the new videos from Delmar (she passed out free copies) and about the line of textbooks from Delmar (once again she had free copies). She asked that if anyone would like to become an author to please contact her.

VIII. Old Business

Rick Vogt discusses the web site. He says that we have another year of website service that we have already paid for.

The Ad-hoc committee in regards to the SFT material reproduction was discuss to no resolve. More discussion will occur at the April 2003 meeting in Santa Maria.

IX. New Business

Rick Vogt offers his resignation as President of the CFTDA. Rick has taken on a new responsibility as a Public Information Officer for CDF. Rick offers his suggestion and recommends Tracy Rickman to fulfill the remainder of his term in 2003. Tracy accepts.

A motion by Dave Senior and a second by Terry Koeper to have Tracy Rickman finish the 2003-year as President of the CFTDA was submitted. Unanimously passed.

A motion by Karl Smith and Second by Ray Shackelford to have Dave Senior take over the duties of Secretary for the remainder of the 2003 calendar year was submitted. Unanimously passed.

Terry Koeper discusses the National Fire Academy “Higher Education Conference” in June 2003. He also discusses the 6th class as part of the core curriculum (on a National Basis) being “Hydraulics” class. Many in attendance said they have the hydraulics course as an elective currently. Terry also mentioned having a National Fire Technology Directors Association. More information on this topic is to follow at a later date.

ACTION ITEM- *How to plan and address problems at the California State Fire Marshal's office (we have no Representative from the CFTDA on the State Board). Those issues and concerns we have and common ground goals that need to be looked at.*

ACTION ITEM- *Dan Coffman is to be the liaison from the CFTDA to the California Fire Chiefs organization. He is to report back at the April 2003 meeting held in Santa Maria.*

Next Meeting: April 3rd and 4th in Santa Maria. See Website for details. Plan on attending both days.

- The CFTDA would like to thank outgoing President Rick Vogt for his faithful service to our organization. We hope to see him from time to time as he continues to support the goals and endeavors of the California Fire Technology Director's Association.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Tracy E Rickman, MPA
Secretary CFTDA