



VERDUGO FIRE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

Task Force Meeting Minutes February 9th, 2021

Present: ALH, ARC, BRK, BUR, GLN, MPK, MTB, PAS, SGB, SNM, SPS, BC Ambrose, Jason Pfau, Oscar Barrera, Manny Soto, Gor Galstyan, Dr. Loza, Gordon Arnold

Absent: SMD, MRV

Meeting Conducted via MS Teams, no votes taken.

Old Business: (Ambrose)

- Review how meetings are going to be handled in 2021. The goals, expectations, and plan of work.
- MDT workgroup found several revision recommendations for the vendor to address. Date for MDT deployment is still pending as the group has agreed the changes are important.
- Would like 100% participation from each City. Task force goal status and participation will be shared with Area C Chiefs.
- Reviewed Task Force's goals and work plan. Discussion of key goals will be discussed later in the meeting.
- A plan of work and accountability sheet will be used to see what task is being worked on and actions that need to be taken.

VFCC CAD updates: (Ambrose)

- There is an overall decrease in pending issues. A version update was performed to fix several system bugs and add requested enhancements. One of the main remaining issues involves cross street verification.
- GIS Data is being addressed daily with fixes tested and moved to the 'live' environment each week.
- The tri-cities have been assisting with GIS data fixes as well as ESRI and ESRI contractors who have been reviewing our data.

VFCC staffing updates: (Ambrose)

- Four new FCO's have started their second week of training. FCSS's Soto and Garrett have been providing their initial training and each trainee has a 'mentor' assigned to help ensure success.

New Business:

Tablet Command demonstration by Van Riverre

Tablet Command was created by firefighters and is an incident management tool with access to pre-plans and other situational awareness tools. VFCC staff was able to see TC deployment at CONFIRE where they use the tablet with a two-way interface (similar to an MDT).

Communications Plan Update - Weddle

- Communications Plan aka Incident Radio Communications Plan (Weddle)- channels for the rapid deployment of radio equipment for any multi company incident
- The IRCP is used by almost all agencies in LA County, similar to the Foothill MTZ used in Area C
- IRCP needs officers to have access to two radios



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- IRCP would take the current radio channels and simply repurpose them:
 - Plan 1: Command Channel, Primary Tactical Channel, Secondary Tactical Channel
 - Reassignment of RED 8 to RED 15
 - Pros:
 - Cost effective
 - Easy to implement
 - Provides 3 channels at time of dispatch
 - Cons:
 - Limits of 3 IRCP's for over 40 Fire Stations (Long Beach has 23 stations and 4 IRCP's)
 - Plan 2: All IRCP's in this configuration would receive one trunked talk group and one direct channel.
 - Direct channels would be the primary tactical channels
 - Pros:
 - Cost effective
 - Easy to implement
 - Provides 2 channels at time of dispatch
 - Provides total of 6 IRCP's
 - Direct channels provide fire ground value
 - Cons:
 - Direct tactical/channels not recorded.

Earthquake Plan - Rueda

- San Marino worked with their PD to create an Earthquake plan in a collaborative fashion
- There are two separate missions but the missions overlap greatly
- Doesn't conflict with VFCC policy
- Breaks San Marino into four zones to help cover the city

Area C Fire Department Chief Officer Training Plan - Rueda

- BCs and Fire Chiefs will have a regular on-going training
- Goal is to have four training sessions within a year
- Over time create a standard to measure the improvement of performance of the BC

Mayday/RIC Policy – Brown

- Focused on 6 departments: Arcadia, Monrovia, South Pasadena, San Marino, Monterey Park, Alhambra to train Captains and BC's
- 26 attendees in the morning
- 34 attendees in the afternoon
- Upcoming dates: 2/11 and 2/12
- Invitation extended to the tri-cities.



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- 2 Alarm restaurant fire
- Most of the personnel were used for fire extension to adjacent structures

Roundtable/ Goals for VFCC 2021

GLN – Goals - Chief Lynch emphasized need for Mayday policy to be included in 2021 Goals. Chief Lynch and Chief Alvarez are working on a command tactical worksheet for BC's, will share with other cities. The group discussed importance of standard tactical worksheet that is uniform throughout the Area. RT - 3 firefighters in paramedic school, academy scheduled in May.

PAS- RT - Move-ups to 33- There is construction going on during working hours. Chief Augustin will start in Pasadena on Feb 22, a DC and BC positions will open. 20 firefighters will join Academy.

MTB- RT - BC Goltara will be taking on the responsibilities of the Training Chief for the Montebello Fire Department replacing Captain Cox.

ARC- Goals – Communications Plan. Pre-plan, call history, and AVL data would be important for all units responding to an incident. RT - Firefighter recruitment starting in March.

ALH – Goals - Comm Plan is priority number one.

SGB – Goals - Comm Plan to be implemented this year. Emphasis on training and standardization, and clear expectations across all departments. RT - Nothing to report.

MPK – Goals - Comm Plan is top priority. Second goal is to have BC training. RT - Fire Station 62 construction is on-going. RA 62 still operating out of station 61.

SMD – nothing to report

MRV –nothing to report

SPS- Goals - Tablet Command implementation, Comm Plan implementation - use Red 11 and Red 12 if possible for direct channels, Section 6 and 11 of the Verdugo Manual need to be updated and republished, RIC and Mayday Script and process in a Mayday (how to use the 2nd BC) standardized. RT- nothing to report.

SNM – Goals - Comm Plan, Mayday/ RIC needs to be prioritized. Also standardizing policies among departments. An Annual Report may need to be implemented on the work that is being done. RT-nothing to report.

BRK – Goals - Comm Plan, call volume improvement, response times with CAD, standardization with Mayday/RIC. If running into other jurisdictions having a standardized Area C terminology can help improve the organization of an incident. RT - Started 16-week academy, 20 recruits.

Dr. Loza- RT updating CPR to only hands. Inquired if Tablet Command can also incorporate hospitals and MCI.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Tuesday March 9, 2021 MS Teams