



VERDUGO FIRE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER Task Force Meeting Minutes January 13, 2022

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

Absent: MRV, SMD

Meeting Conducted via MS Teams, no votes taken, recording available

Jason Garrett's introduction, meeting time change noted to accommodate LAAFCA

The Verdugo strategic plan, updated in December, will be distributed together with the minutes of this task force.

VFCC updates:

- Command Point (CAD) Version 3.0 has been released by Peraton and will need to be regression tested.
- Staffing:
 - We experienced short staffing due to recent Covid surge. Members of Area C have offered to receive training to be able to assist during staffing shortages.
 - Jason Garret was introduced, starting as 5th supervisor role with many duties. FCSS Soto will be returning to the floor on day shift and will still assist with CAD.
 - We are working on hiring hourly FCO-trainees. They will get same background check and vetting but this will reduce time for hiring and has attracted some good candidates. Currently we are doing sit-a-longs for interested candidates. If you know of someone who may be interested please notify BC Ambrose.
- Tech Committee – no recent meeting
- Finance/Data requests – Gor presented dashboards, added new Covid reports. Discussion on using 22 hours for the unit hour utilization equation. Chief Sell explained the logic behind the 22 hours vs 24 hours which reflects a more realistic reflection including time for training, apparatus checks, and meal time. Gor will be revising to 22 hours on the UHU in the dashboard.
- GIS-some patches were done on GIS side including updates for Log4j virus.

Workgroups: (request for volunteers, contact any workgroup member)

- i. Communications Plan – Weddle: - Chief Weddle gave a countywide radio communication update to LAAFCA earlier today.
- ii. Mayday/RIC – Brown: waiting on recent LA county firefighter death investigation and will present at the February Task Force.
- iii. QI – Alvarez/Gor: travel and response times were analyzed for the periods of 07.01 to 12.31 for 2020 and 2021. Ecats and power BI data was presented by Gor for review. Discussed that travel time data is only from new CAD, and there is nothing prior to 5/12/21. Discussion on 9 second delay in processing time which will be fixed with upgraded servers. Data is available upon request and will be added to quarterly minutes.
- iv. Emerging technologies: tablet command API will be completed by the end of first quarter of 2022. Statement of Work and other documents are being addressed with Tablet Command while the API is being developed to ensure prompt deployment once API is completed.

Old Business:

- Standard of Commands (Rueda)- current edition with suggestions from Tri-City chiefs has been



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updated and is with OPS committee for review

- First watch: Vendor was checking on API with Peraton. No new update.
- Type codes/drawdowns: MFD (multi-family dwelling) replaces APT, COM added for the commercial properties. SMOKEI and FLOW are now coded as the structure type and given a fire response (these were both previously full assignments) and will be discontinued as a Type Code.
- Ambrose presented CAD ability to set response parameters based on address. Suggested we start with all High Rise occupancies. Agencies will be polled to submit their high-rise occupancies. These can be added in to CAD and eventually get a modified response. Discussion on types and reasons for modified response and whether sprinklered or non-sprinklered matters. Discussion on which would qualify as augmented response. Next phase will include 'target hazard' locations where agencies may request an augmented response for a particular address. Verdugo will create a request which also includes the ARCGIS link to occupancy layers for agencies to submit their occupancies starting with high rise.

New Business:

- Arson Documents review and Approval. Discussion that TF will need more time to review. The documents will be resent with the minutes and Investigator Robinson will be notified.
- Task Force meeting time changed to 10AM on the second Thursday of the month.
- BLS Type Codes and low transport calls. Presentation on removal of ambulance from initial response for type codes with low percent of transport. The Tri-City Chiefs have expressed their approval to make changes to make the adjustments. Chief Augustine had been involved in a similar project at his former employer with very good results. Dr. Loza and Gor presented data for the period of 05.12.20 to 01.11.22 for the transports under 25%. Discussion was held about not sending Ambulance and adding/upgrading when needed. Discussion that INVL, MEDALR, and WELFAR type codes currently do not include an ambulance on initial dispatch. The group would like further data on ALS vs. BLS of TC, ASLT and DOWN transports as well as the breakdown by City. Discussion on definitions of each type code and Jason Garrett shared how ASLT calls are mostly PD transfers with limited information given. Chief Rueda suggested a report with the rationale; Chief Ambrose has started this document for the Type Code changes and will continue to add to it. Group agreed with Tri-City Chiefs that they would not endorse sending an ambulance on its own. The OPS Chiefs would like more information so each City can review and allow TF members to take the issue back to their department. The OPS Chiefs agreed to meet with BC Ambrose and define further data needed. Dr. Loza discussed tiered response based on BLS type codes and age factor.
- Key Station Audit/USAR – Chief Sell discussed the need for a review of the key stations. Ambrose presented drive time analysis maps as well as the current key station maps. Discussion on how some Cities, particularly PAS, have different key station needs (USAR example) and it would be beneficial to review. Chief Ambrose and Rueda discussed draw down, emergency mode, and utilizing features in CAD to assist with move ups and draw down. Chief Sell will assist with a document requesting individual agency changes for key stations; Ambrose and Garrett, with assistance from Peraton and FCSS Soto, will research CAD options. Ambrose and Sell will reconvene to discuss further. Chief Rueda suggested this may need a sub-



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committee to create the draw down document, which will be important to have before a crisis.

- Staging – Chief Sell and Chief James would like a review of which calls require staging. Chief Ambrose presented type codes which recommend staging and FCSS Garrett explained how the Police Departments will tell us to stage. Discussion on this also being a training issue; for Captains to monitor their PD frequencies and the difference between PD responses across our agencies. Chief Sell offered to meet and review to see where we can improve. This item will be added to the February agenda.

Significant Event Review:

- Rose IC. Chief Sell gave a brief overview and thanked all agencies who assisted with the major event. Chief Rueda suggested review of the gasoline spill incident (PAS) at February Task Force.

Roundtable

BRK: Just completed tests for Engineer, Captain, and BC. Chief Alvarez thanked all the agencies who assisted and BRK is available to return the favor. Experiencing staffing challenges but have not had to go into a minimum or alternative staffing plan.

SMN: Staffing issues like everyone else. Close to 50% of workforce either IOD or Covid.

SPS: Staffing issues and AU OOS due to manpower. Work downs across shifts to accommodate.

MRV: No report

MPK: Doing OK with staffing with only 3 or 4 out. We are getting ready to put our Telestaff back online.

ALH: Captains joining in on Task Force for succession reasons. Similar boat for staffing and hiring. Moving forward with lots of good stuff with Chief Ragusa.

SGB: Had to step out to another meeting.

BUR: No report

MTB: Similar staffing issues. Put a utility in service to transport BLS when CARE unavailable and appreciate the assistance from MPK.

PAS: Seven new lateral paramedic recruits and hoping to have another large class by early spring. Thank you to everyone for their help with the Rose Parade/Bowl. Upcoming Captains and Battalion Chief exams.



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Dr Loza: Had to leave for another meeting. Nothing for roundtable.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: February 10, 2022 at 10AM