



VERDUGO FIRE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

Task Force Meeting Minutes
 Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Agency	Present	Primary	Secondary
Alhambra - ALH		BC Brown (In Person)	
Arcadia - ARC		BC Devlin (In person)	
Burbank - BRK		DEP Hatch	
Bob Hope Airport - HBA			
Glendale - GLN			
Monrovia - MRV		DC Huson	
Montebello - MTB			
Monterey Park - MPK		BC Weddle (In person)	
Pasadena - PAS		DEP Sell (In person)	DEP James
San Gabriel - SGB		FC Wallace	
San Marino - SNM		FC Rueda	
Sierra Madre - SMD			
South Pasadena		DC Zanteson (In person)	Engineer Corrao
Verdugo Fire Comm.		BC Phil Ambrose (in person) Jason Pfau (in person) Jason Garrett (in person) Oscar Barrera	
Other		Marianne Newby	

1.Center Update/Ongoing Business:

- a. BC update – EIT Group update The CAL Chiefs/FIREScope [Fire Operations Technology Summit at ESRI](#) will be January 23-25, 2024, this is a good event for both FIRE and your IT to attend. GLN will be hosting a FIRESTATS class, email was sent and there are limited spots available.
 - i. VFCC additional agency inquiry – An Area E City is interested in joining Verdugo.
 - ii. CityGate update – Verdugo has engaged with a contractor to conduct an assessment and strategic plan for Verdugo. The project is under review to focus on tiered dispatch and new City onboarding.
 - iii. One FCO is in training with another due to start training in a few weeks. A third is in backgrounds, and we just received a new requisition so another can begin backgrounds soon.
- b. Center Manager update – Garrett
 - i. Type codes have been added to TC mobile version. This allows individuals to get notifications on their phone based on incident types and is set up by groups. Currently testing a command to allow size-ups and knockdown times to display on TC.



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- ii. Thank you to SGB, ALH, & MPK for assistance with procession for West Covina officer who passed away. Verdugo was able to help West Covina dispatch by staffing their center for the night so their dispatchers could get the night off.
 - iii. Working with GPD to set up our backup/disaster recovery (DR) site. Previously the DR was at BPD.
 - c. Technology Update:
 - i. Mobility Upgrade – The Mobility software on the MDTs will soon be upgraded. We have begun pushing out required software for the upgrade. With many software upgrades coming to the MDTs, it is important to keep them connected to the network. There are 44 MDTs that have been off the network for over 10 days, 13 for over 6 months.
 - d. Finance/Data/Power BI
 - i. Gor is now working PT on Fridays and has updated the Power BI.
 - ii. Replacement of Gor will be focused on someone with analytics abilities. The process was slowed due to staffing changes at the GFD but is now back on track.
- 2. Old Business:**
 - a. Tablet Command
 - i. Two-way Status – Ambrose, we are still awaiting a quote from Peraton is now expected by end of November.
 - ii. Tablet Command Training Group – Hatch, The TC training group met last week and established initial guidelines and direction. Training group update- live training to record and send to each agency, adding new basic templates as well. Next months follow up meeting. Visit Corona fire to see how they use the 2-way platform on an android and ipad. BC Ambrose is going to make arrangements for a visit to Corona Fire.
 - iii. Tablet Command Radio – quote approved; radio equipment purchased. Radio shop needs to test.
 - b. Smart Dispatch – Sell/Ambrose
Chief Sell, Chief Ambrose and Dr.Loza are still working on updates for improved response matrix for type codes.
 - i. Alarm Response Data/Type Code and Transport Update:
Data still showing vast improvement in cutting down on unnecessary alarm responses. (Figure 1) Discussion of removing AU on HazMat and dispatch of specialized resources on initial dispatch.
 - c. Area C BC training update – Rueda
Planning on January for a return of Chief Kelly and his 360 training class. Chief Rueda needs to finalize with instructor.
 - d. Comm Plan Update – Ambrose/Weddle
Hardware has been purchased by radio shop. Purposed Comm plan from ICI includes addition of new talk groups. Discussion details of the comm plan which will have significant radio changes. In the interim a second red channel will be assigned automatically upon any second alarm assignment starting



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December 1st. The Comm Plan work group will be meeting in the upcoming weeks and welcomes any new interested members.

e. **MCI Alarm Levels – Hatch/Zanteson**

Chief Hatch and Chief Zanteson reviewed old Verdugo MCI policy and created a draft removing redundant DHS Policy 519 verbiage. Discussion about creating MCI alarm codes for all type codes. Jason G. will research CAD functionality. Marianne will be joining the work group. The goal is to simplify initial ordering of resources when there is a large number of patients.

3. New Business:

- a. CAD Change: GLN OE1317/Type 3 will no longer be automatically dispatched on Brush fires and must be requested.
- b. 2024 Task Force will be changed back to , second Tuesday 1000 to 1130

4. Significant Incidents:

Pasadena Hazmat incident- CAL-Tech student was mixing chemicals in his apartment. Units were on scene for 8 hours. No injuries or major effects.

5. Round Table:

DEP Hatch (BRK) - new fire administrator hired. New truck in spring. 15 rookies on probation. 5 laterals in backgrounds.

FC Rueda (SNM) - Engineer Tsay promoted to Captain in badge pinning on December 14th.

DC Zanteson (South Pasadena) - Still experiencing staffing issues.

FC Wallace (SGB): Brad Davis is acting FC until December 18th. 5 rookies are in their 3-month block assessment. 2 EMT's going to medic school.

(MRV) – Nothing to report.

Dep Sell (PAS): New Truck arrived with cosmetic issues be replaced. PAS is gearing up for the Rose/Parde IC

BC Weddle (MPK) - 3 new members on day 2 with an expected graduation in December. 4 members attending Medic school and a couple pending retirements happening at the end of the year.

BC Devlin (ARC) - Starting December 4th Chief Cerwin will be assigned as the new Deputy Chief. 2 Firefighters in backgrounds. New RA and BLS unit planned for hopefully before the end of the year.

BC Ambrose (GLN) -Chief Fish is currently our interim FC. Captains written exam took place. AO hiring is continuous.

BC Brown (ALH): 5 in backgrounds for the January academy.

Marianne/EMS: TCPR data has been sent out to each agency.

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Next Task Force Meeting: December 12th, 2023



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Fire Alarms

PAS		PAS	
Year	Count of EVENTNUMBER	Year	Count of EVENTNUMBER
2022	2634	2023	2260
Qtr 1	606	Qtr 1	803
January	206	January	295
February	189	February	240
March	211	March	268
Qtr 2	629	Qtr 2	720
April	194	April	216
May	217	May	252
June	218	June	252
Qtr 3	663	Qtr 3	480
July	235	July	153
August	229	August	177
September	199	September	150
Qtr 4	736	Qtr 4	257
October	245	October	185
November	247	November	72
December	244		
Total	2634	Total	2260

Change in call handling for Commercial Occupancies



Figure 1 Alarms were trending up for 2023 and after the change have reduced by almost 30%.