

April 2015 ACS General Meeting Minutes

April 21, 2015

7:00 PM

Presentation by Tom Siragusa, SFFD Division 3 Deputy Chief .

Tom Siragusa gave an overview of the Fire Department's organizational structure and communication system. 44 Fire Stations are organized into 9 Battalions which are under the command of two Divisions.. Four Battalions (1, 4, 7, and 8) are under Division 2; the remaining five Battalions (2, 3, 6, 9, and 10) are under Division 3. At the top is the FDOC (Fire Department Operations Center). SFFD Communication uses the 800 MHz system, sharing 16 channels. The department receives about 140,000 calls a year, maxing out its communication system on a daily basis. Redundancy is built into the management system. Aim is to handle a predicted 6.8 earthquake that could result in 80 fires plus man-made fires.

ACS communications will soon look like this: NERT <==> Battalion <==> Division <==> FDOC. ACS has radios ready to install at the Divisions and needs the Fire Department to put up antenna leads. Tom will help expedite completion of the project from the Fire Department's side..

Distribution of ACS Net Control Sign-ups.

Volunteer for ACS Pre-Meeting Net Control in May.

Lawrence will find someone as no one volunteered at the meeting.

Staff Updates\

- a. New ACS Coordinator, Luiz Valdez. Luiz attended the NERT Citywide Drill last week.

Old Business

- a. Marin RACES/ACS Presentation on 3/21. Lawrence, Corey and Bob attended. Responders in Marin County are organized into regional groups which report to a central body, This is similar to the organizational structure in San Mateo County.
- b. NERT Staging Area Drill on 3/31. ACS participated at this drill.

New Business

- a. Battalion 9 Station Visit on Saturday, May 2, 11am or 12noon. .ACS will give a demonstration of the radios at Battalion 9 to NERTs and will conduct radio checks with the ACS Radio Room.
- b. Bay to Breakers on Sunday, May 17. Personnel needs: one person in the EOC, field operators, people to take pictures, and ATV(?).
- c. Amateur Television. Working group will be Corey, Tom, Eric, and Lawrence..
- d. NERT Citywide Drill Debrief and Discussion. Lawrence's comments:
 - (1) Primary responsibility of ACS operators is to the ACS Incident Commander.
 - (2) Social Media messages and messages from NERT runners are not to go through ACS. Messages should go directly to the BC.
 - (3) Do not use Q codes or 10 codes.
 - (4) Use tactical call sign. Use FCC call sign at end of message..
 - (5) Net control operators at the Battalion Stations should clear frequency, ID every 10 minutes, and close frequency at end of operation.
 - (6) Use brevity when talking on the radio..

Upcoming Events

- a. Battalion 9 Station Visit – 5/2/15
- b. Bay to Breakers – 5/17/15
- c. May General Meeting – 5/19/15 at 7:00 PM
- d. June General Meeting – 6/16/15 at 7:00 PM
- e. ARRL Field Day – 6/27/15 to 6/28/15
- f. July General Meeting – 7/21/15 at 7:00 PM

Announcements

Adjournment at 9:05 PM.

Minutes prepared by Diana Lum