



**VERDUGO FIRE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER  
TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2009**

**Attendees:**

Agency	Primary	Alternate
Alhambra - ALH		
Arcadia - ARC	Chief Dave Haney	Capt. Bob Gattas
Burbank - BRK	Asst. Chief Tom Lenahan	
Glendale - GLN	Chief Corey Creasey	
Monrovia - MRV	Chief Dave Dennis	
Montebello - MTB	Chief Greg Mowad	
Monterey Park - MPK	Chief Ken Leasure	FF Ryan Weddle
Pasadena - PAS		
San Gabriel - SGB		Derrick Doehler
San Marino - SNM	Chief Jim Frawley	
Sierra Madre - SMD		
South Pasadena - SPS	FF Erick Zanteson	
Verdugo Fire Comm.	Interim FCA Don Wise	Sys. Analyst Lenia Scanlon

**I. New Business:**

**A. MTB Type III Brush Engine** – dispatch of BR56 (CAF unit) on any 2nd alarm assignments and higher.  
**Approved**

- a. Chief Lenahan advised that upon request by I.C. on any brush incident, Patrol 11 (Type 6) can respond to assist within the Verdugo System.

**B. USAR Responses** – discussion on recent question as to why closest USAR resources are not being sent to USAR incidents. Verdugo would like to move forward with closest resource concept. Current policy is to dispatch USR32 with home city USAR or next in USAR on incident requiring two USAR units; for incidents requiring one USAR, USAR32 would be dispatched to cities that do not have a home-city USAR units and the home city USAR would be dispatched to their own incident.

- a. Decision is to leave current (above) policy in place until further assurances on ability of closest resource to respond is made, with each agency having USAR resources.

**C. Major Incident AAR – 2<sup>nd</sup> Alarm House Fire – 1690 La Cresta Dr., PAS** – (Major Incident Form handout) discussion.

- a. BC Alerting issues remain a technical challenge for the Radio/Technical Committee to resolve
- b. Medical incidents within an incident will remain as such; separate incidents will not be created
- c. Multiple Alarm button request by dispatchers will be referred to Tech Comm. for feasibility

**D. Major Incident AAR – 2<sup>nd</sup> Alarm House Fire – 2058 Chilton Dr., GLN** – (Major Incident Form handout) discussion. Green Sheet attached for Verdugo System training purposes. Production of safety training on DVD will be forthcoming soon from GFD Training Division and will be available for all.

- a. Keypad lock feature on portable radios need to be considered for field personnel operations to diminish the number of accidental Emergency Trigger activations received, from real activations.
- b. Essential personnel that might be notified to respond to an incident need to keep Verdugo personnel advised of their availability and to notify VFCC of their alternate for documentation in CAD; this will help with reduction of time and effort by VFCC in attempting to locate/notify key personnel who might be unavailable.

**E. Major Incident AAR – 3<sup>rd</sup> Alarm Brush Fire – WB134 FWY EO 2 FWY, LFD – (Major Incident Form handout) discussion.**

- a. VEG to BRUSH/BRUSHF – VFCC personnel should use the BALANCE command in CAD to effect appropriate automatic paging notifications, further, to recommend the appropriate equipment.
- b. If a Command Channel is established, or Operations Channel is established, Verdugo will be attempting to raise the I.C. or field personnel on that channel for priority communications.
- c. Units/resources should not self-dispatch to an incident. Verdugo controls the dispatch and assignment of resources for a variety of supporting reasons.
- d. Move-up companies should be prepared for a variety of assignments and should not move-up unless they are able to perform in all types of assignments.
- e. Calls to Verdugo from field personnel not assigned or essential to the incident should not be made when that information is available via CAD (VPN connection) or MCT or radio.
  - i. Calls from essential personnel attached to the incident might be placed on hold for extended periods of time during periods of high activity.
- f. Requests for additional resources should be made on RED1; Verdugo monitors tactical radio channels only to the extent possible. If no response, return to RED1 for requests.
- g. If Expanded Dispatch operations or use of ROSS needs to be effected, that effort needs to be coordinated with I.C./Unified Command and Verdugo as to ability to implement. That action requires additional support in Verdugo.
- h. Trucks are not assigned to Brush Incidents unless requested by the I.C. for structure protection.
- i. Evacuation needs/updates/etc., should be conveyed by radio at all times for everyone's situational awareness.

**F. VF ACCESS – AAR – 7/9 & 8/9 Exercises – perspective from group is that all went well from field operations. Work needs to be done with regard to FailSoft scenario. Should radios go into Site Trunking or FailSoft, Verdugo System communications will be moved to VF ACCESS. Section 12 Emergency Procedures will be constructed with this policy. BC Alerting while on VF ACCESS is an identified issue to be resolved through the Radio Technical Committee. Verdugo has further operational and technical issues that need to be resolved by the committee as well.**

**G. Fire Station Alerting Printers – Reminder: VFCC bought Dell 1700 Station Alert Printers for all stations in September of 2006. They are all under Next Business Day warranties until 9/10/2009. After that point, each individual city is responsible for purchase and upkeep of new station alert printers. It is highly recommended that when a new printer is purchased, the driver CD is kept with the printer. If the station alert printer needs to be replaced, the printer can then be installed immediately.**

**II. Update on Continued Areas/Issues:**

**A. Red Phone – Outside Fire Station Phones – A follow-up audit will be scheduled soon.**

**B. Verdugo Staffing – Requisition #2 for FCO will be filled pending completion of medical. Two hourly personnel are in background process. One person is in background processes for FCSS. The Executive Administrator bulletin is expected to be posted Monday, August 17.**

**C. LAC ICIS Radios – Many Fire Stations immediately adjacent to Area C have potentially received at least one portable ICIS Trunked Radio with one zone programmed with all 16 channels. A request has been made to have Verdugo agencies approach LAC Fire Stations to determine if we could have them respond on the same Talkgroup that we are dispatching our agencies on.**

- a. Stations contacted were not aware of availability of radio. Information will be conveyed to Tech Committee.

### III. Roundtable:

**ALH** –

**ARC** – Question about Paramedic School; some agencies are now using Daniel Freeman more as opposed to PTI; question about MCTs and new .exe file causing MW810's to have button display issues; identified that Acura MCTs & GlobalStat (GPS) work well together. Request for CAF Task Force potentiality from system – will be moved to agenda for Operations Committee.

**BRK** –

**GLN** – Regional Training Center is moving along; a rail car is now in place (20,000 lb) to enhance scenarios/drills; regional training officer pending

**MPK** – E62 is preferred engine for move-up into MTB; question about movement of RED11 – it was moved back to original location for SPS/SNM at Bilikie Water Tank. RED11 placement in MPK at Garvey Reservoir was only a temporary measure until transition to ICIS was completed.

**MRV** –

**MTB** – Lockbox idea being considered for move-up companies from Verdugo System; change-out of apparatus door openers with their current system would be cost prohibitive. Question about code plug – home zone should be consistent with Verdugo System; however other zones can be changed as needed by agency.

**PAS** –

**SGB** –

**SMD** –

**SNM** – Have 10 BK VHF GPH radios that need to be programmed.

**SPS** – Question about VHF Narrowbanding timeline – will be brought forward to Technical Committee

**VFCC** – AVL issues are being addressed by having Glendale I.S. personnel (Rafik) contacting Fire Stations as needed to either reboot GPS/AVL software as needed. Rafik will be performing weekly updates to help the process and further confirm whether units have active GPS/AVL connections to CAD. GeoFile and MobileMap data conversion is in progress with potential updates to both (testing pending) soon.

**Verdugo** – **Next Task Force Meeting: Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, at 9 a.m.** –