



# Stanislaus County Operational Area Council



January 21, 2016  
Meeting Notes

## I. Call to Order

Chief Skiles called the meeting to order at 1:33 pm.

## II. Public Comment

None

## III. Roll Call/Introductions

JPA Members: Stanislaus County, City of Turlock, City of Riverbank, City of Hughson, City of Waterford.

Partner Agencies: Turlock Irrigation District (TID), Health Services Agency/Public Health, Stanislaus County Ag Commissioner, Stanislaus County General Services Agency (GSA), Stanislaus County Probation, Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department, Advancing Vibrant Communities, Latino Emergency Council (LEC), Congressman Denham's Office, United Way, E & J Gallo, NWS Sacramento.

## IV. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from the October 22, 2015 Operational Area Council meeting was made by Norma Torres-Manriquez and seconded by Matt Erickson. Motion passed unanimously.

## V. Presentations

### a.) National Weather Service

Cindy Matthews, with the National Weather Service in Sacramento, provided a power point presentation discussing the updated weather predictions, El Nino, precipitation and drought information. For the water year we are 130% to 150% of normal rain fall for Stanislaus County. The Snow pack is up. Last year on April 1 it was 5% of normal and this year it is already at 118% of normal. However, reservoirs are still in bad shape. That should improve with the snow melt. California is still in a Stage 4 extreme drought. The strong El Nino peaked in December but will still be in the strong category through April.

### b.) Damage Assessment

Chief Holly discussed the damage assessment for the Denair Tornado, which was listed as and EF 1, as well as the Straight Line Winds event which took out power polls on Coffee Road in Modesto in December. He also discussed a Ceres EF 0 Tornado which caused damage to car ports; however nothing was reported to the authorities. Chief Holly also responded on January 20 to a report of a dam

breaking on Peaslee Creek. It was located on private property and was a boil that the property owners were working to repair.

- c.) Estrella Garcia with the United Way presented a Power Point highlighting the benefits of United Way's 2-1-1 program. She also distributed cards to everyone and discussed how they have a data base with over 2000 resources. This is a free service for callers and is grant funded. It is county-wide and confidential. In addition, 2-1-1 can be used to disperse public announcements and information to callers waiting on hold. In 2014-15, they received 10,482 calls and made 16,260 referrals. The top five requests were for housing/shelter, food/meals, utility bill payment, individual, family and community support, and health care.

## **VI. Agenda Items**

No Action Items noted.

## **VII. Informational Items – Office of Emergency Services**

- a) Denair Tornado After Action:  
Chief Holly reported that we are still working with the Denair Fire District to complete the After Action report. Chief Skiles and Chief Holly noted that the response was phenomenal from a community perspective. People were helping people and TID had power back almost 100% by 11:00 p.m. There was no After Action Report for Ceres as nothing was reported regarding their tornado.
- b) EMMA Requests:  
Chief Holly reported that Cal OES exercised the system for the first time during the fires and we were bombarded with requests. We had a request for 20 PIO Officers, as well a personnel from Animal Control, Medical Reserve Corps, Civil Engineers, Behavior Health, Sheriff, and Fire. Everyone did a good job.
- c) Flood Preparedness Planning:  
Chief Holly noted that Chief Skiles announced at the last meeting that we had received a grant from the Department of Water Resources for Flood Planning and we are working with San Joaquin county who was also awarded a grant. In addition, our office (OES) has started monitoring and recording river and reservoir levels as well as weather. If we reach monitoring stage, we will let the OAC know.
- d) Temporary Water Assistance (TWA) Program:  
Melba Hibbard provided an update on the TWA Program reporting that Self-Help Enterprises (SHE) has installed 46 water tanks to date and 9 residences are receiving water only (they have their own tanks). Our office received two new applications this week. Six tanks have been removed because new wells have been drilled. Seven residents have worked out permanent solutions other than a new well.
- e) EOC Management Team:  
Dave Funk reviewed that there were two kick off dates for the EOC Management Team training in December with over 90 people countywide participating. This team will provide a cadre of people available for mutual

aid for EOCs and DOCs. We anticipate offering quarterly training for team members. The first will be an EOC Refresher course, February 18 at the Stanislaus County Fairgrounds, or March 2 from 8 to 12 at HSA. Classes are posted on the StanOES website. Dave passed out training schedule as well.

- f) City Emergency Operations Plans:  
Cities are encouraged to use the County EOP as a template. Emergency Managers can talk to Melba and/or Chris to coordinate assistance with their EOP. Once updated, OES is available to help each City exercise their plan.
- g) CEO COOP Exercise:  
Chief Skiles reported that the CEO COOP Exercise was held on December 17, 2015 and the CEO staff was told to evacuate to County Center III by 1:00 p.m. All Divisions participated including Risk Management, Finance, Human Resources, and basic CEO staff. They performed emergency functions, including an emergency proclamation, as well as day to day responsibilities. A Hotwash was done and an After Action Report created with assigned corrected measures. Chief Skiles encouraged each agency to test their Continuity of Operations Plan.

## **VIII. Operational Area Discipline Reports**

- a) Public Health  
Dr. Walker reported that there are two communicable diseases affecting Stanislaus County. The first is Influenza, for which the vaccine was a good match, is present nationally in the moderate range, and is sporadic in the State. The second is the Zika Virus which is spread by mosquitos and can affect the fetuses of pregnant women causing deformities. There has been only one case in Hawaii and none so far in California. The same precautions for West Nile Virus are being taken and vector control has been very aggressive.
- b) Fire  
Chief Skiles reported that Chief Holly will take the lead for the 2016 Fire Season. Refresher courses will be offered. Fire Service leads the way in Mutual Aid which has statewide impacts.
- c) Law Enforcement  
Lt. Dennis Cordova reported Law Enforcement is working to catch up with Fire by getting on board using ICS forms. They have 50 sworn personnel that make up a Mobile Field Force which is available for searching/extra help – they are a rapid deployment team. As the Terrorism Liaison Officer for Stanislaus County, Lt. Cordova is the eyes and ears for Homeland Security. He requests that if anyone sees something suspicious to report it – “See Something/Say Something.” Call the OES 24 Hour On Call number: (209) 552-2474.
- d) Agricultural Commissioner  
Dan Bernaciak reported that there are currently two quarantines in effect for the Asian Citrus Psyllid, which spreads a fatal disease to Citrus Trees. The quarantines are for the City of Turlock and the City of Oakdale. They have identified the insect, but not the disease so far. The disease has only been

identified in the Los Angeles area so far, but Stanislaus County has 500 acres of citrus on Interstate 5. Citrus trees bought in the quarantine area cannot be moved from the area.

e) Public Works

Chief Holly reported that the Stanislaus County Public Works Department did check the dam on Peaslee Creek and they and other Public Works Departments have been busy with weather related issues.

f) Cal OES

Elsie Votino is our new Cal OES representative. She was not able to attend today.

**IX. Roundtable/**

Jason Hicks with TID reported that they had an exercise with Covenant Village simulating a gas leak. It went well and they learned a lot.

Chief Skiles noted that our next meeting in April is a Joint Meeting with the Disaster Council and asked for items for the Agenda.

Norma Torres-Manriquez noted that the IMAX Theater in Riverbank will open in March.

Melba and Chief Holly met with Jessica's House in Turlock to discuss the possibility of providing counseling services during a disaster as part of Care and Shelter functions.

Brian White announced that Chief Robert Talloni is the new Fire Chief for Turlock and that Michael Cooke is the interim Turlock City Manager.

**X. Announcements**

The next meeting will be a joint meeting with the Disaster County on April 21, 2016 at Harvest Hall at 1:30 p.m.

**XI. Meeting Adjourned – 3:27 pm.**

**Respectfully Submitted by:**  
**Chris Holmer**