

Santa Barbara City Fire Department Safety Committee

Safety Committee Meeting Minutes March 8th, 2016

Members Present: BC Mailes, Tony Pighetti, Nolan Barickman, Brian Walsh, and Mark Kramer

Old Business:

1. Station Radios/Announcement Alerts
 - a. Response Deck will be online for Apple products only
 - i. Final touches are happening with a start date soon.
2. Updated/Rear Firefighter Jump Seats
 - a. There is a recommendation that the fold up plywood seats be replaced with a safer and more comfortable seat for both in town and out of town drives.
 - b. DC Waldron has approved for Barickman to research and cost out changing Engine 7's jump seats. Using an outside metal shop with the idea of using Engine 1 as a template, and Engine 4 seat company for the seats.
 - c. Research is ongoing

New Business

3. Turnout/Extractors
 - a. It has come to the attention of the Safety Committee that the Extractors are not being properly used for washing turnouts.
 - i. Mark Kramer is going to put together a detailed one page instruction to be placed on the machines.
 - ii. Mark will also label the machines. One is to be used for the outer sections of the turnouts, and the second machine for the interior portions of the turnouts.
 - iii. There should only be two sets of turnouts cleaned at a time. Four outside pieces in one, and four inside pieces in the other.
 - iv. The Citrus Squeeze soap is the soap that best cleans the turnouts.
4. Washing machines/Dryers in all stations
 - a. Ideally all station will have a washer and dryer. Stations 1, 3, and 5 are still without.
5. Medical Jackets
 - a. The current available medical jacket was questioned as to the quality and availability to crews.
 - b. Mark Kramer and Josh Brousseau will research the jackets available through Central Stores and also research other jackets that may fit the needs of the Fire Department. To be discussed further at the next meeting going over the findings of the research.

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6. Eye Protection
 - a. The quality of the available eye protection from Central Stores is concerning.
 - b. Mark Kramer to compare provided eye protection to a superior product in the \$3 to \$5 range.
 - c. To be readdressed at the next meeting.

Open Forum

7. Rope Bag Weight
 - a. The question came up to the need for the heavy rope bags on the engines with 300' of life line.
 - i. This first question is to determine the compliment needed.
 - b. The goal of the committee is to look at solutions to lighten the bags if possible, but not to limit or change the use of the main and belay.
 - c. To be continued
8. Ebola Bags
 - a. Is it still necessary to carry these bags on all the rigs?
 - b. It was suggested that the HazMat rig continue to carry the required equipment and to be called for if needed.
 - c. It is a EMSA recommendation that all first responding apparatus carry the PPE
 - d. To be discussed at the Staff level.
9. Engine EMS Bags
 - a. It has been noticed that different Engine Companies have different cache configurations. It is the intent of the Committee to see that all bags are consistent. Please review the inventory list provided with the bag. If there is something you think is needed please go through the proper channels to get it added.
 - b. The Committee is recommending that spot checks be incorporated with EMT classes to ensure consistency.
 - c. The current cache is based on a BLS supply list from San Luis Obispo County, there is a motion to accept this in Santa Barbara County where there is currently no set standard for BLS bags.
 - d. [Medical Bag Compartment Inventory is in the HDrive/Everyone/EMT](#)
10. Safety Committee Vacancy
 - a. We would like to thank Aaron Vaughn for his time served to the Safety Committee.
 - b. If anyone is interested in joining the Safety Committee please email apighetti@santabarbaraca.gov for consideration. Ideally a C-Shifter to even out the committee.

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Injuries/Exposures/Accidents And Keys to Safety

- Ongoing safety reminder: Continue to use proper body mechanics and/or “back safe” lifting techniques when performing any kind of physical activity.
- Injury: An allergic reaction on the face after sharing a face mask at an outside class. Possibly a reaction to sunscreen, cleaner, or other unknown combination. Best practice is to use the VioNex Skin wipes, a non-flammable, non-irritating, skin moisturizing solution that will leave your skin feeling soft.
- Injury: Achilles tendon strain while climbing a flight of stairs. This is considered a non-preventable injury.
- Injury: Back strain while lifting a 300 plus pound patient. 5 points of contact was used but with shift of weight this injury is considered non-preventable.
- Injury: Head butt between a firefighter and a patient. Keep a safe distance and try to anticipate the unexpected.
- Exposure: To unknown airborne contaminants during investigation of a fire involving paints. Continue to wear PPE, monitor the scene, and ventilate the area if possible.
- Accidents: The Safety Committee is happy to report there were no accident reports to review during the last 60 day period. Great work everybody!

Next meeting scheduled for May 17th, 2016.