



# PIERCE COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION



Established 1985

## Meeting Minutes June 27, 2024

### 1. Call to Order

President Jim Sharp called the Pierce County Fire Chiefs Association meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. remotely via Zoom and in person at South Sound 911 located at 3580 Pacific Ave, Tacoma. According to the Zoom attendee list (4) and sign in sheet (6), there were a total of 10 people in attendance.

President Sharp welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

### 2. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Chief Wernet and seconded by Chief Medford to approve the April 25, 2024 meeting minutes as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

### 3. Treasurer's Report – Denise Ross

See Treasurer's Report on the back side of the agenda. Chief Medford moved and Chief Wernet seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

### 4. Correspondence

A. Outgoing correspondence will be discussed later in the meeting.

### 5. Guest Speakers – N/A

### 6. Executive Board Report

President Sharp stated that he doesn't believe this was talked about yet – he was approached by Jeff Jensen on behalf of his son's wife about having an award created in memory of his son, Todd Jensen. There was some discussion at E-Board a couple of months ago there are some challenges and things to consider with having an award in someone's name. No recommendation from the Board. Discussion followed. Don't currently have an EMS Award or any other Division or Work group awards. Creates a named legacy award as well as a new award in general. Perhaps consider some kind of recognition. No strong desire to create a new award.

Annual Banquet Changes – Not a lot of motivation to carry the torch on this. Happy to participate in it. Jodi Reynolds, who is now retired, carried the torch on it for a number of years. Agreement with moving the Banquet to the first of the year. Weather could still be a challenge. Suggestion to also look at changing it to a spring, summer or even a fall event.

### 7. Committees and Workgroups

#### A. Audit Committee – Morrow / Parkinson

Not present.

**B. PC Code Revision Workgroup – Morrow**

President Sharp stated this has been completed. He and Kevin Berdan have signed a letter.

**C. Radio Replacement System – Sharp / Morrow**

President Sharp reported a letter was sent to SS911 following last meeting stating that single system is still a top priority. Governance piece still needs to be worked on. Still a 20 plus month project. Recommended investing some of that money for a cache of radios to be used across the region. PSCOC discussed and very general statement in support of. Will have to go to Finance and then to Policy Board. Recommended a subcommittee be put together to work with radio system operators for technical details, radios recommend, prices, etc. Need some Fire Chiefs to sit on a subcommittee: Law Enforcement has Scott Engel, Kelly Busee and Ron Schaub (sp?). Would look for 3 Chiefs to sit on with Police Chiefs. Matt Medford, Kira Thirkield and Jim Sharp. President Sharp to let Engel know. Governance meetings are happening.

**D. SS911 Call Processing Workgroup – Parkinson / Doan / Morrow**

Chief Doan reported received another round of numbers. Continue to track for a couple more months. Needs to have Chief Morrow verify the numbers, etc. Data Analyst is critical to support. Hoping to have it make it through the budget process. As presented would be a fire dedicated data analyst.

Funding relief through RMS or allocation costs. Not a specific \$5 million ask. Large bulk portion of that has already been covered in previous years. 1 million one year and around 800,000 the following year. A collective group supported the request.

**E. Ad Hoc Committee for FDSU User Group - Parkinson**

Not present.

**F. State Chiefs / Western Chiefs – Doan**

Reported conference was held. Dustin was elected to the Board and Doan was re-elected. The conference was much improved. Still have metro and city Chiefs not coming. Will continue to try to make it good for everybody.

Working on WSRB varying frustrations. Meeting with the Department of Insurance to make some changes to hold more accountable to their metrics and how they implement, etc.

Any legislative issues, let know as he is on the legislative committee.

Ignite Conference – February 9<sup>th</sup> in Las Vegas Superbowl party and then 2 days of conference. FRI in August in Dallas, Western is hosting annual breakfast.

Also, on the Financial Committee. Steve Locke won 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. Excited that he won. Learning a lot about Western and how many resources they have and are involved in.

**G. Banquet Committee – DORMANT - Tammy Lamb / AC Scott Adams**

## **8. Unfinished Business**

### **A. PC Executive Candidate Meeting**

President Sharp stated dates with Executive Board has been set – September 5<sup>th</sup> Mellow and 12<sup>th</sup> Kelly Chambers.

With new Executive coming in – do we want to have them come in as a Meeting Speaker? Probably wouldn't be until January.

### **B. Master ILA and Addendums**

Chief Doan reported 44 of them have now been found, which is all but one or two of them. They were in Joe Quinn's files. He now has them and his Assistant is compiling them. Will put a plan together on any that need to be retired, get rid of, update, etc. Will figure out the process. County-wide Mutual Aid Agreement needs to be reviewed as well.

### **C. Radio System Priorities Position**

President Sharp stated this was discussed earlier in the meeting.

### **D. County-wide Burn Ban**

President Sharp stated there are 3 Departments he has not heard back from. A lot less disparate than initially thought. A small majority of all follow DNR or PCFM already. Couple that doesn't have slightly different start and end dates. Think we can come up with a date that we are agreeable on and give it to the PC Fire Marshal's. Standardized of when can and cannot burn. Up to individual departments to determine size, permits, etc. Chief Wernet stated DNR wants them to do away with the 10x10. Discussion followed.

### **E. Joint Meeting with Law Enforcement**

President Sharp stated next meeting is July 25<sup>th</sup> on our normal meeting date – 11:30 at Farm 12. The question is what if any business do we want to conduct at the meeting, or joint issue topics to cover, etc. Chief Doan suggested technology and get on the same page with more for awareness. I.e. moving away from LMR, etc. Ask Dustin to give a presentation on the future of satellite, etc. He did a presentation to PSCOC. Also, brief presentation by Chief Doan on what he is doing. Integrating and leveraging LTE environment in different ways. Mental Health issues/concerns. President Sharp to give a general report on what Association is working on and change in format of meetings.

Denise to send out email on meeting time change. Change the calendar meeting invite to 11:30 to 1:00 at Farm 12.

## **9. New Business**

Chief Swinhart stated several months ago that the Chiefs took a unified front on radio fees paying what budgeted last year. Last week received a past due notice from the County stating still owe them \$50,000.00 and going to start incurring late fees, etc. Buckley also received a late notice for \$57,000.00. Town of Eatonville PD has never paid theirs. Medford stated they paid what was budgeted last year and haven't received anything yet. Discussion followed. Interesting to see if LE or PC Sheriff is getting these as well, etc.

Any discussion at County Fire Commissioners level on this topic. President Sharp stated he had reported at one of their meetings and thinks they sent a similar letter of support as the Fire Chiefs. Chief Doan suggested letting Council Members know and make them aware of, etc.

#### **10. Good of the Order**

Chief Wernet stated this is his last meeting and tomorrow is his last day. Retiring after 40 years in the Fire Service. August 31<sup>st</sup> at Lake Tapps having a retirement get together – will be sending something out. Zane Gibson will be the new contract Fire Chief for administrative services starting Monday, July 1.

Chief Doan stated there is a change in PSCOC meeting dates to Thursdays and wanted to talk about. Shouldn't conflict with these meetings as they will be the first Thursdays of the month. Next one is August 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 am. They are every other month.

Chief Wassall had a call for an anaphylaxis patient and in the middle of that called for an unknown sick. Turned into severe respiratory distress. En route to hospital went into cardiac arrest. Stopped rig to call for more resources. Patient passed. Called ME, released. Took the patient back to the house and stayed until the funeral home arrived. Discussion followed.

#### **11. Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:26 a.m.

Submitted by:

Denise Ross  
Recording Secretary

#### **2024 Meeting Schedule:**

July 25, 2024 – MEETING CHANGE TIME to 11:30 am - Joint Meeting with Police Chiefs at Farm 12 - 3303 Eighth Ave SE, Puyallup

August 22, 2024 – Hybrid remotely via Zoom and in person at SS911, 3580 Pacific Ave

September 26, 2024 – Hybrid remotely via Zoom and in person at SS911, 3580 Pacific Ave

October 24, 2024 – CANCELLED – State Commissioners Conference

November 21, 2024 (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday due to 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday being Thanksgiving)– Hybrid remotely via Zoom and in person at SS911, 3580 Pacific Ave

December 5, 2024 – NO MEETING – AWARDS BANQUET