



PIERCE COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

Established 1985

General Meeting Minutes May 7, 2020

1. Call to Order

President Burgess called the Pierce County Fire Chiefs Association meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. remotely via Zoom. According to the roll call done, there were a total of 50 people in attendance.

2. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Chief Jim Sharp and seconded by Chief Alan Predmore to approve the March 5, 2020 meeting minutes as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

3. Treasurer's Report – Denise Menge

The Treasurer's Report was presented, see attached copy on the back side of the agenda. Denise reported that the annual report has been filed. It was moved by Chief Alan Predmore and seconded by Chief Jim Sharp to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Correspondence

Nothing at this time.

5. Guest Speaker – Deborah Grady – SouthSound 911

Vice President Sharp introduced Debbie Grady, the new Executive Director for SouthSound 911. Career in public safety in communications 09-15 ED at SnoComm. Back to California in Sacramento. 25 plus years. New norm with the virtual meetings. Andrew Nieditz did a phenomenal job in getting this agency up and running since 2011. All of support makes job easier and now have to execute out the rest of the way, building moving into next year as well as pulling pieces together that are currently separate- 4 separate locations. Will be beneficial for all of us and County. Working with amazing professionals here in the county that have Public Safety in the forefront. Appreciates the opportunity to be here. Married to retired Fire Marshal. Fire service is near and dear to her heart. Couple things to be aware of – public safety building. Construction is 37% complete on budget and on time to move in next April Phased in approach to move in in draft format. Some people and equipment moved and tested before moving full operations there. Weekly updates sent out to the board weekly. Feel free to reach out if you have questions. Coming into a potential budget reduction, etc. Went over budget allocations. Potential impact with sales tax revenue – estimate 20-25% loss for next year. Looks like 4 to 5 million dollars reduction for next year. 45 million dollar number. Suspended travel and training and tightened down on budget and pushed out projects. Recommendations to Board on reserve funds and shifting capital replacement funds if needed, etc. Concerned about the budget and tried to be visible and support staff, shared budget information with them. Not looking at layoffs at this time. If any economic impacts come your way, will communicate those to you. New EMD platform from current

system to priority dispatch, electronic component for staff which will help with some surface concerns. Looking forward to getting that up and running. Questions?

Vice President Sharp reported that next month's speaker is Dustin Data Analytics to provide work done by the Interra Group.

6. Unfinished Business

A. Joint Meeting with Law Enforcement.

President Burgess reported reached out to Chief of Fife, current President. They are interested in doing a joint meeting. Hoping to identify a date once we have a better idea of when we can meet together, looking at late summer. Will keep updated.

7. New Business

A. PCDEM Fire Liaison

President Burgess stated we stood up a liaison to the PCEOC, metro chiefs meeting weekly as well as the PC E-Board until recently. Eric Waters reported on March 9th EOC reached out and requested a liaison. Worked alongside Todd Magglicca in EOC. Initial focus was urgent PPE needs also worked to develop contingency plans if a hot spot were to occur. Initiated weekly meetings with Fire Chiefs as well as providing daily updates. Also worked on actively develop response plans for temporary care centers. Also developed as part of those plans, infrastructure and fire and evacuation plans. Initially co planning for 3 temp care centers based on other areas. East, Central and West locations identified. Central care center in Tacoma was open. West in Gig Harbor worked on plan and finalized, but never opened. Other roles filled was safety officer. Completed daily basis medical plan ICS 206 and 208. 3 separate set of documents done daily. Exposure control plan also done. 20 hours a week initially and turned into 40-hour. March 29th Association approved a long range staffing plan that runs thru June 1st with a 10-day rotation. Chuck King and then Woody Juarez and then Tom from Graham Fire. 4/26 picked back up and at a touch base of once a week. Chuck King now filling that role. Starting to scale back ops from 7 days/week to 5 days/week based on decrease in demand, etc. Will continue to have a presence as demand dictates. President Burgess thanked those that have stepped up and helped out.

AFFILIATE AGENCY REPORTS

President Burgess stated instead of calling each one out. Those here in attendance can report if they have anything to share.

8. South Sound 911 – Debbie Grady

Spoke earlier.

9. Department of Emergency Management – Jody Ferguson

Not present.

10. Pierce County EMS – Norma Pancake

11. Fire Marshal – Warner Webb

Not present.

12. State Chiefs – Keith Wright

Not present.

13. Puget Sound Clean Air Agency – Rick Hess

Not present.

14. PC Fire Commissioners Association – Dan Rankin

Meeting on May 28th via Zoom and guest speaker will be Debbie Grady from SS911 to speak to the Fire Commissioners.

15. Department of Natural Resources – Nancy Barker

Not present.

16. Tacoma-Pierce County Chaplaincy – Ben Harris

Not present.

17. Bates Technical College – Chief Todd Wernet

Not present.

NON SCHEDULED DIVISION REPORTS - Overview:

18. EMS – Matt Waltrip

Chief Waltrip reported a lot going on at Graham. Working on PAM update is moving along. A little hiccup with a physician advisor leaving early. Dr. Friedrich has picked up and is moving it along and getting back on track. Hoping to finish that up later this year. Another update with getting into the hospitals – let know for intubations, it has been opened back up. Another good thing is now able to get into Franciscan which is great for our EMS community. Working on OTEP plan with MSO group. Central Pierce is leading the way on this. Based on Tacoma FD and modified. Norma and Dr. Waffle are looking at it right now. Once that goes through then others will follow suit. New program for hospital divert – rolled out as PC Fire Agency about a month ago and feedback from crews was very positive. Shows in real time what wait times are at the hospitals and off gurney times. No longer relying on the Wa-Track system. EMS Supply bid contract is also being worked on. Boundtree proposal which looks like they'll be able to save us some money and great value items in the bid. Should be voted on in the next couple of weeks. MSO group working on crisis standard of care in draft form.

20.

A. Metro Training – Woody Juarez

Not present.

B. Training – TEW Training/Exercise – Tom Mason/Gary McVay

Not present.

C. Training – TEW Equipment – Todd Magliocca

No report.

21. Fire and Life Safety – Eric Waters

Water systems in default, receivership, committee working with health department to develop specific plans for water systems that go into receivership. Should be completed by end of June. Continues to be a goal of getting new update before the county council before the end of the year. Chief Backer mentioned earlier this week, assembly of people proximity restrictions – anticipate people not able to go to public displays, will probably see an uptick in personal displays, discharge, etc. Get out early and often with our messaging ahead of this. State building code council has pushed back code adoption from July 1 to November 1. Need to continue working on. Plan is to have some fairly meaningful updates in time for November adoption.

Burn ban update - end of April and COVID upsurge proposals, dry weather and reserve staffing – changes weather has improved and haven't experienced the surge expected. No plan to impose an earlier burn ban. Fire Marshal is open to change if needed.

22. Logistics – Steve Richards

Not present.

President Burgess if feeling pinched for PPE, please let know and will have liaison work on getting from EOC.

23. Operations – Ed Goodlet

Not present.

President Burgess spoke with Ed this week. He's retiring. Working on group to find a new lead. Will have a new Ops lead here shortly.

24. Volunteer Services – Eric Skogen

Reported does not have much to report. Suspended recruit academy several weeks ago. Return to somewhat normal operations with social distancing, etc. About 4-6 weeks behind at this point.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - Overview:

25. UASI Committee – Todd Magliocca

Reported group has been busy. Fiscal year 2020 9 million dollars currently. Justifications working on. Rescue task force body armor, combustible gas monitors, structural collapse training class, etc. Will start getting information out on. SHSP grant money to channel and offer local training. Should have more information by next meeting.

26. Emergency Management Committee – Eric Watson

Not present.

27. 700 mHz User Group Committee – John Burgess - DORMANT

28. Banquet/Awards Committee – Steve Richards - DORMANT

29. Nominations Committee – Backer / Gibson / Sharp - DORMANT

30. Audit Committee – Nixon / P. Stueve - DORMANT

31. CISM COMMITTEE – Predmore / Nixon - DORMANT

32. Good of the Order

A Wilsie – Cares Act funding – do we know specifically how much the State and County will be getting in dollars and how that will be allocated? Nixon stated saw on the news last night indicated 150 million for Pierce County – all said was that not going to sit on it, not really any direction provided. Curious as to how the allocation will be out. Tacoma looking at 40 million dollar hole right now. Chief Predmore stated he heard Thursday afternoon Co Council meeting passed some of those distributions, might be available in Council minutes.

Norma from PC EMS – fire weather forecast schedule reminder morning fire weather task force 7 days a week. Live 7 days a week in June. PC Emergency Management will be keeping an eye on that as well.

Jim Sharp shared notification received yesterday through Emergency Management Coordinator Thurston Co that state to charge for PPE receiving thru EOC. Hallie reached out to Jody – not their intent to charge us for those.

John Burgess – RCC position Region 5 Homeland Security – filled by Steve Nixon is retiring at end of June. Couple recommendations, Board has asked Hallie McCurdy to be our representative and Ron Kent from CPFR will be alternate. Thank you to those individuals for stepping up.

Steve Wright from South Kitsap retiring and new Executive Director at State Chiefs. Congrats to Steve.

Tod Wernett reported Director at Bates Technical change, last Monday took over as FC at South Pierce Fire & Rescue – shortest stint as director of Bates. Thanks Chief Richard Curtis interim FC has done a fantastic job helping him out. Excited to be here and work with everyone and look forward to work with as a peer.

Burgess – not sure if next months' meeting will be held virtually like this or in person. Will keep posted.

33. Adjournment

There being no further business, it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Submitted by:
Denise Menge, Recording Secretary

2020 Meeting Schedule:

Jan 2, 2020 – General – CANCELLED
Feb 6, 2020 – Business – Gig Harbor Fire – 10222 Bujacich Rd NW
Mar 5, 2020 – General – Buckley Fire – 611 S. Division St.
Apr 2, 2020 – Business – CANCELLED
May 7, 2020 - General – held remotely via ZOOM
Jun 4, 2020 – Business – held remotely via ZOOM

Jul 2, 2020 – NO MEETING

Aug 6, 2020 – NO MEETING

Aug ??, 2020 - Joint Meeting with Police Chiefs Association – ??

Sep 3, 2020 – Business – Tacoma FD Training Center – 2124 Marshall Ave.

Oct 1, 2020 – General – Graham Fire & Rescue – 23014 70th Ave E

Nov 5, 2020 – Business – West Pierce – Sta. 21 – 5000 Steilacoom Blvd SW, Lakewood

Dec 3, 2020 – NO MEETING – ANNUAL BANQUET