



PIERCE COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

Established 1985

Business Meeting Minutes April 7, 2022

1. Call to Order

President Jim Sharp called the Pierce County Fire Chiefs Association meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. remotely via Zoom and in person at South Sound 911 located at 3580 Pacific Ave, Tacoma. According to the Zoom attendee list (18) and sign in sheet (15), there were a total of 33 people in attendance. President Sharp welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. Thanked South Sound for hosting the meeting.

2. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Chief Parkinson and seconded by Chief Gibson to approve the March 3, 2022 meeting minutes as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

3. Treasurer's Report – Denise Ross

See Treasurer's Report on the backside of the Agenda. Chief Fiacchi moved and Chief Parkinson seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. MOTION CARRIED. President Sharp stated there was a \$7,233.53 expense reimbursing EPFR for PAM equipment purchase. This was approved by the Executive Board.

4. Correspondence

Nothing at this time.

5. Guest Speaker – Robb Lovre, Pierce County Skills Center

Vice President Gibson introduced the guest speaker. Robb thanked the Association for the opportunity to be here today. Emergency Medical Services program at the Pierce County Skills Center. 16 programs offered there. 3 main areas. Help with application testing process, hiring, mock oral boards and mock hiring process. Have professionals that come in and help with Oral Board. Assess students with skillsheets from WA State Training Academy. Look at industry certifications. How can assist at skills center? Advisory Committee meets once a quarter with professionals to look at curriculum and give feedback, help with tours, guest speakers or help get certifications. Surplus equipment always looking for donated equipment. President Sharp asked for the meeting information to be sent to Vice President Gibson or Denise and will get that out to the membership. Feel free to email if you have questions or would like further information, etc. rlovre@bethelsd.org

Steve Wright, Washington Fire Chiefs

President Sharp introduced Steve Wright to talk about work going on financial sustainability of association. Challenging couple of years with the pandemic. WFC is a membership trade association in its 90th year in Olympia. Intention is to represent Fire Chiefs across the state. This is his 2nd year as Executive Director. 4 major things working on – legislative efforts; committee representation 40 – 50 across the state for fire service representation; made up of elected Board and sections below – subject matter areas with own little board members

that oversee. Most of education focus comes in from the sections. Advocacy for Fire Chiefs – spectrum of duties and responsibilities across the state. Help steer through issues/difficulties and connect with others that have experience with issues facing. Meet with County Presidents to disseminate information out. Insolvent 2 years ago and basically bankrupt. Dues structure adjusted, etc. Last 2 years wanted to continue to address challenges. Dues structure has never had a cost of living or adjustment to it. Also fire service consolidation has affected. 2 dues paying agencies becomes one. 326 right now, used to be bigger than that. Also set up based on assessed valuation. Property values have gone up and need to create a new dues structure with different categories. Disproportionate amount of dues for small agencies have paid over time in comparison to larger departments. Committee worked through and put together a proposal to the Board of Directors. Taking to business meeting in May at Conference in Wenatchee. Add a 2% increase per year will be one vote. And, looking at adding additional increments to the dues structure. Will transfer the load to some of the larger agencies. Wanted to bring to the Association as there will be some larger agencies that will see a dues increase. Will be posted in a couple weeks on the website. Opened to the floor for questions. President Sharp shared some information since he sat on the committee for this. Big concern and thought was that it's more important to have all participatory than a couple agencies saving a few dollars. Most beneficial is a large association and being unified. Only about 30 agencies in the state that will be affected and 5 of them are in this County. Increases ability for smaller agencies to participate. Vice President Gibson concurred, we are better with more numbers. Steve stated it will help with efforts in Olympia. Thanked for being here today.

President Sharp appreciates what Steve has been doing. Started the County President's meeting – nice to hear what and how other Counties are doing and managing. Conferences – please consider participating in them. Good education offered and great to network as well.

6. Unfinished Business

None at this time.

7. New Business

N/A

DIVISION REPORTS - Detailed:

8. EMS – Jesse Fox

Reported no updates at this time. Group continues to work and collaborate on 2022 goals.

9 A. Metro Training – Tom Mason

Reported have Metro Training on April 20th. Inviting all Chiefs and Captains to a WUI level command training. Held at Gig Harbor Fire at 0900. If interested, get a hold of Michelle Grecco at Graham Fire to sign up or just show up. Excited to host some training. President Sharp asked what the sign up looks like? Unsure, will send out a reminder.

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

N/A

9 C. Training – TEW Equipment –

Not present.

10. Fire and Life Safety – Chuck King

Not present.

11. Logistics – Steve Richards

Thanked Norm for setting up a meeting and having an agenda. Norm is the co-Chair. Talked about logistics inter local agreements. Such as Mechanics inter local agreement. See what needs to be updated, etc. Discussion on rigs purchased, specs, vendors, etc. Also visited IT platform – computer programs used, operative IQ, Telestaff, tracking bunker gear for cleaning, etc. Next month at Gig Harbor going to show how using Operative IQ. PPE consortium and looking at what grants are out there. President Sharp asked about a regional effort discussed? Steve stated realizing more can do together, the better will be for all. Next meeting will have a deeper dive on that. Encourage everyone that the more we can do together the more money we can save in the end. Chief Espinosa asked about logistics working on radios? Chief Richards stated are engaged on the steering committee. Would be good to have a couple point people on. Jody Ferguson stated arranged for product demo and will get the date and information out to everyone.

12. Operations – Michael Boltz

Not present.

13. Volunteer Services – Eric Skogen

Not present.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - Detailed:

14. UASI Committee – Todd Magliocca

Reported busy time right now getting ready for 2023 release. Should drop around first week of May. Some additional criteria – election security and community preparedness. Structural Collapse class. Have to justify or defend and have been doing that successfully. Training and equipment. Distribution closing up 2019 deliverables. For 20 and 21 PCSORT 66,000 to receive and another 35,000 battery operated extrication equipment. Training annual 80-hour structural collapse to be starting soon. May 23-27 and June 6-10.

15. Emergency Management Committee – Zane Gibson / Dustin Morrow

Chief Morrow stated nothing to report at this time. Chief Gibson reported CPFR, EPFR and Orting will be participating in the largest evacuation drill – 13,000 kids evacuated. Primarily law enforcement function, but we are involved. Grant through new house bill DNR for pre-deployment for zone 6 – 5 days of full task force – pretty optimistic will get. Evacuation drill is April 29th.

16. Banquet/Awards Committee – DORMANT - Norm Fiacchi

17. Nominations Committee – DORMANT - Gibson / Bjurstrom / Parkinson

18. **Audit Committee – DORMANT - Fiacchi / Morrow**

19. **CISM Committee – DORMANT –**

20. **Technology Committee – Dustin Morrow**

Reported SS development team Interra project is going well. Should be seeing the Pierce County dashboard come to life here soon. Huge step forward and long overdue.

21. **Good of the Order**

Mike Wilsie thanked Denise for sending out the Hail Mary for assessors last month. Sit on May 13th short listing – cyber security – marine applications need or wants keep an eye out for that.

Chief Martin asked a general question – retention bonus – anyone offering? Steve Wright stated not being done yet, but something being considered especially in Paramedic front.

Commissioner Moffett reminded everyone of the upcoming public open meetings act training this Saturday from 9-12 taught by Attorney's Eric and Joe Quinn. Class is offered by PC Fire Commissioners Association. Also, Key Peninsula is in the process of hiring a new fire chief.

Chief Martin reported issue on CAD readers due to missing an update and wanting \$10,000 for update.

Chief Wernet sent out a letter, one of volunteer Firefighters went to Poland and there is a need for equipment. Anyone has surplus apparatus, looking for any assistance. See letter that was emailed out for more information.

President Sharp next week is telecommuter's week – we all rely on Dispatchers. Think about your dispatchers next week.

22. **Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

Submitted by:

Denise Ross
Recording Secretary

2022 Meeting Schedule:

Jan 6, 2022 – General – Remotely via Zoom

Feb 3, 2022 – Business – Remotely via Zoom

Mar 3, 2022 – General – Remotely via Zoom

Apr 7, 2022 – Business – Hybrid – remotely via Zoom and Live at SS911

May 5, 2022 – General – Hybrid – remotely via Zoom and Live at SS911

Jun 2, 2022 – Business –

Jul 7, 2022 – NO MEETING

Aug 4, 2022 – NO MEETING
Aug ?, 2022 – Joint Meeting with Police Chiefs - TBD
Sep 1, 2022 – Business –
Oct 6, 2022 – General –
Nov 3, 2022 – Business –
Dec 1, 2022 – NO MEETING – AWARDS CEREMONY