



General Meeting Minutes January 6, 2022

1. Call to Order

President Sharp called the Pierce County Fire Chiefs Association meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. remotely via Zoom. According to the Zoom meeting attendees, there were a total of 37 people in attendance.

2. Approval of Minutes

President Sharp asked if there was any opposition or changes to the minutes. There being none, the November 4, 2021 meeting minutes were approved as presented. Chief Gibson moved Chief Morrow seconded. MOTION CARRIED.

3. Treasurer's Report – Denise Menge

The Treasurer's Report was presented, see attached copy on the back side of the agenda. President Sharp asked if there was any opposition to the Treasurer's Report as presented. There being none, the Treasurer's Report was approved as presented. Chief Gibson moved and Chief Morrow seconded. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Correspondence

None at this time.

5. Guest Speaker – Joseph Dilley, Pierce College

Vice President Gibson introduced the guest speaker, Joseph Dilley with Pierce College Fire Service Program. Associates Degree and JATC as well. They also have a Bachelor's Degree program now. Approved for RSI for JATC. Not just Bates offering JATC classes now. Ranked 6th in the Nation last year for Fire Service Degrees. Held first Officer 3 class at Pierce. Possibly looking to do Officer 1 and 2 courses as well. Also working on Emergency Medical Services degree and getting a medic program in conjunction with. All classes are online. Enrollment has quadrupled in the last year and a half. Working on getting IFSAC accredited as well. Connection was poor and was hard to hear a lot of what he was sharing.

6. Unfinished Business

Nothing at this time.

7. New Business

A. Discussion regarding in person meetings – President Sharp stated going on two years of being virtual. Miss the opportunities of meeting in person. Knows the timing of this topic isn't the greatest, however, would like to hear input, thoughts, etc. Police Association is meeting in person every other month. Not crazy about that idea due to confusion. Not sure that hybrid meetings would work either as not all departments are set up to do a sophisticated hybrid meeting. A lot of safety protocols everyone follows in their departments and feels perhaps starting with the March meeting. A lot of value to having

in person meetings. Open to floor for discussion. Chief Morrow supports the opportunity to go back to in person meetings as long as establish appropriate protocol, safety measures and space to hold the meeting. COVID isn't going away anytime soon and we need to safely manage through it. Chief Anderson agrees with Chief Morrow. President Sharp stated he understands poor timing with current situation of COVID. Chief Doan stated he's at home with COVID now and it's not fun. Feels like we need to wait a little longer on this. Chief Gibson stated being mindful during outbreak. More like April or May would be better, feels like March might be too soon. Chief Green highly recommends re-exploring the hybrid model as there are those will be comfortable and those that won't be comfortable of meeting in person and should have the option of attending virtual, etc. President Sharp stated he will take this back to the E-Board to work through a little more on logistics.

AFFILIATE AGENCY REPORTS

8. South Sound 911 – Debbie Grady

Reported Happy 2022! Hit pretty hard over the Holidays with COVID – agency wide around 15 people out with COVID. While severity of symptoms not as bad as has been, it's still impacting. New Board Members start in February. Chair Young's last year as Council Chair. Staffing discussed and working on. Aggressively actively recruiting, etc. On-boarded 30 plus people last year. Continue to work on. Spoke with a News Tribune reporter regarding staffing. Actively working on 911 program office transitioning to SS911. Have made notification to State 911 office on who 911 educator and coordinator, etc. Will be doing some outreach and virtual meetings with other PSAPs in County so engaged and interacting with. In process with training for universal call taking. Hope that will provide better experience for callers and increase efficiencies. Deputy Director Mears stated big push is training.

9. Department of Emergency Management – Jody Ferguson

Not present.

10. Pierce County EMS – Norma Pancake

Not present.

11. Fire Marshal – Warner Webb

Reported on DEM side of house going through hiring of upper supervision that have left. Flooded with working the COVID testing sites – one in Lakewood just closed recently and moved to the Fairgrounds. Check Health Department site. Activate for snow event to shelter homeless – opened site at Sprinker and in Fife and working with coalition for homeless. Fire Marshal side – added one additional DFM and adding another one by the end of the month to be back to 4 DFM's. 2022 County Comp Plan started in house process for re-adoption. Just want to make everyone aware of that for Capital Facility Plans, Impact Fees, etc. Looking to adopt 2021 Fire Code this year. If any amendments, will let know. Bargaining Unit negotiations going on for DFMs. Chief Espinosa asked about respiratory protection, is there a policy that he can share with incident commanders. FM Webb will email it to Denise to send out to the group.

12. State Chiefs – Jim Sharp

President Sharp reported upcoming conferences – Mechanics in April in Wenatchee, Training in March in Wenatchee and Fire Chiefs May 23-26 also in Wenatchee. Admin Support in October in Richland. Goal is for them to all be in person conferences.

13. Puget Sound Clean Air Agency – Rick Hess

Not present.

14. PC Fire Commissioners Association – Dan Rankin

President Sharp stated they have a new President this year, Commissioner Stan Moffett. Next meeting is scheduled for the 27th via Zoom. Haven't made any decisions on going back to in person meetings, suspect it will be several months.

15. Department of Natural Resources – Nancy Barker

Nate Barrons reported South Puget DNR has had a lot of staff turnover. Big news from suppression capacity is adding some hand crew capability in Western Washington. Hoping to have that staffed up for 2022. Also adding heavy equipment operator as well as heavy equipment. Also working at an earlier staffing model for seasonal workers by the end of March. Chief Morrow asked how to get resources? Nate stated to go through South Puget to request resources.

16. Tacoma-Pierce County Chaplaincy – Ben Harris

Reported 8 or 9 Chaplains have retired or relocated. Have another 8 or 9 doing the same. Working on finding churches and community associations, etc. Trying to navigate the best way for meetings for the year.

17. Bates Technical College – Tiffany Williams

Not present.

NON SCHEDULED DIVISION REPORTS - Overview:

18. EMS – Jesse Fox

Introduced himself, EMS Captain for CPFR and is the new Chair. Nothing to report at this time.

19.

A. Metro Training – Woody Juarez

Not present.

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

Not present.

C. Training – TEW Equipment –

Not present.

20. Fire and Life Safety –

President Sharp stated that Eric Waters has stepped down from Chairing this Division. He has Chaired for 10 years. Shout out to Eric for being so instrumental in representing us.

Chuck King will be Chair. Chief King stated he will step in for the next year. No new news at this time.

21. Logistics – Steve Richards

Not present. Chief Fiacchi reported letter from Sea Western on Bunker Gear. Consortium purchases, bunker gear being one. During pandemic over last 18 months, 3 separate increases in costs for Bunker Gear. Just one example of impacts. Continue to meet as a group to work together to purchase as a group, etc.

22. Operations – Michael Boltz

Reported nothing at this time. Happy to be in this position. Ops will be getting together and trying to get better organized for 2022.

23. Volunteer Services – Eric Skogen

Not present.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - Overview:

24. UASI Committee – Todd Magliocca

Not present.

25. Emergency Management Committee – Zane Gibson / Dustin Morrow

Chief Morrow reported working on a pre-season meeting. Will get that organized. Chief Gibson mark calendars for April 29th will be having a multi school district Lahar drill. 13,000 kids being evacuated.

26. Radios User Group Committee – Zane Gibson

Nothing at this time.

27. Banquet/Awards Committee – Norm Fiacchi - DORMANT

President Sharp thanked committee members that made happen.

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

29. Audit Committee – Fiacchi / Morrow

Denise will scan and get records to Chiefs Fiacchi and Morrow for review like last year.

30. CISM COMMITTEE – - DORMANT

31. Technology Committee – Dustin Morrow

Reported nothing at this time.

32. Good of the Order

Chief Meyer update on PCSORT and PCHIT – program analysis and hiring consultant. Just signed agreement. Will be reaching out to member organizations as well as dispatch and other agencies that may partner with. Deep dive on how program has been doing over the last 20-25 years but needs to be updated on how conduct business. Look at different funding options. Any questions reach out to self or Oscar. Bill with Vulcan Safety Solutions working on project analysis. Thanks for support ahead of time on this.

President Sharp reminder to look at list of emails – a lot of new faces, a lot of retirements, etc. please look over email group and make sure you have the right people in your organization on it.

33. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 10:02 a.m.

Submitted by:
Denise Menge, 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 –
May 5, 2022 – General –
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