**Pierce County Fire Chiefs’ Association**

**Meeting Minutes**

**February 4, 2010**

**Call to Order**

President Reggie Romines called the Pierce County Fire Chiefs’ Association meeting to order at 11:40 a.m. at East Pierce Fire and Rescue, Station 16, located at 10515 234th Ave E. The following were present:

Jeff Jensen, Tacoma FD Jon Lendosky, Tacoma FD

Ken Sharp, Lakewood FD Paul Tinsley, Lakewood FD

Jim Sharp, Lakewood FD Karl Roth, Lakewood FD

Mitch Sagers, University Place FD Dave Dupille, UPFD

Lloyd Christianson, UPFD Dan Rankin, University Place FD

Bob Black, Gig Harbor FD Eric Watson, Gig Harbor FD

Mike Miller, Gig Harbor FD Bill Jarmon, Gig Harbor FD

Scott Casebolt, Gig Harbor FD Jack Andren, CPFR

Doug Willis, CPFR Judy Murphy, CPFR

Randy Stephens, CPFR Ed Goodlet, Edgewood FD

Andy McAfee, Riverside FD Bob Vellias, PCFD #15

Tom Lique, Key Peninsula FD Guy Allen, Ken Peninsula FD

Chris Grant, PCFD #17 Reggie Romines, GFR

Kathy Hale, GFR Todd Jensen, GFR

Jerry Thorson, EPFR John McDonald, EPFR

Dave Wakefield, EPFR Russ McCallion, EPFR

Micheal Smith, PCFD #26 Ken Beaupre, PCDEM

Wayne Wienholz, PCFPB Dic Gribbon, PSCAA

Norma Pancake, PCEMS Chuck Frame, DNR

**Flag Salute**

Jerry Thorson led the flag salute.

Chief Andren found $10.00 in the rest room. Everyone claimed it was theirs. It is unknown if the rightful owner was able to overcome the masses and claim it.

Chief Jerry Thorson welcomed everyone to East Pierce Fire & Rescue. They have a lot going on in the District. Presently they are watching for the upcoming vote on the annexation of Edgewood Fire District (PCFD #8) into EPFR (PCFD #22).

**Approval of Minutes**

It was moved and seconded to approve the January 7, 2010 minutes. MOTION CARRIED.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Kathy Hale reported the current balance of the account is $9,289.87.

**Correspondence**

None

**Guest Speaker**

John McDonald introduced Greg Rogers, Fire Marshal, South Kitsap Fire and Rescue who is the immediate past president of the Washington State Fire Marshals Association and the current director of the Washington State Sprinkler Coalition. Greg explained the purpose and goals of the Coalition, which is to advocate for fire sprinkler systems in all single family residences. The Coalition was formed to represent Washington State during the multi year process of getting a sprinkler requirement into the International Residential Code. That process was successful at the national level and the requirement is now part of the IRC.

The effort in Washington State has centered on working through the State Building Code Council process. The Council settled on adding the sprinkler requirement to the Appendix of the IRC in Washington State. This leaves it up to local jurisdictions to adopt it or not. The SBCC further ruled that the sprinkler requirement could be adopted by local jurisdictions without coming back to the Council for approval.

Legislation is now moving through the State Legislature to adopt the SBCC recommendations into law. Once that is complete the Coalition will shift its focus to assisting local jurisdictions through the adoption process by providing resources such as reports, information, evidence, speakers, etc.

Greg showed an excellent video presentation of side-by-side identical rooms being burned. One was equipped with residential sprinklers the other was not. The effectiveness of the fire sprinklers was remarkable. The fire was extinguished quickly with little fire and smoke damage. The unsprinklered room burned quickly with very heavy damage.

Greg passed out a plethora of information on residential sprinklers and reiterated that the Coalition is ready to assist locals in any way they can. Th**e Coalition will be holding a meeting Thursday, March 4 at 9:00am at South King Fire & Rescue Station 26 (**2238 South 223rd St., Des Moines, WA 98198).

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Program/Speaker Committee**

John McDonald reported that Arun Raha, Executive Director, Washington State Economic and Revenue Forecast will speak at our March meeting. County Executive Pat McCarthy will be speaking to us in the near future.

**Audit Committee**

Nothing to report.

**Banquet/Awards Committee**

Nothing to report.

**Nominations Committee- DORMANT**

**UASI Committee**

Jeff Jensen reported the first meeting on 2011 dollars was last Wednesday. Some focus on Haz Mat, EMS, Tech, and communications equipment. Get your requests to Jeff.

**Regional Communications Committee**

John Lendosky reported that meetings on a combined dispatch center are beginning. A draft MOU is being prepared to begin planning how to move forward. All parties are ready to talk. There will be a need for new facilities. Co-location makes sense. A goal to be up and running at a co-location has been set for 2013. Jack Andren reported that the County Executive is considering Wayne Bernard to act as a consultant to work on this. Fire wants a single, sole dispatch center for fire in Pierce County.

Jack made a motion and it was seconded that the PC Fire Chiefs prepare a letter for our Regional Communication Committee representatives to use as they see fit to report a consensus of the PC Fire Chiefs for two redundant dispatch centers: one for fire and one for police. MOTION CARRIED.

With Jack’s upcoming retirement, Jim Sharp and John Lendosky will continue to be our representatives to the RCC.

**DIVISION REPORTS:**

**EMS**

Judy Murphy reported that the protocol books will be out soon. They will be sent electronically to save funds. Users will need to print their own if necessary. The EMS Committee is looking into electronic methods of reporting. TG’s new Emergency Room is scheduled to open on April 15th. Medical Divert is going well.

The PC EMS Council needs a new rep from the Chiefs. It was decided that Judy will continue in that position and Russ McCallion will be the alternate.

**MetroTraining**

No Report.

**Training – TEW Training/Exercise**

No Report.

**OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS:**

**American Red Cross**

No representative present.

**Department of Emergency Management**

Curt Beaupre’ gave a report on NIMS. This year is a “catch up year”, to allow agencies to get their training up to speed. There are four discipline specific classes required for 2010 on the web site.

The State of Washington is going away from our old WSEMD NIMS on-line reporting system and switching to the NIMSCAST system which is the Federal NIMS Compliance reporting system.

Curt further reported on the progress on the new reverse 911 system (Everbridge) being installed by DEM. As covered last month by Ken Parrish, this will be a much more comprehensive and inclusive system of notification. This is an enhanced reverse 911 alert notification and mapping system with many new uses and applications. Lots of training will be coming in the near future.

**EMS**

Norma Pancake reported that an electronic version of the protocol updates will be out around the middle of March.

The Recovery Response Center opened January 31st on the grounds of Western State. The State EMS Office, in the revision of WAC 246-976 is removing affiliated agencies from the WAC. This will remove agencies such as Search and Rescue, American Red Cross, Civil Air Patrol, etc. from being allowed to have EMT and Paramedics affiliated with them for the purposes of training and certification. Norma made a motion and it was seconded that the PC Fire Chiefs send a letter to the State EMS Office requesting that the affiliated agencies remain in the WAC as it now exists. MOTION CARRIED.

**Fire Marshal**

Wayne Wienholz reported that he is getting together a committee to study whether there can be some relation from the fire flow and access regulations for certain small short plats. More to come on this.

FPB is back to three fire investigators with the return to full duty of one who fell ill at Christmas. They are in the process of hiring a fourth Deputy.

A discussion was held regarding Jacks’ upcoming retirement and the need to find a replacement on the PC Chief’s Code Committee. John McDonald will discuss this opportunity with Barry Barquest from EPFR and report back whether Barry can fill this spot.

**State Chiefs/Western Chiefs**

Jeff Jensen reported on a bill that would move the Board of Volunteer Retirement Benefits going into the DRS system. Discussion followed. He also reported on discussion of a Political Action Committee for Fire.

**PS Clean Air Agency**

Dic Gribbon stated that January 2010 was the first month he could recall where he had no illegal burning cases in Pierce County.

Dic reported that PSCAA Director Dennis McLaren has been appointed by President Obama to be the Director of the Northwest Clean Air Agency.

**PC Fire Commissioners**

Bill Jarmon reported their next meeting is on February 25th at 7:00 pm at Graham Fire & Rescue.

**Dept. of Natural Resources**

Chuck Frame reported that a Wildland Fire Investigation class is coming up June 7 – 11, 2010. It will be held at Graham Fire with burns at Fort Lewis. Contact Mike Patti at the PC Fire Marshal’s Office for information.

**Unfinished Business**

Ed Goodlet was presented an award for his service as Trustee and Vice President of the PCFCA. Good Job Ed!!!

Jerry Thorson stated that a Peer Fitness class will be coming soon. He asked if anyone had Personnel Evaluation Programs they wanted to share with EPFR.

Chris Grant asked if other departments were finding “burn complaints” are often the result of neighbors feuding and not really serious illegal burning issues. Discussion followed. Result: if your district issues burning permits you must enforce the regulations.

Jack Andren reported that CPFR is now on the Tacoma frequency (old F-1). Next month they should be on the 800 frequency. Responding-in departments will be patched to 800 by Tacoma Dispatch. HINT: Wait for a second after keying the mic before talking when patched to 800 otherwise the first few words will not be heard by those receiving.

**New Business**

Nothing at this time.

**Good of the Order**

Lakewood FD has three Chiefs retiring soon. They are Mike McGovern, Greg Hull and Bob Bronoske. A retirement celebration will be held February 26th at the Schooner Tavern beginning at 1400 hours.

There is a new Battalion Chief at Fire Comm. Welcome Michael Dobbs.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 13:00 p.m.

*The next Meeting will be March 11, 2010 at 11:30 at Dupont Fire.*