**Pierce County Fire Chiefs’ Association**

**Meeting Minutes**

**January 6, 2011**

**Call to Order**

President John McDonald called the Pierce County Fire Chiefs’ Association meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. at Graham Fire & Rescue at 23014 70th Ave. E., Graham, WA. The following were present:

Greg Hull, DuPont FD Jeff Jensen, Tacoma FD

Ken Sharp, Lakewood FD Paul Tinsley, Lakewood FD

Jim Sharp, Lakewood FD Karl Roth, Lakewood FD

Mitch Sagers, UPFD Lloyd Christianson, UPFD

Stephen Murphy, UPFD Dan Rankin, UPFD

Eric Watson, Gig Harbor FD John Burgess, Gig Harbor FD

Bill Jarmon, Gig Harbor FD Scott Casebolt, Gig Harbor FD

Tom Sutich, Gig Harbor FD Keith Wright, CPFR

Ruth Obadal, CPFR Bryan Pearson, CPFR

Baron Banks, CPFR Judy Murphy, CPFR

Randy Stephens, CPFR Radcliffe McKenzie, CPFR

Gary McVay, PCFD #13 Andy McAfee, PCFD #14

Guy Allen, PCFD #16 Bob Vellias,SPFR

Chris Grant, SPFR Reggie Romines, GFR

Gary Franz, GFR Tony Judd, GFR

Ryan Baskett, GFR Kathy Hale, GFR

Todd Jensen, GFR Steve Richards, GFR

Bob Skaggs, GFR Jerry Thorson, PCFD #22

John McDonald, PCFD #22 Garry Olson, PCFD #23

Steve Bailey, PCDEM Ken Parrish, PCDEM

Wayne Wienholz, PCFPB Dic Gribbon, PSCAA

Norma Pancake, PCEMS Denise Menge, Recorder

**Flag Salute**

Reggie Romines welcomed everyone to Graham Fire & Rescue. He reported that they will be making a few changes this year – Tony Judd who has been the Operations Chief has decided to go back to B/C on shift. After April, Ryan Baskett will be the new Operations Chief. Also, Dan Hannah will be retiring this year. Graham Fire & Rescue will be implementing a new response model at the end of the month where they will be sending a squad unit out.

**Approval of Minutes**

It was moved and seconded to approve the November 14, 2010 minutes. MOTION CARRIED.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Kathy Hale reported the account balance grand total amount is $13,715.84.

**Correspondence**

Nothing at this time.

**Guest Speaker**

Keith Wright introduced the guest speaker, Colonel Currie and Capt. Clark with the Joint Task Force Washington National Guard CBRNE Enhanced Response Force Package. See attached powerpoint presentation that was presented. Access to the HRF (Homeland Response Force) is no different than if you were to access the Guard now. An incident response request would go through your local or State Emergency Management Department. The EXEVAL in Spokane later this year is open for people to observe. The Association thanked Col. Currie and Capt. Clark for their time and presentation.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Program/Speaker Committee**

Keith Wright reported Chuck Duffy, State Fire Marshal will be speaking at the next meeting. He is working on getting the UPS economics professor as well. If anyone has any ideas or suggestions, please contact him.

**Audit Committee**

Gary Franz, Andy McAfee and Kathy Hale will schedule a time to meet and conduct the annual audit.

**Banquet/Awards Committee**

No report.

**Nominations Committee- DORMANT**

**UASI Committee**

Jeff Jensen reported all requests have been submitted to the Core group on Friday for final approval. There is a total of 8.8 million dollars worth of items on the list that they will be looking at. They will start working on next years’ requests in a few months. He will get a list of items that are on the list to Denise to send out to everyone.

**Regional Communications Committee**

Jim Sharp gave an update on where things are at with regards to Tacoma Fire and Fire Comm looking at consolidating. A team has been assembled and they have been working for the last several months on goals, plans, funding, etc. They are looking at 1/10 of 1% for funding and looking at building two (2) PSAPs. They are also looking at the 800 radio network as well as how to stabilize and/or lower user fees. The first step is the 1/10 of 1% which has to be put on the ballot by the County Council. The recommendation is to put it on the General election ballot since many Fire Districts will most likely go in the Primary election with any ballot issues. An interlocal agreement is being worked on regarding a communication plan.

**Code Committee**

Gary Franz stated he had nothing to report. They are continuing to look at and develop strategy regarding the residential sprinkler ordinance.

Developmental mitigation met in November to seek approval from the Council. The deadline was January 3rd. Graham Fire submitted their first phase of the submittal process. They also submitted it on behalf of all Pierce County Fire Districts. The next phase is to complete the capital facility assessments plan. He will know in a week or two whether it will be a three month or six month time frame. Discussion followed.

John McDonald reported he received a call from Penny Hulse regarding there being some interest in getting a County-wide Prevention group back together. The problem in the past is that there were so few code enforcers. It might be a good time to try this again since there are more people in fire prevention.

**DIVISION REPORTS:**

**EMS**

Judy Murphy reported the EMS Committee has been busy working on MCI Plan revisions. Steve Murphy distributed a copy. They will be looking for final approval at the next meeting so they can take it to County EMS.

Good Samaritan’s target opening is February 14th and they will be having an Open House on February 10th.

New cardiac and stroke guidelines will be out in July. Regarding level of care – St. Joes and TG are a Level 1 stroke care facility, St. Anthony’s is a Level 2, Allenmore, St. Clare and Good Sam are Level 3.

**MetroTraining**

Bryan Pearson reported the Metro Training group is meeting at the end of the month to finalize the drill schedule. They are also looking at expanding training opportunities and making classes available. The classes will be posted on the PCFCA website.

**Training – TEW Training/Exercise**

Gary McVay reported they will be meeting next week. There are a lot of applications coming in. Exercise is moving forward with a June Water Rescue Exercise. The planning for that starts next week. There is a lot of competition for funds. Consider having a multi-agency and/or multi-discipline training if you are submitting for funds as these take priority over single jurisdiction.

**OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS:**

**American Red Cross**

No representative present.

**Department of Emergency Management**

Ken Parrish reported that PC Alert and PC Warn continue to grow. They have received 8500 opt ins so far. Around 29% of the national numbers are doing away with landlines and only have a cell phone. They have to voluntarily opt in in order to be notified. They are more than happy to put their icon on your websites, etc. to help get the information out to the public.

The grant is not looking good right now. 2011 is on a holding pattern as the FEMA appropriation bill has to be passed first. They usually have this in November. The 2010 money is starting to be spent.

They have a brand new sand bagger and now have five (5) in the County. They currently have a good stockpile of sandbags on hand.

**EMS**

Norma Pancake reported a 2 and 4 day resuscitation academy will be held in May and October.

They are partnering with the State Chiefs to have a leadership EMS Officer role at the Western Region EMS Conference.

**Fire Marshal**

Wayne Wienholz reported their office had a lay off this year and so their workforce has been reduced by one position. They are in the process of hiring a deputy fire marshal.

Wayne thanked the association for the recognition at the Banquet. He has sat on the E-Board for most of the 19 years he’s been Fire Marshal. He has been blessed with the support and trust of the Fire Chiefs and it means a lot to him personally. Thank you again for the award.

**State Chiefs/Western Chiefs**

Jeff Jensen reminded everyone of the Legislative Day.

Jeff announced that he is not planning to run in May for the position he currently holds. If interested in having someone from Pierce County, now would be the time to start thinking about who might be interested, etc.

**PS Clean Air Agency**

Dic Gribbon reported he has outdoor burning brochures available for you to take back to your departments. The Stage 2 Burn Ban just ended. That ban was put into effect for public health reasons. Please do not hesitate to forward incidents to them, especially during a burn ban.

**PC Fire Commissioners**

Bill Jarmon reported their next meeting is at Lakewood Station 2-1 on January 27th at 7:00 pm. Larry Nelson is their new President of the Commissioners Association. Vice President is Scott Casebolt. State Commissioners Association President Bob Skaggs was re-elected as President. He thanked everyone again for their support.

**Dept. of Natural Resources**

No representative present.

**Unfinished Business**

Jim Sharp stated he was hoping to get a motion for support regarding Emergency Communications and what that committee is moving towards. It was moved and seconded to support the work the committee is doing on Emergency Communications efforts. MOTION CARRIED.

John McDonald reminded everyone that the 2011 Dues Notices were sent out, please get those processed and sent back in.

**New Business**

Radcliffe McKenzie stated has two (2) things he would like to discuss. The first being Pre-Fire Plans and the ability to share information between agencies. The second is hydrant maintenance standardization so there is uniformity across the County.

Pre-Fire Plans – Discussion followed regarding a pdf format being utilized and then putting it on a sharepoint site or the PCFCA website. Steve Bailey stated the PC portal could be used where they have the school info, etc. It was suggested that Radcliffe put together a survey and sent to Denise to e-mail out to the group regarding coming up with a standard format, how to gather and share the information, etc.

Hydrant Maintenance – there is no county ordinance that spells out the requirements and he’s not sure what the different water purveyors use and/or do, etc. Then there is also the issue of private versus public systems. Discussion followed. Wayne stated that what the county ordinance says is that each Fire District is to have an agreement with each water purveyor. Discussion followed. Another issue is having a flow of information back and forth. The water purveyors are forming a committee and drafting an agreement. Radcliffe will send the draft agreement to Denise to send out to the group as well as post it to the website.

John McDonald stated Denise had sent out a flier for a Data Analysis class that is being held at East Pierce Fire & Rescue the end of this month. He encouraged everyone to send at least one person from your agency to participate in this. It would be good to have a standardizing of data collection and data analysis, etc. If everyone is looking at data differently, then some of the validity is missed. We are better in the long run if we establish a standard approach. This is a great step in the right direction.

**Good of the Order**

Pat Donovan reported the ladder downtown Puyallup will be moving to Station 71 starting January 13th.

Mitch Sagers reminded everyone that January 15th is the retirement party for Dave Dupille. Please let them know by the 10th if you are planning on attending.

John McDonald reported a list of the Executive Board goals for 2011 was sent out via e-mail. The E-Board will finalize them at the next meeting and get them posted on the website.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

*The next Regular Meeting will be February 3, 2011 at Lakewood Fire, Station 2-1 located at 5000 Steilacoom Blvd. SW.*