**Pierce County Fire Chiefs’ Association**

**Meeting Minutes April 7, 2011**

**Call to Order**

President John McDonald called the Pierce County Fire Chiefs’ Association meeting to order at 11:35 a.m. at East Pierce Fire & Rescue Station 16 located at 10515 234th Ave. E., Bonney Lake, WA. The following were present:

Dexter Habeck, Eatonville FD Mitch Sagers, WPFR

Paul Tinsley, WPFR Lloyd Christianson, WPFR

Karl Roth, WPFR Dan Rankin, WPFR

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

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

Scott Casebolt, Gig Harbor FD Tom Sutich, Gig Harbor FD

Keith Wright, CPFR Judy Murphy, CPFR

Randy Stephens, CPFR Andy McAfee, PCFD #14

Guy Allen, PCFD #16 Bob Vellias,SPFR

Todd Jensen, GFR John McDonald, PCFD #22

Garry Olson, PCFD #23 Ken Parrish, PCDEM

Rick Kuss, PCFD #22 Mike Patti, PCFPB

Dic Gribbon, PSCAA Norma Pancake, PCEMS

Chuck Frame, DNR Janice Pacific, DNR

Cindy Miron, TPCHD Denise Menge, Recorder

**Flag Salute**

Rick Kuss led the flag salute. John McDonald welcomed everyone to EPFR. Fire Chief Thorson is unable to attend today’s meeting.

At this time he’d like to change the order of the agenda a little.

**New Business**

**Regional Catastrophic Plan:** John McDonald introduced Roger Edington who is here to discuss the Regional Catastrophic Plan. Roger stated he is an MSO with Tacoma FD and with him is Lt. Josh Pearson, MSO from Seattle FD and the lead on this issue; and Karen Reed who is a local government consultant.

The Pre-hospital Emergency Triage and Treatment (PETT) plan is in draft form right now. Copies distributed (see attached). The plan proposes the creation of a regional coordinating body (EMS Coordination group) to address field triage, treatment, transportation, and disposition of patients when the pre-hospital response system is overwhelmed. Also distributed was a copy of the Executive Summary.

Roger went through a powerpoint presentation of the RCP and what it entails.

Roger Edington thanked everyone for the opportunity to be here today to talk about this plan.

**Guest Speaker**

John McDonald introduced Dr. Horne, Director of the Tacoma Pierce County Chaplaincy. We all know the value of the is program as we have to deal with tragic events we come in contact with.

Dr. Horne reported they have 5 ½ people on staff and 40 volunteers. They are having a Chiefs and Chaplains luncheon in May, a Benefit Dinner in October and a Golf Tournament in June. These are their fundraisers to help support this program. He presented a powerpoint presentation.

Dr. Horne thanked the Association for the opportunity to be here today.

**Approval of Minutes**

It was moved and seconded to approve the March 10, 2011 meeting minutes as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Kathy Hale was not present. No report at this time.

**Correspondence**

No correspondence was received.

**Unfinished Business**

**Hydrant Maintenance Agreements:** Radcliffe McKenzie reported currently how this works is some departments perform flow tests, paint, lube, turn, etc. and the internal maintenance is handled by the water purveyors. There seems to be a communications issues. There is currently a lawsuit with the City of Tacoma and no action is being taken until the lawsuit is settled. He will be talking to the Water Coop on the 14th.

**Pre-Incident Surveys:** Radcliffe McKenzie reported he received eight (8) surveys back. Some store theirs in binders, some are digital and are open to sharing. He is looking into the best way to store and share this information. There is a possibility of using the DEM Pierce Responder site for this. He is working on developing a model. Symbology differences are an issue and will be looking at how to put together a legend for everyone’s different symbologies and what they stand for, etc. Andy McAfee offered his agency to pilot the program once it is developed.

**New Business**

**Regional Catastrophic Plan:** Discussed earlier in meeting.

**WFC County Presidents Meeting:** President McDonald reported he attended the State Chiefs County Presidents Forum. At the State Chiefs level the EMS regions are looking at realignment and/or consolidating. They are working on a draft plan. Judy Murphy stated there are different abilities for the different County EMS Offices, for example, the Eastern doesn’t have a County Office, so they utilize the Regional Office. Norma Pancake stated the Western Region is a collaboration and coordination and they do a very good job. Discussion followed.

WAC 296-305 was discussed and sounds like it was exempt from the moratorium by the Governor and just placed on hold. This will be discussed more at the State Chiefs Conference. Chief Senter reported on the Legislative Committee work. There is a committee working with the WA Survey and Rating Bureau and they meet every couple of months regarding performance based analysis. The NFRs reporting that was handled by the State Fire Marshal’s Office will now be done by Emergency Reporting. They will collect the data and send it off to the Feds as well as create the annual report. The definition of Firefighter through DRS which has a significant impact on LEOFF is being worked on. The State Chief’s approached DRS on this regarding the administrative change that was done by DRS without any notification and/or input and removed Public Education positions from being LEOFF eligible. DRS has agreed to formulate a working group to address this issue.

President McDonald reported that he was approached by Chief Soptich regarding having a King County Chiefs Liaison attend our monthly meetings.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Program/Speaker Committee**

Nothing at this time.

**Audit Committee**

President McDonald reported he received an audit report from the Audit Committee.

**Banquet/Awards Committee**

Nothing at this time.

**Nominations Committee- DORMANT**

**UASI Committee**

Nothing at this time.

**Regional Communications Committee**

No representative present.

**Code Committee**

No representative present.

**DIVISION REPORTS:**

**EMS**

Judy Murphy stated she had reported about two months ago that a wonderful job was being done with regards to Divert. She received a letter from Good Sam stating that since the new Emergency Department opened on February 17th they have had a 20% increase. They realize and recognize they have a problem as they are on divert 8 – 10 plus hours a day. They are addressing it.

May 18th all hospitals will be having an evacuation exercise. Our involvement is limited, however, just need to be aware that all hospitals are going to be on divert for safety reasons during the exercise.

**MetroTraining**

There is no Metro Training for the month of April.

**Training – TEW Training/Exercise**

No representative present.

**OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS:**

**American Red Cross**

No representative present.

**Department of Emergency Management**

Ken Parrish reported the House of Representatives delayed the government shut down for five (5) more days and the President could veto it. They still have no budget. This will make for a very short time frame for the grant process to get done.

Ken reported PCDEM has received National Accreditation which was a two and a half year process. A press release will be coming out. There are currently five (5) counties in the nation to receive this and Pierce County is now the 6th.

**EMS**

Norma Pancake reported regarding EMS Agencies, South Pierce’s recert month has been changed. HA guidelines have changed, instructor material is not out yet.

**Fire Marshal**

Mike Patti reported this is his fourth day on the job. Monthly reports were distributed. They just finished the application process for a Deputy Fire Marshal.

**State Chiefs/Western Chiefs**

Jeff Jensen reported the conference is coming up. An email went out for Chief of the Year nominations. There will be another comment period for the 305 standard so if you’re not satisfied with the current document you will have another opportunity. If you want to be involved in the process, watch your emails for more information.

**PS Clean Air Agency**

Dic Gribbon reported his agency is available to come out and talk to your agencies if needed. Don’t hesitate to call. Also, remember that you can get reimbursed for illegal burns through their agency.

**PC Fire Commissioners**

Bill Jarmon reported their next meeting is on April 28th at 7:00 p.m. at CPFR, Station 60. Andy McAfee will be speaking on the Fire Explorer Program.

**Dept. of Natural Resources**

Chuck Frame reported they have a radio system that has been refined and increased capabilities. Denise Day is their new dispatch manager. Also, with regards to communications – they have a four console dispatch system with repeaters that utilize the forest service frequencies. This is something that could be used with regards to the catastrophic emergency plan that was discussed earlier in the meeting. Most of the DNR offices have the same capabilities.

Chuck reminded everyone of the incident qualifications for red cards, that information needs to get submitted to them. They have not received any requests as of yet.

DNR has decided to put on a burn ban beginning July 1st through September 30th. Last year they had allowed campfires and this year they will not.

**Good of the Order**

Norma Pancake stated a couple of months ago a Portland Hospital had an incident where a car ran into an embuttment in the parking lot, etc. She was wondering if something like this were to happen around here and we had a crew at the hospital, could they respond to and help with the emergency even if it wasn’t in their area? Discussion followed.

John Burgess introduced Steve Nixon, Chief of Operations.

Andy McAfee reported the Federal Government loan for the new engine that had been given, might not get the money now. The blue engine is gone. And lastly, The Firefighter Association Ball is on May 7th at Temple Theater.

John McDonald thanked Andy McAfee for assuming the role of County Coordinator.

The data collection committee is making significant progress. They hope to be finished before next month’s meeting. Mike Brown will be attending their next meeting on April 13th at Station 18 in Edgewood.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

*The next Regular Meeting will be May 5, 2011 at Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One, located at 10222 Bujacich Rd. NW.*