**Pierce County Fire Chiefs’ Association**

**Meeting Minutes August 4, 2011**

**Call to Order**

President John McDonald called the Pierce County Fire Chiefs’ Association meeting to order at 11:45 a.m. at Brown’s/Dash Point located at 5125 Tok-A-Lou Ave. NE, Tacoma WA. The following were present:

Ron Schaub, Steilacoom Public Safety Ken Sharp, WPFR

Lloyd Christianson, WPFR Dan Rankin, WPFR

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

Steve Nixon, Gig Harbor FD Doug Willis, CPFR

Keith Wright, CPFR Judy Murphy, CPFR

Gary McVay, PCFD #13 Cliff McCollum, PCFD #13

Andy McAfee, Riverside FD Chuck West, Key Peninsula FD

Reggie Romines, GFR Kathy Hale, GFR

Todd Jensen, GFR Bob Skaggs, GFR

John McDonald, EPFR Ken Parrish, PCDEM

Tom Poste, PCFPB Dic Gribbon, PSCAA

Norma Pancake, PCEMS Dave Crossen, KCFCA

Diane Makaeli, KCFCA Denise Menge, Recorder

**Flag Salute**

Gary McVay led the flag salute and welcomed everyone to Brown’s / Dash Point. The Commissioners Association held their annual picnic here last week. He thanked Cliff McCollum for the great BBQ that’s been provided and the staff that helped set everything up.

**Approval of Minutes**

It was moved and seconded to approve the June 2, 2011 meeting minutes as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Kathy Hale reported the account has a balance of $7,110.93 with $5,257.69 in EMS for a grand total of $12,368.62.

**Correspondence**

None.

**Guest Speaker**

Gary McVay introduced Mark Rapozo, State Auditor. Mr. Rapozo stated that all findings, management letters, exit interviews, etc. go through him. He presented a powerpoint presentation that gave an overview of last year through last month. With regards to Federal Grants, when purchasing equipment there is a requirement that you need to check to make sure the vendor is not on the suspension and disbarment list. It is also referred to as the excluded parties list. Also with purchasing, if it exceeds a certain amount, you must go to bid before purchasing.

2011-12 audit emphasis is going to be Payroll. They will be looking at overtime, sick leave and pensions with regards to gaming, abuse and fraud. He shared a news report regarding Clark County Fire Department in Las Vegas.

Mark Rapozo’s contact information is: mark.rapozo@sao.wa.gov or 253-593-2047 ext. 111.

Gary McVay presented a powerpoint presentation regarding the Pierce County Region 5 Water Resource Response Plan overview. They brought everyone together and put together reference material, what resources are available, dispatch protocol, etc. Law Enforcement, Fire and the Coast Guard were all involved. September is the target to have the Draft Plan finalized and approved and sent out to the PSAPs.

**Unfinished Business**

Nothing at this time.

**New Business**

Commissioner Skaggs reported in April State Fire Marshal Chuck Duffy spoke to their group with regards to changing the RCW. As of Monday of this week the State Fire Marshals is requesting 100% of the funds for capital improvements. The Commissioners had okayed 50% as they feel that half still needs to go towards training. The State Commissioners and the State Chiefs are in disagreement on this issue.

Fliers were distributed for a Police and Firefighters Appreciation event being held on August 6th.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Program/Speaker Committee**

VP Wright reported Joe Quinn will discuss Impact Fees in September. October speaker will be on leadership, November will be a wellness coordinator on heart health and December is the banquet. President McDonald reminded everyone that one of the goals this year is to increase the attendance at the annual banquet.

**Audit Committee - DORMANT**

**Banquet/Awards Committee**

No report.

**Nominations Committee- DORMANT**

**UASI Committee**

Ken Parrish reported there is no much going on. The 2012 CBRNE proposal application is open now and closes September 15th.

**Regional Communications Committee**

Ken Sharp reported on the tax initiative “South Sound 911” which is the 1/10 of 1% for County-wide communications. The interlocal agreement was signed last week with a 5-2 vote to put it on the November ballot. The County Commissioners have voted to support it and it is critical that the County Chief’s also support this. Ken Sharp moved and John Burgess seconded for the Chief’s Association to write a letter of support of the South Sound 911 initiative. Discussion followed. Judy Murphy reported she had recently received a complaint from a patient who had called 911 and received a message to leave a number. Discussion followed. There seems to be a lot of misinformation and unanswered questions with regards to the Sound Sound 911 initiative. Kevin Phelps is the lead on this and it was suggested to have him be a guest speaker at next month’s meeting. President McDonald stated there is a motion on the floor and he called for the question. MOTION CARRIED.

President McDonald asked about the LESA issue is there any other discussion or action regarding it? Doug Willis stated he will check into this some more and report back at the next meeting.

**Code Committee**

Tom Poste reported there are changes happening in the Fire Prevention Bureau. He distributed copies of the monthly reports.

**Emergency Management Committee**

Andy McAfee reminded everyone to let him know if your agency is participating in wildland so they are informed of the zone coordinators meeting.

**DIVISION REPORTS:**

**EMS**

Judy Murphy reported the Divert Committee meeting was held on Tuesday. For the 2nd quarter 2011 medical divert was at 0.7% and trauma divert was at 5 ½% which has a goal of 10%. They are doing a great job.

There is a directive from the Health Department regarding an increase in the number of pertussis cases – whooping cough. Tetanus with Pertussis immunizations are recommended.

The new trauma, cardiac and stroke guidelines went into effect July 1st.

Judy Murphy reported she attended a meeting yesterday regarding an increase in rehab policies. Throughout agencies there is a big diversity and a group is being put together to work on this. Contact Judy if you or someone in your agency is interested in participating on this.

**MetroTraining**

No representative present.

**Training – TEW Training/Exercise**

Gary McVay reported the TEW and Training/Exercise committees have been combined due to there being less funds. Also, the funds are being spread out more and they will no longer be funding full exercises. Instead they will be funding portions of them.

**TEW Equipment**

Mitch Sagers reported that almost two out of three requests were supported and out of the 22 requests, 18 were voted on and 14 were funded.

Doug Willis asked the question with regards to grants being less in the future, when do we stop participating in them? This isn’t something that has to be answered right now, but it is something to think about.

**OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS:**

**American Red Cross**

No representative present.

**Department of Emergency Management**

Ken Parrish elaborated on what Doug Willis mentioned. The smoke is not yet clear in DC and there is still no indication of what 2012 will hold with regards to grant funding. He does expect there will be more cuts. He reminded everyone that to comply with the reporting requirements, NIMS compliancy reporting is due by September 30th every year. You should be receiving emails regarding this soon.

**EMS**

Norma Pancake stated she had nothing to report.

**Fire Marshal**

No report.

**State Chiefs**

Keith Wright reported he attended his first board meeting in July and it was a good education for him. Another big topic is to look into collaborating with the Oregon State Fire Chiefs on a joint conference. More information to come on this. This fall, every three (3) years, is a Strategic Plan Update. Next week in Olympia will be a meeting regarding legislative priorities.

**King County Fire Chiefs**

Dave Crossen commented that they feel the pain on the funding and issues with radio systems. Their EMS levies are up next year and they will be working on them county-wide. They are also struggling with the Fire Marshal issue and they are currently contracting with Fire Departments to do county inspections.

**PS Clean Air Agency**

Dic Gribbon asked about the burn ban that wasn’t / isn’t as he was under the understanding that regardless of the weather, there would be a burn ban put in place July 15 through September 15 each year. That didn’t happen this year and that caused some confusion at his agency as they were not informed of this change. President McDonald stated there was a bit of an anomaly with the weather this year and the Executive Board had recommended to the County Fire Marshal not to implement it since it was still raining on July 15th and that it would be re-visited as the weather changed. Discussion followed. President McDonald stated he will follow up with Tom Poste regarding this.

**PC Fire Commissioners**

Commissioner Casebolt reported that Kevin Phelps spoke at their last meeting. He shared a lot of good information.

**Dept. of Natural Resources**

No representative present.

**Good of the Order**

Keith Wright reported October is Breast Cancer Awareness month and CPFR will be supporting it this year. October 1st through 9th employees can wear pink shirts that they purchase for $20.00. Information will also be sent out each day. Dennis Lawson is handling purchasing the shirts and depending on how many are purchased, $6 to $9 per shirt will be donated to breast cancer charity. Keith will forward out information via email. Feel free to contact him if you’d like more information or if you have any questions.

Gary McVay reported another Executive Board goal this year is to increase the nominations for the Dan Packer Memorial Award. Please be thinking about this. Nomination forms can be found on the PCFCA website.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Recording Secretary Denise Menge

*The next Regular Meeting will be September 1, 2011 at Puyallup Library.*