**Pierce County Fire Chiefs’ Association**

**Meeting Minutes October 6, 2011**

**Call to Order**

President John McDonald called the Pierce County Fire Chiefs’ Association meeting to order at 11:35 a.m. at WPFR, Station 21 located at 5000 Steilacoom Blvd SW, Lakewood, WA. The following were present:

Dexter Habeck, Eatonville FD Jeff Jensen, Tacoma FD

Ken Sharp, WPFR Mitch Sagers, WPFR

Paul Tinsley, WPFR Karl Roth, WPFR

Jim Sharp, WPFR Eric Norton, WPFR

Bill Barber, WPFR Dan Rankin, WPFR

John Burgess, Gig Harbor FD Steve Nixon, Gig Harbor FD

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

Tom Sutich, Gig Harbor FD Doug Willis, CPFR

Keith Wright, CPFR Baron Banks, CPFR

Randy Stephens, CPFR Cliff McCollum, PCFD #13

Andy McAfee, PCFD #14 Bob Vellias, SPFR

Chris Grant, SPFR Paul Webb, PCFD #18

Reggie Romines, GFR Kathy Hale, GFR

Todd Jensen, GFR Steve Richards, GFR

Jerry Thorson, EPFR John McDonald, EPFR

Garry Olson, PCFD #23 Tom Poste, PCFPB

Brian McDonnell, PCDEM Denise Menge, Recorder

**Flag Salute**

Ken Sharp led the flag salute and thanked everyone for attending. They are now 6 months post merger and everything is going well. They are struggling along with everyone else with the current economy.

**Approval of Minutes**

It was moved and seconded to approve the September 1, 2011 meeting minutes as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Treasurer Hale presented the Treasurer’s Report. The account has a balance of $6,377.72 with $7,257.69 in EMS for a grand total of $13,635.41. John Burgess moved and Jerry Thorson seconded to approve the Treasurer’s report as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

**Correspondence**

None.

**Guest Speaker**

Vice President Wright introduced the members of Principles of Performance, Jed Aldridge a retired Assistant Chief from Kent Fire as well as an HR Manager for the City of Kent, Sylvia a photographer and videographer with 20 plus years of experience, and Terry Kerwin who worked with Skill Standards. They’re company focuses on advancing excellence in the workplace. They help with interviewing and communications. Competencies are what employers look for and they converted data into a curriculum. Terry stated he handled promotional testing for thirteen years. The principle of purpose is looking at the common purpose beyond the mission statement. Once you know what the purpose is, you can then make a direct correlation with values, passions, purpose, etc. There are different communication styles. There is also the principle of practice and behavioral based testing processes. Brochures were left for anyone interested in further information.

**Unfinished Business**

Nothing at this time.

**New Business**

President McDonald stated he sent out an email this morning regarding the Associations finances over the last year or so the expenditures have been higher than the revenues. We are no longer doing a golf tournament fundraiser or any other fundraisers for that matter that bring in any money. A discussion was held at the last E-Board meeting regarding this and over the last year or so the Association is approximately $1,000 in the hole for a number of reasons, one of them being the costs of lunches when there is an overage and/or people forgetting to pay, etc. We have several options to address this, changing the meeting time, bringing our own lunches, and also discusses looking at the dues structure which has not been looked at in a couple of years. The Chiefs Association is drastically less than the Commissioners Associations annual dues. Our dues structure is based on AV – Under 200 million is $100, 200-500 million is $150, 500 million to 1 billion is $200, over 1 billion is $250, and other is $100 (such as outside agencies, etc.) Also, each agency can have an unlimited number of members. We need to be thinking about ways to stabilize the finances for the Association. Discussion followed. Ken Sharp stated the dues structure should handle most of it as it seems very low. The high end of the structure could be increased for the larger organizations. John Burgess agreed with Ken in looking at the dues structure being changed. The golf tournament puts a burden on a few and is unstable. Andy McAfee commented that he just paid dues for the Chamber of Commerce and they were $650 per year. Just running some rough numbers at that rate for 15 agencies or so that would bring n approximately $10,000. Reggie Romines asked how much money is needed to operate? Kathy Hale stated that roughly $7500 per year is needed. It varies from year to year depending on other expenses such as the banquet awards, etc.

Jeff Jensen stated now might also be a convenient time to look at the value of the association and what is its purpose, etc? Meeting times was also discussed. Doug Willis suggested if noon is the right meeting time for this group, he suggested solving the issue of the cost of lunches by everyone RSVPing for the meeting and then you pay regardless of whether or not you actually attend the meeting. Another suggestion was to have a 50/50 raffle. **It was the consensus of the Association that the Executive Board will look at the dues structure and come up with recommendations, as well as the meeting time with regards to lunches and/or other fundraising ideas.**

President McDonald stated it is also time to plan for the 2012 meeting schedule. A sign-up sheet was distributed.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Program/Speaker Committee**

VP Wright reported the November speaker will be Captain Adam Jackson from CPFR regarding Wellness and Fitness and December is the Banquet. Joe Quinn will be the speaker for the January meeting to discuss impact fees. If anyone has any ideas or suggestions for future speakers, please let him know.

**Audit Committee - DORMANT**

**Banquet/Awards Committee**

Todd Jensen stated the banquet flyer was emailed out. President McDonald encouraged everyone to attend. Also, a reminder that it is time for nominations to be submitted for the Dan Packer Memorial Chief of the Year Award. A nomination form was included in this mornings’ email as well as on the website. November 1st is the deadline for submissions.

**Nominations Committee**

Reggie Romines reported that he along with Bob Vellias, and Doug Willis recommend the current slate of officers serve another year.

President = John McDonald

Vice President = Keith Wright

Treasurer = Kathy Hale

Trustee 1 = Eric Watson

Trustee 2 = Gary McVay

Secretary = Mitch Sagers

President McDonald stated the floor is open for nominations. There being none, Jerry Thorson moved and Dexter Habeck seconded to approve the recommendation from the Nominations Committee as presented. MOTION CARRIED. Elections will be held next month.

**UASI Committee**

Jeff Jensen stated there is nothing to report as there is nothing new since last months meeting.

**Regional Communications Committee**

Jim Sharp stated there is nothing new to report. The South Sound 911 ballots will be out in two (2) weeks and signs will be going up.

**Code Committee**

Nothing to report.

**Emergency Management Committee**

Nothing to report.

**DIVISION REPORTS:**

**EMS**

No representative present.

**MetroTraining**

No representative present.

**Training – TEW Training/Exercise**

No representative present.

**TEW Equipment**

Brian McDonnell reported the equipment is coming in.

**OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS:**

**American Red Cross**

No representative present.

**Department of Emergency Management**

Brian McDonnell reported there are new national preparation goals coming out affecting target capabilities. This will be briefed further once its been reviewed. There are new national frameworks taking place for national plans. FEMA directed federal money has to be NIMS compliant. FEMA is starting to look more closely at this and monitoring.

DEM has a HazMat Decon System in the storage areas and would like to know if anyone wants it? It is free for the taking. Keith Wright and John Burgess will follow up on this with the Regional PCHIT team to see if they’d be interested.

**EMS**

No representative present.

**Fire Marshal**

Tom Poste reported they are working diligently to get the inspection process back to where it should be. Districts are assigned an inspector.

Andy McAfee stated there was an issue that came up this last summer while the Hazardous burn ban was in effect in July. There was a farmer in his area that had an AG permit and after checking with several different people decided it was okay for them to burn. Then, a couple of weeks ago he received a call from Dic Gribbon. Discussion followed.

**State Chiefs**

Keith Wright reported they had a board meeting at the end of September. The All Risk State Mobilization Plan is still only approved for fires according to the Attorney General, which they are still working on getting the “All Risk” recognized and approved. State Fire Marshal, Chuck Duffy, is working on changing the wording with regards to the training budget to get the North Bend Training Tower work done. The State Chiefs are supporting this effort for training improvements. The Executive Boards for the State Chiefs and State Commissioners are working on an agreement on this issue as well. There will soon be an app for the I-phone for the State Chiefs. Also, they are trying to partner with the State Commissioners to do an online version of the Fire Service directory. The Chiefs is not trying to steal and/or take over this project, just want to partner with them. Volunteer license plates will be coming out the first of the year. He and John McDonald will be attending the Strategic Planning Meeting being held in Leavenworth. Also, the No Secrets Symposium will be held in Yakima November 14-15-16 which is for labor and management to attend together. There was also a presentation from the Department of Agriculture regarding foot-n-mouth disease found in cattle and sheep. There have been problems recently in England and Korea. It is easily transferrable and it would affect the national economy. If an infected animal is found, every animal within a 6 mile radius is destroyed. It would be a huge decon issue as well as a huge contamination problem.

Everyone has been impacted by budget deficits, however, he encouraged everyone to contribute to the State Chiefs political action fund. He challenged everyone to sign up and match his $10.00 per month contribution. He has sign up forms available.

**King County Fire Chiefs**

No representative present.

**PS Clean Air Agency**

No representative present.

**PC Fire Commissioners**

Commissioner Jarmin reported there is no meeting this month. The annual conference will be held in Spokane September 26-30.

**Dept. of Natural Resources**

Chuck Frame reported the fire season is over. October 11th is the Western Washington Training Zone meeting at Black Lake. He went over some upcoming Wildland training available.

**Good of the Order**

VP Keith Wright thanked everyone that participated in the pink shirts to support Breast Cancer Awareness this month. CPFR members purchased enough shirts to donate $4100.

Doug Willis reported a citizen had called regarding supporting a fireworks ban. A lot of cities already have this in place. He will be talking to his Board for support. He would like to have E-Board consider supporting this and coming back to the membership with a recommendation. Discussion followed. Tom Poste reported the County Council Public Safety committee will be meeting soon to discuss banning fireworks except for July 4th from noon to midnight. Doug Willis moved and Reggie Romines seconded to support a ban on the sale and discharge of fireworks in unincorporated Pierce County. Discussion followed. This is the right thing to do as Fire Chiefs. MOTION CARRIED.

Andy McAfee announced October 29th is the Tacoma Pierce County Chaplaincy Banquet. He encouraged everyone to attend. Andy McAfee moved and Jerry Thorson seconded for the Association to purchase a table for $500. It was asked if this has historically been done and is it in the budget? Treasurer Hale stated that yes, it has been done in the past and it can be if we want it to be. MOTION CARRIED. President McDonald stated if anyone is interested in attending the banquet please email Denise by October 18th for one of the 8 spots at the table.

Jeff Jensen stated the State Chiefs will be looking for a new representative on the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC).

President McDonald reported EPFR had an ICS Response to Violence Active Shooter training. It went really well and they gained some valuable feedback. They are working with a committee to make some changes. The next class will be held at either Graham or WPFR in the next couple months. He encouraged people to sit in on these trainings.

President McDonald reported on the outcome of the appeal of the L&I citation for EPFR and CPFR. 3 of the 4 citations were vacated. Discussion followed.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:33 p.m.

Recording Secretary Denise Menge

*The next Regular Meeting will be November 3, 2011 at Tacoma Fire Department*