**Pierce County Fire Chiefs’ Association**

**Meeting Minutes**

**May 2, 2013**

1. **Call to Order**

President John McDonald called the Pierce County Fire Chiefs’ Association meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. at the Buckley Fire Department, located at 611 S. Division, Buckley, WA. The following were present:

Alan Predmore, BFD Jim Sharp, WPFR

Dan Rankin, WPFR John Burgess, GHFMO

Eric Watson, GHFMO Steve Nixon, GHFMO

Tom Sutich, GHFMO Eric Waters, GHFMO

Baron Banks, CPFR Judy Murphy, CPFR

Tom Lique, PCFD #16 Guy Allen, PCFD #16

Claudia Jones, PCFD #16 Zane Gibson, PCFD #18

Chris Grant, SPFR Reggie Romines, GFR

Ryan Baskett, GFR Jerry Thorson, EPFR

John McDonald, EPFR Russ McCallion, EPFR

Jim Jaques, EPFR Garry Olson PCFD #23

Janice Pacific, DNR Dianne Porter, CPFR, Recorder

1. **Flag Salute**

Alan Predmore led the flag salute and welcomed everyone to Buckley Fire Dept. He noted the facility just had its one year anniversary and offered to provide a tour after the meeting. He shared information on the department including number of members, coverage area, their affiliation with AMR, and their succession plan through Building Our Leaders Today (BORT). He also commented on their upcoming involvement in a leadership program and welcomed anyone to join in.

1. **Approval of Minutes**

It was moved by John Burgess and seconded by Steve Nixon to approve the April 4, 2013 meeting minutes as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

1. **Treasurer’s Report**

President McDonald reported Treasurer Kathy Hale was not present but has provided the Treasurer’s Report (attached for reference). The beginning account balance was $8,867.58 and ending balance of $8,978.32 with $7,757.69 in the EMS account for a grand total of $16,736.01. It was moved by Ryan Baskett and seconded by Gary Olson to approve the Treasurer’s Report as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

1. **Correspondence**

None.

1. **Guest Speaker**

President McDonald introduced Andrew Neiditz, Executive Director of South Sound 911. Neiditz expressed his appreciation for being allowed to be the first director of the program, recognized Operations Board members present at this meeting, and explained the organization makeup of the governing boards. He noted all Pierce County entities are on board but Puyallup and is confidant of their future support. He shared his background experience including the previous “Enhanced 911” system, and noted that fire departments have done an exemplary job of leading the way in consolidating communications. He provided some history on the proposition taken to the voters in November 2011, and spoke of the different “waves” of groups of employees coming into the program at different intervals. He spoke of the challenges ahead including labor contracts, equipment and facilities upgrades, and the decision on one or two locations.

He invited members of this group to take ownership in the changes and welcomes running commentary so as to share in information and support. He asked people to seek out members on the Operations Board to express any concerns and noted all Board meetings are open to the public. He suggested department chiefs take on an advisory role within their own organization on dispatch service issues.

John McDonald opened the floor to questions.

John Burgess thanked him for being here and asked how they are bringing together uniformed and non-uniformed dispatchers. Neiditz noted there is a lot of discussion on this already and that nationally 75% of dispatchers are non-uniform. He further noted that Tacoma feels strongly on uniformed. The situation has not been resolved and there is on-going discussion on if police and fire dispatch should be kept separate.

Ryan Baskett noted Neiditz is still in the information gathering state and asked for support as he gingerly addresses issues.

Jim Sharp reminded the group that they are dealing with seven different labor groups and having to address pensions systems, 24/non-24 hour shifts, wages, working conditions and more, and Andrew is doing great job.

Guy Allen commented he is not so concerned on how dispatch is done between police and fire as long as it is consistent.

John McDonald noted this is a difficult project and thanked Neiditz for taking it on.

1. **Unfinished Business**

President McDonald noted that Gary Franz was not present to provide an update on the Joint Resolution/Level of Service and Capital Facilities Plans for Impact Fees. He is aware of another meeting on May 8th, and noted that Franz had sent information to the Executive Board satisfactorily answering some of their questions. President McDonald asked that the group wait until the next meeting for an affirmative vote.

President McDonald shared that Kathy Hale is resigning her position as Treasurer in early July since she is retiring earlier than originally planned. Ryan Baskett has expressed interest in the position.

The following individuals agreed to participate on the following committees:

Audit Committee Nomination Committee

Steve Nixon Jerry Thorson

Tom Lique John Burgess

Alan Predmore

1. **New Business**

At the last Board meeting, it was voted to set aside $2,500 to assist with attendance to the Pinnacle EMS Conference. President McDonald was pleased to announce that the Pierce County Fire Commissioners donated an additional $3,500 and expressed his thank you to their group. Tom Mason is approaching DEM for assistance and Mike Newhouse is looking into an MMRS grant

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. **Audit Committee**

No report.

1. **Banquet/Awards Committee - DORMANT**
2. **Nominations Committee - DORMANT**
3. **UASI Committee**

No representative present.

1. **Emergency Management Committee**

Guy Allen said the goal is to have a county-wide response plan by June 1st.

1. **Impact/Mitigation Fee Committee**

No representative present.

**DIVISION REPORTS:**

1. **EMS**

Judy Murphy reported the group is looking at the August Pinnacle conference right now and six attendees would need financial support. The group would like to assign people to each breakout and get back together for discussions. She thanked the group and the Fire Commissioners for their support. There are two Active Shooter drills scheduled at the Washington State Fairgrounds on May 9th and a big component is for Chief Officers and Unified Command. Michelle Grecco at Graham Fire & Rescue is the contact to register to attend. Clover Park is also doing a drill on May 17th.

The Divert Committee had seen an increase but things seem to be coming down. They are looking at the top 50 emergency room users and working with them. Last week, Murphy attended a conference on MRSA in fire stations. Thirty eight departments across the state did swabs. CPFR’s tested positive in the living quarters, in a helmet and on an engine. CPFR created a station cleaning policy if anyone would like a copy.

**16 A. MetroTraining**

Guy Allen shared there is a Metro water drill on May 16th.

**16 B. Training – TEW Training/Exercise**

No representative present.

**16 C. Training – TEW Equipment**

No representative present.

1. **Fire and Life Safety**

Eric Waters noted that effective July 1st, there will be fire code changes. Warner Webb is proposing bill changes and Waters suggests people sit down and talk with him. The training group is meeting on May 20th to discuss 9-1-1 messaging and South Sound 9-1-1 at a location to be determined.

**OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS:**

1. **South Sound 911**

Update previously given by guest speaker, Andrew Neiditz.

1. **Department of Emergency Management**

No representative present.

1. **Pierce County EMS**

No representative present.

1. **Fire Marshal**

No representative present.

1. **State Chiefs**

No representative present.

1. **King County Fire Chiefs**

No representative present.

1. **PS Clean Air Agency**

No representative present.

1. **PC Fire Commissioners**

No report.

1. **Dept. of Natural Resources**

Janice Pacific said they are working on an updated call list.

1. **Good of the Order**

Dan Rankin noted there will be changes coming to the Pierce County Fire Commissioners’ Board, and congratulated Scott Casebolt on his new position in Oregon.

Alan Predmore shared that Roy Sooper, a long-time EMS leader passed away this morning.

President McDonald said that the Executive Board is putting together a group of five bugle chiefs to look at things to do collaboratively such as vehicle repairs and EMS. Keith Wright is working on an agenda and the goal is to work towards the common good.

1. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, John Burgess motioned and Jim Sharp seconded to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED. The meeting adjourned at 12:50p.m.

Dianne Porter

Recording Secretary

*The next Regular Meeting will be June 6, 2013 at West Pierce Fire & Rescue, Station 21 located at 5000 Steilacoom Blvd. SW.*