**Pierce County Fire Chiefs’ Association**

**General Meeting Minutes**

**January 9, 2014**

1. **Call to Order**

President Wright called the Pierce County Fire Chiefs’ Association meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. at Buckley Fire Department located at 611 So. Division, Buckley, WA. The following were present:

Alan Predmore, Buckley FD Pat McElligott, Tacoma FD

Jim Sharp, WPFR Mitch Sagers, WPFR

Dan Rankin, WPFR Eric Watson, Gig Harbor Fire

Eric Waters, Gig Harbor Fire Keith Wright, CPFR

Baron Banks, CPFR Judy Murphy, CPFR

Ed Hrivnak, CPFR Tom Lique, Key Peninsula

Guy Allen, Key Peninsula Claudia Jones, Key Peninsula

Bob Vellias, SPFR Zane Gibson, Orting

Ryan Baskett, Graham Steve Richards, Graham

Todd Jensen, Graham Jerry Thorson, EPFR

John McDonald, EPFR Ed Goodlet, EPFR

Michael Smith, Greenwater Warner Webb, PCFPB

Gary Franz Denise Menge, Recorder

1. **Flag Salute**

Chief Predmore led the flag salute and welcomed everyone to Buckley. The FF Association provided refreshments today.

1. **Approval of Minutes**

It was moved and seconded to approve the November 7, 2013 meeting minutes as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

1. **Treasurer’s Report**

Treasurer Ryan Baskett presented the Treasurer’s Report: Beginning balance of $5,236.36, ending balance of $3,923.94, EMS total is $8,687.75. The grand total account balance is $12,611.69. Denise will be emailing out the Dues Invoice as well as posting them to the website, he will follow up with a reminder. It was moved and seconded to approve the Treasurer’s Report as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

1. **Correspondence**

No correspondence at this time.

1. **Unfinished Business**

Nothing at this time.

1. **New Business**
2. Meeting Change – General vs. Business. President Wright reported there are a number of changes being made. The meeting schedule has been distributed. Meeting time change to 0900 – purpose due to cost of lunches and trying something different. Host department to provide refreshments/snacks. Also looked at meeting content and changing that up a little. Every other month meeting is a little different. This month is the General Meeting – very similar to last year absent a speaker. The Business Meeting is the opposite month, next month will be a Business meeting held in Graham. The Business Meetings will have a speaker specific to Fire Service. Mitch Sagers will be coordinating the speaker. These meetings will then get into getting more detail from the committees/divisions and what they are working on. Fire and Life Safety Committee has By-Laws and he will be asking the other committees to do the same and put together By-Laws. Looking at doing more county wide collaboration, such as purchases. Adding Logistics and Ops. Tom Lique commented it seems we are missing a committee to cover Volunteers and those agencies that have them. Suggested having a committee for those agencies that have volunteers. Ryan Baskett added that the Executive Board has discussed this new format and they are looking to have more formalized committees and giving them a platform to work and give direction, etc. This came out of the Five-Bugle Summit Workshop meeting held last year. Trying to represent everyone. President Wright stated the Business Meetings are designed for Chiefs, Deputy Chiefs and then if tied to a committee to attend the Business Meetings, i.e. February meeting will be looking at discussing Goals, direction for the year, By-Laws, etc. Jim Sharp asked if Committee Chairs just to attend, not entire committee? President Wright stated that is correct, Chair and/or Co-Chair to attend the meeting. Others can attend if they want to, it’s not a closed meeting. John McDonald stated it’s not the intent to limit number of committee attendees, anyone who is interested in participating and willing to commit the time and effort can participate. Pat McElligott stated it sounds like they are wanting DCs and above to attend. If that is the case, that will limit Tacoma’s participation and involvement since AC’s are primarily the ones that attend. John McDonald stated the intent is everyone attend the General Meeting to participate to include allied agencies. The intent for the Business Meetings is to be more working related and those making decisions for the agency. To get the people at the meeting to provide input for the meeting and to make decisions or commit for their agency in those endeavors, if that happens to be an AC, that is ok. President Wright re-iterated that they not trying to limit who is attending, not a problem for others to attend. Add or designee, Guy Allen – DC meaning Deputy Chief or DC meaning Division Chief? Discussion followed. The Business Meeting emphasis on collectively working as a county – purhcases, ops, etc.
3. By-Laws Changes

Went through changes page by page. All bolded underline are added changes, strike through are items removed. See attached document. Jim Sharp asked about removing the Secretary and adding a Trustee – reason for need or not? President Wright stated it was to keep the numbers the same. Jim Sharp stated if don’t think the position will be needed, now would be the time to change it. President Wright stated they’re not sure with changes in meeting formats and work with committees if the work will change, etc. Ryan Baskett stated that also often times with the Past President position they are retired and potentially not available or move out of state. Also keeping the Executive Board at an odd number of members for voting. Most of changes are just cleaning up to match what is being done. Unstrike Fire and under Article IX: Divisions 2A. Add additional Division: Volunteer Services.

Jim Sharp suggested to reconsider striking annual banquet and meeting could cause issues for some departments as it is seen as compensable due to officers being sworn in, etc. Consensus was to change and leave as it was – Annual Meeting (Article XII 1D).

John McDonald stated there were a few agencies last year that didn’t pay dues, just simply as a reminder. Jim Sharp asked about addressing non active members not being allowed to bring things to the floor for a vote. If they can’t vote, should they be able to bring something to the floor to vote on? Discussion followed. Change wording to: Only ACTIVE members in good standing are eligible to place a motion on the floor and vote.

Discussion on Article XV – Treasurer and any Executive Board members.

Jerry Thorson commented he doesn’t see the need to leave the older dues schedule and suggested only leaving the approved 2012 dues schedule. Alan Predmore suggested adding back under $50 million at $50.00 and changing 50 to 250 million as it is, etc.

Pat McElligott – Article XI – 1 struck, when form groups the President should know and approve who the Chair for that group is, etc. since it is working for the Association. Make sure who becomes chair of committee serve at President’s pleasure, not doing their own thing, etc. Discussion. Ratified or approved by President wording to be left.

Changes will be updated and By-Laws will be emailed out, will vote at the February meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS - Overview:**

1. **Audit Committee - DORMANT**

Will work on for February meeting report.

1. **Banquet/Awards Committee**

Todd Jensen reported he doesn’t have total break down for banquet attendance. President Wright reported Judy Murphy was given the Dan Packer COY Award.

1. **Nominations Committee - DORMANT**
2. **UASI Committee**

Pat McElligott will get a briefing from Roger Edington to report on at the next meeting.

1. **Emergency Management Committee**

No report.

1. **Impact/Mitigation Fee Committee**

Gary Franz stated he has two (2) things – he received first output from Puget Sound Regional Council on population information. Will send out current information to agencies. Couple of areas that are unprotected areas with population within them, working on finding out who serves these areas. Good information for those working on CFPs and will make sure final data to be used will be sent out. Chiefs bring an intimate awareness of response models to the committee and commissioners on committee bring policy to the meeting. Make up of committee is one active Fire Chief (Sagers) on committee and would like one or two additional Chief’s on the committee. This is potentially a long term beneficial impact and would be helpful to have additional Chief representatives. Meet once per month. Zane Gibson volunteered as well as Bob Vellias.

CFP contacts June deadline for everyone. Progress of internal CFP from Gig Harbor was received and in the process of reviewing it they realized there are some changes to original Orting Valley model template that was sent out to everyone. He will highlight the changes and send out and then those changes can just be inserted into the document. Name and contact information for the committee would be good so they can coordinate with them to get CFPs complete. Need a list of who is assigned to work on CFPs with agencies.

**DIVISION REPORTS - Overview:**

1. **EMS**

Judy Murphy updates on affordable care issues – a group of colleagues is meeting with Franciscan ACO to continue conversations with them. January 1st the health exchange opened. 6 million more people have healthcare coverage, etc. NY Times article last week in OR showed increase in ER visits. Took to colleagues in hospitals and divert already an issue and to see if they’re ready. First week of February the Divert committee will be meeting. Flu is active in PC – there were 20 hospitalizations last week. No deaths in PC, 6 in King Co. H1N1 primarily. Hitting different population than normal – usually very young and very old – hitting very young and middle aged. It is not too late to get a flu shot. It’s a bad strain and anticipating it peaking in the next few weeks. Norovirus is a big problem (gastrointestinal bug) incredibly contagious, lasts for a long time. Through ops committee working with Health Department – what would happen if hit an assisted living, multiple calls, and do they really need to be taken to the ER – they will be working on guidelines to shelter people in place and how to manage patients, etc. Protocols are continuing, slowly moving forward.

**16 A. Metro Training**

No representative present.

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

Judy Murphy reported active shooter exercises in March and April – more info to come.

**16 C. Training – TEW Equipment**

Mitch Sagers reported they still have not heard back from DEM for list went forward to State. Assume still progressing.

1. **Fire and Life Safety**

Eric Waters reported they meet the 22nd this month at DEM. He and Ed Hrivnak met with Warner Webb, commitment from both departments, fire marshal and planning land services, when development occurs, etc. change in land use, going to get notice prior to project being approved so have opportunity to weigh in on EDA, etc. May require you have a representative go and look at the plans, some developments are large, etc. Offered an opportunity to weigh in on the front end of these projects.

Chapter 5 and 11 national fire code – radio model – need to be aware of how we are going to test in our buildings. 97% coverage model Lowell Porter discussed, just a model and something that will need to be tested.

Ed Hrivnak reported gate inspections for Knox and opticom, our DFMs doing inspections free. MOU to add a permit fee to the developer of $80 per inspection. Gates don’t fall under Fire Marshal, fall under PALS – they collect the fee and yet are unable to inspect. We will invoice the County for the fee. Continue to work collaboratively on education. Also working on updating Burn Ban education – he met with Kit at PSCAA. Have updated some of the language on the website so it is a little clearer. Coming up with a better way to communicate with citizens regarding the burn bans and what they mean.

1. **Logistics**
2. **Operations**

Tom Lique asked those interested in being on Volunteer Services committee to please email him.

**OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS:**

1. **South Sound 911**

Jim Sharp reported 2500 mobiles received on date and many have been installed, etc. SS911 listed under outside agency reports, used to be under Communications, etc. Not sure that he is the correct person to be reporting on this now that it is an established agency. Might want to reach out to Andrew Neidtiz and have him or one of his designees attend and report on.

1. **Department of Emergency Management**

No representative present.

1. **Pierce County EMS**

No representative present.

1. **Fire Marshal**

Warner Webb reported building permits came in for 2013 at about 2003 level and growing. Up about 2% from 2012. Seeing growth and more proposals on lots being created. Building department got a reserve account to take building permit money so council can’t take, etc. WAC 296 305 they don’t statutorily fall under, however, possibly should. Posed question to L&I regarding new breathing apparatus requirements, response from Olympia and local office is as long as fire marshal duties fall under general requirements it does not apply to them. This puts them in an awkward position. More conversation needed. FM responsible for fire investigation and don’t fall under your arm of liability, falls back on County, not on fire district, etc. It falls under provisions per L&I – trying to prevent issues on the scene, etc. Risk and legal department can provide a letter to districts regarding this. Statutorily very clear don’t hold any baby and bath water for any investigation. Will address uniformally. Tom Lique asked if loaning an SCBA to a FM who hasn’t been fit tested, etc. raised several questions. Warner Webb stated he understands the concerns. They do fit testing for the masks that they have, not for any loaned equipment. Want to make sure we don’t have issues and concerns on scenes. John McDonald commented that he cautions FD and FM office a statement from L&I is not enough. If someone feels acting inappropriately, can cause a problem. Warner Webb appreciates that and they are in an awkward position on this and they are working on getting this cleared up.

1. **State Chiefs**

President Wright reported the session will be getting going quickly, it is a short one. More to report later. Pat McElligott stated last year they tried increasing the EMS Levy from 50 to 75 and tried to coordinate, everyone worried about Senate and House. Went and talked, hard pressed to get them to understand the issue. Not asking to implement a fee, allow us to have our community vote for that. Continue working on this to try and get moving. Lobbyist is working on education piece on this as well because a lot of people don’t understand it. Super majority versus simple majority. State Council is taking the lead on it.

John McDonald talked about the banner ad for Faulk on State Chiefs website – wondering why and seems counterintuitive. They are a sponsored agency of the State Chiefs. Not looking to take over, but want to partner, etc.

1. **PS Clean Air Agency**

No representative present.

1. **PC Fire Commissioners**

Dan Rankin reported their next meeting is January 23rd in Graham. New President is Gerry Gustafson. An issue came up and not happy with what happened. Grant Blinn appointed to judge and the judicial board decided he had to resign his Commissioner position. He resigned Tuesday. RCW states non-partisan can hold office, if partisan, can only have one office. So takes from 6 to 5 Commissioners on their Board. Grant Erb is President of Board and will take the spot on SS911 representative.

1. **Dept. of Natural Resources**

No representative present.

1. **Good of the Order**

Bob Vellias mentioned at banquet, they just finished silo collapse after action a couple of days ago and wanted to reiterate the overhead team and PCSORT came out and those programs work. They have budget issues as well. Make sure we support those teams because resources can paralyze your agency regardless of big or small. The call went really well. Needed every bit that came out and helped. Ran very well. Showed that whole program works well.

Mitch Sagers any ideas for meeting speakers, please feel free to email with information.

President Wright reported information from Attorney Quinn regarding PC Public Works put together transportation benefit district. Denise had forwarded email, does not impact 590. Impact in that it is another tax to the voters. Comments can be sent back by the 15th of this month. Ryan Baskett based on SEPA and what they are asking it’s for projects going forward and this isn’t a project it’s an entity, etc. Warner Webb stated they had to do a non-project SEPA for this. The County has reduced their trip impact fees, not sure why they’re doing something different. Specifically for people to tax themselves for road improvement, etc. Like a LID or PUD, benefit district, not an on-going tax with the county. Consensus, for now was to leave alone.

President Wright stated with regards to the affordable care act, had talked about putting together a policy level and operations level group on this. Can send out another email blast for this. Judy Murphy stated there should a voting member on the policy or available for questions and to bring questions back, etc. Will discuss further at E Board meeting. Loren Adler, he and Jim Sharp met with, has a Washington DC contact who is very educated on ACA and willing to forward our questions to. John McDonald suggested maybe ops or EMS committee members could develop a list of what foresee or what envision doing so have a start to work with.

1. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Submitted by:

Denise Menge

Recording Secretary

**2014 Meeting Schedule:**

January 2, 2014 General - City of Buckley

**February 6, 2014 Business - Graham Fire & Rescue**

March 6, 2014 General - Eatonville Community Center

April 3, 2014 Business - East Pierce Fire & Rescue

May 1, 2014 General - Orting Valley Fire & Rescue

June 5, 2014 Business - Key Peninsula

July 3, 2014 NO MEETING

August 7, 2014 NO MEETING

September 4, 2014 Business - Central Pierce Fire & Rescue

October 2, 2014 General - Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One

November 6, 2014 Business - West Pierce Fire & Rescue

December 4, 2014 NO MEETING – ANNUAL BANQUET