**Pierce County Fire Chiefs’ Association**

**General Meeting Minutes**

**March 6, 2014**

1. **Call to Order**

Vice President Sagers called the Pierce County Fire Chiefs’ Association meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. at Eatonville Community Center located at 305 Center St. W., Eatonville, WA. The following were present:

Bob Hudspeth, Eatonville FD Pat McElligott, Tacoma FD

Mitch Sagers, WPFR Lloyd Christianson, WPFR

Karl Roth, WPFR Dan Rankin, WPFR

John Burgess, GHFMO Eric Watson, GHFMO

Steve Nixon, GHFMO Eric Waters, GHFMO

Tom Sutich, GHFMO Brian Caldier, CPFR

Judy Murphy, CPFR Guy Allen, PCFD #16

Claudia Jones, PCFD #16 Bob Vellias, SPFR

Ryan Baskett, GFR Tony Judd, GFR

Steve Richards, GFR Jerry Thorson, EPFR

Gary Olson, PCFD #23 Warner Webb, PCFPB

Chuck Frame, DNR Frank Washburn, TPCC

Denise Menge, Recorder

1. **Flag Salute**

Chief Hudspeth led the flag salute and welcomed everyone to Eatonville.

1. **Approval of Minutes**

It was moved and seconded to approve the February 6, 2014 Business Meeting minutes as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

1. **Treasurer’s Report**

Treasurer Ryan Baskett presented the Treasurer’s Report (copy attached). Beginning balance of $6,032.64, income of $3,650.14 and no expenses with an ending balance of $9,682.78, EMS total is $9,188.44. The grand total account balance is $18,871.22. It was moved and seconded to approve the Treasurer’s Report as presented. MOTION CARRIED. We are about 75-80% of dues being sent in. He just sent out reminders to those agencies that have not paid their dues yet.

1. **Correspondence**

No correspondence at this time.

1. **Unfinished Business**

Nothing at this time.

1. **New Business**
2. PC CISM Team Status? V/P Sagers stated this is going to be deferred to later in the meeting. President Wright has had some discussions with the Executive Board on this.
3. New Website – There are Division tabs on the website. Judy will show this under her report.
4. Executive Board has received the Divisions By-Laws and is in the process of reviewing them.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS - Overview:**

1. **Audit Committee**

Steve Nixon reported audit was done last month and everything is in order.

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

Pat McElligott reported there is no action at this time.

1. **Emergency Management Committee**

Guy Allen reported there is an effort to get all Finance people together to meet and get everyone lined up with changes to processes. There are a couple of meetings set up - North Kitsap on March 20th and March 27th at Kent. A flyer to be coming out with more information.

1. **Impact/Mitigation Fee Committee**

Warner Webb reported that Gary Franz had sent out an email. Meeting next week will be discussing the template format, etc. He missed the last meeting. Question on deadline? Warner reported the Chiefs had put a deadline for June to get draft CFPs done, etc. Meeting with Debbie Hide on the Comprehensive Plan being approved in 2015. John Burgess reported at the County Commissioners Meeting Joe Quinn had stated they would like to get one of the CFP plans to run through the meeting.

**DIVISION REPORTS - Overview:**

1. **EMS**

Judy Murphy reported she attended a meeting last week – The Sobering Center in Tacoma had opened several years ago for transporting intoxicated patients to. They feel they have met their mission and will be closing the end of March. They were averaging 2 to 3 patients a day. Met with Multicare and Franciscan providers and they are aware they will be the sole providers for these patients.

Divert has improved. 3rd Quarter 2013 was one of the highest in the last 8 years. Attributed to in patient issues. TG opened 60 additional swing beds. Good Sam has done some similar things. Significantly down in 4th quarter.

We are still facing some supply and medication shortages. One of latest is normal saline. Met as a group for protocol and will establish options. Coming out with a training module with regards to these changes.

Working with ACOs in area – have a meeting this afternoon and looking at fall and diabetic patients and how to better manage. Trying to find a way of handling case management, etc. Additionally putting together a conference in November on Community Paramedicine – November 4th and 5th – one and a half days. Want as many involved as possible. Likely to be held up near SeaTac. More information to come on that.

West Region Council did approve Falck EMS certification. System status monitoring – south end of University Place, north end of Lakewood and Spanaway.

Trying to get the Divisions more organized in this group. In an effort to improve communication, the website has been updated with Tabs for each of the Divisions. It has been password protected so that only those who should have access to it can upload documents, etc. Each Division will only have access to their Division Tab. Showed the website. Each Division given specific passwords, so when signed in, they will have access to their tab. Denise will have access to all of the Tabs. Generic passwords for read only access.

John Burgess reported many invited to meet with Prosecutor’s Office regarding child abuse. Notice went to all of the Chiefs, did not go to any EMS. He was the only Fire Service representative that attended. John stated he did not see any revisions or changes needed, however, if there are any that needs to get into them soon.

**16 A. Metro Training**

No representative present.

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

No representative present.

**16 C. Training – TEW Equipment**

Mitch Sagers reported he still does not have any new updates from DEM. Still in process.

1. **Fire and Life Safety**

Eric Waters reported at last months’ meeting one of things the group asked was to continue to focus on residential sprinklers. If going to do that, need to participate at a state policy level. Best place would be the WA Fire Sprinkler Coalition to provide feedback, etc. Where code changes and adoption takes place. Encourage agencies to send participants to those meetings. He will get that information out on the website – meet the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Can also phone in to the meeting so don’t necessarily have to travel to each meeting. It’s a diverse group, have approached collaboratively. 2015 Code adoption process has already started. Other things group working on is guidelines for emergency access for knox product applications. Warner will give an update on PC Code consolidation as well as MOA for gate inspection fees.

1. **Logistics**

Brian Caldier reported they have started to have meetings, most agencies are represented. If don’t have someone attending, please send someone. Approach is to identify, share and come up solutions to problems. Focusing on systems that are sustainable. When talk about regionalizing logistics, extremely difficult to make everything the same. Systems that are scalable and sustainable. SCBA replacement is a current issue – system of evaluation in place that information could be shared with agencies, etc. Focus on systems and not on buying the exact same product, etc.

1. **Operations**

Steve Nixon reported Ed Goodlet is their representative. Met two weeks ago and have been meeting regularly. Working on getting the By Laws put together. They have also been working on revising the Tac Ops Manual. Continue to move forward.

1. **Volunteer Services**

Tony Boe reported they met on February 27th at Graham. Able to compile some information from agencies that submitted on hiring processes. Goal is to get common factors and create a universal application. Next meeting will be looking at that. Once approved, they will post it on the website. They will also be looking at grant options down the road. First year goals are to look at the application process. A sub-committee formed to work on this. President Wright has also asked with regards to support services volunteers to be incorporated. Next meeting 3rd Thursday of March at Graham Station 91.

Judy Murphy was able to get the website to work. She was able to show the EMS workspace. Each Division will have their own Tab and are all set up the same way. Bob Hudspeth asked if someone wanted to visit one of the other tabs, how could they do that? Anyone can have read only access to all of them. Judy will check with IT David Travis to give read only access to everything so that the Chiefs can see all of the Division tabs. Suggestion to possibly password protect specific documents. Please get suggestions or feedback to the Executive Board.

**OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS:**

1. **South Sound 911**

Ryan Baskett reported that Andrew Nieditz stated SS911 will become an Associate Member. He had a conflict with today’s meeting date, however, and will work to have a representative at future meetings to report and give updates. There is an operational special meeting this month to talk about what is done similar and what is not, and how to move forward. A new CAD is being worked on. Judy with regards to Health Reform, something they have brought up is a Nurse Navigator in Dispatch and would like to pursue and develop a work group to meet and look at what the options are. There are dispatch models out there with different levels of acuity, etc. There are some great opportunities right now. Pat McElligott has a pilot program right now in Tacoma called NurseWise line and has three (3) levels. Pilot program for another 8 months. Also has FD Cares line for high use patients, etc.

1. **Department of Emergency Management**

No representative present. Warner Webb reported Lowell Porter SHSP and UASI grant process is being worked on and he’ll provide updates.

1. **Pierce County EMS**

No representative present.

1. **Fire Marshal**

Warner Webb reported he had sent to Denise the Red Cross nominations email to forward out to everyone. County is currently on Code Consolidation udpates 17 B and 17 C on road standards. Working on aligning them. County has currently adopted property maintenance (IMPC) abandoned structures portion adopted. County did not have an ordinance for beautification, etc. Did not adopt code in full – chapters 1 through 3 or 4, 5-9 did not get adopted. Heading in the right direction. Please go through code enforcement or get to him to get it addressed. Another thing County and DEM working on is going through rewriting of CEMP – County Emergency Management Plan. More information to come forward on this. Re-entry plan another thing working on – once a disaster catastrophic occurs, re-entry of people back into the area becomes a nightmare. Going through endeavor of writing a re-entry plan.

MOA on gates – sent an email to director of planning and land services regarding inspection fees.

1. **State Chiefs**

V/P Sagers reported President Wright had passed on some information for him to share. Judy Murphy already mentioned the Community Para-medicine Conference. The State Chiefs Conference will be May 19-23 in Kennewick – great topics being offered.

Legislative update: All Risk Mobilization bill is dead. Working on options and preparing for next session. Having conversations with WSP and State EMD to figure out a resolve.

HB 1263 – Oppose Ambulance Billing Direct to Patient – not a legislative issue anymore. Working with the insurance companies for a fix.

Raise the EMS cap to .75 – dead currently and may not be back next session. The legislature next session is looking at public school education incentives and will most likely not even entertain this change for the fire service. Pat McElligott stated regarding State Chiefs to talk about the 75 cent EMS cap issue. Raising the limit was talked about a year ago and using education incentives to slough it off. It doesn’t affect the State unless the voters approve it. Using their definition of how they run their levies up there for how we run ours down here which is different. This just authorizes us to go and do it. Need to make it clear that it is different in Pierce County than King County. We need to push this issue. Rubin Carlisle is the one holding the bill in the Senate.

RFA simple majority for Fire Benefit Charge – moving towards success. 8 or 10 agencies in the State that utilize the Fire Benefit Charge. One of issues need to look at is simple majority for excess levies. Most popular ways securing funding. Discussion followed.

Drones – a bill that is moving forward to allow the fire service to utilize drones for wildland, searches, water rescue, etc.

The annual legislative survey will come out in the next month or so to identify next sessions top 5 issues that the fire service wants addressed. John Burgess stated he hopes everyone is participating in the survey that comes out requesting information.

1. **PS Clean Air Agency**

No representative present.

1. **PC Fire Commissioners**

Dan Rankin reported their next meeting will be held on March 27th at East Pierce Fire’s Station in Edgewood. Joe Quinn will be the speaker.

1. **Dept. of Natural Resources**

Chuck Frame encouraged everyone to think about getting training done for upcoming fire season to get qualification cards out to everyone.

1. **Tacoma Pierce County Chaplaincy**

Vice President Sagers introduced and welcomed Frank Washburn who is now an Associate Member of the Association. Two (2) scholarships available applications are available on their website. Also, calendar of events for the year. March 28th is Fire Chiefs Luncheon.

CISM – first and foremost is to offer crisis support for police and fire. Have 49 well trained chaplains, 6 that are elite trainers for CISM. 32 agencies supported throughout the county. Smaller group debriefings – use Mitchell model – use when asked. Willing to be partners in whatever is decided to be done. At Executive Board Stress First Aid flyer was discussed. Judy Murphy stated CPFR has some employees attending training. President Wright had said CPFR will be hosting a training in April or May. A great program to look at.

1. **Good of the Order**

Bob Vellias reported the County wants to develop a transportation board. See copy of handout that was distributed. Early stages of forming a transportation district. Highlighted – if goes through, not sure if this group wants to develop a position on it. If developed, they will be able to levy fees, etc. Need to think about and be aware of. $1.41 per thousand in 2009 and $2.40 in 2011 a forty-sum percent increase without going before the voters. John Burgess stated he met with Joe Quinn earlier this week on this and what the impact to their district would be. Commissioner Rankin reported City of UP just did the same thing. Bob stated this is more directed at rural Pierce County, not cities. Warner Webb encouraged to talk to Joe Quinn to get in during the SEPA comments stage. Better to get involved in sooner than later. Encourage to use collective voice in both Commissioners and Chiefs Associations. Claudia Jones asked Chiefs to encourage their Commissioners to attend.

1. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:25 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 - Orting Valley Fire & Rescue**

May 1, 2014 General - East Pierce 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