**Pierce County Fire Chiefs’ Association**

**Business Meeting Minutes**

**September 4, 2014**

1. **Call to Order**

President Wright called the Pierce County Fire Chiefs’ Association meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. at the Puyallup Library located at 324 So. Meridian, Puyallup, WA. There were a total of 35 people signed in on the attendance list.

1. **Flag Salute**

Chief Wright led the flag salute and welcomed everyone to CPFR. The Facilities Bond is the biggest thing going on. Hoping to break ground on bigger projects in March or April. Back of room is fair mug and tickets. Will explain the other boxes and contents later in the meeting.

1. **Approval of Minutes**

It was moved by Brian Caldier and seconded by Bob Vellias to approve the June 5, 2014 meeting minutes as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

1. **Treasurer’s Report**

Treasurer Ryan Baskett presented the Treasurer’s Report for July and August (copy attached). Beginning balance in July 2014 was $9,667.57, revenues of $804.44, expenses of $3,108.59, Ending balance of $7,363.42. EMS Account balance is $7,925.71 for a Grand Total Balance of $15,289.13 for July. August beginning balance of $7,363.42, no revenue, expenses of $100.00 for an Ending Balance of $7,263.42. No change for the EMS Account Balance. Grand Total Account Balance is $15,189.13. It was moved and seconded to approve the Treasurer’s Report as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

1. **Correspondence**

Letter from TPCC to host a table at their benefit dinner on October 2nd. $375.00 to host a table, we have done so in the past. **Pat McElligott moved and John Burgess seconded to approve hosting a table in the amount of $375.00 for the TPCC benefit dinner. MOTION CARRIED.** If interested in attending, please email President Wright, the first ten (10) people to email him will receive tickets.

1. **Guest Speaker –**

Mitch Sagers introduced Deputy Chief Jim Elways from JBLM. DC Elways gave an overview of the Joint Base Lewis McChord Fire and Emergency Services of what they have as well as give everyone an idea of what their Firefighters qualifications are. Open doors and gates to work with neighboring departments for training and emergencies as well. Chief Rhault sent his apologies for not being able to make today’s meeting. Powerpoint presentation given.

Task Organization. 149 Personnel assigned to them. 100 Civilian and 49 Military Service members. Varies based on deployments. Also now staff 10 WA State certified Paramedics. 80% of firefighters are WA State EMT or National Registry EMT.

Stations – 6 fire stations – 3 Lewis Main, 2 McChord Field, 1 Lewis North. Coverage over 91k acres. 78k down range training areas, 12k main cantonment areas. Populous – service a daytime populous of over 120k, 6 elementary schools, 11 child development and youth centers.

Apparatus – 8 Type 1 engines, 1 100 ft Aerial. Aircraft Rescue Firefighting (ARFF) – 6 ARFF Apparatus – combines suppression 14,800 gallons, 2 airfields – McChord Field/ Gray Army Airfield. Wildland – 2 1200 gallon Water Tenders, 1 Type III Engine, 1 Type VI Engine, Specialized – 1 Hazmat Unit, 2 Heavy Rescue Units, 1 Mass Decon Trailer.

Capabilities – Shift 42 FFs and 3 Chief level officers – Blue Card. If call, get 4 bodies. Heavy Rescue – Technician Level - Vehicle Machinery Extrication, Confined Space, Rope Resuce, OPS level – Trench Rescue, Structure Collapse, Sffit Water Rescue. Hazardous Materials Response – Technician Level, CBRNE/WMD, Mass Decon. EMS – 1 SPRINT ALS Unit, 1 ALS Engine. Wildland – Natioanl Wildfire Coordinating Group, Red Card. Fire Prevention – personnel = 9 IFSAC certified – Fire Inspector III, 5 National Association of Fire Investigators. Equipment – Smoke house trailer, Arson Investigation Unit.

Partnerships – 17 mutual aid agreements in place. PCFCA monthly attendance, PC Training Consortium Quarterly/monthly attendance, South Puget Sound Regional Hazmat Group monthly attendance, PCDEM Training Group active participant.

Demographics – responses 3003 calls for service in 2013. Training – 17,194 cumulative hours of training. Fire – 11066 hours, structural and aircraft.

Keith Wright question regarding communications – 7 and 800 mghtz system – how do we talk to them? Chief Elways = patch right now. May have to switch dual bands when that happens. Bob Vellias stated have done a great job on calls, had to utilize over the summer. Dispatched through Fire Comm. They can talk to Fire Comm. When get on scene will have to give them a radio. Discussion followed. Does training facility accommodate live fire? Yes, ground level as well as second story burn in. Propane large frame aircraft mock up. Also have a kidde helicopter/automobile car fire prop that is propane.

1. **Unfinished Business**

Nothing at this time.

1. **New Business**
2. 2014 Child Abuse Investigation Protocol Signatures – Bryce Nelson – not present.

Jeff Jensen working on Department of Commerce to get fuel in time of crisis – most have plans in place for day to day emergencies. Looking for more global regional plan for the state of Washington. Will be asking for data on amount of fuel used on an annual basis. Map all fire stations and direct to closest Department of Transportation fuel site is. Request from committee will be coming.

Guy Allen – Mutual Aid Agreement – email exchange with Joe regarding addressing issue that happened in Oso regarding reimbursement for their response because mutual aid agreement didn’t have wording “unless otherwise reimbursable.” Joe will be working on fixing this wording. Place on agenda for follow up at next meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS - Detailed:**

1. **Audit Committee - DORMANT**
2. **Banquet/Awards Committee**

Todd Jensen reported the committee is talking again and working on. In effort to trim down the cost they are looking at not having live entertainment. Same venue, first Thursday of December.

President Wright reminded everyone about the Dan Packer Chief of the Year Award – please be thinking about someone to recommend/nominate for this.

1. **Nominations Committee**

John McDonald reported he has contacted all of the current Board Members about remaining on the Executive Board or stepping down. Currently, the slate of Officers is:

President: Mitch Sagers

Vice President: Ryan Baskett

Treasurer: Bob Vellias

Trustee 1: open

Trustee 2: Eric Watson

Trustee 3: Ed Goodlet

Past President: Keith Wright.

John McDonald reported he had Denise send out an email asking for any nominations. At this point he has not received any other interest. President Wright opened nominations to the floor. Will be opened again at the October Meeting and then voted on at the November meeting. Frank Washburn nominated Guy Allen for the open Trustee 1 position. Guy Allen accepted the nomination. There were no further nominations.

1. **UASI Committee**

Roger Edington is on vacation.

1. **Emergency Management Committee**

Guy Allen reported they had a busy mobilization year this year. Season started early as predicted. First deployment was a little fractured and did not get a full team from Pierce County. It made for a crazy year. The big one had a request from King County for Structural Strike team to an apartment fire. King County trying to get ahold of departments that responded. They were appreciative and impressed with the response. Great job representing Pierce County. Another one to Winthrop area – another great response and feedback. There have also been Strike Team Leaders that have gone out of State.

John McDonald reported on an incident he responded on. There is a desperate need for resources, not as well staffed as we are and don’t have the resources we have. Lost 163,000 acres. Huge value to those departments on the east side of the mountain. Within wildland fire community, PC has a tremendous reputation state-wide. Encourage everyone to participate. Acknowledged and thanked Guy Allen for all the work he does on this.

1. **Impact/Mitigation Fee Committee**

President Wright reported Gary Franz’s contract ran out this summer. Talked at last E-Board meeting and Bob Vellias is going to work on this project coordination. Bob Vellias encouraged everyone to consider participating in this. Much better impact to get approved at the County as a group. Not going to change things. Wants to get done by the end of the year. Tomorrow Denise is sending out 3 documents to everyone – copies of plan, copy of resolution and copy of changes that was done by Gig Harbor. Thanked Gig Harbor for getting this done. Once that is sent out. Please email back to Denise the departments that are interested and working on doing a CFP. It’s a 40 page document, most of the work is already done. Talked to Joe Quinn last week about what needs to be done. By January 1 – all plans done as well as resolutions. By end of October getting with Pat Riley regarding calculations on final number to charge. Pat is doing a spreadsheet with formulas for calculating the numbers to charge. Price per new residence. 2nd sheet handed out was what the schools did when they did impact fees. Schools decided to put a cap on fees, regardless of where everyone’s plans were. Encouraged everyone to get Comprehensive Plan done on the ground floor as a group. Once it’s done and in, makes it easier down the road. You don’t have to ask for impact fees. Warner has offered to help with submitting it to the County. Every 5 years County has to update their Comprehensive Plan. Now is the time to get this done. Please respond to email Denise sends out. An option for revenue down the road. Warner Webb stated the Fire Districts got lucky because the County had an opening of the Comprehensive Plan in 2014 for 2015. Layed the groundwork to allow impact fees. Level of service is another thing that has come out of this. Part of foundation. Should start to see some of work done in the past start to surface. Keep an eye on, SEPA’s, Gary Franz used to respond on. Changing to 24 lots from 9. Building thresholds is another change to keep an eye on. More done in the Comp Plan is better to have these kinds of things covered. Keeping a close eye on. Any questions, please contact Bob Vellias. Single and Multi residences, not commercial. Language changes submitted this year? Warner – docketed in 2014 and get changed in 2015, should make the changes before the 2015 opener. If not, can submit after the 2015 opener. So far working with us and moving things forward. Watching closely. Keith Wright stated CPFR is going to do the plan, however, not looking at implementing impact fees.

1. **CISM Committee**

Frank Washburn - Pat McElligott, Brian Caldier, Kevin McIntyre. Meeting scheduled for next Friday, September 12th, 1300 at CPFR Station 66.

**DIVISION REPORTS - Detailed:**

1. **EMS**

Judy Murphy reported the Pinnacle conference was in Scottsdale in August. Sent 3 people to it and thanked the Association for their support. Interesting note when first began was very little fire service people in attendance, now about half the group was fire service. November 4th and 5th local conference has about 200 people registered so far. Not just fire service people attending. Reached out to other stake holders – home health nurses, etc. Please sign up if you haven’t already.

Currently working with Franciscan ACO in PC, lengthy process. Moving forward looking at high risk populations – lift assists or falls and diabetics. Trying to get Business Associate Agreement signed. Finally all figured out. Top 5 patients of each and then look at if part of Franciscan ACO, if are to care management team to see if can find a better way to manage, if not, can refer to whatever healthcare they are in and they will contact the patients. Eager to see if this will make a difference. Place to start to measure and see if makes a difference.

Divert – when started was around 20% in PC. Over years down to ½ % except for last couple of months, starting to creep back up. Some has to do with mental health and volume. Trying to work with different ways to address and they do know it needs to be dealt with. Continue to meet on a quarterly basis.

Mental Health patients are an issue. Mental Health Boarding has been in the paper a lot lately. ED used to allow boarding 3 to 4 weeks. State Supreme Court states unconstitutional to do that. Have 20 days to figure out, asked for an extension. Managed by Optim, things are looking bad again, 14-16% of calls are behavioral health. RRC has 16 beds, once full, have nowhere else to take them except ED, but now ED can’t keep them. Trying to get on the forefront of this. Meeting next week to look at what should we do? Involuntary Commits are a huge piece of our work as well. Came to light recently an RCW that says we try to collect our costs from the patient, county of residence shall be responsible for said costs, if can’t determine their county of resident, then the county they were detained is responsible. We’ve got to do something different. They are talking about tearing down Puget Sound Hospital. We are going to have nowhere to take them. State added 50 mental health beds at Eastern and Fairfax. Trying to figure out how to manage this. Law Enforcement in areas that have a lot better staffing, i.e. Lakewood PD is hiring a mental health professional to help address. More to come on this.

Last weekends’ newspaper had an article about health department and potential restructure. Private / separate entity. Does our group have any input on this? Use county services such as HR or become a department within the County. Have asked for feedback from us. Warner Webb 1200 county employees, health department 2-4 million dollar budget shortfall. First thing county does if shortfall, how are you spending your money? With jail and health department jockeying for position on budget shortfalls, building downtown is going to be criminal justice, jail only. Interesting to see if Tacoma County Health will consolidate HR and IT services. Will be interesting to see how it works out. Jim Sharp stated discussion on mental health is a good Segway into another issue of DSHS new plan on how to pay, only an impact to WPFR at this time, however, a broader question and concern is if look at statute, WAC is pretty vague for fire districts with contracts. Could be a huge impact to Fire Districts. No formula on how to determine what is charged, etc. Jeff Jensen, maybe the legislation needs to be looked at being changed. Jim stated completely different for Fire Districts versus Cities.

Pat McElligott took to city attorney regarding patient assists – looking into to see about charging facility for responses. Using the same way cops are using for burglary alarms. We can’t not go when called, etc. To become a city ordinance. Judy Murphy reported in 2010 DSHS sent letter to agencies with assisted living, etc. if people in facility that live there that are at risk to fall, have to have someone there that can pick people up and assess, etc.

**16 A. Metro Training**

No representative present.

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

No report.

**16 C. Training – TEW Equipment**

No representative present.

1. **Fire and Life Safety**

Fire Sprinkler Summit to develop – major stakeholders to address – encourage participation on this. Nest meeting Sept 25th at DEM – remind reps to bring water purveyor meter requirements to that meeting. IRC tag to be addressed. Along with that move into 2015 code cycle. ICC membership remind everyone to sign in every year and re-up them for voting privileges. Used to have to go to meetings, now you can do it on-line. Have to sign up and re-up members annually 45 days in advance of any vote. Pending vote in October to changes in group C. September 1st was the deadline to vote. Continue to work with Ed at CPFR on radio coverage in County. Radio signal strength is being looked at. Not a simple process. Testing is complicated. Something continue to work on with electrical engineers with PC radios. Ed Hrivnak for real world example, Day Wireless went to a building, $30-40,000. Went and did an audio test in the same building and had no issues. Believe Day Wireless is making a lot of money on this. Case by case going and doing an audit check. May have cost incurred to meet the standard. Warner Webb – emergency ordinance to get something in code that identifies our radio system. Will be discussing at their committee meeting. Good stewardship of money. Digital versus analog. Adequate in building coverage. Jim Sharp doesn’t make sense when overbuilt outside building, not going to meet same standards inside building, overbuilt outside to make sure have coverage inside buildings. Trying to be as least impacted on testing building sites, etc.

1. **Logistics**

Brian Caldier reported CPFR has put out bids and RFPs for bunker washers, engines. Wanted to look at how competitive they are right now. If buy x # of vehicles of next x years – fixed price? Only 1 said couldn’t, others were pretty aggressive with pricing. Best 2 ½% over next 5 years. Fighting for our business. Templates are on Logistics Tab. Also put in interlocal purchasing. Standard language putting in RFP. Budget for 5% inflation. Available for anyone to look at. Hiring firm to do an efficiency study at maintenance facility. Looking at parts supplies to staffing to maintenance schedules. Also going to look at regionalization. Just got contract back last night and will get out. If interested in getting in on, it’s available. Will report on what they find. Logistics has been logisticating.

1. **Operations**

It was reported they met not too long ago. Steve Nixon stated Ed Goodlet is working on oil train response plan that DEM is taking the lead on. SS911 ops meeting – Tacoma and Fire Comm working on operations – Ryan Baskett – putting together that group to begin discussing. At that meeting offered PCFCA Ops group as a resource for them for feedback from users’ standpoint.

1. **Volunteer Services**

Erik Skogen reported they met in early summer and South County was really well represented. Have a distribution list for all agencies that have volunteers. Want to strive to meet a week before these meetings so have something to report. Hoping to get better participating. Standardize application and testing. Pursuing other partnerships such as educational incentives, etc. No meeting date set yet for next meeting. Contact if have any questions.

1. **Good of the Order**

President Wright – congratulations to Guy Allen.

President Wright reported in the beginning of July he received an email from Medic One in King County, grant from Puget Sound Energy foundation and they had made Vials of Life. 5,000 of these and sent several boxes of them. Please feel free to take as many as you’d like.

Chief Olson reported tomorrow at 11:30 at Eatonville Post Office ceremony – all are welcome to go.

Jim Sharp introduced Jeff Axtell serving as CAD Administrator of Fire Comm.

1. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 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