**Pierce County Fire Chiefs’ Association**

**General Meeting Minutes**

**March 5, 2015**

1. **Call to Order**

President Sagers 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 Eric Skogen, Buckley FD

James Elways, JBLM Kenneth Rhault, JBLM

Pat McElligott, Tacoma FD Mitch Sagers, WPFR

Paul Tinsley, WPFR Lloyd Christianson, WPFR

Karl Roth, WPFR Eric Norton, WPFR

Dan Rankin, WPFR Jay Sumerlin, WPFR

John Burgess, GHFMO Todd Meyer, GHFMO

Eric Waters, GHFMO Tom Sutich, GHFMO

Hal Wolverton, PCFD 16 Claudia Jones, PCFD 16

Bob Vellias, SPFR Zane Gibson, OVFR

Ryan Baskett, GFR Todd Jensen, GFR

Tom Mason, GFR Jerry Thorson, EPFR

Russ McCallion, EPFR Ed Goodlet, EPFR

Jim Jaques, EPFR Doug Walker, EPFR

Garry Olson, PCFD 23 Michael Smith, PCFD 26

James Harte, PCFD 26 Jay Wiggins, PCFD 27

Dic Gribbon, PSCAA Jessica Landkrohn, PSCAA

Don Melton, DNR Sean Kibbe, DNR

Charley Burns, DNR Joe Quinn, Attorney

Andrew Neiditz, SS911 Ken Sharp, SS911

Frank Washburn, TPCC Denise Menge, Secretary

1. **Flag Salute**

Chief Predmore led the flag salute and welcomed everyone to Buckley.

1. **Approval of Minutes**

It was moved by McElligott and seconded by Christianson to approve the February 5, 2015 meeting minutes as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

1. **Treasurer’s Report**

Treasurer Bob Vellias reported all but five (5) agencies have paid their dues. Beginning balance of $5,464.76, revenues of $5,250.09 interest and dues, expenses of $604.70 for an ending balance of $10,110.15, EMS total is $5,830.71. The grand total account balance is $15,940.86. It was moved and seconded to approve the Treasurer’s Report as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

1. **Correspondence**

President Sagers reported he received a letter from Franciscan Multicare requesting a letter of support for a joint mental health care facility as there is a definite need in area. Denise will scan the letter and fact sheet and send out. Wanting support letters returned by March 20th. Strong effort on two strong organizations in Pierce County to build a great facility. Russ McCallion suggested to be sure the support letter includes emergency psych crisis beds as well. John Burgess stated because of short turn-around time it would be worthwhile that we send a letter from this group because of lack of beds. Burgess moved to send a letter from the Association. McElligott seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED. President Sagers also encouraged individual departments to send support letters as well.

1. **Unfinished Business**
2. **Mutual Aid Agreements** – Attorney Quinn stated there is one concern with the current draft circulating regarding FEMA regulations. Basically says conditional upon Natural Disaster Declaration. Need to take one more look at before it being adopted.
3. **New Business**

Nothing at this time.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS - Overview:**

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

Executive Board discussed sending out asurvey to get feedback on attendance versus non-attendance, etc. Chief Baskett stated he was at the last Commissioners meeting and they felt it was a good idea and they asked to forward or send the survey to them as well.

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

Pat McElligott reported Roger Edington’s last day was Friday. Working with him to get up to speed with UASI.

1. **Emergency Management Committee**

Guy Allen not present to report, he is at NW Leadership conference.

1. **Impact/Mitigation Fee Committee**

Bob Vellias reported he could use some help to find in roads with anyone on the Council. Meeting a lot of resistance, new tax to them. Please let know if you can help with forging a meeting.

1. **CISM COMMITTEE**

Chief McIntyre not present. Frank Washburn stated a survey was done to see who is interested in being a part of the big group – localized to Central Pierce at this time. Anyone that wants to take part of is more than welcome.

**DIVISION REPORTS - Overview:**

1. **EMS**

Russ McCallion reported on the invol commit transport issue. Dr. Waffle has asked EMS Chiefs and MSOs to forward issues to him with no medical component. Trying to shift back to Law Enforcement to take them to the hospital if there is no medical care needed. Trying to get some meetings set up to move forward. Chief Jensen is working with ME office regarding Signal 1, 2 and 3 patients – once pronounced dead, law enforcement is called and then their responsibility to handle the case. No units should be placed out of service to be there for a deceased person. Also, moving forward with NW Physician case network program – identifying high utilizer’s and working with case managers – falls and diabetes are the current focus. Good program with a lot of potential. Boundtree contract is being renewed for another year. Some issues with customer service and pricing are being worked on. Saving County-wide for all agencies involved on medical supplies. Hospital diversion – huge increase from 4th Quarter 2013 to 4th Quarter 2014. Daily basis hospital ERs seeing about 750 patients. Senate Bill 5591 out of senate in to house. Reviewing MCI plan to have completed in time for US Open. Working with Ken Sharp on nurse triage for SS911 – working on phone surveys this week with those who have in place.

**16 A. Metro Training**

Doug Walker reported working with PCHIT and Special Operations teams getting training calendars coordinated. Changed format for Metro Drills – used to be monthly rotated around County. Changed to quarterly drill, a little more expansive. Next drill is scheduled for April 8th at JBLM. Chief Glickman, Lt. Curtis and BC Sumerlin are working on putting together the training for that. It will be an 8 hour training. Digital fire simulator allows for smoke machines to be tied to and can hit with 2 ½” etc.

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

Tom Mason reported not a whole lot to update. Committee did not meet in January. Not a lot of requests coming in. Uptick in funding 13 received $49,000 and had $20,000 for exercise. 14 = 56,000. Meeting next week. Any organization want to submit, please send request or questions to himself or Capt. McVay at West Pierce. More than happy to help with that process.

**16 C. Training – TEW Equipment**

Tony Judd – not present.

1. **Fire and Life Safety**

Eric Waters reported meeting this month has been rescheduled to the 24th. Will send out a reminder.

1. **Logistics**

Steve Richards not present.

1. **Operations**

Ed Goodlet reported not a lot to discuss. Was hoping to adopt the Tac Ops Manual, however, has received a couple of questions. Going to get the group back together to look over. Any questions, please get them in as soon as possible.

1. **Volunteer Services**

Eric Skogen reported they met yesterday. One of challenges because County is so large, did a web based meeting that was received well. Meetings will be held the last Wednesday of the month at 1000. Uniform application and looking into background checks. Discussed current recruit academies and how to align them as well as a mass recruitment. Any questions, please contact.

**OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS**

1. **South Sound 911**

Andrew Neiditz reported he brought along Deputy Director Ken Sharp assisting in establishing fire division to parallel law enforcement division. Transition of SS911 is well under way. Effective this year included in budget totality of all 5 comm centers with exception of Puyallup which will be added in the next few months. Have assumed service contracts for Fire Comm users as well as Fife users. Started referring to 5 comm centers as branches. First organizational change for employees – Fife employees became SS911 employees the end of December. Hope to have a new facility 24 months from now. Have a preferred site in the city of Fircrest 2100 block of Mildred. Goal is to develop a campus on about 6 acres of the 9 acre site. Few brief comments about radios and budget. Budget – 2015 is a transition year – costs would have been paying to Fire Comm and Fife are the same. 2016 an assessment will be done. Intent is to moderate costs. Not building a bureaucracy or Taj Mahal. Goal is to have a streamlined operation to support all user groups at an affordable cost. On radio side, cut over of 800 upgrade and new 700 system are well underway. Planning for VHF overlay is also funded and underway. Implementation should be soon. Part that is yet to come is the single system to connect them all. Strong commitment to get it done. There will be some disruption. Last piece on radio side is many are concerned with cost of the radio system – will there be user fees, maintenance costs, etc. SS911 is not a radio system owner. Radio system owners are city of Tacoma, Puyallup, Pierce County and Pierce Transit. Goal taken on is SS911 ought to be in the center of coordinating consistent approach to system costs, rhyme and reason between, etc. Whether SS911 administers, assists and coordinates, decisions need to be made. Cooperation from PC, City of Tacoma, Puyallup and Pierce Transit – senior manager’s executive level. Sensible approach for the future. Working with the system owners to make an arrangement that makes sense. Frank Washburn – one of concerns without radios, etc. looking for surplus radios that have an emer button on them for chaplains making death notifications on their own.

1. **Department of Emergency Management**

Lowell Porter not present.

1. **Pierce County EMS**

Norma Pancake not present.

1. **Fire Marshal**

Warner Webb not present.

1. **State Chiefs**

Keith Wright –not present. President Sagers reported on behalf of Keith on the GEMT hearing – several attended. Good bi-partisan support. Has a lot of traction and should move forward. Transport deficits with Medicaid patients. First hurdle in this process. Another 18 to 24 months of work to get done. Continue to support. EMS Levy cap increases was cut off very early in the process. All risk mobilization has good bi-partisan support. Over 90 fire service and EMS related bills.

1. **Puget Sound Clean Air Agency**

Dic Gribbon reported Federal Gov’t non-attainment area declared – as of last month – re-designated PC into attainment. Have met federal standards for clean air in that designated area. A lot had to do with wood stoves. 9th most populated state in US to have no designated areas of non-attainment. This will be his last meeting. Leaving agency next week after 30+ years. Introduced Jessica – she will be his replacement at these meetings and who to contact. Thanked the association for all the help and cooperation of working together.

1. **PC Fire Commissioners Association**

Dan Rankin reported last meeting was February and he was home sick with pneumonia. County Assessor Treasurer was the speaker. Next meeting is in March at EPFR Edgewood station, Lowell Porter, PCDEM will be the speaker. Updated their By Laws.

1. **Department of Natural Resources**

Sean Kibbe reported opening doors and inviting agencies to come and visit to understand how DNR works, how payments are processed, and to meet and greet field staff. Chuck Frame, District Manager has retired. Don Melton is the new District Manager. A letter coming out soon from Dispatch that will have a little more information. Hoping to have 1 staffed engine by May 1st and 12 engines by July 1st. Forefront in their minds that will most likely be an early fire season. Don stated he has the same contact information as Chuck as far as phone number, etc. Goal is to work with all partners as much as possible. Main purpose of meeting Sean discussing is to get everyone on the same page – whole south Puget Sound region. Trying as an agency is to ensure anyone that gets sent out on DNR fires that have a legitimate agreement with. Staff is working hard to reach out to those they don’t have an agreement with. Dan Smith with the Fire Defense Board is potential interlocal agreement, not required, certified red cards. Thought process being give whoever wants to sign on, more autonomy and essentially put red card certification on onus of group that signs on. Benefit is more flexibility on when can get red cards issued. Exploring that option. Agency has shifted this year to do 2 different training academies to get seasonal and permanent staff trained up. 11 day process the end of June. Might be reaching out to cooperators for back fill coverage during that time.

1. **Tacoma-Pierce County Chaplaincy**

Frank Washburn thanked the association for using and allowing them to serve. Almost double the number suicide calls. Tend to take a lot of energy out of everyone. May is next training academy. Dine out – thanks to those that participated $2048.00 raised. Chief and Chaplains luncheon – call office – March 27th 11:30 LaQuinta in Tacoma. Every year given $1500 scholarships to students who come from FF family or going into FF. Last year only given one. Lois Bunnell Scholarship.

1. **Good of the Order**

Nothing at this time.

1. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Submitted by:

Denise Menge

Recording Secretary

**2015 Meeting Schedule:**

Jan. 8, 2015 (1st is a Holiday) – General – Tacoma FD – 2124 Marshall Ave.

Feb. 5, 2015 – Business - Graham Fire & Rescue – 23014 70th Ave E

March 5, 2015 – General –Buckley Fire Department – 611 So. Division

**April 2, 2015 – Business – Browns Point / Dash Point –**

May 7, 2015 – General – Orting Valley Fire & Rescue – 401 Washington Ave SE

June 4, 2015 – Business – East Pierce Fire & Rescue -

July 2, 2015 – NO MEETING

Aug. 6, 2015 – NO MEETING

Sept. 3, 2015 – Business - CPFR hosting @ Puyallup Library 324 So Meridian

Oct. 1, 2015 – General – Gig Harbor – 10222 Bujacich Rd NW

Nov. 5, 2015 – Business – WPFR -

Dec. 3, 2015 – NO MEETING – ANNUAL BANQUET