



PIERCE COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION



Established 1985

Meeting Minutes February 22, 2024

1. Call to Order

President Jim Sharp called the Pierce County Fire Chiefs Association meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. remotely via Zoom and in person at South Sound 911 located at 3580 Pacific Ave, Tacoma. According to the Zoom attendee list (7) and sign in sheet (7), there were a total of 14 people in attendance.

President Sharp welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

2. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Chief Parkinson and seconded by Chief Greene to approve the January 25, 2024; meeting minutes as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

3. Treasurer's Report – Denise Ross

See Treasurer's Report on the back side of the agenda. Chief Parkinson moved and Chief Medford seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Correspondence

President Sharp stated after the last meeting a 700 radio users' letter was drafted and sent off to PCDEM. Hasn't heard anything back. Budgets have been fixed and nothing has been received yet. Frustration on how pricing is generated, and numbers are all over the map. No price has been set just that it is going to drastically increase.

Letter of support regarding issues Gig Harbor Fire had with their recertifications and having to send people in for protocol tests. Making every one of their Firefighters and Paramedics go into DEM to take the entire protocol test. Discussion followed. Chief Parkinson stated the best thing to fix this issue is to all get on the same OTEP plan, so we all have the same rules, etc. Part of the issue is the plans are slightly different. President Sharp reported met with Bouchard and Norma on follow up to WAC changes. Another meeting should be the final meeting next month. Driven by the state timelines. The good thing for ALS providers is tubes is taken out of requirements. The Combined OTEP plan is not coming quickly, but it is being worked on. Chief Doan states she gets us on a technicality. Like the check off sheets last year – its in the plan but it's never been required previously. This year it's the protocol tests – they've done 13 in the last year and half, just didn't fall in the right order. Again, it's a technicality.

5. Guest Speakers – N/A

6. Executive Board Report

President Sharp reported they met last week and discussed since changing the format of these meetings, it has created a bit of disconnect with the Deputy Chiefs and Assistant

Chiefs and no longer have a networking opportunity for them. Recognize it might be beneficial to have a little different agenda or speaker and bring them in – once or twice a year or quarterly? Chief Morrow stated he likes the idea of opportunities for staff to reengage. Have developed some good focus, alignment and clarity on issues. Visibility and connectivity are wanted. Discussion followed. Unify the county for them to hear the priorities, focus, etc. of this group and add value.

President Sharp – July 18th joint meeting with Police Chiefs. It's their normal meeting day. The meeting will be held at Farm 12 at 11:30. Speaker will be Phoebe Milligan – mental health and wellness at the executive level. Would be one event to invite ACs and DCs to.

E-Board will discuss and come up with some suggestions on frequency, etc.

7. Committees and Workgroups

A. Audit Committee – Morrow / Parkinson

Denise gave the audit documents to Chief's Morrow and Parkinson to review.

B. PC Code Revision Workgroup – Morrow

Chief Morrow there is nothing occurring at this time. President Sharp will touch base with Ken Rice. Chief Parkinson asked if the Urban Growth Area retraction. The lobbyist of Master Builders Association contacted Chief Morrow – asked if CPFR going to weigh in on the Urban Growth Area retraction. Several fire agencies have UGA retraction in service area and would impact with regards to development. Not sure about the density language impacts. Discussion followed. Chiefs Association don't have a position on it.

C. Radio Replacement System – Sharp / Morrow

President Sharp stated the PCSOC met. CPFR is looking at LTE network products to get better data, etc. The hybrid communications model developed is being tested. Satellite coverage in conjunction with LMR system. Morrow presented at the PSCOC meeting. Better communications and better data. Not a SS issue. Overlapping and integrates with the current system. Tried very carefully to stress that it's not a replacement for a radio system or competition. It's an augment to the current radio system. Chiefs have not changed their position. Single system is still a priority. The biggest challenge is it's a slow process. It's been 2 years and just had their first governance meeting.

Greene – ATT and Verizon issue last couple of days – did it impact system? Dustin stated it did not – uses all 3 pipes simultaneously as well as satellite. Doan stated not creating another system either, building a tower on Fox Island.

D. SS911 Call Processing Workgroup – Parkinson / Doan / Morrow

Chief Parkinson reported have had some movement. Initial information from SS911 on how they are performing on Delta and Echo calls. Largely matched up with what knew. Still points to issues with the call processing times – amount of time calls spent in the processing period. Defined call answering and call processing and monitor for three months.

E. Ad Hoc Committee for FDSU User Group - Parkinson

Reported AC that is overseeing this is focusing on other things right now until promotion happens in mid-April.

F. State Chiefs / Western Chiefs – Doan

Reported WA Fire Chiefs Conference in May in Kennewick. Encourage people to attend and participate. FORCE Conference through Western Fire Chiefs. Each State will have 4 nominations. Sept 30-Oct 1 in Sisters, OR. Smaller conference. Can nominate anyone in your department to attend. Steven Locke from Burlington, Vermont is running in IAFF – interviewed by Western next week. If interested in being a part of let him know.

G. Banquet Committee – DORMANT - Tammy Lamb / AC Scott Adams

8. Unfinished Business

A. Joint Meeting with Police Chiefs Association

President Sharp reported earlier in the meeting.

B. DEM and PCEMS concerns

President Sharp stated discussed earlier in the meeting.

9. New Business

A. CRC/RRC Probable Closure

President Sharp stated Chief Thirkield had brought to his attention. They are running out of funding and already turning people away. RFP or RFQ out to get someone else to run it. Kira reported RFI has gone out and there's a mental health group that has a say. Funded by the Healthcare Authority. May be able to have some involvement and say down the road. 2 16 bed facilities for mental health patients. Well-Found is the only other place that is open. Kira will attend the meeting – she'll forward out the Zoom link.

B. Master Mutual Aid and Addendums

Chief Doan thanked everyone for what they've sent to him. Master ILA and 44 numbered addendums but only able to find about a quarter of them. Also have the County wide Mutual Aid Agreement. If anyone has any other agreements, please send them to him. President Sharp stated he was talking to one of the AC's stated there's a file cabinet at WPFR with Joe Quinn's name on it from when he used to have an office there.

C. Executive Candidates

President Sharp stated it would be good to have the Executive candidates in to have a conversation with and make aware of priorities of the Association. Will try to set up meetings with the Executive Board.

10. Good of the Order

President Sharp reported that Matt Waltrip, ALS Representative to PC EMS Ops Committee has decided to step down. If you have someone interested in this position, let him and Denise know. They meet every other month as well as a seat at the Council Meeting.

Chief Doan asked if we could get a list of who is on the committees, who can vote and who can't, etc. Updated list of committees, who are the representatives and who can vote or not. Western Region Trauma Council might be where that is codified. President Sharp will look into and follow up.

Chief Doan asked Chief Green regarding Local 31 saying that Tacoma is forming RFA imminently. Chief Green stated they are exploring the feasibility of RFA. Doing their due diligence.

Chief Parkinson stated he brought to his Board to think about the Banquet being a dying event and the thought of doing a social night at the Annual Conference instead.

President Sharp forgot to share with the 700 letter that was sent out, Police Chiefs taking to the E-Board to see if they align. Shared it with Commissioners President Kathy Kadow and asked to speak at their meeting tonight.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Submitted by:

Denise Ross
Recording Secretary

2024 Meeting Schedule:

January 25, 2024 – Hybrid remotely via Zoom and in person at SS911, 3580 Pacific Ave
February 22, 2024 – Hybrid remotely via Zoom and in person at SS911, 3580 Pacific Ave
March 28, 2024 – Hybrid remotely via Zoom and in person at SS911, 3580 Pacific Ave
April 25, 2024 – Hybrid remotely via Zoom and in person at SS911, 3580 Pacific Ave
May 23, 2024 – CANCELLED – State Chiefs Conference
June 27, 2024 – Hybrid remotely via Zoom and in person at SS911, 3580 Pacific Ave
July 18, 2024 – 11:30 am Joint Meeting with Police Chiefs at Farm 12
July 25, 2024 – Hybrid remotely via Zoom and in person at SS911, 3580 Pacific Ave
August 22, 2024 – Hybrid remotely via Zoom and in person at SS911, 3580 Pacific Ave
September 26, 2024 – Hybrid remotely via Zoom and in person at SS911, 3580 Pacific Ave
October 24, 2024 – CANCELLED – State Commissioners Conference
November 21, 2024 (3rd Thursday due to 4th Thursday being Thanksgiving)– Hybrid remotely via Zoom and in person at SS911, 3580 Pacific Ave
December 5, 2024 – NO MEETING – AWARDS BANQUET