



PIERCE COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION



Established 1985

Meeting Minutes March 28, 2024

1. Call to Order

President Jim Sharp called the Pierce County Fire Chiefs Association meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. remotely via Zoom and in person at South Sound 911 located at 3580 Pacific Ave, Tacoma. According to the Zoom attendee list (5) and sign in sheet (7), there were a total of 12 people in attendance.

President Sharp welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

2. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Chief Thirkield and seconded by Chief Medford to approve the February 22, 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 Thirkield moved and Chief Medford seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Correspondence

A. Response from PCDEM re: 700 radio fees. President Sharp reported he received a brief email from Jody in that costs have not gone up. Lost funding streams and have to start charging the full rates to the users.

5. Guest Speakers – N/A

6. Executive Board Report

President Sharp reported what was discussed at the Executive Board is on today's Agenda and will be covered throughout the meeting.

7. Committees and Workgroups

A. Audit Committee – Morrow / Parkinson

Chief Morrow stated Parkinson is taking lead on the audit and has all the documents to review.

B. PC Code Revision Workgroup – Morrow

Chief Morrow reported he received communication from County and sent it to Chief Berdan. Mike and Kevin are working with the County on Code Revision.

C. Radio Replacement System – Sharp / Morrow

President Sharp reported new invoices from the County. 250% substantial increase due to not getting any off sets of SS monies. Issue of costs and also conversation of single system. No formal decision made. Chief Morrow stated funding SS issue park for now. More so about the system. Substantial changes in technology and disclosure

on reality of how the system is truly operating today and choices by system owners of how administering. At CPFR Board meeting Monday it was discussed and want to step into this. System Owners don't have a meeting scheduled until next year. Policymakers want to get engaged. Should Fire Chiefs take a different approach/decision than two years ago? Chief Sharp arrived at 9:15 am. Building completely backwards. No one in authority has asked us to build. Discussion followed. Fantastic result would be to get Fire and Police Chiefs in the room with Tacoma, Puyallup, and the County. The decision makers at policy level. Gig Harbor is augmenting the system by building towers which will build out capacity and give connectivity to the entire Peninsula. LMR augmented with LTE. Approach solutions in a more whole system way.

Still think going to a single system adds enough value to spend time energy on. If not, how do we move forward to fix known issues in the system? Where's the unified strategy for that? How is it coordinated? How to move some of this forward and what does it look like? Single system versus one system. Cheaper, more power and faster. Start having a different conversation with the right authorities. Frustrations with timelines and technology bypassing.

Discuss at the next meeting and come up with a position.

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

Chief Doan reported the meeting was cancelled. Distributed handout (copy attached) call processing time report that was emailed. Asked for call answering and call processing be defined. Call answering was already very well defined and was being tracked. Call processing took some time to get defined. Chief Morrow had calls compared and they're close. Numbers aren't that far off from what see in the system. Want transparency to get the data and not trying to get them or react to the number. Work together to come up with a strategy to fix/improve.

E. Ad Hoc Committee for FDSU User Group - Parkinson

Not present.

F. State Chiefs / Western Chiefs – Doan

Reported met for endorsement of 2nd vice president shared at the last meeting. Western Board must be unanimous to endorse.

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

8. Unfinished Business

RRC

President Sharp stated this somehow fell off. Chief Thirkield reported they did close. Haven't heard of any replacement. WellFound have increased their beds. Hospitals are aware and are monitoring.

A. PC Executive Candidate Meeting

President Sharp reported will wait to decide once we see everyone that files.

B. PC EMS Council Ops Committee Replacement

President Sharp stated this was vacated by Matt Waltrip, recommendation for Chief Moore at East Pierce to fill the vacancy. EMS group that meets, MSO group, have talked about and recommend him as well. President Sharp will let Norma know.

C. Master IL A and Addendums

Chief Doan reported nothing new, still collecting. Then will put together and can decide what to do.

Jon Parkinson arrived via zoom at 10:24

9. New Business

N/A

10. Good of the Order

President Sharp reported he was approached by Jeff Jensen, son Todd Jensen who had suddenly passed away, regarding having some kind of Chief EMS Officer of the Year award in Todd's name. Open to discussion and thoughts. Model after traditional Award of Excellence, etc. versus get away from naming after a person. An award in honor of XXX one year. Not something that has to be given every year. Will take to the E-Board to come up with a proposal for discussion and action from the group.

April 14-20 Telecommuters week. Not sure if we've done anything in the past before. Do we want to do some kind of acknowledgement/recognition? Some kind of formal appreciation would be appropriate. Social media video being done. Sharp will incorporate that into WPFR's.

Chief Doan reported he has 2 AC's retiring – Jason Black June 30th and Todd Meyer the end of December.

Sharp shared Ryan McGrady, AC of the Pierce County Fire Training Consortium will be coming back to WPFR. Oscar is stepping down from Fire Chief of Graham Fire as they are combining with CPFR and he will be moving to a DC position and transitioning to the Chief of the Training Consortium. Chief Morrow is the single Chief for CPFR, Orting Valley and Graham Fire. All 3 boards have taken public positions on moving to merger in April of 2025. Still 3 separate entities.

Chief Wernet is retiring at the end of June.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:41 a.m.

Submitted by:

Denise Ross
Recording Secretary

2024 Meeting Schedule:

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
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

Call Processing Time Report

Timeline: 1/1/2024 – 3/14/2024

Total calls included

January: 6471

February: 5659

March: 2751

Call Processing Time measures from when South Sound 911 answers the 911 call until units are dispatched to the event in CAD

Call Type	Month	Number of Calls	Call Processing Time in Seconds
Echo	January	184	161
Echo	February	136	152
Echo	March	69	147
Delta	January	1868	211
Delta	February	1653	207
Delta	March	834	210
Stroke	January	179	233
Stroke	February	163	215
Stroke	March	96	228

Criteria used for report

Event starts as a 911 call

Time is reported at the 90th percentile

Events which started as a Law Enforcement event were removed

Events found to have inaccurate ANI/ALI data were removed

Events incorrectly categorized were removed

Echo call types: Breathing Problems, Cardiac or Respiratory Arrest, Choking, Narcotic/Opioid arrest, Unconscious with Ineffective Breathing, Structure Fire, Sinking Vehicle

The highest priority event for a Stroke is a Charlie level call – these were included as a separate category.