



## PIERCE COUNTY FIRE COMMISSIONERS' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES May 23, 2019

FPD # 18 – Orting Valley – 401 Washington Ave SE

### **CALL TO ORDER – FLAG SALUTE**

President O Harra Buttz called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the flag salute.

### **WELCOME and THANK YOU TO HOST**

President O'Harra Buttz thanked Orting Valley for hosting tonight's meeting. Chief Gibson welcomed everyone to Orting Valley Fire & Rescue. Chief Gibson reported their LID lift passed last year and starting to implement things on their strategic plan. Buying a custom fire engine for the first time, have always purchased a demo rig in the past. CPR initiative for new autopulse equipment. May is volcano awareness month. Last 25-30 years Orting School District has an evacuation drill. This year started something new. It went very well and still making some adjustments. All 3,000 kids got out in 48 minutes. May 17<sup>th</sup> Puyallup did their first evacuation with 9,000 kids. Working on a regional 4-5 year plan on traffic control staff points, etc. Hope is to have a tabletop drill and then a functional drill. Goal is to have Sumner, Puyallup and Orting Schools all do an evacuation drill on the same day. City of Puyallup was the largest evacuation drill in North America. Sumner is doing a modified drill this year and full drill next year. Point of Safety is 30 feet, 45 minutes.

### **ROLL CALL – SELF-INTRODUCTIONS**

Roll was taken with self-introductions, according to the sign-in sheet, 10 Districts were represented by 24 attendees made up of Commissioners, Chiefs, Secretaries and/or visitors.

### **PROGRAM – Jim Jaques on Tri County Consortium on Active Shooter Training**

Vice President Sutich introduced guest speaker Jim Jaques, Assistant Chief from East Pierce Fire & Rescue who is here to speak on the Tri County CCTA (complex coordinated terrorism attack) program. Snohomish, King and Pierce grant for complex coordinated terrorism attack. When the grant was approved it was the formation of a board to oversee planning process. Powerpoint presentation. Emergency Management, Law Enforcement, Fire Service and Dispatch are represented on the board. He is representative for Pierce County Fire Chiefs and Hallie McCurdy from West Pierce is the alternate representative. All 3 counties have adopted a policy which will be updated as they work through this process. OT and backfill for drills done so far have been covered by grant monies. Communications workshop done. 4 days in March in Snohomish County for training. Part of requirement with grant is to go to each other's areas and drill together. April in Auburn at GSA complex. Today just finished up at ShoWare Center in Kent. In the neighborhood of 300 participants through the training. The Association thanked AC Jaques for his presentation.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Commissioner Eckroth moved and Commissioner Garling seconded to approve the agenda as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

### **MINUTES OF April 25, 2019 MEETING and Treasurer's Report – See attached**

It was moved by Commissioner Rankin and seconded by Commissioner Dannat to approve the April 25, 2019 minutes and the Treasurer's Report (see attached copy on backside of Agenda) as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

## **SGT. AT ARMS – NAME BADGES**

Commissioner Allison collected from those who forgot their badges.

Commissioners in need of new badges? Commissioner Holm stated he went to the Graham Station on 70<sup>th</sup> and got his picture taken and badge made. August meeting is at Graham Fire will try to have someone there to take pictures and get badges made.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

## **REGULAR REPORTS:**

### **a) Regional Representative Report – Gene Dobry**

Reported WFCA quarterly meeting took place on April 27<sup>th</sup>. Healthcare committee provided information on first quarter results. New logo/branding for the healthcare program. Update workshops in the fall – Spokane, Olympia and at the conference. Spring conference at Clearwater resort had 72 attendees. Chelan seminar already has 200+ registered. Succession plan put together for Nora and Sandy. Education Committee meets June 22<sup>nd</sup> to set agenda for the conference. Set the registration at \$340.00. Conference to alternate back and forth from Tulalip to Spokane at Davenport. Hospitality Room contribution Thurston County will front the money and then let the Association know amount to pay at the Conference.

### **b) Legal - Joe and/or Eric Quinn**

Not present.

## **STANDING COMMITTEES:**

### **a) Fire Chiefs Association - Dan Rankin / Tom Sutich**

Commissioner Sutich reported met at Gig Harbor and DEM Director Jody Ferguson was their guest speaker.

### **b) Legislative - Dale Mitchell**

Reported the Legislative session ended on the 28<sup>th</sup> and no extension. Looked at work on mobilization sunset clause, which was wiped out entirely. Other one disconcerting to a lot was what happened with the volunteer pension program somehow a couple of legislators felt the need to put some roadblocks. Did not pass. Will be working to get it revised and bring it back in the next session. HB 1912. Wildfire prevention passed. Prepaid postage for all election ballots.

### **c) Bates Technical College - Dan Rankin**

Reported they met on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Looking for 5 – 8 acres of land to purchase. 2.8 million from the State to hopefully do what they want to do. 24 in EMT, 26 and 21 in day academy. Have a new President about a month ago.

Commissioner Mitchell asked Vice President Sutich to ask Chuck LeBlanc be a speaker to give an update on the Training Academy.

### **d) Fund Raising Activities - Ed Egan**

Commissioner Mitchell had President O’Harra Buttz draw the winning ticket. Commissioner Holm had the winning ticket and won \$35.00.

**e) Annual Picnic/Potluck –Bill Eckroth and Arlene Dannat**

Commissioner Dannat has a sign up sheet for the Potluck in July. The Association to supply the meat – hamburgers and hot dogs from Cash n Carry. Who's doing the cooking? Hamburgers and brats. Sign up sheet passed around. Potluck to be at 6:00 p.m.

**f) Annual Banquet – DORMANT - Mike Cathey**

**g) Scholarship & Education - Tom Sutich / Stan Moffett**

No report.

**h) Awards Committee – DORMANT – Sheila Niven**

**i) Membership – Kevin Gorder**

No report.

**j) Programs – Tom Sutich**

Reported June speaker will be Sheila Nivens going to bring in the lady that heads up Dispatch Health. August will be Andrew Nieditz from SS911.

**k) Sunshine - Arlene Dannat**

No report.

**l) NAEFO – Gerry Gustafson**

No report.

**m) Nominating – DORMANT - Dan Rankin / Sheila Niven**

Commissioner Rankin stated need to open the Nominating Committee. Gene Dobry who is the current Region 7 representative position is up the end of the year.

Tom Sutich nominated Mike Cathey for the District 7 representative. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the nomination.

Commissioner Rankin moved to close the nominations. Commissioner Moffett seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

**n) Audit – DORMANT - Dan Rankin / Margaret O’Harra Buttz**

**o) SS911 Committee – Dan Rankin**

Reported they had a very short meeting. In the process of voting in June on new governance. City of Fife approved new governance. Everyone has to have done by the end of June. As it stands now everyone is in agreement. May 8<sup>th</sup> meeting overview on the building. Distributed handouts (copies attached).

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**A. Speakers Appreciation Gift**

Commissioner Egan not present. Commissioner Mitchell reported that Commissioner Egan found an example of a coin as an idea. 2 sizes 1 ½” and 2”, zinc or brass, etc. 1 ½” Prices \$5-6.00 each for 100 coins. 20% more in brass. Cost for set up. Asked that maybe we decide if want to continue on with this to come up with a design, etc. Commissioner Rankin stated there had been coins made in the past – Mike Grant from Edgewood had handled them. Discussion followed. It

was decided to go with the 1 ½” size coin in brass. Logo that is on Letterhead and Ed to talk to regarding colors, etc. Members can purchase coins as well.

Vice President Sutich stated he has not received any Scholarship requests so the money in that budget line item could be used for coins purchase if needed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Nothing at this time.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

Commissioner Rankin congratulations to all of the newly elected Commissioners.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.

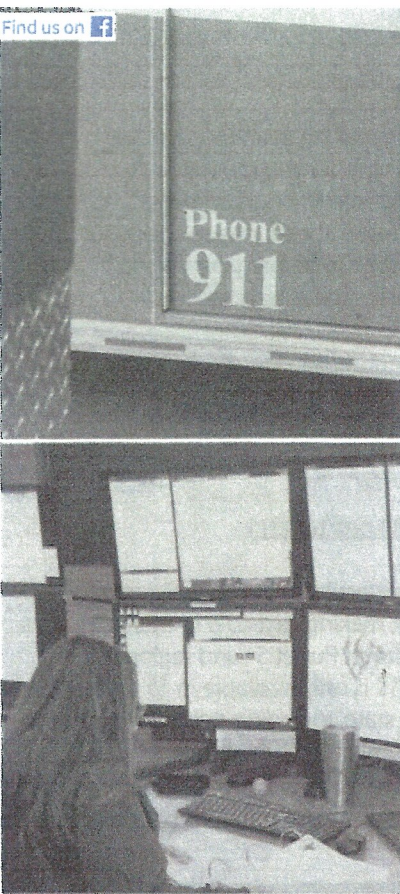
Submitted by:

Denise Menge,  
Secretary/Treasurer

Website: <http://www.pcfirecommissioners.org/SitePages/Home.aspx>

**2019 Meeting Dates and Locations:**

January 24, 2019 - FPD # 5 – Gig Harbor – 10222 Bujacich Rd NW  
February 28, 2019 – FPD # 6 – Central Pierce – 17520 22<sup>nd</sup> Ave E, Tacoma  
March 28, 2019 – FPD # 22 – East Pierce – 18421 Veterans Memorial Dr, Bonney Lake  
April 25, 2019 – FPD # 13 – Browns/Dash Point – 4815 Wa-Tau-Ga Ave NE  
May 23, 2019 – FPD # 18 – Orting Valley – 401 Washington Ave SE  
June 27, 2019 – FPD # 16 – Key Peninsula – 8911 Key Peninsual Hwy KPN  
July 25, 2019 – Potluck BBQ – CPFR Station 60 17520 22<sup>nd</sup> Ave E  
August 22, 2019 – FPD # 21 – Graham – 23014 70<sup>th</sup> Ave E  
Sept. 26, 2019 – FPD # 17 South Pierce – Sta. 171 302 McNaught St, Roy  
October 24, 2019 - NO MEETING – STATE CONFERENCE  
November 21, 2019 – FPD #3 – West Pierce – 5000 Steilacoom Blvd SW  
(3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday due to 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday being Thanksgiving)  
December 5, 2019 – NO MEETING – ANNUAL BANQUET



## PSCC construction bid process to begin next month

South Sound 911 is expected to post bid documents early next month for the construction of its public safety communications center (PSCC). Documents will be posted on the Daily Journal of Commerce [website](#). A pre-bid conference will be held at 1:30 p.m. on

Tuesday, June 11, at West Pierce Fire & Rescue Station 20, 10928 Pacific Hwy SW, in Lakewood.

The 74,500 sq. ft. PSCC will be constructed at 3580 Pacific Avenue in Tacoma, site of the former Puget Sound Hospital.

Construction is estimated to cost between \$40-43 million, with a total project cost of \$65 million.

For more information about the PSCC project visit [southsound911.org/pscc](http://southsound911.org/pscc).

## New law, changes present potential Records service challenges

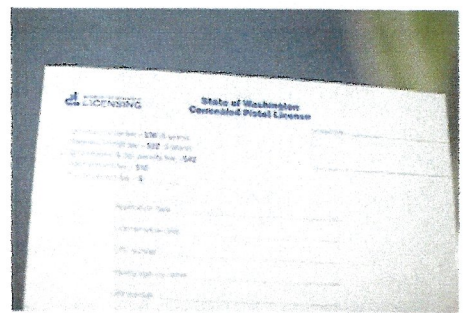
As of July 1, 2019, a couple of state and federal changes will impact and affect South Sound 911's Records services.

The first change is one many may already be familiar. Last November, voters overwhelmingly adopted [Initiative 1639](#). As a result, required background checks for firearms will be expanded to include purchases or transfers of all semi-automatic rifles and pistols. Previously, background checks were only required for handgun purchases or transfers.

At the same time, the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) will no longer extend the courtesy to Federal Firearms Licensees (i.e., firearms dealers) to complete NICS background checks electronically or by phone for handgun purchasers who have a concealed pistol license (CPL). Instead, requests for NICS checks will be sent to local law

enforcement agencies. What this means, is that effective July 1, local law enforcement will be required to complete additional background checks on all semi-automatic rifle and handgun purchases and transfers. As the sole agent of such services for the Tacoma, Lakewood, Edgewood, University Place and Roy Police Departments, and the Pierce County Sheriff's Department, the background check burden falls on South Sound 911. Further, as an agent of the county, South Sound 911 routinely provides this service for law enforcement jurisdictions countywide.

While there will be no impact to 911 and dispatch services, but it does mean a significant increase in work conducted behind-the-scenes at Records. The impact may well trickle



services. For the NICS-initiated change alone, rough estimates indicate a possible 188 percent increase in workload – and South Sound 911 is already one of the highest volume CPL/PTA processing agents in the state. The [Records](#) department, which operates South Sound 911's public counter, processed nearly 20,000 CPL applications and over 26,000 PTAs in 2018 on behalf of its law enforcement partners – with volumes increasing each year.

South Sound 911 recognizes

### Upcoming Meetings

#### Policy Board

May 22  
9 a.m.

Lakewood City Hall  
6000 Main St SW  
Lakewood WA 98499

#### Operations Board

June 14  
9:30 a.m.

WPFR Station 20  
10928 Pacific Hwy SW  
Lakewood WA 98499

Meeting agendas and meeting minutes are available online at

## Policy Board

Doug Richardson  
*Pierce County Councilmember*

Tim Curtis  
*City of Fife Councilmember*

Mike Brandstetter  
*City of Lakewood Councilmember*

Bruce Dammeier  
*Pierce County Executive*

Julie Door  
*City of Puyallup Councilmember*

Lillian Hunter  
*City of Tacoma Councilmember*

Paul Pastor  
*Pierce County Sheriff*

Bill Pugh  
*City of Sumner Mayor*

Dan Rankin  
*West Pierce Fire & Rescue  
Commissioner*

Robert Thoms  
*City of Tacoma Councilmember*

## Operations Board

Jim Sharp  
*West Pierce Fire & Rescue Chief*

Peter Fisher  
*Fife Police Chief*

Bud Backer  
*East Pierce Fire & Rescue Chief*

John Burgess  
*Gig Harbor Fire & Medic One Chief*

Kelly Busey  
*Gig Harbor Police Chief*

Scott Engle  
*Puyallup Police Chief*

Tory Green  
*Tacoma Fire Chief*

Nick Hausner  
*Pierce County Sheriff Administrative Chief*

Tony Judd  
*Graham Fire & Rescue Deputy Chief*

Jim Kelly  
*Pierce Transit Public Safety Chief*

Cliff McCollum  
*Browns Point-Dash Point Fire Chief*

Brad Moericke  
*Sumner Police Chief*

Dan Olson  
*Central Pierce Fire & Rescue Chief*

Ed Wade  
*Tacoma Police Asst. Chief*

Mike Zaro  
*Lakewood Police Chief*

## Executive Director

Andrew E. Neiditz  
*South Sound 911*

### Records continued...

these voter-supported and like changes are important. The agency is currently evaluating staffing and overtime needs, schedule changes, and exploring other solutions,

as well as looking at ways to improve Records operations overall.

The Records department is expecting volumes to begin

increasing in advance of July 1. Should you need to visit the public counter in the weeks ahead, please check our website before your visit for any service notices.

## Text-to-911: When and how to use it (hint: it's for emergencies only)

If you cannot safely place a voice call to 911, you can text for emergency police, fire or medical aid in Pierce County. South Sound 911's text-to-911 service provides the community — including the Deaf, hard of hearing, or speech disabled — a potentially life saving option to reach 911. It is also available for those in a situation where calling 911 might endanger a life or escalate the situation.

It is NOT a service of convenience.

Like traditional 911, text-to-911 is for emergencies only AND when you cannot safely make a voice call. Voice calls are still the more efficient way to get emergency help. The exchange of information in a call can be faster, and call takers have the benefit of being able to hear background noise in a call.

Simply stated: **Call if you can, text if you can't.**

If you ever need to send a text to 911, please know:

1. Your first message should include the nature of the emergency and the EXACT location, including city (an address is best — including apartment number, lot, building, floor, unit, suite or mile marker).
2. Keep messages brief, but do not send photos or video, or use group texts, abbreviations or emojis.
3. Keep your cell phone with you so you can answer questions and receive instructions.
4. Text-to-911 service is currently only available in English.
5. A text sent to 911 in an area without text-to-911 service should receive an automatic reply stating the service is not available.
6. The mobile device you text from requires a mobile phone number with a wireless carrier which allows the device to send and receive text messages.

visit [southsound911.org/text911](https://southsound911.org/text911).

The service became available in Pierce County on March 27, 2019, making text-to-911 available throughout the greater Puget Sound region. As of today, text-to-911 is only available in 15 of the 39 counties in the state, including neighboring King, Kitsap, Snohomish and Thurston counties. To see where else in the state it's available, visit the state [Emergency Management Division's website](#).

# CALL IF YOU CAN, TEXT IF YOU CAN'T.

**Text-to-911 is available  
in Pierce County.**

Voice calls are preferred, but  
text-to-911 is available when you  
cannot safely make a voice call.



SOUTH SOUND 911

Learn more at: [southsound911.org/text911](https://southsound911.org/text911)

For more tips and information about text-to-911,

# STRATEGIC ISSUES SUMMARY - STATUS REPORT



ISSUE	DECISION MAKER(S)	STATUS
<p><b>GOVERNANCE</b></p>	<p>MEMBER AGENCIES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consensus on Public Development Authority (PDA)</li> <li>• Briefings provided to all legislative bodies except Tacoma City Council; action dates pending</li> </ul>
<p><b>RADIO SYSTEMS</b>  <i>Key Recommendations:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transition to a true, single-system; single org responsible for system O&amp;M</li> <li>• SS911 should play key role in admin/ O&amp;M if system receives SS911 funds</li> </ul>	<p>CCN/TACOMA/ PUYALLUP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CCN/COT collaborating; SS911 involvement pending</li> <li>• IXP contracted to evaluate potential resource sharing and coordination between CCN and Tacoma</li> </ul>
<p><b>DISPATCH OPERATIONS</b>  <i>Key Recommendations:</i> Transition to universal call takers; formal QA</p>	<p>SS911</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operational assessment completed; Roadmap to implement certain recommendations expected June 2019</li> </ul>
<p><b>WSP STATUS: PRIMARY VS. SECONDARY</b></p>	<p>PIERCE COUNTY</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pierce County designated WSP secondary PSAP 7.25.18</li> </ul>
<p><b>TACOMA FIRE INTEGRATION</b></p>	<p>CITY OF TACOMA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing meetings between SS911 and City of Tacoma leadership (Council, City Manager, Fire Chief)</li> </ul>
<p><b>LOCAL BACKUP OPERATIONS</b></p>	<p>SS911</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jan 2017 – Boards approved 35th St facility as backup location</li> <li>• Schedule for improvements pending (after PSCC construction)</li> </ul>
<p><b>E911 OFFICE/FUNDING</b>  <i>Key Recommendations:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determine whether some/all of the E911 Office responsibilities should be relocated to SS911; formal and public policy re: priorities/use of E911</li> </ul>	<p>PIERCE COUNTY</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PC conducting internal review</li> </ul>
<p><b>PSCC FINANCING AGREEMENT; ROLES &amp; RESPONSIBILITIES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Member Agencies agree to financing</li> <li>• PC will issue bonds; PC/SS911 will procure construction bids</li> <li>• PC/SS911 to pursue construction contract and construction project mgr.</li> <li>• SS911 will make bond payments and maintain building and property</li> <li>• PC will transfer building to SS911 once bonds are paid</li> </ul>	<p>MEMBER AGENCIES (financing) SS911/PC (roles &amp; responsibilities)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resolution of Intent to Issue Bonds expected to be passed by Pierce County Council 5.22.19</li> <li>• Bonds to be issued fall 2019</li> </ul>
<p><b>LAW ENFORCEMENT RECORDS MANAGEMENT</b>                      Per request of police chiefs initiated assessment to identify short and long-term records management business needs of SS911 and partner LE agencies</p>	<p>SS911</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Request for Information issue 5.14.19, responses due 8.20.19</li> </ul>
<p><b>TEXT-TO-911</b>                      SS911 spearheading a collaborative effort with county PSAPs (WSP/IBLM) to implement text-to-911 by beginning of 2019.</p>	<p>SS911</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implemented 3.27.19</li> </ul>

**South Sound 911 Timeline**  
**Governance / Financing / Construction**  
**Revised May 21, 2019**

DATE	EVENT	PARTICIPANTS
May 21, 2019	Resolution of Intent to sell bonds by Pierce County Council – <b>Complete</b>	Pierce County Council
June 3 2019	Bid documents for PSCC published – <b>On Track</b>	South Sound 911
June 3, 2019	Distribute Distribution List, Schedule of Events and Data Requirements	D.A. Davidson
June 14, 2019	County provides data for POS	Pierce County Finance
June 18, 2019	Distribute 1 <sup>st</sup> draft of Bond Delegation Ordinance and legal opinion	Pierce County Finance and Bond Counsel
June 24, 2019	Distribute 1 <sup>st</sup> draft of POS	D.A. Davidson
July 1, 2019	Comments due on first draft of POS	South Sound 911; Pierce County Finance; Bond Counsel
July 2, 2019	Approval of ILA by all South Sound 911 member agencies	Fife: Approved WPFR: vote on 6/4 Tacoma: vote on 6/25 Puyallup: 6/4 or 6/18 Pierce County: 7/2 Lakewood: vote on 6/3
July 2, 2019	Designation of initial PDA Representatives	Tacoma – 2 Pierce County – 2 Lakewood - 1 Puyallup - 1 CPFR - 1 WPFR - 1 PCFCA – 1 Bonney Lake/Fife/Sumner - 2
July 9, 2019	Council Consent Calendar – Bond Delegation Ordinance	Pierce County Council; Pierce County Finance
July 9, 2019	Approval of Charter	Tacoma: vote on 7/9
July 11, 2019	Send information to rating agencies	D.A. Davidson
July 15, 2019	Rules & Operations Committee – Ordinance review	Pierce County Council; Pierce County Finance
July 23, 2019	Project Bid Opening	South Sound 911
July 23, 2019	County Council Adoption of Financing Agreement and Bond Delegation Ordinance	Pierce County Council; D.A. Davidson; Bond Counsel; South Sound 911
July 23, 2019	First meeting of PDA Approve: 1) Bond Financing Agreement 2) Lease agreement 3) Funding ILA	South Sound 911; County
August 2, 2019	Rating agency conference calls	Pierce County Finance; D.A. Davidson

Timeline will be updated as additional information becomes available.



**South Sound 911 Timeline  
Governance / Financing / Construction  
Revised May 21, 2019**

<b>August 13, 2019</b>	Final comments due on all documents	Pierce County Finance; Bond Counsel; D.A. Davidson; South Sound 911;
<b>August 14, 2019</b>	Receive ratings	Pierce County Finance; D.A. Davidson
<b>August 16, 2019</b>	SS911 Approval of Construction Contract	South Sound 911
<b>August 21, 2019</b>	Distribute POS/Notice of Sale	D.A. Davidson
<b>September 1, 2019</b>	SS911 ILA Terminated	South Sound 911
<b>September 3, 2019</b>	Begin Construction	Contractor
<b>September 11, 2019</b>	Competitive Sale/Notice of Sale	Pierce County Finance; D.A. Davidson
<b>September 25, 2019</b>	Bond Closing	Pierce County Finance; D.A. Davidson; Bond Counsel; Underwriter