



## PIERCE COUNTY FIRE COMMISSIONERS' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES August 27, 2020

Via Zoom

### **CALL TO ORDER – FLAG SALUTE**

President Tom Sutich called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. no flag salute was held due to meeting virtually. He requested everyone mute their microphone so there's not a lot of background sound.

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

President Sutich thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting.

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

Self-introductions done. There were 25 people in attendance.

### **PROGRAM – YaVonne Bailey-Navarette and Carissa Sutherland with Pierce College AEMT Program**

Vice President Moffett introduced the guest speakers. YaVonne is the program manager and brought with her an assistant and a couple of paramedics Carissa Sutherland, Sarah Schwartz and Lacey Carol. She gave a brief overview of the program. It's been around over 22 years. Primarily on JBLM servicing doing a lot for the military and branched out to civilians. Been at Fort Steilacoom for 4 or 5 years now. Teach EMT, AEMT is new program, PHTLS and National Refresher. Heads up on what's going on with program. Corona has changed everything. Turned over to Carissa Sutherland who talked more about the didactic and clinical side of the program. Advanced EMT (AEMT) verbiage used to be called Intermediate EMT. National registry program. Limited ALS interventions (IV therapy and a few medications). Program is at least 180 hours includes didactic and field work. Have to be an EMT with at least one-year service to join program. Opened for any questions. Commissioner Kadow asked how it fits in with PC Protocols. Depends on what skills hired for. Discussion followed. Commissioner Mitchell asked who pays for it? Open to funding through the college. What is the cost of the program? Since COVID started, trying to change course so more feasible to rural districts and those who are working. Converting to hybrid class instead of in person class. Condensed fire classes through academies. The Association thanked them for their presentation. YaVonne wanted to get a flyer out but wasn't working. Feel free to call or email with any additional questions, information, etc.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA and TREASURER'S REPORT**

President Sutich added under New Business, November meeting moved to virtual meeting. It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda and Treasurer's Report (see copy on the backside of the Agenda) as presented. MOTION CARRIED. Passed unanimously.

### **MINUTES OF June 25, 2020 MEETING**

President Sutich asked if there is any discussion or opposition. Hearing none the June 25, 2020 minutes as presented were passed unanimously.

### **SGT. AT ARMS – NAME BADGES**

N/A

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Nothing at this time.

## **REGULAR REPORTS:**

### **a) Regional Representative Report – Mike Cathey**

Reported next meeting is September 12, 2020.

President Sutich asked if WFCA will be presenting a conference electronically in October? Commissioner Rankin stated it is being worked on and will be further discussed at their September 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

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

Eric stated he has a really dry sense of humor... could really go for some unprecedented times. JANUS case payroll deductions for employees pertains to union dues and records requests by employees. Public Records act when employee records requested must notify employee.

ILA by Pierce County for Fire Protection Service, some Fire Districts have signed and returned. Last year did for King County – based on assessed valuation, annually assess public property for amount to be arrived at. Pierce County ILA does not state that. When he did calculations, contract amount on PC ILA is \$9,000 per year, using King County formula would be \$64,000. Quite a difference. Essentially where it is at is Fire Commissioners and perhaps County Chiefs should come together and collectively work together on this for next year when contracts are sent out.

Joe Quinn reported right now there is a Benefit Charge revolution going on. Graham is going for it for the first time in their history. Predicts it will pass. They have done a heck of a job working on it. Got the attention of Central Pierce wanting to meet with to update CPFR's benefit charge. Given the fact that we may have a recession in the coming years, our tax base could shrink greatly. Happened in 2009-2013 tax evaluations dropped so much. This diversifies revenue base.

### **c) SouthSound 911 – Debbie Grady**

Debbie shared that yesterday the Board passed the 2021 budget. Planning conservatively. Deputy Director Duggan is here to talk about the Board approved purchasing an electronic medical dispatch program and along with that a fire dispatch program. Doesn't replace CAD, augments it. Allows dispatchers and call takers to have a more consistent way of gathering information from callers to determine severity and call type etc. Culmination of a lot of hard work that started in 2017 looking for better fire and medical emergency dispatch. Looking to implement and go live in February, moving into new building in April. Looking forward to have it go live in about 6 months.

## **STANDING COMMITTEES:**

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

Reported they do not meet again until September 3rd.

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

Reported met on August 6<sup>th</sup> and started looking ahead to things to work with. Legislatively more progressives, losing some moderates. Going to have to build some new relationships. Looking at Family Medical Leave Act – under financed – leave it open too many other issues. Special Districts and auto reporting – will monitor after session starts. 086 account with shortfall of monies going to be looking everywhere they can to get money. Chances of 086 funds being

raided is possible. Meet again on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Should have received an email from WFCFA on legislative concerns to get them in.

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

Reported no report, don't know if a new Director has been hired or not.

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

N/A

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

**f) Annual Banquet – Mike Cathey**

Reported trying to wrap head around having a Zoom banquet. Anyone turn in nomination for awards? Denise will email out nomination forms, they are also available on the website.

President Sutich stated he spoke with Chiefs President John Burgess regarding having an awards banquet via Zoom and not skip over completely. Any thoughts on that? Commissioner Mitchell stated to work out a deal with the Chiefs would be great. Commissioners Moffett, Dannat, Holm all agreed. President Sutich asked about years of service pins, etc. Agreed to do so as just reading and acknowledging who receives them. He will relay the group to President Burgess to present to the Chiefs group next week.

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

Commissioner Moffett stated no report at this time.

**h) Awards Committee – Sheila Niven**

Discussed earlier.

**i) Membership – Kevin Gorder**

Not present.

**j) Programs – Stan Moffett**

Reported speaker for September will be Mike Lonergan, PC Assessor Treasurer.

**k) Sunshine - Arlene Dannat**

Nothing to report.

**l) NAEFO – Gerry Gustafson**

Not present.

Commissioner Eckroth stated there is a NAEFO sponsored training this Saturday. Will be posted on the NAEFO facebook page. Denise to forward the email out to the group.

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

Question regarding what the By-Laws state. Election clause would override how to determine a quorum. Joe Quinn stated could amend the By-Laws to address. Denise will send out By-Laws and Executive Board Positions and Terms. Add to Agenda for September meeting to discuss under Old Business.

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

o) **SS911 Committee – Pat McElligott**

Not present.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

November Meeting

President Sutich stated he doesn’t see things changing much by then and what are thoughts on going ahead with planning to hold the November meeting via Zoom. Thoughts? Consensus in agreement to hold November meeting via Zoom.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

Attorney Joe Quinn stated in chat section: legislative issue an amendment to RCW 52.30.020 that would establish the costing formula for contracts between fire districts and RFAs and public agencies such as Pierce County. Presently, all the statute says is that certain public agencies shall enter into contracts, but the statute says nothing about how the cost of that contract should be calculated.

Denise to also ask for those with 5, 10, 15, 20, etc. years to let know for figuring out who to get years of service pins to.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Submitted by:

Denise Menge,  
Secretary/Treasurer

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

**2020 Meeting Dates and Locations:**

January 23, 2020 - Gig Harbor – 10222 Bujacich Rd NW

February 27, 2020 – Graham – 23014 70<sup>th</sup> Ave E

March 26, 2020 – CANCELLED COVID-19

April 23, 2020 – CANCELLED COVID-19

May 28, 2020 – REMOTELY VIA ZOOM

June 25, 2020 – REMOTELY VIA ZOOM

July 23, 2020 – BBQ/Potluck – CANCELLED

August 27, 2020 – South Pierce – REMOTELY VIA ZOOM

September 24, 2020 – REMOTELY VIA ZOOM

October 22, 2020 - NO MEETING – STATE CONFERENCE

November 19, 2020 – West Pierce – REMOTELY VIA ZOOM

(3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday due to 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday being Thanksgiving)

December 3, 2020 – NO MEETING – ANNUAL BANQUET-REMOTELY VIA ZOOM