



## PIERCE COUNTY FIRE COMMISSIONERS' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES March 24, 2022

Remotely via Zoom

### **CALL TO ORDER – FLAG SALUTE**

Vice President Kevin Gorder called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. no flag salute was held due to meeting virtually.

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

Vice President Gorder thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting.

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

No roll call or self-introductions were done. There were 17 people in attendance.

### **GUEST SPEAKERS – Jeremy Ketchum, Dept. of L&I**

Vice President Gorder introduced Jeremy Ketchum with Department of Labor & Industries who is here this evening. Abundance of training required for firefighters. Look at top hazards sited in the last four (4) years. Been with department since 2011. 2015 moved to consultation. WAC 296-305. Shared screen and went through a powerpoint presentation (copy attached). There have been 8 sightings for Accident prevention program 296-305-01515. 4 times sited for respiratory equipment protection. 3 incidents for personal protective equipment and protective clothing. 3 accident prevention program – unaware of requirement to have one. 3 times for training and member development. 3 automotive fire apparatus design and construction. 2 sited for respiratory protection. 2 sited for respiratory equipment protection. Biggest thing to look at is respiratory protection as its been sited a total of 18 times in the last 4 years. Can request an L&I consultation. On their website – tab – Safety & Health, left hand side, request a consultation. Video on what to expect. Left side of screen can request a consultation on-line. He's out of Region 3. No cost, provided to all employers. Opened to floor for any questions. There were none.

The Association thanked Mr. Ketchum for his presentation and information he shared this evening. We'll be sending a challenge coin as a thank you.

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

Commissioner Sutich asked to move SS911 Committee right after SouthSound911 speaks. It was moved by Commissioner Sutich and seconded by Commissioner Rankin to approve the agenda and Treasurer's Report (see copy included with the Agenda) as presented. MOTION CARRIED. Passed unanimously.

Commissioner McElligott reported the 70 cents, first 50 cents is collected off of devices and additional 20 cents extra voted that money is now transferred to SS911. Supposed to happen, PC asked for a delay to work on contracts, etc. Presentation by their attorney, outcome from PC was unacceptable. Discussion followed. Asked they come with discrepancies in the near future. Commissioner Holm stated it seems to be the ILA they are having the issue with. Speculating may have alternative motives. No rational reasons given as to why the delay, etc.

## **MINUTES OF February 24, 2022 MEETING**

Commissioner Sutich moved and Commissioner Mitchell seconded to approve the minutes. Any discussion? Hearing none, anyone opposed? Hearing none, the February 24, 2022 minutes as presented were passed unanimously. MOTION CARRIED.

### **SGT. AT ARMS – NAME BADGES**

N/A

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

N/A

### **REGULAR REPORTS:**

#### **a) Regional Representative Report – Jerry Bickett**

Not present. Commissioner Rankin reported in process of setting up for Spokane seminar. Legislative final to be coming out. Executive Board meeting in second week of April and Board meeting will be held after Easter.

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

Eric reported tomorrow putting on a municipal roundtable via Zoom. An email was sent out with the link. Leave Use and Abuse is the topic. Behoove clients to review light duty and leave policies. Change in the Use of Force laws shouldn't change the policies of fire departments on how they engage. Commissioner Kadow asked about changes to LEOFF 2 retirement plan – change anything for how Districts do business? Eric stated no it's a DRS law. Vice President Gorder stated President Moffett asked him to share and remind everyone of the April 9<sup>th</sup> 9-12 training being put on by Eric and Joe Quinn - Role of Fire Chiefs, Commissioners, Records retention and Open Public Meetings Act. Mandatory training for all Commissioners within 90 days of taking office and every 4 years. Commissioner Sutich stated the Association is paying them \$1,200.00 for this training and will be free of charge to all to attend. Reason it wasn't brought to the body prior to this was due to the short notice. The Executive Board members were all contacted and were in agreement.

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

Reported anxiously waiting the governor to sign SB5555. Also looking at developing 2023 budget, mental health clinician in the comm center to have ability for intervention over phone. Appreciate the Commissioners input at the Board meeting yesterday.

### **STANDING COMMITTEES:**

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

Commissioner Sutich reported the Chiefs' meeting speaker was PC Executive Bruce Dammeier. Sounds like all is going well at the County level.

#### **b) Legislative - Brandon Faust**

Not present.

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

Reported next meeting is in May.

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

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

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

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

Commissioner Sutich stated no report.

**h) Awards Committee – DORMANT - Margaret O’Harra-Buttz**

**i) Membership – Kevin Gorder / Arlene Dannat**

Vice President Gorder stated for the upcoming seminar he would like a personal invitation to be sent out to every Fire Commissioner in either email or letter. Discussion followed. Commissioner Kadow going to reach out to their newly appointed Commissioner – encouraged others to reach out to their commissioners personally as well. Commissioner Sutich stated it was also sent to the Fire Chiefs and would encourage Chief Officers to attend as well. Attorney Eric Quinn stated it is required for Commissioners and Records personnel. Commissioner Dannat stated there is a conflict with the Daffodil Parade that day.

**j) Programs – Kevin Gorder**

Nothing at this time.

**k) Sunshine - Arlene Dannat**

Reported will be sending out a condolence card to PC Sheriffs department as well as get well card to officer that is recuperating. Tomorrow is the procession.

**l) NAEFO – Gerry Gustafson**

Reported had a meeting last weekend. Have several other states as members and membership is growing.

**m) Nominating – DORMANT - Dan Rankin**

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

**o) SS911 Committee – Pat McElligott**

Reported earlier in the meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Nothing at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Nothing at this time.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

Nothing at this time.

## **ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Commissioner Dannat moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED. The meeting adjourned at 7:54 pm.

Submitted by:

Denise Ross,  
Secretary/Treasurer

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

### **2022 Meeting Schedule:**

January 27, 2022 – Remotely via Zoom

February 24, 2022 – Remotely via Zoom

March 24, 2022 – Remotely via Zoom

April 28, 2022 – Remotely via Zoom

May 26, 2022 –

June 23, 2022 –

July 28, 2022 – BBQ/Potluck –

August 25, 2022 –

September 22, 2022 –

October 27, 2022 – No Meeting – Annual Conference

November 17, 2022 –

December 1, 2022 – No Meeting – Annual Awards –

# FIRE FIGHTING HAZARD

## Top Hazards Cited



Jeremy Ketchum  
Safety Consultant

## Objective

- Discuss top hazards cited.
- Citation and Notices issued  
1/1/2018 – 3/11/2022

# Safety Standards for Firefighters

WAC 296-305.



# Scope and Application

Apply with respect to any and all activities, operations and equipment of employers and employees involved in providing fire protection services which are subject to the provisions of the Washington Industrial Safety and Health Act of 1973 (chapter 49.17 RCW).



# Scope and Application

Applies to all firefighters and their work places, including the fire combat scene. Although enforcement of applicable standards will result from provable violations of these standards at the fire combat scene, agents of the department will not act in any manner that will reduce or interfere with the effectiveness of the emergency response of a firefighting unit. Activities directly related to the combating of a fire will not be subjected to the immediate restraint provisions of RCW 49.17.130.

## [8] 296-305-01505 Accident prevention program

(3) Each employer must develop a formal accident-prevention program, tailored to the needs of the fire department and to the type of hazards involved. The department of labor and industries' consultation and compliance services division may be contacted for assistance in developing appropriate programs. A safety orientation program describing the employer's safety program must include:

## 296-305-01505 Accident prevention program

- (a) How and when to report injuries, including instruction as to the location of first-aid facilities.
- (b) How to report unsafe conditions and practices.
- (c) The use and care of required personal protective equipment.
- (d) The proper actions to take in event of emergencies including the routes of exiting from areas during emergencies.
- (e) Identification of the hazardous gases, chemicals or materials involved, along with the instructions on the safe use and emergency action following accidental exposure.
- (f) A description of the employer's total safety program.
- (g) An on-the-job review of the practices necessary to perform the initial job assignments in a safe manner.

## [4] 305-04001: Respiratory equipment protection.

(8) Facial hair, contact lenses, and eye and face protective devices.

(a) A negative pressure respirator, any self-contained breathing apparatus, or any respirator which is used in an atmosphere immediately dangerous to life or health (IDLH) equipped with a face piece must not be worn if facial hair comes between the sealing periphery of the face piece and the face or if facial hair interferes with the valve function.

## [3] 296-305-02001 Personal protective equipment and protective clothing.

(3) Protective clothing and protective equipment must be used and maintained in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. A written maintenance, repair, retirement, servicing, and inspection program must be established for protective clothing and equipment. Specific responsibilities must be assigned for inspection and maintenance. This requirement applies to firefighter's personally owned equipment as well as equipment issued by the employer.

## [3] 296-305-01505 Accident prevention program

(1) All fire departments must develop and implement a written safety program.

### [3] 296-305-05502 Training and member development.

(1) The employer must provide training, education and ongoing development for all members commensurate with those duties and functions that members are expected to perform.

(a) Training and education must be provided to members before they perform emergency activities.

(b) Fire service leaders and training instructors must be provided with training and education which is more comprehensive than that provided to the general membership of the fire department.

(c) The fire department must develop an ongoing proficiency cycle with the goal of preventing skill degradation.

[3] 296-305-04501 Automotive fire apparatus design and construction.

(8) The height of any apparatus, over seven feet in height from the ground to the top of the beacon or highest point of the apparatus, must be clearly labeled in a place where it can be easily and clearly read by the driver while operating the apparatus.



## 305-04001: Respiratory equipment protection (2).

(7) Fit testing must be conducted in accordance with this section and chapter 296-842 WAC, Respiratory protection.

## 305-04001: Respiratory equipment protection (2).

(15) Firefighters must receive training for each type and manufacturer of respiratory equipment available for their use, the step-by-step procedure for donning the respirator and checking it for proper function. Required training must include:

- (a) Recognizing hazards that may be encountered;
- (b) Understanding the components of the respirator;
- (c) Understanding the safety features and limitations of the respirator; and
- (d) Donning and doffing the respirator.

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## [2] 296-305-05502 Training and member development.

(6) Continuing education live fire training.

(a) All members who engage in interior structural firefighting in IDLH conditions must be provided live fire training appropriate to their assigned duties and the functions they are expected to perform at least every three years.

Firefighters who do not receive this training in a three-year period will not be eligible to return to an interior structural firefighting assignment until they do. Responding to a fire scene with a full alarm assignment, an ICS established and a post-incident analysis will meet this requirement, but for no more than two training evolutions.

## [2] 296-305-07012 Personal protective clothing and equipment for wildland firefighting.

1) Protective apparel and equipment for wildland firefighters must be designed to provide thermal protection for the firefighters against external heat sources with flame resistant clothing and equipment without creating high heat stress loads due to the prolonged work periods they experience. Members performing suppression on a wildland fire must wear a provided protective clothing ensemble as directed by their employer.

[2] 296-305-04501 Automotive fire apparatus design  
and construction

9) All apparatus in excess of 10,000 pounds loaded weight, must have the weight of the vehicle in pounds and tons clearly labeled in a place where it can be easily and clearly read by the driver while operating the apparatus.

## [2] 296-305-02012 Body armor.

Fire departments that use protective body armor must comply with the following:

(1) If the employer's PPE assessment required by WAC 296-800-16005 documents a need for body armor, the employer must provide the necessary equipment and ensure that:

(a) The body armor fits properly;

(b) Employees are trained in the use and limitations of the body armor; and

(c) The body armor is worn when necessary.

Note: Employees may exceed the minimum requirements for body armor if they choose.

[2] 296-305-01505 Accident prevention program.

(6) Minutes must be taken of all safety meetings. After review by the chief or their designee the minutes must be conspicuously posted at all stations.




## [2] 296-305-01513 Safe place standards.

(1) The employer must furnish and require the use of appropriate safety devices and safeguards. All work methods, and operations must be so designed as to promote the safety and health of employees. The employer must do everything reasonably necessary to protect the safety and health of employees.

# How to Request a L&I Consultation

 [Some online services will be unavailable due to maintenance. See a list of service notifications.](#) 

Some L&I offices are now open for in-person services. **Check our [office hours and locations](#) to see if an office is open near you, and call to schedule an appointment.** All L&I offices are available by phone weekdays from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.,  except state holidays, and many of our services are available online 24-7.

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 [EyeOnSafety@Lni.wa.gov](mailto:EyeOnSafety@Lni.wa.gov)

 Safety questions or to report serious injuries: Call [1-800-423-7233](tel:1-800-423-7233)