



## PIERCE COUNTY FIRE COMMISSIONERS' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES January 26, 2023

Remotely via Zoom

### **CALL TO ORDER – FLAG SALUTE**

President Stan Moffett 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**

President Moffett thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting. President Moffett introduced new Commissioner Ben Rasmussen. Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority. Taking the place of Keith Davies who resigned.

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

No roll call or self-introductions were done. There were 24 people in attendance.

### **GUEST SPEAKER – Amy Gillespie, PC EMD Update.**

Speaker not present.

### **Chief Sharp – PC Fire Chiefs Association Update on Restructure.**

President Moffett introduced Chief Sharp to give an update on the Fire Chiefs Association. Started early last year with a lot of change in the fire service ranks. Looked at what doing as an Association, the purpose, effectiveness of what was being done, etc. Meetings had a lot of committees that quite often had no report or lack of attendance, etc. Looked at what would be beneficial to accomplish meaningful work. Substantially changed By Laws and stripped down to focus on the core group of Fire Chiefs. Moved away from affiliate agencies as well. Also moved away from monthly speaker forum. Had first meeting and it was productive to look at priorities in the County and what the Chiefs want to focus efforts and have staff work on. Very new format and still adjusting. Evaluating previous committees and being more intentional and accountable to what work is being done. EMS is a big focus right now. Very complex system in Pierce County and want to better understand and be engaged in decision making. Caught some people off guard when format actually changed. Core mission of Fire Chiefs getting work done and doing what they are responsible to do. Not an intent to work in a silo or be noncollaborative, etc. Re-focused and being intentional with energies. Apologized for not better communicating these changes. Excited about being productive. Big step in a different direction. Question in the Chat – how many in the group? Chief Sharp stated there are currently 19 in the County. Last meeting had a dozen in attendance. EMS is not the only issue, the first topic that was identified as needing a better understanding of the landscape, etc. Looking at having 2 or 3 objectives a year. There are lot of challenges and want to prioritize those that will be the most beneficial to the majority in the County. Who need and want to have at the table to focus on operations and deployment and manage effectively. Commissioner Sutich asked if ok for Commissioners to observe the meetings to educate themselves. Trying to reframe role and how to best get the work done. Can bring the question back to the group to get their thoughts and point of view. Discussion followed. President Moffett stated he agrees with the changes made to the structure. Important for the Chiefs to be in attendance, focused and engaged. Does question not allowing the Commissioners to attend. It was made clear that the other Chiefs were going to be excluded, but

not real clear that the Commissioners would not be involved. Appreciates being here tonight to explain the changes. County Fire Chiefs to be unified and working together. As issues come forward, etc. will definitely be keeping the Commissioners informed and updated on that. Will take back to the meeting the concerns shared tonight.

Commissioner Cathey thanked the Chiefs for the support and attendance at the Annual Awards Banquet.

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

President Moffett asked if there were any changes, additions to the agenda. It was moved by Commissioner Mitchell and seconded by Commissioner McElligott to approve the agenda with addition of SS911 representative and Treasurer's Report (see copy included with the Agenda) as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

### **MINUTES OF November 17, 2022 MEETING**

Commissioner McElligott moved and Commissioner Rankin seconded to approve the minutes. Any discussion? There being no changes, the minutes were passed unanimously as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

### **SGT. AT ARMS – NAME BADGES**

N/A

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

N/A

### **REGULAR REPORTS:**

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

Reported just met last weekend. Management Excellence Awards have been cancelled. Medical and Dental report currently at 103% of budget. If any departments having any issues, please reach out to WFCA to let them know. Webinars coming up posting to be out in the next week or so. Brian Snure has a couple of webinars coming up. Legislative day on February 17<sup>th</sup>.

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

Not present.

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

Mark Mears is here in place of Debbie Grady. He reported Board meeting yesterday – actions taken – authorized to enter in agreement with 988 services with Volunteers of America. Looking forward to that and should be launched by end of first quarter. Kathy Lloyd, 911 coordinator, contract employee. Reached out to JBLM, failing viper phone system. Procured grant to replace that system through state 911 office. Deadline of June to complete that project. JBLM police and fire use SS911 CAD.

### **STANDING COMMITTEES:**

#### **a) Legislative - Brandon Faust**

Reported just met on the 24<sup>th</sup> with Roger and Sandy. Overview of what working on legislatively. February 15<sup>th</sup> is next meeting, 2 days before Legislative Day. Let know if you have any questions.

Commissioner McElligott asked about State Fire Marshal – who is sponsoring the bill? Brandon stated he's not sure and will look into it.

**b) Bates Technical College – Dan Rankin**

Meeting February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

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

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

**e) Annual Banquet – Mike Cathey**

Reported Banquet went well.

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

No report.

**g) Awards Committee – DORMANT - Margaret O’Harra-Buttz, Arlene Dannat, Tom Sutich**

Commissioner Dannat has no report.

President Moffett asked everyone to be thinking about looking at Committee members and changing to get others involved, etc.

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

Nothing to report.

**i) Programs – Kevin Gorder**

Not present.

**j) Sunshine - Arlene Dannat**

No report.

**k) NAEFO – Gerry Gustafson**

Not present.

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

Reported someone will need to take this on as he will be retiring.

**m) Audit – Dan Rankin / Margaret O’Harra Buttz**

Reported currently working on auditing 2022.

**n) SS911 Committee – Pat McElligott**

Reported hornets nest kicked with someone asking about radios. Need to get more answers as move forward. Commissioner Rankin stated it needed to be said. Commissioner Holm stated with extended project, there are typically timeframes of when things will be done. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Holm stated he appreciated Marks report earlier and with JBLM dispatch we might be the first in the US to dispatch for the military. Mark stated that is correct and also will be dispatching for McNeil Island.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**a) Eric Quin DEI Presentation in March – President Stan Moffett**

President Moffett stated at November meeting questions were asked. He reached out Eric and had Denise forward out the information via email the first of December. Commissioner McElligott moved and Commissioner Mitchell seconded to move forward with the DEI presentation in March. Commissioner Kadow asked if it will be on line or in person? President Moffett stated online. MOTION CARRIED. President Moffett will get with Eric to set dates.

**b) Potential Time Frame for Meeting in Person – President Stan Moffett**

Commissioner Rankin stated he talked to Debbie Grady on the 24<sup>th</sup> and asked her about holding a hybrid meeting at SS911. Denise reported she had contacted SS911 to see if the room is available and it is and has been reserved. Discussion followed. Commissioner Kadow suggested doing snacks on a voluntary basis at the meeting and take some of the refreshments monies to SS911 for coffee and water, etc. Agreement to begin hybrid meetings next month.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**a) SS911 Board of Directors and Public Safety Communications Operations Committee (PSCOC) Appointment for 2023**

Commissioner McElligott has been representative the last 2 years, alternate has been Tom Sutich. Commissioner Rankin moved for McElligott and Sutich to remain the representatives. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

Eric Quinn thanked the Commissioners for the vote on DEI training. Legal committee report in the Firehouse Lawyer gave a brief overview of a lawsuit. Public duty legislation regarding an EMS call.

Brandon stated follow up for McElligott on SB5520 sponsored by-partison.

**ADJOURN:**

There being no further business, Commissioner Mitchell moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner McElligott seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Submitted by:

Denise Ross,  
Secretary/Treasurer

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

**2023 Meeting Schedule:**

January 26, 2023 – Remotely via Zoom

February 23, 2023 – hybrid – SS911, 3580 Pacific Ave, Tacoma and/or Zoom  
March 23, 2023  
April 27, 2023  
May 25, 2023  
June 22, 2023  
July 27, 2023 – BBQ/Potluck  
August 24, 2023  
September 28, 2023  
October 26, 2023 – No Meeting – Annual Conference  
November 16, 2023  
December 7, 2023 – No Meeting – Annual Awards