



PIERCE COUNTY FIRE COMMISSIONERS' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES February 22, 2024

In Person at SouthSound 911 3580 Pacific Ave, Tacoma
and Remotely via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

President Kadow called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the flag salute. There were 12 people in attendance according to the sign in sheet and 6 people on Zoom for a grand total of 18 people in attendance.

WELCOME and THANK YOU TO HOST

President Kadow thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting and thanked South Pierce for providing refreshments for the evening. South Pierce has 6 brand new medics this year. Putting on an annexation for Eatonville and do away with the contract for services.

GUEST SPEAKER:

Lindsay Wade, Retired Detective TPD.

Vice President Olivia Werner stated that the speaker has COVID and is unable to be here tonight. She is scheduled to be the speaker for the March meeting. President Kadow stated she purchased her book "In My DNA". April speaker will be Enduris and working on speakers for May and June.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA and TREASURER'S REPORT

President Kadow asked if there were any changes to the agenda. It was moved by Commissioner O'Harra-Buttz and seconded by Commissioner McElligott to approve the agenda and Treasurer's Report (see copy included with the agenda) as presented. MOTION CARRIED. Commissioner Wernet noted on the bottom of the agenda it states next month's meeting is at SS911. Denise apologized for the error, the meeting will be held at East Pierce Fire & Rescue Station 118 in Edgewood.

MINUTES OF January 25, 2024, MEETING

Commissioner Moffett moved and Commissioner McElligott seconded to approve the minutes as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

SGT. AT ARMS – NAME BADGES

Commissioner Homan stated he will find out about the badges and get them to the next meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

A) PCDEM Radio Access Fees Letter (copy attached)

Fire Chief Sharp updated the Association on a letter that Jody Ferguson with DEM that was sent out stating 700 mghz radio user fees were going to be drastically increased. Gave an overview/background. 1.4 million was first requested from SS911, then asked for 1.8 million then to 2.2 million. Frustration with no explanation as to why the increase. Notice that went out in February, budgets have already been

set for 2024 by that time. Very vague notion. No notification of what increase will be or what the cost is. The letter states that the Chiefs Association supports the stance of the 700 radio users. He shared with this Association, so they are aware of it. He also attended the Police Chiefs last month and was in alignment with what the Fire Chiefs have done.

Question regarding single radio system. Chief Sharp stated there are some benefits to the reduction of redundancy. Drive for single system is operational and functionality not cost savings. McElligott the more that leave 700 makes the cost go up. Discussion followed. A very basic explanation is 800 is a Tacoma owned and operated system and Puyallup is a sub member. It has coverage for the central core of the county, everything on the outer edges of the county is on 700 which overlaps in areas. It is owned and operated by Pierce County and is an entire county overlay. Technology is evolving rapidly and there may be additional options to augment the current system, not replace, but used in conjunction with.

President Kadow thanked Chief Sharp for the Chiefs Association coming together and being unified on this issue. Commissioner Holm moved that the Association writes a letter in support similar to the Chiefs Association and Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion. Call for the question. MOTION CARRIED.

President Kadow will work with Denise to draft a letter to Jody Ferguson at PCDEM and cc SS911.

REGULAR REPORTS:

a) Regional Representative Report – Jon Linboe

Nothing to report.

b) Legal - Joe and/or Eric Quinn

Eric reported that a regional fire authority client asking if they have to audio record their meetings. There is a change for school board meetings to be recorded, not for fire districts or RFPs.

c) SouthSound 911 – Debbie Grady

Not present.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

a) Legislative - Brandon Faust

Reported met on February 6th with Roger Ferris and Sandy. May have a meeting next week before the end of the session on March 7th. 101% limitations were not dead with no movement. Per diem for Commissioners increase for Fire Districts in excess of 10 million dollars is moving forward. 6078 bill to increase fire insurance premium tax collection. Policy Board to remove Fire Marshal from the Washington State Patrol. Took the initial steps on that. Bill 5946 introduced 5 million from public lands to set up fire service memorial on capital campus. Increase bid limits for capital projects – bill 5167. TIF update had a lot of people in the hearing, provisions added in the

amendments for 90-day notice and binding arbitration if causing disruption within budget and potentially fire service delivery. 25-year sunset clause.

b) Bates Technical College –

N/A

c) Fund Raising Activities - Ed Egan

Commissioner Egan stated have 24 coins left in inventory. Working on ordering more will report at next meeting. \$65.00 received tonight. Commissioner Allison drew the winning ticket. Commissioner Werner won \$33.00. \$32.00 for the raffle and \$10.00 for a coin that was purchased.

d) Annual Picnic/Potluck –DORMANT - Arlene Dannat

e) Annual Banquet – DORMANT - Mike Cathey / Olivia Werner / Kathy Kadow

Commissioner Egan stated his Chief stated the Chiefs have talked about the Banquet and with attendance dwindling question being posed of doing away with or suggestion of having a social event at the Annual Conference. Discussion followed. Commissioner McElligott suggested taking a month to think about and options. Commissioner Moffett stated the CD we currently have is only bringing in 1.25%. There's \$8300.00 on that CD, could take some money out of that and use to assist with Banquet costs. Chief Sharp stated there is no pressure to make a decision quickly. Chiefs are merely looking at the options and asking the question now instead of later. Another option, idea would be to move the banquet to January.

f) Education - Tom Sutich / Stan Moffett

Commissioner Moffett stated this was discussed in the last meeting. Eric Quinn to give a class on the roles of Fire Commissioner and Fire Chief. The cost will be \$1,000.00 for a Saturday class from 9:00 to noon. Need to finalize dates of either April 13th or 20th held at SS911 and via Zoom. The consensus was April 20th. Denise will reserve the Neiditz Room. Eric will put it in his newsletter.

g) Awards Committee – DORMANT - Arlene Dannat, Olivia Werner

h) Membership – Arlene Dannat / Pat McElligott / Kathy Kadow

President Kadow stated before the last meeting she tried sending out emails to the newly elected Commissioners. Commissioner McElligott stated as we get back out to the stations might get more involvement. Maybe do a road trip to those districts that aren't attending.

i) Programs – Olivia Werner

Reported earlier in the meeting.

j) Sunshine - Arlene Dannat

Reported sadly she had to send out three cards this month, Dale Mitchell for the loss of his son, one to Ed Egan for the loss of his son and Bob Willis for the loss of his wife. Sincere condolences to all for their loss.

k) NAEFO –
N/A

l) Nominating – DORMANT

m) Audit – Olivia Werner / Ed Egan

Denise has given the paperwork to Commissioner Werner. Commissioner Egan requested a date be set up and meet at Denise’s work to go through.

n) SS911 Committee – Pat McElligott

Discussed earlier.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Review Standing Committee’s

President Kadow stated could likely remove NAEFO and Bates from the agenda. Suggested putting a month on those with DORMANT. Commissioner Casebolt suggested combining the Annual Picnic, Banquet and Awards Committees into 1 committee. Remove Joe Quinn from the Agenda. Discussion followed. Denise to make changes to the agenda for the next meeting and we can change them if needed, etc.

B. Budget Review

Commissioner Moffett stated he and Olivia talked and didn’t see many changes to make to the line items. To clarify the information on the CD:

Current investment account balance is \$8,312.34
Interest rate is 1.49%
Interest paid year to date is \$10.52
Maturity date is 6/26/2025

The person we met with at the bank stated it would cost \$61.34 to close the current account. The current Business Time Account Specials they have are:

Term	Interest Rate	Annual Percentage Yield	Renewal Term
4 months	4.64%	4.75%	3 months
7 months	4.64%	4.75%	6 months
11 months	4.16%	4.25%	6 months

Suggested taking \$200.00 from Refreshments, \$1100.00 from the CD to put towards the banquet. Determine later on how to use the money.

Commissioner Moffett moved that we cancel the current CD, take \$1,100.00 of those funds put into the checking account, in the Banquet budget line item. Take the remaining

funds and open a new 7-month CD. Commissioner McElligott seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Discuss Change in Meeting Time from 7:00 pm to 6:00 pm

President Kadow asked what works for everybody? Concern with traffic. It was suggested to do an email poll for input. Denise to send out an email to everyone.

B. Discuss Wells Fargo Time Account – closing and changing to a CD

Covered earlier in the meeting.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Commissioner Egan stated the EPFR Station 118 is a newly opened station. Come a little early to have a look around the station. EPFR has 5 new stations in the works.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business, Commissioner Moffett moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner McElligott seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Submitted by:

Denise Ross,
Secretary/Treasurer

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

2024 Meeting Schedule:

March 28, 2024 – EPFR Sta 118 10105 24th St E, Edgewood and Zoom
April 25, 2024 – SS911 3580 Pacific Ave, Tacoma and Zoom
May 23, 2024 – CPFR HQ 1015 39th Ave SE, Suite 120, Puyallup and Zoom
June 27, 2024 – SS911 3580 Pacific Ave, Tacoma and Zoom
July 25, 2024 – 6:00 pm - BBQ / Potluck –
August 22, 2024 – SS911 3580 Pacific Ave, Tacoma and Zoom
September 26, 2024 – Key Peninsula
October 24, 2024 - NO MEETING – STATE CONFERENCE
November 21, 2024 – West Pierce Fire & Rescue
(3rd Thursday due to 4th Thursday being Thanksgiving)
December 5, 2024 – NO MEETING – ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET