



PIERCE COUNTY FIRE COMMISSIONERS' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES March 28, 2024

In Person at East Pierce Fire & Rescue Station 118 10105 24th St E, Edgewood
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 27 people in attendance according to the sign in sheet and 6 people on Zoom for a grand total of 33 people in attendance.

FLAG SALUTE and THANK YOU TO HOST

President Kadow led the flag salute and thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting and thanked East Pierce for providing refreshments. A moment of silence in memory of Commissioner Mike Cathey.

President Kadow turned the floor over to Chief Parkinson. He has been Chief since May of 2021. Shared information on EPFR – map of service area. 194 employees with 7 stations. The 8th station, new in Tahale, will open in late 2024 or start of 2025. Since 2017 have hired 105 employees. Update on PC Fire Chiefs Association. Serves on the Executive Board as the Vice President. Main focus this year is radio system, dispatch processing times, PC EMS Office and PC codes updates/revisions. Commissioner Dale Mitchell was recognized – he started with PCFD #8 Edgewood, served for 32 years. They named this newly remodeled station after him - the Dale Mitchell Fire Station 118. Presented a plaque that will hang in the lobby here. Commissioner Mitchell thanked Chief Parkinson for the recognition, what an honor. Appreciates the support and everyone for being here. Took a 10-minute break for photos and cake.

GUEST SPEAKER:

Judson Willis – Development in PC.

Vice President Olivia Werner introduced South Pierce Fire & Rescue's Chair Judson Willis to share information on development taking place in Pierce County. Shared screen for powerpoint presentation Land Use and growth management planning. Copy attached.

Shared his bio information. Was in the house building industry for 20 years. About a year ago began to pursue the endeavor of consulting. Growth management planning – what is the best for everyone for. 2024 growth strategy breaks down to 6 areas. Look at if can do what want to do in an area. Infrastructure and investments. Impacts Fire Service on response times and personnel. WA state energy code. Opportunities to get involved. Energy code is adopted every 3 years. There are some midwestern states that are still working off the 2009 energy code. Energy efficiency in building homes. Solar readiness is a huge thing in Washington. Helps offset the draw on the grid. As housing gets more expensive in the city, people are going to move out and build in less congested areas. Department of Commerce is a great website for information. Energy and Building codes update every 3 years. www.thbeea.com jwillis@thbeea.com.

Association thanked Justin for his presentation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA and TREASURER'S REPORT

President Kadow asked if there were any changes to the agenda. It was moved by Commissioner Egan and seconded by Commissioner Moffett to approve the agenda and Treasurer's Report (see copy included with the agenda) as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

MINUTES OF February 22, 2024, MEETING

Commissioner Mitchell moved and Commissioner Dannat seconded to approve the minutes as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

SGT. AT ARMS – NAME BADGES

President Kadow reported new badges have been received and distributed. Denise will check with Graham Fire to see if those who still need one can schedule a time to get that done. Contact Lori Evans at 253-548-2512 or levans@grahamfire.org

CORRESPONDENCE

President Kadow reported a letter will be sent out to PCDEM regarding being in support and agreement with the PC Fire Chiefs Association on the radio system.

REGULAR REPORTS:

a) Regional Representative Report – Jon Linboe

Reported Lacey FD is having their 75-year service at Station 31. EMT Council is updating their website. Next meeting is April 20th.

b) Legal - Joe and/or Eric Quinn

Eric reported Firehouse Lawyer Newsletter was sent out. If on social media page nice to know if occasionally make a comment about something good at fire department won't be subject to first amendment. Municipal roundtables being put on in April virtually, links are in the newsletter. Update to bid laws.

c) SouthSound 911 – Debbie Grady

Not present.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

a) Legislative - Brandon Faust

Not present. Commissioner Linboe asked if he gets the meeting emails? Denise asked him to send her his email address.

b) Fund Raising Activities - Ed Egan

Commissioner Egan asked Justin to draw the ticket. Commissioner Casebolt won \$30.00.

c) Annual Picnic/Potluck –DORMANT – MAY - Arlene Dannat

d) Annual Banquet – DORMANT - Olivia Werner / Kathy Kadow

e) Education - Tom Sutich / Stan Moffett

Commissioner Moffett reminded everyone that Eric Quinn will be giving a class on the roles of Fire Commissioner and Fire Chief on Saturday April 20th from from 9:00 to noon. It will be held in person and virtually via Zoom. Denise has reserved the Neiditz Room at SouthSound 911 and will email out the flyer to everyone.

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

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

President Kadow stated no movement has been done on this. Have talked about attending Commissioner meetings to encourage at least zoom in if not attending in person.

h) Programs – Olivia Werner

Reported next month will be Enduris representative to talk about losses experienced by Districts. Has speakers arranged for the next 3 months.

i) Sunshine - Arlene Dannat

Reported a sympathy card and flowers were sent to the Cathey family. A get-well card was sent to Commissioner Sutich's wife.

j) Nominating – DORMANT

k) Audit – Olivia Werner / Ed Egan

Commissioner Werner reported should have a report done next month.

l) SS911 Committee – Pat McElligott

Commissioner Holm stated that Chief Parkinson already shared what they are working on earlier in the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Discuss Change in Meeting Time from 7:00 pm to 6:00 or 6:30 pm

Some concerns with traffic issues if move the meeting time earlier. Discussion followed. President Kadow thanked everyone for their input. Suggested to change meeting time to earlier in the winter and later in the summer. Another suggestion of doing a 3-month trial. Commissioner Holm moved and Commissioner Mitchell seconded to do a 3-month trial of meeting start time at 6:00 pm. MOTION CARRIED.

B. Discuss Annual Banquet ideas/suggestions

President Kadow stated this was brought up last month. Any thoughts on how to get more people to show up? The first biggest thing is the cost and also the time of year. Chief Parkinson stated the Chiefs Association is also concerned in the decline of attendance. Chiefs have thought about trying to do something at the fall conference. Commissioner Holm suggested moving the event to January. Also look to changing venue to union hall and have it catered. A lot of good suggestions. Revisit next month.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Egan went to Tacoma Trophy and spoke to the manager. If you don't reorder within two years they throw the die away. 50 coins would be \$456.00 or \$9.14 each. If we buy 100, would only charge us 110.00 for another 50 coins. It's been about 5 years since we purchased them. Suggested looking at other vendors. Commissioner Napier volunteered to help research. Commissioner Gorder offered to cover the additional \$100.00.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Commissioner Holm stated over the last couple of years larger fire districts in state with rapid growth and consolidated, etc. run out of commissioner compensable time. Asked last year if wrote a proposal to change the law, he did, it was accepted and took before the board. Senator Toray to sponsor. Lucky with short session made it through the process and signed. Budget of 20 million or more. From 96 days to 144 compensable days. Goes into effect June 6, 2024.

President Kadow thanked Denise for writing a letter to go to DEM. Thanked Arlene for all of her work the last few months with the Sunshine Committee and congratulations to Commissioner Mitchell.

Commissioner Egan challenges everyone to consider years of service of Commissioner Cathey to the community and state. WFCA usually sends out a notice of memorial service. And want to make sure he gets recognized for his contributions. Also, an address to send a card to would be appreciated. If want it contact Arlene or can mail it to the EPFR HQ.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business, Commissioner Moffett moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Mitchell 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:

April 25, 2024 – 6 pm - SS911 3580 Pacific Ave, Tacoma and Zoom
May 23, 2024 – 6 pm - CPFR HQ 1015 39th Ave SE, Suite 120, Puyallup and Zoom
June 27, 2024 – 6 pm - SS911 3580 Pacific Ave, Tacoma and Zoom
July 25, 2024 – 6 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

Received from Brandon Faust:

March Legislative Report
Thurston/Pierce County

Legislative committee meeting – Roger Ferris, Ryan Spiller

3/20/24

End of session wrap up meeting, last day of session was 3/7

I hope you all had a chance to read the legislative report put out by the WFCOA last month – lots of good information regarding bills we are supporting/opposing.

Below are some of highlights from the bills Roger and Ryan spoke about during our meeting:

Bill introduced by Central Pierce Fire Commissioners and WFCOA increasing the meeting limit reimbursements to Districts with and Annual budget in excess of \$10M had passed with no opposition.

TIF (HB 2354) – As of our meeting this bill was passed and passed on to Gov. Inslee for signing. Many good amendments added to bill helping fire districts in the event a TIF district is proposed within a district. Now requires:

- 90 Days notice to all taxing districts
- Project analysis for all taxing districts (including Junior)
- Mandatory binding arbitration
- The Walla Walla/Clark County TIF's are already in force and these amendments will not be retroactive for those districts.

FF Memorial (HB 2091) – PASSED. Bud Seizmore put in lots of work on this bill Roger highlighted. DNR is funding project. Will include line of duty deaths dating back to 1800's; Most likely located out in front of main campus leg building, will be easily accessible do drive and walk to. Logo is being created now, no images yet. Update to follow...

Rural Fire permitting bill (SB 5869) Changes zoning permits for fire houses allowing rural fire stations on less than 2 acre lots. Provides exemptions for fire districts to now build station on smaller lots and sub divide.

Increase to Fire Insurance Premium Tax to Fire training fund (HB 6087) Initial bill was to increase training fund portion of tax from 20% to 25%. Bill was amended in house appropriations – final bill was increase of 2% to Fire Training fund.

*PIERCE COUNTY
LAND USE
PRESENTATION*



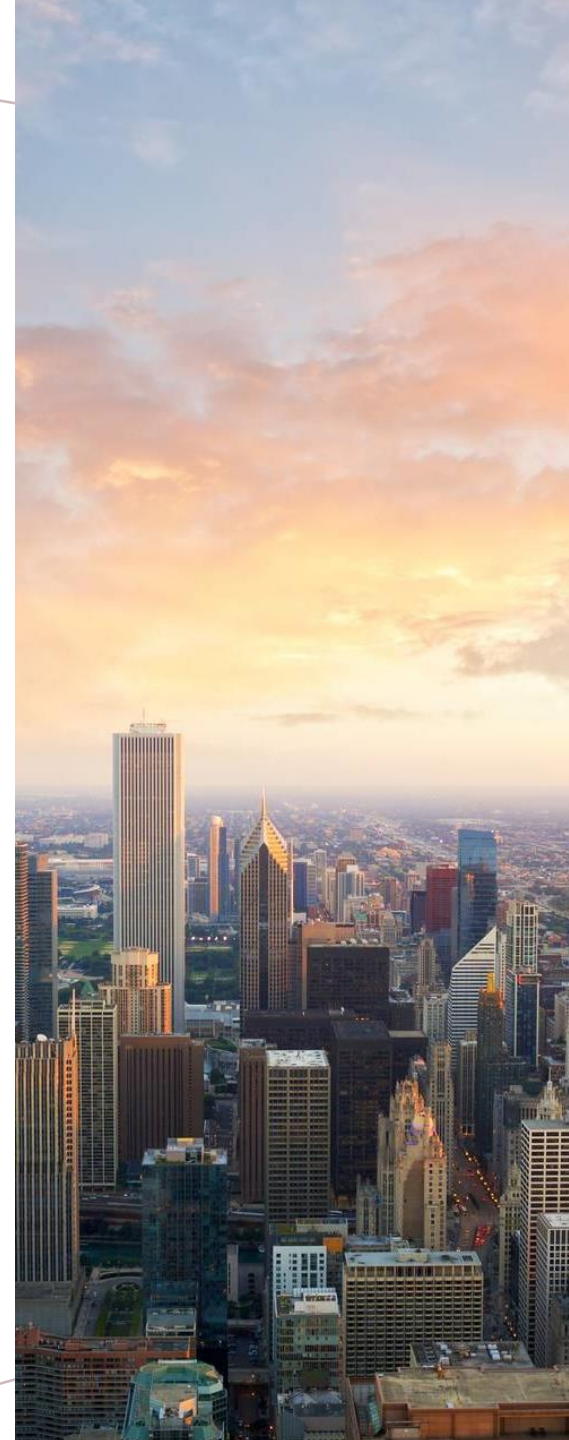
Introduction

2020-2023 Collaborative Roadmap

Growth Management Planning

Pierce County Development and 2021 WA State
Energy Code Adoption

Final tips & takeaways

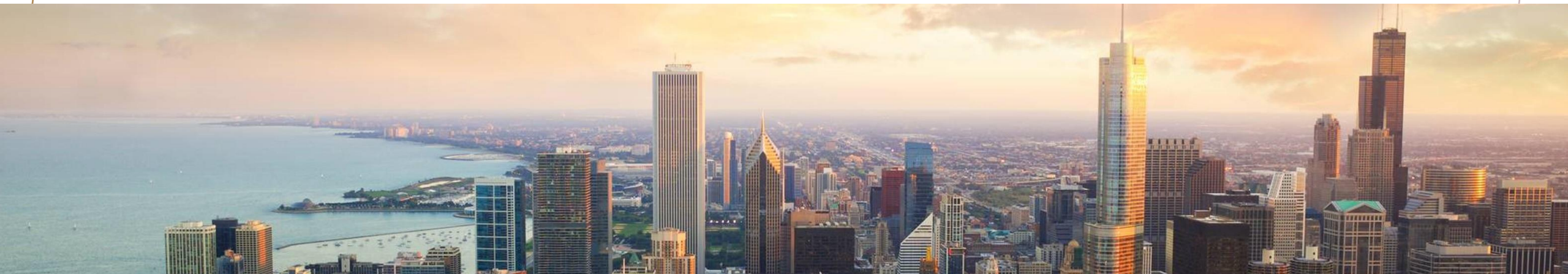


Judson Willis

- Former Home Builder in Pierce County
- Current Chair of SPF&R
- Board Member SSHAP(3)
- Former MBAPC Policy and LSC
- Co-Founder The Home Building Energy Efficiency Academy (THBEEA)
- National Builder Division
Director for Premier Mortgage Resources

THE POWER OF COLLABORATION

- GMA 1.0 (4 counties)
- Basic Comprehensive Planning
- Vision 2050
 - Metropolitan Cities 37% growth
 - Core Cities 25% growth
 - Urban Unincorporated 14% growth
 - High-Capacity Transit 12% growth
- Update Countywide Planning Policies
- The 2023 Legislative Effort



GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLANNING

THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND PIERCE COUNTY
EFFORT



2024+ REGIONAL GROWTH STRATEGY



Zoning and Development Standards



Incentives



Infrastructure Investments



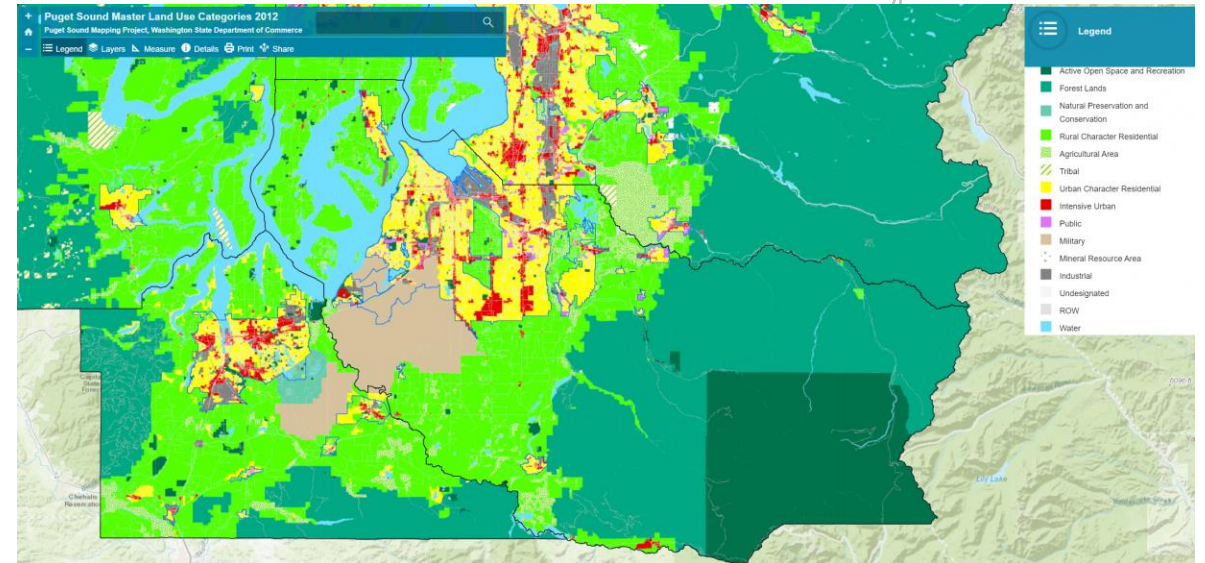
Housing tools



Economic Development



Multicounty Planning Policies



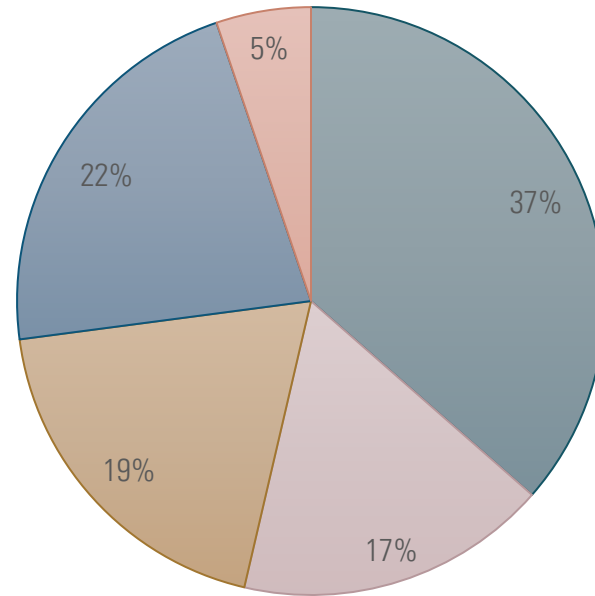
• Significantly Increases Stringency for New Homes Built in WA State 15 March 2024

- Heat Pump Water Systems
- Greater Insulation Depth and Increased R Values
- EV Ready circuits (40 Amp)
- Solar Readiness
- Lower U-Value Windows
- LED Lighting and occupancy sensors



AVERAGE COST TO DEVELOP VACANT LAND IN PIERCE COUNTY

Average Cost Allocation = \$98,000



- Excavation
- Permitting
- Well/Water
- Septic/Sewer
- Storm Drainage

FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS

While there isn't a fire sprinkler mandate at the County level, many municipalities and jurisdictions are welcoming and mandating the idea of full NFPA 13D sprinkler systems in new construction.

PROS:

- They are proven to save lives
- More cost effective than NFPA 13 robust design
- Lower Insurance and incentives
- Greater space between fire hydrants resulting in fewer supply mains
- Can enhance resale marketability on the home
- Minimal Maintenance

CONS:

- Lack of data of 'recent' and new homes burning down
- True Cost is between \$3 - \$7 per Sqft increasing already crippled affordable housing market
- Most rural homes have wells that simply cannot fulfill the GPM fire flow and need an accessory reserve tank = added expense
- Full Sprinkler design creates architectural design issues
- Supply and demand labor/materials fulfillment
- Can be very costly on a remodel project



FINAL TIPS & TAKEAWAYS

- Pierce County is 1 of 4 Counties in WA State that is leading the way on expanding growth through comprehensive planning processes.
- Vision 2050
- Land Development and Expansion
- Legislative and Policy Effort
- Growth Strategy
- WA State Energy Code 2021 and Beyond
- Fire Suppression Systems



THANK YOU

Judson Willis

253-301-7976

Jwillis@THBEEA.com

www.Thbeea.com