



## PIERCE COUNTY FIRE COMMISSIONERS' ASSOCIATION

MINUTES August 26, 2021

Remotely 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.

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

President Sutich thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting.

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

No roll call or self-introductions were done. There were 23 people in attendance.

### **GUEST SPEAKERS – Hilary Franz, Public Lands Commissioner**

Vice President Moffett introduced Hilary Franz. Hilary stated it was a great opportunity to be here. Long history in Pierce County her family has resided here since 1938. Will speak on a couple of issues one being HB-1168 that passed this year. 20% increase in fires on west side over last year alone. Limited resources. Many states are experiencing this. Have made significant steps to have more resources available especially in the air. Predicting more wildfires before the year is over. Many over 50,000 acres burning. Forest Health Plan in 2017, 30 million biennium on state and tribal lands. Start to develop west side forest health plan. Will also increase resources and drive more funding down to local fire districts. Raising awareness of crisis in and getting to the root of the crisis to make more resilient. Opened to questions. VP Moffett asked about Lakebay Marina in Key Peninsula? Critical funding was passed for Lakebay Marina. Funding is coming and work will be underway. Commissioner Kadow asked about Federal Defensible Space program. Franz stated Feds funded community wide planning, etc. Trying to specifically work with communities. Commissioner Linboe congratulated on passing HB 1168. Asked about Q400 air resource. Hilary stated trying to diversify the fleet. Prepositioning for easy access. Don't own the plane, it's on contract. There are currently 35 aircraft on contract. Finishing up fire aviation resource plan. Commissioner McElligott thanked Franz for all of her efforts and accomplishments. She spent an enormous amount of time listening and learning what could be done better and how to partner more closely. 1,650 fires this year. The Association thanked Hilary Franz for her presentation.

### **Tori Pettis – WFCA – on website**

VP Moffett introduced Tori Pettis from WFCA to discuss the new website and directory. Tori shared her screen to show the new website. Good idea to login when you get to the website: [wfca.wa.gov](http://wfca.wa.gov)

Go to Community – will take you to the Fire Service Directory. Everything that was in the printed directory is available online. Several search options. Another way to connect people is the Groups section. Can join any of the groups and get notifications, etc. Quick links – Forums – great place to go to get information – a place for knowledge to be shared, help others out, etc. If interested in any of the topics, you can subscribe to the forum. Under Quick Links – Job Board – can search openings. Can submit openings. Resources – Help and Support – there are videos on different topics. Tori thanked for the opportunity to share this with everyone this evening.

VP Moffett stated a PCFCA challenge coin will be sent to each of the speakers in appreciation of their time and presentations.

President Sutich stated at last meeting it was decided to remain meeting remotely via Zoom through the end of the year.

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

President Sutich asked if there were any changes to the Agenda. It was moved by Commissioner McElligott and seconded by Commissioner Linboe to approve the agenda and Treasurer's Report (see copy on the backside of the Agenda) as presented. MOTION CARRIED. Passed unanimously.

### **MINUTES OF July 22, 2021 MEETING**

Commissioner Rankin moved and Commissioner Allison seconded to approve the minutes. Any discussion? Hearing none, anyone opposed? Hearing none, the July 22, 2021 minutes as presented were passed unanimously. MOTION CARRIED.

### **SGT. AT ARMS – NAME BADGES**

N/A

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Nothing at this time.

### **REGULAR REPORTS:**

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

Not present. Commissioner Rankin reported there are 450 hotel reservations made for the conference. The Best Western is the 3<sup>rd</sup> hotel being used to get more attendees to the conference. Talked with Jordon yesterday, 161 registered currently. Slate of Officers hasn't received yet. District 9 has a challenge for represent all others are single candidates. Commissioner Dannat asked if there will be any Zoom or online with the conference or only in person? President Sutich stated the Snure conference Wednesday evening will be in person and on Zoom. Commissioner Rankin will ask about Zoom capabilities for the conference.

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

Not present.

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

Not present. Scott Hamel is here in her absence. Newest Deputy Director replacing Jim Duggan following his retirement. Move in to the new building is temporary occupancy on all floors. Partially moved in. Exciting time with lots of change. President Sutich asked about the E911 money. Scott received a letter from County Executive outlining intent to transition funds to SS911 in the next biennium. No specific details yet on timelines, but it is a big step. Appreciate this Association putting in a letter of support for that.

### **STANDING COMMITTEES:**

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

They've not met. Next meeting is Thursday, September 2, 2021 via Zoom.

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

Not present.

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

Nothing at this time.

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

N/A

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

**f) Annual Banquet – Mike Cathey**

Not present.

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

N/A

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

Reported working on the application for the Mitchell Award. Would like to tie in with Denise on the years of service awards.

**i) Membership – Kevin Gorder**

N/A

**j) Programs – Stan Moffett**

Reported speaker for September meeting will be someone from East Pierce on SouthSound Transit update and may have a second speaker – Mike Lonergan.

**k) Sunshine - Arlene Dannat**

Will contact President Sutich for address for firefighter that passed away.

**l) NAEFO – Gerry Gustafson**

Reported September 20-21 conference in Las Vegas.

**m) Nominating – Dan Rankin**

Reported it’s time for nominations for President, Vice President and Director. Email him if interested.

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

**o) SS911 Committee – Pat McElligott**

Reported the restructure of SS committee is huge with moving the E911 office of DEM to SS911. It is now functioning the way it should have been years ago. Commissioner Holm stated the letters from the Police and Fire Chiefs and Commissioners truly made a difference. Commissioner Rankin stated Derek Young, PC Council is working on figuring this out.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

N/A

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**a) Committee to Address Law Enforcement Reform Issues**

President Sutich stated this was discussed at last month’s meeting. Commissioner McElligott will Chair the Committee. Commissioner’s Dannat and Gorder volunteered to be on it. Anyone else

like to be on it? Commissioner McElligott stated he has reached out to Chief Sharp and the State Chiefs to make sure we all come out with one message so we are unified, etc.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

Nothing at this time.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.

Submitted by:

Denise Menge,  
Secretary/Treasurer

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

**2021 Meeting Schedule:**

January 28, 2021 – Remotely via Zoom  
February 25, 2021 – Remotely via Zoom  
March 25, 2021 – Remotely via Zoom  
April 22, 2021 – Remotely via Zoom  
May 27, 2021 – Remotely via Zoom  
June 24, 2021 – Remotely via Zoom  
July 22, 2021 – BBQ/Potluck – Orting Park  
August 26, 2021 – Remotely via Zoom  
September 23, 2021 – Remotely via Zoom  
October 28, 2021 – No Meeting – Annual Conference  
November 18, 2021 – Remotely via Zoom  
December 2, 2021 – No Meeting – Annual Awards