



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

*Wednesday, April 21, 2009 at 0900 hours
City of Seattle Joint Training Facility
9401 Myers Way South
Seattle, WA 98108*

Motions are noted in red font.

Action items are noted in blue font.

Call to Order

Lee Soptich called the meeting to order at 0905 hours.

Roll Call

Roll call of each Agency was held again this month in an effort to help all get to know each other. The roll call roster is attached to these minutes.

Spotlight

Chief Eisner from the Bellevue Fire Department was in the spotlight this month. He was born raised in Seattle. After high school, he attended the University of Washington and acquired a Bachelor of Science Degree in Oceanography. He joined the Marine Corp before joining the fire department where he has been since 1974. Chief Eisner picked up his Masters Degree in Public Administration, is a graduate of the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program, received his Chief Fire Officer Designation in 2003, and has served as the Accreditation Manager during the re-accreditation of the department in 2008. He has worked in various divisions including the Training Division and Bureau of Operations. When Chief Trevino became ill in 2008, Chief Eisner was named interim Chief, and was subsequently appointed to Fire Chief in November 2008.

The Bellevue Fire Department has nine fire stations, 247 full time employees, has a Class 2 rating from the Washington State Survey & Rating Bureau, serves as one of six ALS providers in the county, and is part of the Eastside Hazard Consortium.

In his younger days, Chief Eisner and his wife were active runners and bikers; he ran the Boston Marathon. He currently does a lot of biking and has biked the Seattle to Portland Bicycle Ride. He recently spent three weeks in Vietnam biking the Ho Chi Minh Trail and is heading to France next.

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ACTION: Next month Chief Bob Rowe from the Snoqualmie Fire Department will be in the Spotlight.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Chief Peterson moved to approve the meeting minutes from the March 17, 2009 meeting. The Motion was seconded by Chief Dean and approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

Chief Laatsch presented the Treasurer's Report for March 17, 2010, through April 21, 2010. The balance in the checking account is \$1,423.25. The balance in the savings account is \$16,899.33. The total of the two accounts at April 21, 2010 is \$18,322.58.

MOTION: Chief Kragness moved to approve the Treasurer's Report for the reporting period of February 17, 2010, through March 17, 2010. The motion was seconded by Chief Merritt and approved unanimously.

Return and Report

The initiative is for all to get out and build stronger relationships with their senators and state representatives. A list of representatives and the jurisdictions they touch has been distributed. All were challenged to identify their representative and make contact.

Chief Soptich stated he attended a County Council meeting last week, and legislators were surprised to see a uniform in the audience. He advised those attending to arrive early and stay afterwards, shake hands, introduce yourself as representing the KCFCA. He was able to see seven of nine council members.

Chief Church reported KC Executive Dow Constantine is looking forward to working with the KCFCA on the KC Fire Marshal and Medic One Levy.

Chief Church also reported that at the WA Fire Chiefs Conference being held in Spokane on May 26 – 28, the State Chiefs will be recognizing legislators Kevin Van De Wege and Tracey Eide for their efforts.

ACTION: Schedule yourself to attend a Council meeting through June and July.

ACTION: The list of representatives and the jurisdictions they touch will be uploaded to the KCFCA web site.

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OLD BUSINESS:**King County Fire Prevention Division/Fire Marshal**

Chief Lipe thanked the work group that came together and developed the white paper summary over time. The paper is now finished and at the Executive Board level, on hold pending further discussions.

The Executive Board met with KC DDES Director John Starbard, and discussed relationships with the fire chiefs and possible alignment of initiatives. The discussion was well received; concerns were heard with the possibility to do things differently in perhaps having work fall to unincorporated fire departments instead of Fire Marshal's office.

Chief Soptich stated the Executive Board is looking to schedule a meeting with KC Executive Dow Constantine and KC Deputy Executive Fred Jarrett to discuss the matter further. He stated he hopes the Board is representing the body; although this is not a big issue to the cities, but for a regional interest. Efforts are to make sure the county is receiving county fire prevention and our firefighters and occupants out there are safe.

Bill Mudd with the KC Fire Marshal's office, but not acting as an official representative introduced himself. He had also met with John Starbard, in an effort to push customer service, repairing relationships with customers. The fire service is their main customer and has been totally ignored when the fire marshal and assistant fire marshal positions were removed. He stated the seven people left in the office are trying really hard to do a good job. He came here today to learn what direction the fire chiefs wanted to go.

Chief Soptich stated the fire chiefs are trying to create a relationship with the County that has not existed and is very concerned over the lack of investment, inconsistencies, and mixed messages from county. The concern that no one from the fire service sits in the Fire Marshal's office was also expressed.

ACTION: Executive Board to set meeting with KC Executive's office to discuss options within the Fire Marshal's office.

Sound Shake 2010 the Aftershock

Barb Graff, Director of the Seattle Office of Emergency Management, gave an update on the upcoming Sound Shake 2010 Exercise being held on October 6th and 7th. This is a two day exercise that starts 24 hours post earthquake. The goal is to improve the ability of the region to respond to a large scale earthquake. She stated the City of Seattle will be spending the time

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looking to get past the extensive response (burning buildings) and focus on health/medical services, and infrastructure recovery (re-housing people.) As each jurisdiction is different, their objectives must be designed to meet their needs.

Ms. Graff introduced Heather Kelly from the KC Office of Emergency Management, who is the Exercise Director for this entire series. Handouts were provided (attached) which explain the exercise series. The Regional objectives are:

- Decision making
- Resource management
- Operational transition
- Recovery priorities
- Communications

Deadline to sign up is May 1st; email soundshake2010@kingcounty.gov

Ms. Graff stated the KCFCA has been well represented on KC EMAC; Chief Tubbs is currently the designee.

Chief Soptich thanked Barb and stated she has done wonderful work, is a wealth of information, always willing to help, and will be invited back in the future.

Medic One Levy Involvement

Michele Plorde, Interim Division Director for Emergency Medical Services reported that the planning process for the Medic One Levy is behind schedule due to the annual audit currently ongoing with an already incredible work load for the department. The audit is a positive thing and brings insight.

New service language has been placed upon them which affect demand, and ideas for creating new programs. Strong themes from auditors, what we are doing, and how it is bringing value to our systems due to a number of factors; economic time, looking why spending money, moving from pilot programs. This theme has affected the system, in positive way; the division is working closely. She has a number of volunteers, but is looking for help on the committee; ten people to come together quickly, with a September timeline.

Polly St. John, Budget Analyst for King County, contacted and met with Chief Soptich. She has the EMS levy and audit issues on her radar screen.

Director Plorde asked that any correspondence with KC Executive office regarding the 2013 EMS Levy, be coordinated with them.

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Next Generation Radios

Assistant Chief Rosenthal, Seattle Fire Department, spoke on the current radio/communications issues for emergency responders within the lower Puget Sound Region and gave a PowerPoint presentation (attached) covering:

- Re-banding (Nextel)
- P-25 Switch
- Next Generation Radio System
- Broadband
- Governance
- Interoperability

Regional communications is looking at King County to be the leader. If one county does not pass, other counties will still move forward.

Questions:

- To date, any VHF interference? The extent is not known yet.
- If I buy new radios, will they be compatible with the future? Yes, feel okay to buy.
- Do we need to be plugging money into the budgets for this new type of equipment? At the county level it has not been decided yet what to do; deciding on a tax levy and when to put it out. Everyone will have time to react.
- The next generation is a different communication device; cell phone. This is an ongoing conversation. How to support radio tech come to rely on. Voice and data conversations for fire are huge, so dependent on voice. Tradeoff when start committing to data vs. voice. Conversations need to take place on what is radio to be in firefighter's hand with zero visibility; safety of firefighters.

Chief Tubbs advised that the FCC proposed auctioning off the D-block of spectrum to a commercial bidder with no strings attached. Part of Nextel re-banding is reserved for public safety, each side 10 MHz. Public safety is trying to get it built in for next generation technology. If the FCC plan moves forward, additional bandwidth will not be reserved and it will be shared with commercial industry. There is movement at National level; try political support at the local level to pressure on Congress; Congress is not changing what the FCC put forward as a discussion item. Two things to keep in mind:

1. Spectrum. If you do not understand D-block cell, encourage all to get familiar with the D-block auction. Message should be we have a designated spot in that spectrum, prefer for public safety, don't sell adjacent spectrum that we have authority to use.
2. Local issue how go to next generation radios.

Chief Soptich thanked Chief Rosenthal for her presentation.

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ACTION: Those that serve on different committees go back and ask questions, and send answers back out through KCFCFA.

ACTION: Need a common message to elected officials regarding the next generation radios.

State Legislature Actions

Chief Church stated the session is finally over, and the fire service did very well.

Replacement of the State Fire Marshall candidates have gone through the office, interview process, and background checks on the three final candidates. Strong potential we can have one with past fire service.

Chief Church will not report next month, but would like to see you at the WA Fire Chiefs Conference, and appreciates your support in his bid to be elected president.

ACTION: Anyone interested in helping with relationships in Olympia, please consider contributing, and help us legislatively. CHIEF PAC Authorization Forms are available at each meeting or online at <http://www.wsafc.org/SitePages/CHIEFPAC.aspx>

NEW BUSINESS:

Zone 3 “Key Station” Concept Rectangular Table Discussion

The Zone 3 “Key Station” concept discussion was deferred until next month.

Safe-T-element Product Presentation/Grant Program

Pioneering Technology’s Chief Safety Officer, Earl Diment, spoke about the Safe-T-element® cooking system and gave a product demonstration. This product has been engineered to prevent stove top cooking fires before they start, along with reducing electricity costs. It is an electronically controlled cover plate that is installed on top of existing stovetop burners. A unit inside the stove controls the temperature of the plate and automatically shuts off when a plate reaches a temperature higher than 662°F. Ignition temperature for oil and other common fibers starts at 728°F. Mr. Diment is targeting this product for seniors who are in a high risk group for kitchen fires. He stated they are eliminating fires and are eliminating burnt food runs.

There are currently 2000 units coming in. Mr. Diment wants to look at potential within the region and coordinate with Public Education folks. They are currently getting HUD and developers to pay for. Grants are also available. Installation by a certified installer takes about an hour to install at an additional cost.

Contact information is: Earl Diment, Chief Safety Officer, Pioneering Technology, (503) 926-7987 or (905) 712-2061. Email: ediment@pioneeringtech.com

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GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- Chief Merritt transmitted an activity report to the Executive Board regarding a policy clarification on strike teams and task forces; use as fill in or stay together as a unit. His understanding was to keep them together.
- Chief Merritt transmitted an activity report to the Executive Board regarding unsecured equipment on tailboards and in cabs and the development of local policies regarding such. It is recommended to discontinue the practice of transporting any fire hose and equipment on the rear step of apparatus or in the cab.
Action: Chief Merritt will bring back a model policy for the Association to act upon.
- As Chief Kragness readies to start his next generation of life, he formally introduced Mark Bunje as the next Fire Chief of Shoreline Fire Department. Mark is currently the Fire Marshal and has been with District for 22 years. Chief Kragness stated he will be great addition to this organization and to take advantage of his expertise.
- Ed Holmes, representative from Mercer Island Police, stated appreciation in the coordination of responding to incidents, gun violence, and teen suicide.
- Chief Dean passed out Fit Firefighter towels for everyone.
- Chief Dean stated that Swedish Hospital is now offering a firefighter discount on EBT exams and encouraged all to grab a flyer on the way out.
- Chief Soptich thanked Chief Dean for the use of the conference room.
- A follow up to last month's meeting with KCEMS will immediately follow this meeting.

Drawing for Gift:

Mark Peterson from Renton Fire & Emergency Services was the lucky winner of the gear bag after Brian Wiwel passed after winning for the second time.

The meeting was adjourned at 1100 hours.

Deborah Gober-Beneze
Executive Admin Assistant to Lee Soptich

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King County Fire Chief's Association Attendance Roster

April 21, 2010

Present	Name	Agency
x	Al Church	South King Fire & Rescue (39-Federal Way)
	Bob Oliver	Redmond Fire Department (34)
x	Bob Rowe	Snoqualmie Fire Department
x	Bob Van Horne	Bothell Fire Department (Sno 10)
	Brad Doerflinger	Maple Valley Fire & Life Safety (43)
x	Bryan Howard	King County (Boeing) Airport Fire Department
	Chris Connor	Fire District 27 (Fall City)
x	Chris Tubbs	Mercer Island Fire Department
	Mike Mauvais	Boeing Fire Department
x	Dave Crossen	Fire District 20 (Skyway-Bryn Mawr)
x	Gregory Dean	Seattle Fire Department
x	Greg Smith	Fire District 44 (Black Diamond)
x	Hank Lipe	Vashon Island Fire & Rescue (13)
x	I. David Daniels	Woodinville Fire & Life Safety District (36)
	Jim Knisley	District 50 (Skykomish)
	Jim Schneider	Kent Fire Department (37)
	John Lambert	Fire District 45 (Duvall)
x	Joseph Clow	Enumclaw Fire Department (28)
x	Kevin Nalder	Kirkland Fire Department (41)
x	Lee Soptich	Eastside Fire & Rescue (10, 38, Car, NB, Issq, Samm)
x	Marcus Kragness	Shoreline Fire Department (District 4)
x	Mark Peterson	Renton Fire & Emergency Services (25, 40)
	Mark Tessen	Fire District 47 (Ravensdale)
	Matt Cowen	Snoqualmie Pass Fire & Rescue (49, 51)
x	Mike Eisner	Bellevue Fire Department (14)
	Mike Marrs	District 2 (Burien/Normandy Park)
	Nick Olivas	Tukwila Fire Department
x	Asst. Chief Keith Taylor for Randy Krause	Port of Seattle/SeaTac International Airport FD
Retired	Scott LaVielle	North Highline Fire District (11)
x	Stan Laatsch	Valley Regional Fire Authority
	Tom Weathers	Northshore Fire Department (16)
x	Brian Wiwel	SeaTac Fire Department (24)
x	Michele Plorde	Emergency Medical Services
x	Warren Merritt	Bellevue Fire Department
x	Gordon Olsen	South King Fire & Rescue
x	Jim Fogerty	King County Medic One
x	Susi Rosenthal	Seattle Fire Department
x	Mark Bunje	Shoreline Fire Department (District 4)

x	Tracy Wyckoff	Fire District 20
x	Bill Flora	Renton Fire & Emergency Services (25, 40)
x	Bill Mudd	KC Fire Marshall Office
x	Barb Graff	Seattle Emergency Management
x	Heather Kelly	KC Office of Emergency Management
x	Helen Ahrens-Byington	City of Kirkland Fire & Building Department
x	Ed Holmes	Mercer Island Police Department
x	Debbie Gober-Beneze	Eastside Fire & Rescue (10, 38, Car, NB, Issq, Samm)