

PINELLAS COUNTY FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION

October 5, 2006 Regular Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Angle at 12:45 PM. Ken Cramer provided the invocation and roll call was taken with 29 in attendance. Assistant County Administrator James Dates was a guest today for lunch. Chief Fant made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Chief Naylor, motion passed by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report as of October 5, 2006:

PCFCA Checking	\$10,866.64
SCFSK Checking	\$1,686.31
SCFSK CD	\$5,001.70
Total	\$17,554.65

Chief Graves made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Second by Chief Malzone, motion passed by voice vote.

Correspondence

President Angle sent a letter of support on behalf of the Association to County Administrator Spratt supporting the Penny for Pinellas and listing several projects important to the fire service.

New Business

President Angle discussed plans for a retirement recognition event for John Leahy and sought interested members to plan a dinner event to honor John's many years of service.

President Angle reported that Jackie Weinreich was interested in hosting an Association meeting at her facility to demonstrate the 911/CAD/Data/Wireless capabilities. Members thought this was a good idea and agreed to hold the December 7, business meeting at the county annex building first floor, room 38 at 1:00 PM. No lunch will be provided. The November 2, meeting will be held as usual at Stacy's buffet.

Dave Holler, Pinellas Park FR requested that the Association send a position letter to other effected agencies regarding the state EMS Division proposed reporting requirements. Dave referred to a recent e-mail from FFCA representative Chief Azzaritti that provided an overview of the NHTSA and NEMSIS data collection process which was to have been voluntary but now, due to proposed legislative language changes would become mandatory. Dave felt this was bad legislation and that the Association should delineate a negative position towards it.

Unfinished Business

President Angle provided a web page status report and again requested anyone with Pinellas fire history info provide it to him for inclusion into the Association web site.

Committee Reports

Operations Chiefs

Mike Wallace, Seminole FR reported on a meeting between the Pinellas 911 and Progress Energy. Progress Energy said they will try for a 30-minute night and 20-minute day response time to requests for emergency services. The 911 Center provided them statistical data on the use of the emergency ring-down line from 911 to Progress Energy to fix their perception of overuse for non-emergency incidents. Mike reported on an Emergency management work project for USAR and disaster mutual aid responses into the county. Chief Bullock and Chief Graves raised concerns regarding the draft. Mike Cooksey, Pinellas County provided input on the status of the draft and suggested that Mike Wallace attend the next scheduled meeting.

Education Committee

No report.

Purchasing

No report.

Fire Marshals

Ed Mullins, Seminole FR reported on work the with Pinellas County Juvenile Fire-setters Intervention Committee to establish an SOP and policies for coordination. Largo Fire Marshal appointed to the PCCLB Life Safety Committee.

PALS

Leland Greek, Seminole reported on the NAK kit upgrades.

Training Officers

Greg Lanning, St. Petersburg FR advised that the Company Officer Development seminar registration, scheduled November 13, through 17, is in the stations. The training officers are working to obtain state CEU's for the training. A meeting was held with Clearwater FR peer fitness trainers and St. Petersburg College regarding CPAT for pre-employment testing. Clearwater will be starting this process internally in January 2007. The question arose if the CPAT could be incorporated into the fire academy process – neither organization was ready for that. Jim Terry, St. Petersburg College advised that the college is not a certified CPAT provider and would have to work through Clearwater FR. He indicated the college is willing to work with agencies to prepare students in the fire academy classes to take the CPAT after graduation. Greg suggested that Pinellas departments accept the current PAT or CPAT and provide preference for the CPAT. Chief Bullock questioned the CPAT status after a recent legal challenge in Austin, TX. Lanning provided an overview of the possible effects. Chief Bullock gave an overview of Largo FR entry testing and current member fitness testing negotiated in their labor agreement.

Greg reported that St. Petersburg will host a peer fitness trainer course in February 2007. Registration costs are \$600 per student for the one-week course.

Chief Rick Laskey has agreed to present his Fire Service Ownership seminar in Pinellas in early 2007. The training committee is working on the dates and seminar lengths with Chief Laskey.

EMS First Responder Contract

Committee has met twice in September and will meet again on October 9 at 9:00 AM at station 35.

American Assembly

1. Marine Rescue Capabilities – A draft report will be distributed to committee members.
2. EMS Transport – This committee is winding down and a final report is forthcoming with recommendations including a request to the EMS Advisory Council to designate this committee as a working technical committee.

Affiliate Member Reports

Fire & EMS

Mike Cooksey asked that Chief Lewis, Pinellas Park FR report on the status of new R21, which he did and finalized run cards will be worked out with neighboring communities.

Mike reported that agreements with St. Petersburg College and Medtronic had been renewed and that reprogramming of UHF radios was to be accomplished soon.

Emergency Management

No report.

Medical Director

Dave Hudak raised an issue of cardio-shock with Medtronic devices and compliance with AHA requirements. OMD will be conducting a conference call with Medtronic representatives regarding this issue. Chief Wimberly questioned if the outcome could have an effect on the proposed upgrade to bi-phasic devices. The answer is pending the conference call.

Communications/911

Jackie Weinreich complimented the work of Mike Wallace and the Ops chief's group. She reported that an Ops chief's sub-committee will be working with 911 on the wireless data system and GIS mapping.

St. Petersburg College EMS

The college is gearing up for 48 paramedic students in the April 2007 course – 36 students in the course will allow for a two-shift class offering. Registration packets are available now. Course prerequisites will be offered in an accelerated express format in January 2007.

Chief Bullock challenged fire chiefs to examine personnel swaps during required course ride time activities.

St. Petersburg College Fire

Jim Terry reported that fire academy class 16 was underway and that the elevator prop has been installed in the training tower with future enhancements planned for elevator rescue training. Jim reported that the LPG props are close to being installed.

There will be a live fire training instructor course will be offered on October 14, 17, 20, 23 & 26 (all C shift dates), can accommodate 30 students. A second course will be offered.

Chief Lewis made a motion to reconstitute the Associations training center committee with Chief Stout as chairperson to examine the fire service use of the fire training center and expenses associated with its use. Chief Bullock provided the second to the motion. Chief Naylor stated that the original intent was to provide fire department personnel use of the facility and now he is seeing some conflict with the college's fire academy courses. Chief Bullock requested that the costs associated and charged for the facility be reviewed. Jim Terry felt that the college has been accommodating to the fire service in scheduling the facility and that these issues can be worked out positively. He felt it would be prudent to revisit overhead costs and adjust if need be. Chief Lanning requested that the college provide the committee with fire department usage data of the facilities. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Red Cross

No report.

SunStar

Mark Postma reported that the patient care reporting PC's are in field testing now.

Sunstar has created a south-county hub at Ed White hospital with four units and this is working well. They are hopeful to expand this with a north-county location near the Curlew Road – US 19 area.

Sunstar completed its re-accreditation for ambulance service – this is the first time the accreditation included the CCU transport units.

Mark introduced Aaron Howell to the Association members. Aaron is replacing Sonny Geary in the Pinellas Operations as Sonny has moved back to Tulsa, OK.

Good of the Organization

October 21, Tarpon Springs FR is hosting an old fashioned firefighter games event. Flyers have been distributed and five explorer teams have registered thus far. Tarpon would like to see if other departments would like to sponsor a team.

Palm Harbor FR extrication won the 2006 International Extrication Challenge held in Canada this September and the team was featured on the cover of the latest Fire Chief magazine. The team is anticipating traveling to Madrid, Spain for the world finals.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM.

Next Meeting is November 2, 2006.