

Pinellas County Fire Chief's Association

Regular Meeting Minutes October 6, 2011

12:45p.m. meeting called to order by Chief Polk.

Attendance

Minutes: No Minutes from last month.

Treasure's Report: Chief Graham gave report as of September 30, 2011:

PCFCA Checking	\$	3,200.81	Motion to Accept: Chief Lewis
PCFCA Extrication	\$	115.32	Second: Chief Accetta
PCFCA Training/Ed.	\$	1,911.55	Motion Passed
SCFSK Checking	\$	772.06	
SCFSK CD	\$	5,381.14	
<hr/>			
Total	\$	11,380.88	

Guests / Presentations N/A

Correspondence N/A

New Business: Chief Bessler – Discussion on radio system – P25 compliant radios might be encrypted with Motorola proprietary software. If this is the case then the entire system will be once again on a “sole source” type of radio contract with Motorola. We should invite Pam to come and give us a report at a future meeting to update the group. Advantage of encryption is that it is much harder for the public to scan the system and monitor our communications. Disadvantage is the encryption would require the use of only Motorola radios. A non encrypted subfleet to be added so Pinellas units can communicate by radio with non Pinellas units, and vice versa. Without encryption, the special subfleet is not necessary and other P-25 compatible radio brands could potentially be used. Police departments want encryption for communications security. Encryption is currently used for FD Hazmat. Pam has told Chief Bessler that the fire

chiefs will need to decide if we want encryption or not. All Pinellas fire departments, or none of the fire departments will need to go to encryption. PD will get the encryption even if FD does not want it. Discussion on the timeline and January 2013 is the target date for Pinellas County to go live with the P25 technology. He also discussed that the county would be purchasing a specified number of Motorola XTS 2500's for each department. Trading up to more expensive models are possible at the department's expense.

Chief Bessler also discussed encoders: Station 29 will be conducting an encoder test. All stations countywide will need to purchase the new Motorola encoder being tested. Tones received by the encoder will have to be programmed by either the type of unit, or type of call. It has to be uniform throughout the county.

Unfinished Business: N/A

Committee Reports

Operation Chiefs: Mixson – discussion on Marine Rescue – DC will get the notification for stranded vessels and will make the call if additional units will be placed on call. High-rise SOP is out on the 911 web and they are having “train-the-trainer” training. Discussion on 600-07 and 600-11 SOPs.

Mixson - Discussion on one point of contact for HPD and MDC issues and contacting dispatch. The group discussed what is not working and why we would need to reduce to one person of contact. Chief McGuff discussed the process for after hours and weekends and the need to report problems so that they could be addressed immediately if necessary. The group discussed the issue of a contact person and several members expressed that the contact procedure is an internal department issue. Ops will take back for more discussion to their group and try to come up with something.

Fire Marshals: Discussion on Ernie Hand's term on the PCLB has expired. Vice President Polk will send out a letter this week to the PCLB recommending that Ernie Hand be re-appointed to the PCLB. The letter is needed sooner than later and needs to go out prior to Chief Wallace returning from vacation because of their timeline.

PALS: No report from committee. Chief McGuff raised the question of “continuing issues” with the Phillips monitors. He asked the group if other departments are still having problems with the monitors? Several members of the group stated that there are still issues but no specific issues were addressed (or could not be heard due to room conditions). Chief McGuff asked the group, “What is the rush to get the monitors out if we are still having issues?” He also discussed fixing any issues prior to more monitors going out into the field. Discussion on the question of “continuing issues” was not adequately answered.

Training Officers: Pilson – Discussion on several upcoming classes / courses in November 2011.

EMSAC: Next meeting is October 20, 2011 and the only thing on the agenda is the Cost Containment Plan by Sanford and Millican.

Opticom: N/A

Affiliate Reports

Public Safety Services

Emergency Management: Dick Williams – Sally is sorry that she could not be here today... she hopes to advise the group on the weather system as soon as she has the information.

Communications / 911: Dick Williams – All chief’s are invited to attend the LTE high speed system seminar.

Medical Director: Dr. Romig – Happy Fire Prevention month.

Paramedics Plus / SunStar: N/A

St. Petersburg College Fire: N/A

St. Petersburg College EMS: Glenn Davis – CME – first month of ACLS is completed so 35% of the recertification process is complete.

Red Cross: Brad Becker – Introduction on himself... they should have someone at the PCFCA meetings from now on.

Good of the Organization: Chief Graham asked the group if we could consolidate bank accounts to save money on monthly fees.

Motion: To consolidate the bank accounts into the general account.

1st: Chief Large

2nd: Chief Meyer

Motion Passed

Chief Large invited the group to the SPFR open house this Saturday, October 8, 2011. He recommended Station 8 if you have not seen it.

Next Meeting: November 3, 2011 – Place TBA.

Motion to adjourn, 1st: Chief Bessler, 2nd: Chief Saltsman, Motion Passed.

Meeting Adjourned at 13:30.