



Snohomish County Chiefs' Association
General Membership
11:30 a.m.
December 4, 2023

PRESENT:

Dave Kraski
Jim Haverfield
Eric Andrews
Keith Strotz
Travis Hots

Joel Johnson
Mike Calvert
Dave DeMarco
Jeff Cole
Jennett Nielson
Glen Albright
Troy Elmore
Blake Enges
John Cermak
Chris Dickison
Joshua Cole
Scott Dorsey
Dr. Ryan Keay
Lori Burke
Kurt Mills
Terry Peterson
Thad Frater
Greg Osborne
Don Waller
Seth Johnson
Michael McConnell
John Chalfant
James Curtis
Bob Eastman
Joe Hughes
Shaughn Maxwell

Vice President North County Fire
Secretary/Treasurer Snohomish County FPD 17
Medium Agency Director Snohomish County FPD 19
Small Agency Director Snohomish County FPD 26
Immediate Past President Snohomish County FPD 22

Darrington FPD 24
Everett Fire
Everett Fire
Marysville Fire
Marysville Fire
Mukilteo Fire
Mukilteo Fire
Mukilteo Fire
North County Fire
North County Fire
Paine Field Fire
SCEMS
Snohomish County MPD/SCEMS
Snohomish County Fire Marshal's Office
SNO911
SNO911
Snohomish County FPD 4
Snohomish County FPD 4
Snohomish County FPD 4
Snohomish County FPD 5
SRFR
South County Fire
South County Fire
South County Fire
South County Fire
South County Fire

Call to Order Meeting called to order at 1136 hours.

A. Adopt / Adjust Agenda

Chief Eastman made a motion to add an agenda item to new business:

Motion to replace Dennis Fenstermaker as EMS Council Liaison. **Seconded** by Chief Andrews. **Motion** unanimously **approved**.

B. Minutes

- **Discussion:** No discussion.

- **Action: Motion** by Chief Eastman to approve the minutes of the November 6, 2023, meeting. **Seconded** by Chief Maxwell **Approved** unanimously.

C. Treasurer's Report

- Discussion: Per Chief Haverfield - no expenses or income for the previous month (November 2023). It's likely that the group will start fresh with new bank accounts in 2024.

D. Old Business

1. Nominations for role of SCFCA President

Chief Hots shared that nominations have been open for the role of President of the Association for the past two months.

The two-year term begins in January 2024.

One nomination was submitted and accepted by DC Chief Kraski of North County Fire.

Three separate requests were made of members by Chief Hots (per Robert's Rules of Order) to submit nominations for the role. No additional nominations were submitted.

Voting moved forward and DC Kraski was confirmed as the next President of the Snohomish County Fire Chiefs' Association via unanimous vote.

This created a vacancy in the group for the role of VP, which will need to be addressed.

E. New Business

1. SNO911 Potential Agreement with Consultant to Support SCFCA Governance Task Force

Kurt Mills shared that SNO911 would like the SCFCA to endorse an agreement with consultant Karen Reed. Fees would not exceed 20k.

Chief Haverfield inquired as to whether a facilitator is necessary as the Task Force, as established, consists of very experienced people with a broad scope of knowledge in our area. The Task Force will be comprised of Shaughn Maxwell (Large Agencies), Don Waller (Medium Agencies), and Keith Strotz (Small Agencies). Dave DeMarco (Everett Fire) will act as the representative from the SNO911 Board.

Kurt shared that, from his perspective, having an independent third party can be very valuable regarding providing information to the group that may not be on their radar.

Chief Eastman is also of the mindset that it would be a good idea to hold a few meetings to establish rapport and determine the objectives of the group before undertaking such an expenditure. Should the need arise, Karen Reed could be engaged later. His perspective is that, with the makeup of the group, consensus can be reached.

Dr. Keay shares the perspective that this is a complicated endeavor and she's looking forward to the task force and SCFCA working together. She would like to keep the possibility of working with a consultant on the table, should the need arise.

Chief Maxwell shared that he thinks the Task Force, with their combined experience, should be encouraged to work together for at least a period of time before engaging with a consultant and spending 20k.

Kurt Mills shared that SCFCA should be aware that there will likely be some legal fees incurred throughout the discussions regarding governance.

A **Motion** was made by Chief Eastman to retain the option to hire a consultant, should the need arise throughout the process. **Motion Seconded** by Chief Andrews. **Motion passed** unanimously.

After a few initial meetings, should the Task Force feel it could be helpful to engage a consultant, the issue will be revisited.

2. 2024 SCFCA Meeting Location Discussion

Due to unstable Wi-Fi connectivity at the current meeting location, an alternate meeting location was discussed.

Attendees in the room reached a consensus that continuing to provide Zoom meetings will be beneficial moving forward.

To enable the hybrid meeting model to continue with fewer connectivity issues the group decided to move the 2024 SCFCA meetings to Snohomish FPD 4's Harvey Auditorium. The first meeting will be held on January 8th beginning at 1130 hours. SCFCA greatly appreciates SCFD 4's willingness to host.

F. Reports

1. **DEM/Incident Management** *Eric Smith* - no report

2. **Sno911** *Kurt Mills* -

Scott Dorsey's first official day as the Interim SCEMS Director was December 4, 2023
Kurt Mills shared that they have been producing training videos on the new radio system that can be shared on demand. The videos should be available soon.

3. **Fire Commissioners** *Don Waller* - No new information

4. **Fire Marshal** *Lori Burke* (Absent)

5. **Fire TAC** *Eric Andrews* - No new information.

6. **Legislative** *Shaughn Maxwell* - No report.

7. **Fire Prevention** *Shawneri Guzman* (Absent)

8. **EMS** *Roger Vares* (Absent)

9. **Training Consortium** *John Cermak* -

SCFTA graduation will be held on December 14th at Village Theatre in Everett.

There was an injury at the Academy, but the recruit has fully recovered, and the situation has been viewed as an opportunity to learn and improve processes/procedures.

10. Training Officers/Safety *Troy Elmore*

The SCTOA will be Chaired by Chief Titland in 2024. Captain Kees will serve as the Vice-Chair and Captain Hammer will serve as the Secretary.

Work is continuing on 2024 countywide training. Training materials will be available from Enterprise by 01/01/2024.

Preliminary work on looking at what an ODA would look like if the SCTOA partnered with EvCC to develop a program.

The SCHSO will be chaired by Captain Fetcho in 2024. Vice-Chair position TBD. Stormstick decontamination systems are beginning to be placed in service across the county.

The Tri-county H&SO group has expanded significantly and now has partnering agencies from all over the State of Washington. They have designated three subgroups which will be working on PFAS/uniforms, decontamination, and vehicle accident prevention.

11. Special Ops *Dave Ruddell - (Absent)*

12. Policy / Procedure Review Committee *Eric Andrews - nothing new to report.*

13. Washington State Fire Chiefs *Michael McConnell*

The WFC is seeking feedback from SCFCA members on desired improvements or concerns with the current WSRB rating scale and process. This issue is being considered by the WFC Board at a January 22nd meeting. The Kitsap and Pierce County Chiefs are working on developing a problem statement to guide the conversation. As the regional representative DC McConnell will be consolidating feedback from Snohomish, Skagit, Whatcom, Island, and San Juan County to communicate our needs and concerns.

In addition, the joint Fire Commissioner/Fire Chief 2024 Legislative Day has been set for January 23, registration is open via the WFC website events section. The morning briefing will be held at the Helen Sommers Building (WSP). It would be ideal to coordinate our efforts as we work to schedule appointments with our legislators, especially where there is an overlap of jurisdictional boundaries. Agencies that will be represented at the event should contact DC McConnell who will work to help coordinate efforts. A draft of currently proposed legislative priorities is attached at the end of this document.

G. Announcements/Good of the Order

- SCEMS DR. Keay (MPD) –
New protocols have been sent to DOH. The expectation is that SCEMS will hear back within the next few weeks.

PIP is being reevaluated.

QAs have picked up in the last two weeks. The new process will be tested, which is a positive.

Contact information for the new Interim SCEMS Director -

Scott Dorsey

Phone: 425-407-9475

Email: Scott.Dorsey@snocountyems.org

- Sky Valley just installed Pano, an AI camera system. It functions by detecting smoke and sends messages to more efficiently locate fires due to recognizing even very minimal amounts of smoke. Their website shows multiple examples of how the system has improved response times and contained fire damage. Chief Andrews encouraged those in attendance to visit the site and learn more about the system.
- Joel Johnson shared that on Friday, March 22nd the Oso memorial site dedication will be held. All are welcome to attend. SCFCA members are encouraged to look for an email with further details to be sent in January.
- Chief Cole publicly acknowledged Chief Cermak's hard work with JATC. He thanked him for all his efforts. Marysville, North County, Everett, and Paine Field fire are the only agencies involved at this time. There has been some advocacy to obtain more funding for JATC.
- Nurse Navigator Update
Per Chief Hughes the implementation seems to be progressing well. Things are on track to go live in early January.

- H. Adjournment Motion** to adjourn proposed by Chief Cermak; **seconded** by Chief Eastman and approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 1218 hours.

Minutes prepared and submitted by:

Susan Bjorling - South County Fire

**Next Meeting:
January 8, 2023**

SCFD 4 - Harvey Auditorium
Please feel free to bring lunch.

Attachments:
Draft 2024 Legislative Priorities

DRAFT