

PEND OREILLE FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION  
MEETING MINUTES  
November 3, 2011

**Members Present:**

Mike Nokes, SPOFR; Chris Wyrobek, FD4; Jay Foster, FD5; Larry Hiebert, FD8; Tom Watson, Newport FD; Laura Smith-Johnson, Webmaster; JoAnn Boggs, PO Cty DEM; Steve West, PO Cty Dispatch; and Alan Botzheim, PO Cty Sheriff

Meeting called to order at approximately 06:15 PM by Chairman Nokes.

**Review of Minutes of Prior Meeting** — No minutes available to review at this meeting.

**Treasurer's Report** — Nito Wilson at training - No report

**Reports**

- a. **DNR** — Chris Wyrobek reported for Forest Ownbey. Almost done burning for season. Second Ready Reserve grant next year.
- b. **Fire Investigation Team (Tom Watson)** — Tom is resigning and his last meeting will be in two weeks (November 17). Chris and Janice Smith will continue. Need more people because there is only a small group now. The course is 40 hours. The next meeting is in two weeks at the Newport Fire Station. Will get list of investigators to Sheriff after meeting.
- c. **Inland Empire Fire Chiefs Association (IEFCA) Meeting** — Mike Nokes reported that Station 92, in Spokane, has computer items on surplus. Ask for Doug Strong if interested in any items.
- d. **POC EMS Council** — Chris Wyrobek reported that Life Flight is now available to us. It is a 45 to 55 minute flight from Lewiston when dispatched. Dispatch MedStar first and, if unavailable, may request Life Flight. Life Flight is looking into locations closer to PO Cty. There will be a Landing Zone class given by Life Flight at Station 32 in April.  
Elections will be held in December's meeting.
- e. **Fire Life Safety Meeting** — Mike Nokes reported that the November meeting will be cancelled due to lack of attendance.
- f. **POC Webmaster** — No Report

**Old Business**

- a. **Fire Prevention Pickup Truck** — Mike Nokes opened discussion on truck. Question asked, do we need it? Tabled for future discussion.
- b. **County Vehicle Designations** — Mike Nokes opened discussion about streamlining vehicle designations. He handed out examples showing vehicle pictures and descriptions of their use as a guide to renaming vehicles. Discussion followed. Once the vehicles have been renamed, send information to both Steve West and Scott Doughty. Steve West asked that responders use vehicle numbers if responding in a District vehicle, not personnel numbers.

- c. **Update on current Fall Firefighter Academy** — Chris Wyrobek reported that the final exam is tonight. Live Burn will be held on November 19 at the burn tower at Station 92. Mike Nokes and Chris Wyrobek will be doing make-ups for those who missed classes.
- d. **Move Up's & Mutual Aid & Resource Type Sheets** — No report
- e. **501c3 Paperwork** — Jay Foster reported that paperwork is ready to go. Currently Chris Smith shows up as Chairman on State paperwork and he has asked Mr. Smith to sign a form removing him. Mr. Smith verbally agreed by phone, but would like to remain a Director. Consensus was to decide on current Directors later. Jay needs a check from Nito to update paperwork at State. Tom Watson reported that 501C3 originated at Team Works. Motion has already been passed to issue a check. Will need minutes to change officers.

### New Business

- a. **CEMPs (JoAnn Boggs)** — JoAnn handed out current CEMP notebooks and stated there is a 4-year cycle from FEMA. Fire Districts should read section ESF 4. She will send updates as they come out.
- b. **LEPC Meeting** — Mike Nokes and JoAnn Boggs reviewed LEPC meeting on Depts & Districts Haz Mat IC Status with the State. During LEPC meeting, Ron Bowman discussed WSP and how they interact on incidents. Districts will need to continue at incident even if WSP is in command. LEPC would like all Districts to make WSP IC during Haz Mat. JoAnn stated that 300 and 400 Haz Mat classes will be offered next year. Alan Botzheim stated that Sheriff's office has two officers trained in Meth lab cleanup. JoAnn reported that new Emergency Response Guide books will be available January through March of next year.
- c. **Radio Programming (Steve West)** — Steve sent out email to Districts about reprogramming and got no response. He passed out PO Cty frequencies and Bonner Cty EMS frequencies this evening. Districts should check PO Cty list against their radios and if right shouldn't need to update Dispatch. Tom Watson asked if there was a class on radio communication protocol. Discussion followed.
- d. **Insurance on Pub Ed Vehicles** — Mike Nokes reported that SPOFR is covering the fire prevention truck and trailer. Enduris says will only insure district vehicles. SPOFR needs reimbursement: \$20 for truck & \$24 for trailer at current value. Tom Watson said that it should already be in the minutes to reimburse SPOFR for ongoing costs.
- e. **Potential funding cut for Fire Investigation team** — Mike Nokes was approached by John Hankey about reducing the quarterly payment to the Fire Investigation (FIU) team. Tom Watson stated that the money goes to the Chief's Association and then to the FIU's checking account. If county cuts off funding then it falls back onto the property inspector. Chris Wyrobek stated that Chief does investigation and if suspicious then calls the investigator. Tom Watson stated that it takes a minimum of 10 hours for an investigation. Classes, fees, and mileage for a 40-hour class costs \$1,000. Mike Nokes will talk to Hankey about funding.

### **Open Floor / Good of the Order**

- a. Mike Nokes mentioned that Chiefs can't call out Search & Rescue (S&R), but Sheriff can. Sheriff Alan Botzheim stated that if S&R is needed in middle of night, call Dispatch and have an officer paged to request it.
- b. Larry Hiebert reported that District 8 has a new fire engine. Was given to district by DNR.
- c. Sheriff Alan Botzheim reported that he wants to keep the lines of communication open between his department and the fire departments. He and staff will partner up with fire departments. They are there to help. Districts reported good rapport with Sheriff department's staff.

The next POFCA meeting will be held December 1 at the Golden China Restaurant.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:  
Laura Smith-Johnson  
for Nito Wilson