



**Snohomish County Chiefs' Association**  
**Board Meeting**  
**1:00 p.m.**  
**February 22nd, 2023**

**PRESENT:**

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Thad Hovis      | <b>President</b> South County Fire              |
| Dave Kraski     | <b>Vice-President</b> North County Fire         |
| Jim Haverfield  | <b>Secretary/Treasurer</b> SCFD 17              |
| Kevin O'Brien   | <b>Large Agencies Director</b> SRFR             |
| Eric Andrews    | <b>Medium Agencies Director</b> Sky Valley Fire |
| Keith Strotz    | <b>Small Agencies Director</b> SCFD19           |
| Dave Demarco    | Everett Fire                                    |
| Shaughn Maxwell | South County Fire (Legislative Liaison)         |
| Troy Elmore     | Mukilteo Fire (Training/Safety Officers)        |
| Brian Kees      | SRFR (Training/Safety Officers)                 |
| Kurt Mills      | SNO911  |
| Christine Heike | SCFD4   |

A. **Call to Order** Meeting called to order at 1300 hours.

B. **Adopt/Adjust Agenda**

**Discussion:** No discussion.

**Action:** Chief Kraski made a **motion** to approve the agenda as presented. It was **seconded** by Chief Strotz and **passed** unanimously.

C. **Minutes**

**Discussion:** No discussion.

**Action:** A **motion** was made by Chief Kraski to approve the minutes from the January 2023 Board meeting as presented. Chief Strotz **seconded** the motion. Minutes were unanimously **approved**.

D. **Old Business**

• **Wall Wait Times** – *Dave DeMarco*

Chief DeMarco reported that a reporting format has been agreed upon. Next month SNO911 will be applying the formatting for all Snohomish County so agencies will be able to log on and see wait times for the past week. There have been some improvements in staffing numbers. SCEMS will be redeveloping the 'diversion' policy with input from all the hospitals. South County Fire DC-EMS Joe Hughes will chair the committee.

• **Snohomish County Fire Training Academy Further Development for Discussion** – *Kurt Mills*

Kurt Mills reported that construction on their new facility is moving along. The RFP for the Training Academy has been posted. It can be viewed here <https://www.sno911.org/index.php/rfps/105-2023-005-fire-consortium-expansion-study> as well as through the MSRC hub. It will be open through 1600 hours on 3/15/2023, but the date can be extended. Director Mills requested assistance with disseminating the proposal and

creating interest. Thank you to Chief DeMarco sending the posting to the AWC, Chief/SRFR Commissioner Elmore sending the link to the WCFA, and Chief O'Brien sending to the WFC.

- **Legislative Update** – *Kevin O'Brien/Shaugn Maxwell*

Chief O'Brien provided this link to the group:

<https://www.washingtonfirechiefs.com/legislative%20resources>

Chief O'Brien and Chief Maxwell reported on a few bills of interest:

1. House Bill 1670 would potentially allow commissioners to raise the limit factor for property taxes from 1 to 3% at their discretion. Has Democratic party majority support.
2. Some changes are coming regarding GEMT. There are no specifics yet, but there will be potential negative impacts.
3. Chief Andrews mentioned another bill seeks to separate the state Fire Marshal's Office from the Washington State Patrol and allow for fire focused leadership for that organization.

#### E. **New Business**

- **Spring Training Officers' Leadership Seminar** – *Cpt. Brian Kees/BC Troy Elmore - \$7,000.00*

**Discussion:** Captain Kees is working with the Training Officers organization to secure Jason Schechterle, author of Burning Shield, for the Spring Seminar on 05/25/2023 from 0900 – 1600 hours at the Rosehill Community Center in Mukilteo. Registration cost is \$50 per person. Registration will be collected through [firefightingtraining.org](http://firefightingtraining.org) and will also be collected day of at the door. The event will be publicized through the Daily Dispatch and local fire districts. It was voiced that there should be a formal and strict cancellation policy in place to help with billing. Last minute cancellations impact fund totals. There was some discussion about registration through the Chief's Association, but concern was expressed that money orders and transfers are the only payment options for the group as the accounting process is still in transition from the recent SCEMS personnel changes and banking checkbooks have yet to be located.

**Action:** Chief O'Brien made a **motion** to approve up to \$7,000 for the Spring Seminar costs. It was **seconded** by Chief Strotz and **passed** unanimously.

#### F. **Committee Updates** None.

#### G. **Announcements/Good of the Order** None.

#### H. **Adjournment**

Chief Kraski made a **motion** to adjourn at 1324 hours. It was **seconded** by Chief O'Brien and **passed** unanimously.

**Minutes taken/submitted by:** Christine Montagne-Heike. **Reviewed/approved by:** President Hovis.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, March 22, 2023 – 1pm



WFC Leg  
Committee Overview



WFC Bill Tracking  
and Schedule - 2.13.

**Attachments:**