

**Contra Costa County Public Safety Support Services Association**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**November 15, 2022 1000-1200 Hours**  
**Via Zoom Meeting**

**Call to Order:**

*Captain Chris Harder called the meeting to order at 1006 hours*

**Pledge of Allegiance**

*Led by Captain Chris Harder*

**Attendees:**

- *Jim Howard CCCFPD Battalion Chief (Retired), Chris Harder Captain San Ramon Valley Fire, Mario Ferrer BC Chevron Fire, Jon Bensley Captain Moraga Orinda FPD, Earl Brown Retired Lieutenant Crockett F.P.D, Chaplain Nick Vleisides San Ramon Valley Fire and PD. Todd Thomas Captain San Ramon Valley Fire, Father Robert Rien East Bay Regional Park and Con Fire, Chris Hummel Captain CCCFPD.*

- **Introductions:**

General introduction Introduction were made to introduce Captain Todd Thomas

**Guest Speaker**

None

**Approval of Minutes:**

- Minutes were approved and ready to be submitted

**Communication:**

- SB542 No changes, no further to report.
- AB1116 No changes, no further to report.
- SB803 Peer Support Specialist Certification Program Act of 2020 no changes, no further to report

**Officer Reports:**

**President**

- Captain Harder announced that he will be retiring from San Ramon Fire December 31, 2022. It was an honor to serve as president and vice president with CISM. Jon Bensley, Chris Hummel, and Nate Smith were nominated for the position of President. Through offline discussions with all nominees, Jon Bensley was selected as the new president. Harder will continue to assist where needed. Bensley was grateful for the nomination and is excited to learn his new role. He is going to be part of the promotional exam in December in addition to being President of CISM.

**Vice President**

- Chief Howard in communication with KLOVE and the soonest class for Advanced Group and Suicide Classes are in October. Chief Howard is still Looking for different classes

for the beginning of the year. Will keep CISM informed of other classes including Chaplin Classes. Chief is also looking for suggestions from the group for other training. Harder added that we should keep checking the Crises Response Web Page for classes hosted in other areas. Father Robert included that Chief Cook mentioned to him that his schedule is open after January for Line Of Duty Death Classes. Chief Howard will reach out to Chief Cook. Chief Howard also mentioned that Dave Brown who worked for Regional, AMR, and Mt Diablo recently passed away. Lieutenant Brown said he worked for Crockett as well.

#### **Secretary/Treasurer**

- Chief Ferrer - Reached out to Chief Brooks for account balance of \$943.40

- **Committee Reports:**

- 1. Training**

- Included in Vice President notes

- 2. Website**

- *Nothing to report*

- 3. Peer Review**

- *Nothing to report*

#### **Organizational Reports:**

- 1. California Fire Chaplains:** No new reports
- 2. KLOVE (Crisis Response Care):** *Still developing new classes to include refresher courses.*
- 3. CPSA:** *Not present, no updates*
- 4. 10-33 Foundation:** *Not present, no updates*
- 5. California Fire Service Task Force on Behavioral Health:** *No updates*
- 6. DRAN:** *Not present, no updates*

#### **Old Business**

Nothing slated at his time

#### **New Business**

Compile all agency activities to track member activities and submit to help gain support from the Executive Fire Chiefs. Encourage members to participate with a survey that would be sent out at the beginning of the year. Keep an eye out for Survey Monkey to document activities.

- **Agency Reports-Activities**
- **Fire**

- **San Ramon Valley F.P.D.** (Captain Todd Thomas) Working through some kinks and working on management support. Need to work on getting more people engaged with defusings. Slow process but will continue to grow and build. Working with Todd Finder with San Ramon PD with Support Dogs. Has contacts for anyone who needs help with Support Dogs.

**Contra Costa County F.P.D.** (Captain Chris Hummel, Training Captain Jesse Ingram) Working on current defusing for a PD Code. Also working on some one on one defusings. Assisting members to get into the First Responder Wellnes Facility. Also trying to get members into the Center of Excellence Facility. He is in contact with a lot of these facilities and understands how the insurances work for anyone interested. Working with the union for the Tacoma Documentary that is playing in theaters. Working with theaters nearby for viewing of the documentary for members. Information will be passed on in the future.

**Moraga-Orinda F.P.D.** (Captain Jon Bensley) Working on fining a new coordinator for the department. Defusing last month that went well. Good buy in from members with good feedback. Would like to get new firefighters trained and engaged.

- **Crockett F.P.D.** (Lieutenant Earl Brown) Is retired and will ask around to see if anyone in his department would like to be a part of the team. He will talk to the Chief to make an announcement.

- **El Cerrito Fire** no representative
- **Rodeo Hercules F.P.D.** (Capt. Jack Clapp) not present
- **Piedmont Fire** (Lt. Kevin Robinson) not present
- **Pinole Fire** no representative
- **Alameda County F.P.D** (BC Michael Abele Captain Paul Mahar)
- **Cal Fire SCU** no representative
- **Fremont Fire** (Andy Swartzall Clinical Nurse Educator) not present
- **Richmond Fire** (Justin Cesar, Dylan McComb) not present
- **Chevron Fire** (BC Mario Ferrer) Five new employees with various backgrounds. Severely understaffed but will work on more team members.
- **EBRPD Fire** no representative
- **Federal Fire** no representative
- **Albany Fire** (Chief Lance Calkins) not present

- **Law**

- **San Ramon PD** (Sergeant Rob Ransom)
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- **CCCSO** (John Rock)
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- **CHP** (Brandon Correia) not present
- **EMS**
  - **AMR** (Chad Newland) no representative
- **MHP**
  - **Mental Health** (Colleen Pennington, PsyD) not present
  - **Mental Health DRAN** (Nathan Schlitz) not present
- **Chaplain**
  - **San Ramon P.D.** (Chaplain Nick Vleisides) One on one follow up defusings. New police Chief that is very supportive with CISM. Police Chief had Family Day that was successful. This is a good way to meet everyone and be a part of the community. Would like to expand the team to gain more law enforcement.
  - **ECCFPD** (Father Robert Rien) Busy and working exclusively with Battalion 9. Spends 8 hours a week with the stations. Works with Chief Helmick for Chaplain Programs for Con Fire. looking for Central and West areas for Chaplaincy.
  - **East Bay Regional Parks /CCCSO** (Chaplain Joe Pratchard)
  - **FBINAA** (Janelle Cronk) not present
  - **10-33** (Jim Wilson) not present

**Action items:**

- Captain Harder - We Remember Event to consider after the beginning of the year.

**Good of the order:**

- Next meeting will be on ZOOM as well ( 3rd Tuesdays ).
- **Next Meeting:**  
**Date/s: January 17th, 2023**  
**Time: 1000-1200**  
**Location: Via Zoom.**

**Adjourn:**

**Meeting adjourned by President Chris Harder at 1052**