

Contra Costa County Public Safety Support Services Association
MEETING MINUTES
September 20, 2022 1000-1200 Hours
Via Zoom Meeting

Call to Order:

Captain Chris Harder called the meeting to order at 1007 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, Brian Helmick CCCFPD Fire Chief, CCCFPD, Joe Pratchard CCCSO*

Introductions:

No introduction were made

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 After completing the second term as President, 2022 will be the end of his term. 2023-2025 will be the next term. Captain Harder will hold a formal nomination and set dates by September. Email will be sent from the association in search of a formal nomination process.

Vice President

- Chief Howard no update on upcoming classes. Will reach out to K Love for in person classes effective January, and inquire on some different classes. John Bensley asked the question for discussion if there are temporary exemptions for people who want to assist without having all classes. There is a shortage of training and there is a need for more classes. Jim Howard replied that he will push for an advanced GRIN Class initially, and more classes later. Harder replied that the manual states to participate at county level reponses, you need GRIN and Suicide Prevention. Advanced GRIN is for

outside county responses. Helmick added that we will strongly consider shadowing and mentoring people who need the classes, and to utilize people for support when possible. More discussion to follow. Harder suggested looking and other training opportunities outside of K Love. Howard also mentioned that he will contact Chief Cook for future Chaplin Training.

Secretary/Treasurer

- Chief Ferrer - the balance should be the same. Harder said there are 3 recurring payments coming out of the account. Web Site, Email, and post office cost. Balance is close to \$1000.

- **Committee Reports:**

1. **Training**

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2. **Website**

- Harder trying to streamline the process on the website. Harder mentioned that there is a ZOOM Link within the Webpage of the Website. There is a link to the agenda, minutes, and ZOOM. New features are being explored and the emails may look different.

- **Team Selection** Working with Moraga-Orinda members for classes

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

- Table discussion of bringing all agencies and all peers to one meeting once a year and what that would look like. Looking for more input and will revisit.

New Business

Continued recruitment of the president position. Email was sent out to all active members for nominations. Some members did not receive the email. The email is regarding nominations and elections for the president position Nate Smith, Chris Hummel, and Jon Bensley are eligible. Harder will transition into retirement by next term. An email with nominees will be sent out, and closure of nominations

are at the end of the day. Helmick encouraged people to apply and that he will support who ever is elected.

Helmick discussed an incident that happened at Clayton High regarding the passing of a kid during a football camp. The coaches of the school reached out to him for support because the school left them with their own mechanism to support the kids witnessing the event. Eventually the school utilized their resources with the school system. The discussion has come up as to if we should be involved with public events or not. Howar's though is that we should stick within our boundaries of EMS Personnel and support public by guiding them to their own resources. Prachard spoke of Continuum of Care and believes we should support when needed. Harder mentioned that we have chaplains and clinicians on our team that work directly with the community in many ways. More discussion to come.

- **Agency Reports-Activities**

- **Fire**

- ***San Ramon Valley F.P.D. (Engineer Nate Smith)***

- Captain Harder nothing to report

- ***Contra Costa County F.P.D. (Captain Chris Hummel, Training Captain Jesse Ingram)*** Helmick reported that Con Fire has a Verbal Approval for a Chaplin Program. This will include Father Robert and additional Chaplins. The Goal is to have a formal Chaplin Program by January. Need to leverage in a positive way to build a succession plan with the existing Chaplins. We should be calculated and intentional for succession. Helmick also mentioned to Strike East Contra Costa because they are all now part of Con Fire

- ***Moraga-Orinda F.P.D. (Captain Jon Bensley)***

- ***Crockett F.P.D. (Lieutenant Earl Brown)***

- *Not present*

- ***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)*** Reported that a BC was out of work from Throat Cancer and almost passed away after surgery, but is doing well now. Also firefighter back to work after being off on eye injury.

- *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)*
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 - *ECCFPD (Father Robert Rien)*
 - *East Bay Regional Parks /CCCSO (Chaplain Joe Pratchard) working with students of DVC for a Safety Presentation in conjunction with Pleasant Hill Police Dept.*
- **Other**
 - *FBINAA (Janelle Cronk) not present*
 - *10-33 (Jim Wilson) not present*

Action items:

- Captain Harder send outemail for moninations. Also work on updated Bensley email
- Communicate with Chief Howard for upcoming training
- Mario work with Harder on Google Docs

Good of the order:

- Next meeting will be on ZOOM as well.
- **Next Meeting:**
Date/s: November 15th, 2022
Time: 1000-1200
Location: Via Zoom.

Adjourn:

Meeting adjourned by President Chris Harder at 1117