

Contra Costa County Public Safety Support Services Association
MEETING MINUTES
May 12th, 2022 1000-1200 Hours
Via Zoom Meeting

Call to Order:

Captain Chris Harder called the meeting to order at 1010 hours

Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Captain Chris Harder

Attendees:

- *Jim Howard CCCFPD Battalion Chief (Retired), Chris Harder Captain San Ramon Valley F.P.D, Jon Bensley Captain Moraga Orinda, Mario Ferrer BC Chevron Fire, Earl Brown Lieutenant Crockett Fire, Nick Vleisides Chaplain San Ramon Fire/PD, Brian Helmick ECCFPD Fire Chief.*

Introductions:

None

Guest Speaker

None

Approval of Minutes:

- Minutes approved as 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

- After completing the second term as President, Captain Harder is in search of someone to step in and take over the role. Captain Harder is requesting a volunteer for the position.

Vice President

- Chief Howard discussed the success of the GRIN Class. There were 25 participants from local and nearby agencies. The interaction was great, and I am thankful for everyone that attended.

Secretary/Treasurer

- Chief Ferrer reported the account balance of \$1504.33

Committee Reports:

1. Training

- Chaplin Nick Vleisides mentioned that Kurt with the Sheriff's Office wants to work with CCCPSSS
- *No Chaplain Course scheduled yet in Northern California.*

2. Website

- No report

3. Team Selection

- *No updates from Richmond Fire*

4. Peer Review

- *Nothing to report*

Organizational Reports:

1. California Fire Chaplains:

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: *Not present, 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.
- Captain Jon Bensley to assist with the We Remember Event or CPF for Mental Health Month. CPF has a video available for crews to review. The video addresses Firefighter Suicide and Mental Health Awareness. Because of timing, We Remember will probably not happen this month.

New Business

- Continued recruitment of the President position.
- **Agency Reports-Activities**
- **Fire**
 - **San Ramon Valley F.P.D. (Engineer Nate Smith)**
In the process of training a support dog
 - **Contra Costa County F.P.D. (Captain Chris Hummel)**
 - Nothing to report
 - **Moraga-Orinda F.P.D. (Captain Jon Bensley)**
 - Will work with the crews on defusings. 3 members took the GRIN Class. Support Dogs will now be part of defusings.
 - **East Contra Costa F.P.D. (Firefighter Lance Brashier)**
 - *not present*

- **Crockett F.P.D.** (*Lieutenant Earl Brown*)
 - *Nothing to report.*
 - **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*)
 - *Labor Negotiations continue with Chevron and the Union*
 - **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*)
 - *Promoted to Sergeant and seeking replacement. Heather Transue could be the new representative.*
 - **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*)
 - *Rob Ransom stepped down as peer support*
 - **ECCFPD** (*Father Robert Rien*)

Five firefighters currently out / one of them is out due to a mountain bike injury resulting in a broken neck. He is doing well, but is out until August. No defusings or debriefings lately.

Chief Helmick is working on Merger with Con Fire. East Con will dissolve on June 30th, and change of command will take place on July 1st. There will be a new station dedication on July 1st as well.
 - **East Bay Regional Parks /CCCSO** (*Chaplain Joe Pratchard*)

Called out for a suicide of a 32 y/o female. This was the 9th attempt to end her life. She was previously paralyzed from a motor scooter accident. Was found in the San Pablo Dam Reservoir.

Was part of 3 teams to participate in the San Ramon ValleyHigh "Every 15 Minutes" program. Great team effort
- **Other**

Chief Helmick will be meeting with Hummel on incorporating teams with EAST Con and Con fire. The goal is to expand the CISM Program. Chief Helmick will volunteer for a Health, Safety, and Wellness Program for Con Fire.

- **FBINAA** (*Janelle Cronk*) not present
- **10-33** (*Jim Wilson*) not present

Action items:

- Chaplains Class Flier
- Chief Brooks to access accounts
- Bensley -We Remember Event

Good of the order:

- *Shared interest in future meetings via Zoom with possibility of 2 annual in person meetings.*
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Next Meeting:

Date/s: July 14th, 2022

Time: 1000-1200

Location: Via Zoom.

Adjourn:

Meeting adjourned by President Chris Harder at 1121