**Contra Costa County Public Safety Support Services Association**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**January 17, 2023 1000-1200 Hours**

**Via Zoom Meeting**

**Call to Order:**

*Captain John Bensley called the meeting to order at 1005 hours*

**Pledge of Allegiance**

*Led by Captain Jon Bensley*

**Attendees:**

* *Jon Bensley Captain Moraga Orinda FPD*
* *Jim Howard CCCFPD Battalion Chief (Retired)*
* *Chris Harder Captain San Ramon Valley Fire (Retired)*
* *Mario Ferrer Battalion Chief Chevron Fire*
* *Earl Brown Retired Lieutenant Crockett F.P.D*
* *Chaplain Nick Vleisides San Ramon Valley Fire, San Ramon PD, and and Contra Costa County Sheriff*
* *Father Robert Rien East Bay Regional Park and CCCFPD*
* *Chris Hummel Captain CCCFPD*
* *Engineer Andrew Kalenian Moraga Orinda Fire*
* *Engineer David Hood El Cerrito Fire.*
* *Training Captain Jesse Ingram CCCFPD*
* **Introductions:**

General introductions were made to introduce everyone

**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 Bensley welcomed Dave Hood as the Peer Support Coordinator with El Cerrito Fire. CISM will work to support their program, establish policy, and help with training their team. They hope to attend training class in Vacaville in May.

Bensely looking for input on goals and objectives for the year. Personally he has a lot of action items for the year, and wants to learn who all the team members and contacts are for CISM.

Survey Monkey Data collection submission to the County Chiefs for support will be discussed by Harder.

**Vice President**

* Chief Howard stated everyone should have received notification for Advanced GRIN and Sucide Prevention Class in March. Open enrollment should be for everyone, and contact him if there are any problems enrolling. Beginning GRIN Class is important and waiting on details for training in Vacaville. Reach out to CISM if needing classes. No new info on Chaplin Classes, but hoping to hold sometime in June. Would like to get KLOVE to conduct Resiliency Training in the future.

**Secretary/Treasurer**

* Chief Ferrer - Has not Reached out to Chief Brooks for account balance. Will work with Bensley on a timeline for agenda and minutes. Recommended we stick with the agenda to keep discussion in alignment.
* **Committee Reports:**

1. **Training**
   * + Included in Vice President notes
2. **Team Selection**

* Goals and objectives to take inventory on contact list and solicit for new members.

1. **Peer Review**

* *Nothing to report*

**Organizational Reports:**

1. **California Fire Chaplains*:*** *No new reports*
2. **KLOVE (Crisis Response Care):** *No updates*
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**

Captain Harder introduced himself and spoke of Collection of 2022 agency activities in March. Over the years we are supported by the Contra Costa County Executive Chiefs, and Chief Helmick represents CISM at that level. Every March / April he presents the Chiefs with a letter about what the organization does. This establishes a working budget for the year through data collection. In the past, the Survey Monkey was sent out to each agency to provide data. New trends are noticed in services provided. The link will be sent out and requesting to have the Survey Monkey filled out as soon as possible so Chief Helmick can prepare for the Executive Fire Chiefs.

Captain Hummel inquired how all the number are only as good as people annotate them, and how do we account for those that didn’t record or didn't make it to the board. Harder replied that Helmick understands, and this is accounted for and conveyed to the Chiefs.

* **Agency Reports-Activities**
* **Fire**
  + - ***San Ramon Valley F.P.D****. (Nick Vlesides) Nothing new to add*

***Contra Costa County F.P.D****. (Captain Chris Hummel)* He and Bob Atlas are flying down to the First Responder Wellness Center, which is an inhouse live-in facility that deals with PTSD and substance abuse. Working with them to understand workers comp and resources available.

Had a few Peer Support and defusings last month.

Just had a budget turned in for next year, and working on including chaplains and clinicians into the wellness center. The Wellness Center is locatied in Pittsburgh next to Station 85. Will find out if the Wellness Center included retirees. Jesse Ingram mentioned that Helmick is working on the Honoir and Dignity Program. This would be a better footprint for the retirees.

Couple of members are researching Peer Support Dogs.

***Moraga-Orinda F.P.D.****(Captain Jon Bensley)* Andy Kalenian will be taking over as the Peer Support Coordinator. Already recruited two members and now have increased members to 13.

Last week defusing with Con Fire and AMR for a prolonged extrication on HWY 24. All agencies engaged and the defusing went well

* + - ***Crockett F.P.D****.* (*Lieutenant Earl Brown)* Connection troubles but is present
    - ***El Cerrito Fire*** *(Engineer David Hood)* Excited to ba a part of the program. Inquired AMR’s involvement because they are an integral part of what's going on with everyone's situation. Harder explained AMR has a robust system that is used, but CISM will move forward with reconnecting with their involvement. Howard will reach out with Chad with AMR to see if there is a replacement to represent AMR.

Hood inquired about the PD involvement as well. Howard mentioned it has varied at times and El Cerrito utilized Richmond as a resource. Howard suggested Hood reach out to the PD and invite them to join CISM. Vlesides mentioned his role as PD with Contra Costa County. Vlesides will reach out to other agencies to seek other representatives*.*

* + - ***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. Looking for limited duty work for employees to return back to work.
    - ***EBRPD Fire*** *no representative*
    - ***Federal Fire*** *no representative*
    - ***Albany Fire*** *(Chief Lance Calkins****)*** *not present*
  + **Law**
    - ***San Ramon PD*** *(Nick Vlesides)* San Ramon Chief is supportive of Peer Support.
    - ***CCCSO*** *(Nick Vlesides)*
    - ***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)* They have a team of 8 and are still active and involved. Average 1-2 calls a week. Not too many programs are offered around the county, and looking for other chaplains for additional support. Defusing a few weeks ago involving a fire captain’s toddler that was burned by coffee and had to be life flight to the San Jose Burn Center. Toddler received 2nd degree burns, but will be okay.

* + - ***ECCFPD****(Father Robert Rien)* Working on the Honor and Dignity Program with Chief Helmick. The documents have been written and approved by the County Chiefs. This is in the process of being implemented.

Participated in Defusing for a CHP officer with cardiac event. Captain Green with Engine 9 in Pacheco and AMR ran the defusing. Gathering was at station 95. Credit to Hummel and Con Fire for putting teams in place for the defusing.

* + - ***East Bay Regional Parks /CCCSO*** *(Father Robert Rien)* He and Chaplain Joe Pratchard are still involved with East Bay Regional Parks. Nick Vlesides will be the contact for the Contra Costa Sheriff Office for now.
    - ***FBINAA****(Janelle Cronk) not present*
    - ***10-33*** *(Jim Wilson) not present*

**Action items:**

Howard will contact AMR for representation

Vlesides will contact local Law Enforcement for representation

Hool connect with El Cerrito Law Enforcement for representation

We Remember for agenda item for March

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**Good of the order:**

* Bensley talked about requirements for single resources for 2022 certification. A Peer Support position are within the guidelines, and classes from ICSF qualify for response. After 2 incidents as a trainee, you can qualify as a lead. Bensley will establish a relationship with Cal Fire for opportunities to help with large incidents. Contact Bensley with interest.
* Harder says CISM is being developed and seen across the nation. Currently He and Helmick are developing a course and curriculum class to train others what it takes to develop a regional county wide team. Next meeting will be on ZOOM as well ( 3rd Tuesdays ).
* **Next Meeting:**

**Date/s: March 20th, 2023**

**Time: 1000-1200**

**Location: Via Zoom.**

**Adjourn:**

***Meeting adjourned by President Jon Bensley at 1049***