

Contra Costa County Public Safety Support Services Association
MEETING MINUTES
May 13th, 2019 1000-1200 Hours
CCCYPD Fire Training Facility 2925 Treat Blvd., Concord CA 94518

Call to Order:

Captain Chris Harder called meeting to order at 10:08 hours

Attendees:

East Contra Costa F.P.D. Chief Brian Helmick, Retired Contra Costa County F.P.D. Battalion Chief Jim Howard, San Ramon Valley F.P.D. Captain Chris Harder, ECCYPD Father Robert Rien, AMR Dave Mullarky, Chevron Fire Mario Ferrer, Crockett Fire Earl Brown, Joe Pratchard CCCSO, DRAN Nathan Schlitz, East Contra Costa F.P.D., Lance Brashier, Chaplain Nick Vleisides, Janelle Cronk, Command College, Andy Swartzell Fremont FD.

Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Captain Chris Harder

Introductions:

All attending members.

Guest Speakers

None

Approval of Minutes:

- Amendment to delete title of Antioch PD from Father Robert Rien, he is now exclusive to ECCYPD
- After amendment meeting minutes were approved unanimously

Communication:

- No communications for the group

Officer Reports:

President

- Working with webmaster to make it easier to upload documents to the site and any updates that we need. Spousal class flyer has been uploaded to the site.
- Chris was approached by Benicia business a Fire employee and he met with him and the Solano County Fire Chiefs and sat down with them and presented to them what we are doing in this county and they appointed someone to chair the project and will be coming to us for guidance in the future.

Vice President

- Overview of CISM classes this month, Suicide Class and Advanced Group
- Spousal Support class has been rescheduled for June and flyer updated
- Chaplains class upcoming, beginning and advanced class will be at Con Fire Training facility

- Board met off site to gather statistics to give to Chris Harder. Chris compiled this information into a letter to give to Chief Helmick to bring to Executive Chiefs to get more money for budget.

Secretary/Treasurer

- Account balance is to be updated before next meeting

Committee Reports:

1. Training

- Spousal Support Class June 22nd, board discussed having Jim Wilson put this class out to other agencies to fill the class, Jim Wilson will get back to us after board meeting.
- Chaplain's Essentials Class July 23rd and 24th at Con Fire Training
- Chaplain's Advanced Class July 25th and 26th at Con Fire Training
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2. Website

- Working with webmaster to make it easier to upload documents to the site and any updates that we need. Spousal class flyer has been uploaded to the site.
- No major website changes

3. Team Selection

- Utilizing current process to call agency representatives and fill response teams through them, no new updates

4. Peer Review

- None

Organizational Reports:

1. **California Fire Chaplains:** Not Present
2. **KLOVE (Crisis Response Care):** Setting up for class at AMR today
3. **CPSA:** Nick Arnett did not attend to give update
4. **10-33 Foundation:** Jim Wilson unable to attend.
5. **California Fire Service Task Force on Behavioral Health:** Chief Atlas unable to attend today's meeting but did get word back to Chris Harder and he said there is nothing to report.

Old Business

- Andy Swartzall reports that Cal State EMS Director Howard Backer was questioning assembly bill 1116 on CISM and basically was possibly confused about the difference between Peer Support and Peer Counseling and is clearly not supportive of the bill. Andy pointed out that CCCPSSS being supportive of the bill will have a better chance through Cal Chiefs and other organizations of passing such a bill.
- Chris Harder noted that due to bills not passing at the state level, California State Fire Training is going through Firefighter I training manual and have added a behavioral health component as part of the sign off process and behavioral health component will be added to the Fire Officer, Chief Officer and Executive Chief Officer curriculum.
- Still would like to have a MHP' to come in to lecture to the group, if you know anyone that would like to speak, let us know
- Polo shirts are in, members of this group that dont have a shirt can ask Chris Harder for one.
- Data collection on website is a work in progress, looking into options for data collection.
- ID Cards and Lanyards preliminary design has been done.
- MHP list being developed, Nathan Schlitz will email us a list of vetted MHP's, Father Robert Rien offered up Lisa Hughes out of Brentwood, she has worked with Con Fire and Antioch PD

- 2019 Objectives list, review and if you have any suggestions to help with any items on the list please let the board know.

New Business

- Chris Harder gave a full review of all CCCPSSS manual changes offered by legal representation and the executive board.
 - Chief Helmick made a motion to amend the manual to all topics discussed
 - no discussion
 - Second by Father Robert Rien
 - Motion passes
- 2019 Objectives: Chris Harder presented printed Goals / Objectives list and not all items discussed. Members to review items on this list and get back to the board if you have any questions
- Chief Helmick gave overview of going to Executive Chiefs board meeting in which he gave the board an update of all that is happening within CCCPSSS. He also asked for \$1500.00 per year and it was passed unanimously for the next calendar year.
- We Remember Event - 21:00 May 17th, 2019, Suicide Awareness Event, First Responder equipment brought out with lights for 1 minute to bring awareness to First Responder Suicide rates. We will participate and since it seems to have been losing web presence we will contact Jeff Dill in the near future and possibly have our own county event if the event is fading away. Email will be sent out by Chris Harder regarding all information.

1. Agency Reports-Activities

1. Fire

- **San Ramon Valley F.P.D.** (*Captain Chris Harder*)
 - Chris Harder has stepped down as San Ramon Fire peer group coordinator and handed over to Engineer Nate Smith
 - Chris has been in conversation with Dr. Margo Brown and their new EAP Concern, during his research and going to the website they noticed he was accessing the website multiple times and personally called him. This alert is good news that they are looking for impacted individuals
- **Contra Costa County F.P.D.** (*Captain Chris Hummel*)
 - .Not Present
- **Moraga-Orinda F.P.D.**
 - Not Present, Chris Hummel spoke on their behalf. Chris trying to get someone to represent their organization, Captain John Bensley will now be their agency representative. they currently have 5 members of their team and will be adopting a new CISM internal policy
- **East Contra Costa F.P.D.** (*Fr. Robert Rien, Captain Lance Brashier*)
 - .No new members of their team. Spousal class email sent out to employees. Training: mock defusing happened and it went well.
 - 4 contacts happened this quarter
- **Crockett F.P.D.** (*Lieutenant Earl Brown*)
 - New chief doing a good job
- **El Cerrito Fire** Not Present
- **Rodeo Hercules F.P.D.** (*Capt. Jack Clapp*)
 - Not Present
- **Piedmont Fire** (*Lt. Kevin Robinson*)
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- **Pinole Fire** (*Chief Scott Koons*)

- Chief Helmick spoke on their behalf. Chief Koons apologized for not being at the meeting. They are utilizing some new software that they want us as a group to look at called Cordico. Link has been sent to us all from Chief Helmick.
www.cordico.com/Firefighter-wellness/
 - **Alameda County F.P.D** (BC Michael Abele Captain Paul Mahar)
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 - **Cal Fire SCU** Not Present
 - **Fremont Fire** (Andy Swartzall Clinical Nurse Educator)
 - Busy with new ambulance provider coming in.
 - At county level the fire chiefs have interest in an organization like ours and they will be forming a sub committee to look into it.
 - Couple of retired employees are interested in getting involved and providing services for retired personnel but not sure how to work it out.
 - Unsuccessful in recruitment of a chaplain
 - 5 contacts this since the first of the year
 - Budget has been established for their group
 - CISM training coming up at the end of May with FRAN
 - **Richmond Fire** Not Present
 - **Chevron Fire** (BC Mario Ferrer)
 - Lot of changes within the department and current Chief supports this group and will have representation at each meeting from now on
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 - **EBRPD Fire** Not Present
 - **Federal Fire** Not Present
 - **Albany Fire** (Chief Lance Calkins) Not Present
2. Law
- **CCCSO** (John Rock)
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 - **CHP** (Brandon Correia) Not Present
3. EMS
- **AMR** (Operations Manager Chad Newland / Supervisor Dave Mullarky)
 - 3 members have left the group and will be recruiting will happen early
 - Dave is now CISM Project Manager for AMR West
4. MHP
- **Mental Health (Colleen Pennington, PsyD)** Not Present
 - **Mental Health DRAN**
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5. Chaplain
- **San Ramon P.D.** (Chaplain Nick Vleisides)
 - Team consists of 10 chaplains and looking into training those that need it in CISM
 - **ECCFPD** (Father Robert Rien)
 - Continue to visit stations
 - Helped with two incidents
 - Wonderful event for retired firefighters
 - **CCCSO** (Chaplain Joe Pratchard)
 - Concord High School Every 15 Minute event and CISM was involved
 - In the process of recruitment so if you know anyone please contact
 - One peer support activation within their group
 - Got a call from Chief Christiansen of Oakley PD looking for assistance in putting together a CISM team and Joe will be involved with development
6. Other

- **FBINAA** (Janelle Cronk)
 - SF fire called her to help them look for a new EAP and found out they only have two CISM peers within the department
 - Janelle will send out another link for the Cordico app
 - Off to North Carolina to train the command college on master resiliency and Janelle is now a faculty member
 - Open peer support groups are developing and Ventura County is starting a group
- **10-33** (Jim Wilson)
 - Chief Helmick spoke on their behalf , no reports, no updates on spousal class

Action items:

- Chris Harder will have edits to the CCCPSSS manual completed as discussed in this meeting and will be updated on the website
- Draft an introductory email/ letter to address MHP's to see if they want to be part of CCCPSS and how to contact us.
- We are getting data from CISM peers in this group, we need to talk to the MHP's to see what data they can get to us.
- Email will be sent out by Chris Harder regarding We Remember Event
- Jim will reach out to Jim Wilson in regards to the spousal class and updates on enrollment

Good of the order:

- Chief Howard - Link has been added to the Contra Costa Training Officers Association for the spousal class and also on the Fire Chaplains website
- We are not on the calendar for November's meeting because the second Monday is a holiday
- Chris Harder is going as a peer next week to West Coast Trauma Retreat

Next Meeting:

Date/s: July 8th, 2019

Time: 1000-1200

Location: CCCFPD Fire Training facility, 2925 Treat Blvd., Concord, CA.

Adjourn:

Meeting adjourned by President Chris Harder at 1202