



**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
Monday, October 1, 2012**

The Public Safety Commission convened in a regular meeting on Monday, October 1, 2012 at City Hall, 301 West 2nd Street in Austin, Texas.

Chair Michael Lauderdale, called the Board Meeting to order at 4:07 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Kim Rossmo
Kent Anschutz
Sam Holt
Michael Lauderdale
Michael Levy
Ramey Ko

Board Members not in Attendance:

None

1. Approval of Minutes

- a. The minutes for the regular meeting on 09/04/2012 were approved on Commissioner Holt's motion, Commissioner Rossmo's second on a 5-0 vote with Commissioner Ko not present.

2. Citizen Communications

No citizens signed up to speak.

3. Discussion and Possible Action Items

- a. Role of the Police Monitor - presented by City of Austin Police Monitor Margo Frasier. Discussion was held regarding the role and responsibilities of the Police Monitor, the processes used to take and investigate complaints, how other cities approach civilian law enforcement oversight and how the Police Monitor's findings can be utilized by the Public Safety Commission,
- b. Nomination and Election of Officers - Chairman Michael Lauderdale
A nomination to appoint Michael Lauderdale to a 4th term as the Chair of the Public Safety Commission was made by Commissioner Levy and seconded by Commissioner Ko. Commissioner Ko moved to close nominations and Chair Lauderdale called for the vote. Chair Lauderdale was reappointed by a vote of 5-1 with the Chair voting no.

For more information on the Public Safety Commission, please contact Austin Police Department Chief of Staff, David Carter at (512) 974-5030. The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 4 days before the meeting date. Please call Lee Davila at the Austin Police Department, at (512) 974-4711, for additional information; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711.

A nomination to appoint Kim Rossmo to a 2nd term as Vice Chair of Police was made by Commissioner Levy and seconded by Chair Lauderdale. Commissioner Ko moved to close nominations and Chair Lauderdale called for the vote. Commissioner Rossmo was reappointed by unanimous vote.

A nomination to appoint Michael Levy to his first full term as Vice Chair of Fire and EMS was made by Commissioner Ko and seconded by Commissioner Rossmo. Commissioner Ko moved to close nominations and Chair Lauderdale called for a vote. Commissioner Levy was reappointed by unanimous vote.

- c. Fire Hydrant and Water Pressure Issues – presented by AFD Chief Ken Crooks, Chief Bob Nicks, and David Juarez and Teresa Lutes of Austin Water Utility

Discussion was held about the process of how the City determines water needs for sites undergoing development and annexation areas, the ongoing efforts to inspect current water infrastructure to ensure adequate supply, and the future of water access during drought conditions.

- d. Wildfire Risks and Fuel Mitigation - presented by AFD Chief Ken Crooks, Chief Bob Nicks, and David Juarez of Austin Water Utility

Discussion was held about the Austin Water prescribed burns used on utility managed land and concerns were voiced about the use of these prescribed burns to train Wild Land Firefighters, the efficacy and financial impact of the duplication of services and the lack of AFD presence and coordination association with these burns. Commissioner Levy moved to reinforce the recommendations previously made to Council and the City Manager. Commissioner Ko seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Chief Crooks updated the Commission on the Community Wildfire Protection Plan. Commissioner Levy made a separate motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Ko, to recommend to the City Council that all city equipment used for fuel mitigation and other firefighting purposes come under the control of AFD. The motion passed unanimously.

Chief Bob Nicks thanked the Commission for their support and interest in wildfire related matters and requested their continued assistance going forward.

- e. EMS Paramedic Vacancies – presented by Assistant Director of Finance at A/TCEMS John Ralston and Chief of Staff James Shamard

John Ralston presented an overview of paramedic vacancies highlighting the 19 new medics hired in September, the six additional positions included the FY13 budget and the vacancies contingent upon a pending interlocal agreement with the County resulting in a total of 60 paramedic vacancies. Discussion was held about the interlocal agreement with the County, the process of filling field vacancies and the operation of core city stations.

4. Briefings and Updates

No briefings or updates were provided.

5. Possible Agenda Items for Future Meetings

- a. PERF Review Timetable (November agenda)
- b. F1 Related Human Trafficking (November agenda)
- c. Rundberg Area Neighborhood Enforcement and DOJ Neighborhood Grant Overview (November agenda)

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- d. Public safety issues related to the homeless and transient populations-focusing on downtown crime and the six week targeted operation ahead of F1/Recent Homicides (November agenda)
- e. Continued discussion of EMS Paramedic Vacancy rate with review of morale surveys (December agenda)
- f. The demand for sworn personnel downtown and the effect on other areas of the city
- g. Crime in the West Campus Area
- h. 9-1-1 Call Center staffing levels
- i. Austin Police Department Eye Witness and Lineup Policy Briefing/Wrongful Conviction Speaker
- j. Briefing on enforcement/statistics on texting while driving

6. Adjournment

- a. Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Ko, seconded by Commissioner Anschutz. Meeting adjourned in memory of Chief Harry Evans' Father.