



**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
Monday, January 7, 2013**

The Public Safety Commission convened in a regular meeting on Monday, January 7, 2013 at City Hall, 301 West 2nd Street in Austin, Texas.

Chair Michael Lauderdale, called the Board Meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Kim Rossmo
Kent Anschutz
Sam Holt
Michael Lauderdale
Michael Levy
Reynaldo Moreno
Ramey Ko (present beginning at 4:12 PM)

Board Members not in Attendance:

1. Approval of Minutes

- a. The minutes for the regular meeting on 12/03/2012 were approved on Commissioner Anschutz motion, Commissioner Holt's second on a 6-0 vote with Commissioner Ko not present.

2. Citizen Communications

No citizens signed up to speak.

3. Discussion and Possible Action Items

- a. Overview of Homeless and Transient-Involved Crime and Mental Health Call Statistics
Assistant Chief Raul Munguia provided a synopsis of downtown transient-involved crime during 2012. APD Planning & Crime Analysis Manager Ron Mackay, Lieutenant Kris Thompson, Sergeant Michael King and EMS Commander Andy Hoffmeister spoke with the Commission about the increase in the number of calls for service to address members of the community living with mental and emotional health conditions, type of calls and what each entail, mental health training for officers, availability of mental health facilities, the process and policy of weighing a criminal offense versus mental health needs, mental health

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 Tara Long at the Austin Police Department, at (512) 974-5747, for additional information; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711.

community partners, and staffing and resource gaps of agencies to meet the community's mental health needs.

- b. EMS Potential Issues from Civil Service Changes, Vacancy Rates, EMS Core City Station Expansion, Travis County Participation and Fire Department Coordination
Chief Shamard gave an overview of the Austin EMS civil service adoption process, civil service requirements and their impact on existing and future EMS staff and applicants. Tony Marquardt, Austin-Travis County EMS Employees Association President, expressed concern about the proposed timing and logistics of a PERF-style study and suggested an alternative timeline and possible partners to include in the study. Commission Members, Tony Marquardt and Chief Shamard discussed recent EMS resignations, current staffing levels, training and overtime, and possible consolidation. *This discussion is scheduled to continue in to the February 2013 meeting.*
- c. Commission Recommendation to City Council for Outside Review for EMS per a PERF-type contract
Commissioners discussed the specifics of a recommendation to Council regarding a review of EMS by City of Austin Auditors. Chair Lauderdale moved to recommend to the Austin City Council that City Auditors complete an internal PERF-style study on EMS medical and management issues with the caveat that the matter come back to the Public Safety Commission if they require an outside entity to complete the study. Commissioner Anschutz seconded the motion and the Commission approved it unanimously.
- d. Presentation of APD Staffing Needs related to PERF Study.
Assistant Chief Brian Manley provided an overview and explanation of Austin Police Department civilian staffing needs including a prioritized list of the top fourteen areas where the department is focusing its efforts. He also gave an overview of non-prioritized department staffing needs and responded to Commissioner's questions and comments about staffing.

4. Briefings and Updates

- a. Austin Fire Department Audit
This item was postponed to the February 2013 meeting.
- b. Fire Deaths and Critical Burns in 2012
Chief Rhoda Mae Kerr briefed the Commission on fire death statistics and averages, the circumstances surrounding local 2012 fire deaths and an overview of AFD outreach efforts, fire safety awareness campaigns, and goals.

5. Discussion Regarding Future Agenda Items

- a. Discussion about existing mental health services, community and agency needs, future plans with speakers from the Austin Travis County Integral Care, Garrett Olin (Director of Homeless Management Information Systems), Richard Troxell (House the Homeless), Janette Kinard (Director of the Travis County Mental Health Public Defender Office), Michelle Hallee (Travis County DA Prosecutor), Christopher Ziebell (Chief of Service for Brackenridge Hospital) with briefing from APD about the cost of police services for community members living with mental and emotional health conditions (February 2013)
- b. Continue EMS presentation related to agenda item 3b (February 2013)

For more information on the Public Safety Commission, please contact Austin Police Department Chief of Staff, David Carter at (521) 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 Tara Long at the Austin Police Department, at (512) 974-5747, for additional information; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711.

- c. Additional discussion on APD Staffing needs related to the PERF study (February 2013)

6. Adjournment

- a. Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Moreno, seconded by Commissioner Ko. Meeting adjourned at 6:10 PM.