



**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
Monday, October 3, 2011**

The Public Safety Commission convened in a regular meeting on Monday, October 3, 2011 at City Hall, 301 West 2nd Street in Austin, Texas.

Chair Michael Lauderdale, called the Board Meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Michael Lauderdale
Michael Levy
Moses Saldana, Sr.
Kent Anschutz

Board Members not in Attendance:

Ramey Ko
Sam Holt
Kim Rossmo

1. Approval of Minutes

- a. The minutes for the regular meeting on 09/12/2011 were approved on Commissioner Saldana's motion, Commissioner Lauderdale's second on a 4-0 vote with Commissioners Ko, Holt and Rossmo not present.

2. Citizen Communications

- a. Clay Dafoe, citizen, spoke opposing APD budget issues approved by City Council.
- b. Barry Lewis, Downtown Austin Neighborhood Association (DANA) member, spoke on APD response times in the Downtown area.

3. Discussion and Possible Action Items

- a. The Commission recognized and welcomed Kent Anschutz as the new Commissioner appointed by City Councilmember Kathie Tovo.

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.

- b. A motion to approve the nomination to appoint Michael Lauderdale to a 3rd term as the Chair of the Public Safety Commission was approved on Commissioner Levy's motion, Commissioner Saldana's second on a 4-0 vote with Commissioners Ko, Holt and Rossmo not present.
- c. A motion to approve the nomination to appoint Kim Rossmo to a 1st term as the Vice Chair of the Public Safety Commission was approved on Commissioner Lauderdale's motion, Commissioner Levy's second on a 4-0 vote with Commissioners Ko, Holt and Rossmo not present.
- d. Commissioner Lauderdale established two Working Groups for the Commission. The first chaired by Commissioner Levy will focus on Fire and EMS; the second chaired by Commissioner Rossmo will focus on Police.
- e. Commissioner Lauderdale discussed establishing a second vice chair position for the Public Safety Commission upon Council approval.

4. Briefings and Updates

- a. Wild Land Urban Interface Fire Update – AFD Chief of Staff Harry Evans
 - 1. Discussed the April 17th fires, and Sept 4th fires. Primary pushed by high winds, low humidity, and perfect mix of topographic conditions known which represents the Wild Land Urban Interface.
 - 2. After action to be completed within 90 days of events with a continued focus on the Wild Land Urban Interface Committee, public education, a regional approach, budget implications, equipment needs, emergency evacuations plans, weather tracking, best practices and analysis.
- b. Risks Related to Tree Limb in Close Proximity to Electric Lines – Austin Energy Chief Operating Officer Sheryl Mele, Austin Energy Vice President Electric Service Delivery David Wood, AFD Chief of Staff Harry Evans, Austin Association of Professional Firefighters President Bob Nicks
 - 1. Tree trimming program has been in effect since 1997 which looks to maintain an appropriate amount of clearance on lines with the goal of getting through the system every 5 to 6 years with regular inspection and response to service calls.
 - 2. A 75% increase in service calls to inspect lines for tree clearance has occurred. Current response is within 2 days, completing work as needed within a week.
 - 3. Currently use Federal Reliability Standards that are complied with to ensure a 4 to 8 foot clearance and Texas Health Code standards of 10 feet for private entities for primary lines.
 - 4. Secondary line or service drops desired clearance is also 4 to 8 feet. No work is done unless tress limbs are contacting the line.
 - 5. AFD Chief of Staff Harry Evans will review cause and origin issues related to fires caused by fire lines. Current Austin Energy standards are adequate
 - 6. Discussion of proactive fuel mitigation and future recommendations to Commission

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- c. Update on Community Paramedic Program – EMS Chief of Staff James Shamard
 - 1. Equipment for two positions were approved by Council.
 - 2. Community partnership with the St David’s Foundation established a grant for the remaining position
 - d. Downtown Area Command Updates – APD Assistant Chief Raul Munguia, APD Commander Chris McIlvain, APD Planning and Analysis Manager Dr Ronnelle Paulsen
 - 1. Discussion of Region I within the Austin Police Department to include staffing
 - 2. Prioritization of 911 calls, best use of resources to include scheduling and overtime reductions within the Region
 - 3. Addition of cameras to the downtown area and RTCC, Real Time Crime Center
- 5. Possible Agenda Items for November Meeting**
- a. AFD resources regarding 360 corridor
 - b. Definition of call priorities and response time statistics
 - c. ARIC Privacy Policy Committee Update
- 6. Adjournment**
- a. Motion by Commissioner Levy, 2nd by Commissioner Saldana.

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