



**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
Monday, October 6, 2014**

The Public Safety Commission convened in a regular meeting on Monday, October 6, 2014 at City Hall, 301 West 2nd Street in Austin, Texas.

Chair Kim Rossmo, called the Board Meeting to order at 4:08 PM.

Board Members in Attendance:

Kim Rossmo
Mike Levy
Reynaldo Moreno
Kent Anschutz
Rebecca Webber
Sam Holt
Michael Lauderdale

Board Members not in Attendance:

1. Approval of Minutes

- The minutes for the regular meeting on 09/12/14 were approved on Commissioner Anschutz's motion, Commissioner Moreno's second and a unanimous vote.

2. Citizen Communications

- **Mr. Edward Sledge** – Addressed the Commission regarding the danger of distracted driving.
- **Mr. Dorsey Twidwell** – Voiced concerns about public safety on the North Walnut Creek Trail.
- **Ms. Bonnie Twidwell** – Discussed concerns about the safety impact of construction associated with the North Walnut Creek Trail development.

3. Discussion and Possible Action Items

a. Annual Election of Public Safety Commission Officers

- A nomination to reappoint Dr. Rossmo to a second term as the Chair of the Public Safety Commission was made by Commissioner Levy. A nomination to reappoint Commissioner Holt to a second term as Vice Chair of Police was made by Commissioner Levy.

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.

Commissioner Anschutz nominated Commissioner Levy to serve again as a Vice Chair for Fire and EMS. All nominations were approved by unanimous acclamation.

b. 2014 Austin Police Department Emergency Communication Division Operational Evaluation

- APD Commander Julie O'Brien provided the Commission with an overview of 911 and Call Center operations including current and proposed staffing models, scheduling, best practices, infrastructure needs, budgetary matters, challenges, new call center requirements, recommendations, and interagency collaboration efforts. The Commander addressed questions from the Commission about previous responses to emergency situations, proposed staffing models, training, call data availability, the impact of special events, and call volume trends.

c. Austin Fire Department Wildfire Discussion

- AFD Chief Harry Evans, Battalion Chief David Girouard and Wildfire Division Manager Jim Linardos spoke about accomplishments achieved and opportunities presented under the Austin Fire Department's Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). Chief Linardos also talked about the collaboration that went into the formation of the CWPP and the long term guidance that the plan will provide. Chief Evans addressed questions from Commissioners regarding interdepartmental and interagency collaboration.
- Following a motion by Commissioner Lauderdale and a second by Vice Chair Levy, the Commission passed the following recommendation on a 6-1 vote with Commissioner Moreno voting against: The Public Safety Commission officially recommends the City Council adopt the Austin Fire Department Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

d. Special Events Ordinance

- Bill Manno of the City Manager's Office spoke to the Commission regarding revisions to the proposed Special Events Ordinance related to public safety. He responded to inquiries about fee waivers, the logistics of determining an impact area, opportunities for neighborhood input into special events.
- Following a motion by Chair Rossmo and a second by Vice Chair Holt, the Commission passed the following recommendation unanimously: The Public Safety Commission has concerns about the ambiguity of the phrase "providing reasonable protections" located in section 4-15-34(c)2 of the proposed Special Events Ordinance. Therefore we recommend to the Austin City Council that the phrase be replaced with "providing the usual and normal standard level of protection" The Commission believes this revision will accommodate the concerns about special events impacting public safety service.
- ***Mr. David King*** – Spoke to the Commission about his public safety concerns related to special events

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- *Ms. Laurie Velasco* – Voiced concerns regarding the proposed Special Events Ordinance and suggested possible alternative approaches
- *Ms. Gail Romney* – Addressed the Commission on behalf of Ballet Austin about event permit deadlines and the need for additional public input

4. Discussion Regarding Potential Future Agenda Items

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5. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Laudredale, seconded by Vice-Chair Levy. Meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.