

PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY BOARD

Virtual Meeting
Port Angeles, Washington
March 15, 2023 6:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Schwab called the regular meeting of the Public Safety Advisory Board to order at 6:08 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Chair Schwab, Rochelle Blankenship, Gayle Brauner, Evan Brown, John Hauck, Mary Margolis, Michael McGuire,

Members Absent: Vice Chair Kelsey Lane,

Staff Present: Derrell Sharp, Fire Chief; Brian Smith, Police Chief; Catherine Dewey, Secretary

Guests: Jessica Johnson, PSAB Applicant; Officer Brady

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Hauck made a motion to accept the February 15th minutes, Margolis provided a second to the motion. Chair Schwab called for a consent vote; minutes were approved unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Chair Schwab asked for a motion to accept Kathleen Graf's letter of resignation. Hauck made a motion to accept Kathleen's resignation, McGuire provided a second. Chair called for a consent vote; acceptance of her resignation passed unanimously.

PSAB Chair Appointment: Chair Schwab opened the floor for nominations. Margolis made a motion to appoint Andrew Schwab as Chair, Michael McGuire provided a second. Chair Schwab called for a roll call vote:

Blankenship - Yes
Brauner - No
Brown - Yes
Hauck- Yes
Margolis- Yes
McGuire - Yes
Schwab – Yes

PSAB Vice Chair Appointment: Chair Schwab opened the floor for nominations: Chair Schwab made a motion to appoint Michael McGuire as Vice Chair, Hauck provided a second. Chair Schwab called for a roll call vote:

Blankenship - Yes
Brauner - No
Brown - Yes
Hauck- Yes
Margolis- Yes
McGuire - Yes
Schwab – Yes

Jessica Johnson PSAB Applicant introduction and consideration: Representative will be filling seat #11 Represents Divers Segments of the Community and expires in 2026. Jessica introduced herself to the Board and the Board had the opportunity to ask her questions about her experience and interest in joining the Board.

Brauner made a motion to recommend Jessica Johnson be appointed to seat 11 on the Board, Brown provided a second. Chair called for a roll call vote:

Blankenship - Yes
Brauner - Aye
Brown - Yes
Hauck- Yes
Margolis- Yes
McGuire - Yes
Schwab – Yes

PUBLIC HEARINGS/OTHER BUSINESS:

STAFF UPDATES:

1. **Police Department Report:** Chief Smith introduced Officer Brady to the Board. Officer Brady is a local young woman and has her bachelor's degree. She is getting ready to go to the Police Academy. Chief Smith also gave an update on the Downtown Resource Officer and have received approval from Council to fill that position. Half of the funding for the position comes from local organizations and the other half from the City, moving forward Chief will seek out sustainable funding for half of the position. They are currently seeking a candidate to fill that position. There is an office space downtown that the officer will utilize, and the idea is that the community would be able to schedule time or stop in to speak to the resource officer. Overall calls for service have dropped since REDISCOVERY and the Community Paramedic programs started. The downtown officer will have access to a Segway and mountain bike.
2. **Fire Department Report:** Chief Sharp gave an update on Cory Mintz who is at the Fire Academy, Assistant Chief McKeen went over to North Bend to see how Cory is doing and got a great report. The Fire Department held a Badge Pinning Ceremony on the 10th where 6 Officers were sworn in and were recognized in front of their family, friends and peers. Operations: Feb 16th there was ACLS training held at the Department. The County Prosecuting Office came and put on a wonderful 2-day class for the department to go over report writing and how to prepare for a subpoena for a courtroom testimony or deposition. Since their last meeting there were, 28 behavioral health or psychological emergencies, 13 cardiac arrest calls, 23 overdoses and 11 suicide related calls. In total since the last meeting the department has responded to 403 calls.

DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION:

- 1) Workplan Continued: Police and Fire Advocacy subcommittee recommendation to Board: The subcommittee's recommendation is to include Support Advocacy for Consideration of a Joint Training Facility and Support Advocacy for Community Paramedic Program to the 2023-2024 work plan. Brauner shared her subcommittee report (please see attached) Hauck made a motion to add both recommendations to the PSAB work plan, Brown provided a second. Chair called for a consent vote, hearing no complaints the items were added to the 2023-2024 work plan.

REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS:

Brown: Just noted that he wants to ensure that the Board is able to make headway with the items so that they can get the ball rolling.

Brauner presented information about attacks on WA State and Northwest electric power stations, for purpose of awareness and promoting preventative measures in Port Angeles. See link below

<https://www.opb.org/article/2023/01/19/surge-in-oregon-washington-substation-attacks-as-fbi-warns-neo-nazi-plots/?fbclid=IwAR0w9EgrTXv3eQMvyAi2CwX8aseaVFTwzfc3WQ9jJax7LAL-9S1-ivTlkl>

ADJOURNMENT:

Hauck made a motion to adjourn at 7:50 and a second was provided by Margolis. The motion passed unanimously.

The next Scheduled PSAB Meeting April 19, 2023

I. Advocacy Work Plan Items

A. The committee chose and I supported placing 2 items from the Advocacy list on the Work Plan. I also support having a 3rd alternate. These Advocacy plans provide the members with a golden opportunity to become knowledgeable and potentially be involved.

1. #1 – My first choice -I support. The expertise provided by paramedics is obvious and essential for our community and for the crews.

a. Paramedics provide medical expertise for our Fire and Police crews, increasing effectiveness, confidence, and morale.

b. Paramedics, with their advanced training, are invaluable for people in the community who may need these medical, sometimes life-saving, skills.

c. I'd like to have one presenter (for the Work Plan Board meeting) be a disease specialist if possible. Are members able to help find presenters?

2. #6 – I support - The development of a local, city facility for Fire & Police Training as well as training for volunteers. Given the multiple circumstances these departmental personnel encounter, a training center in which to practice will provide experience and confidence in order to be more thoroughly prepared for real-life situations and emergencies.

a. The collaboration between Police and Fire brings cohesion and an awareness of the work & responsibilities each department provides. Thank you to Chief Sharp for the pictures.

b. A facility within the City, for Fire, Police, and volunteers will provide essential, on-going, hands-on practice so personnel are better prepared for varied, chaotic situations, and strengthen skills for all aspects of their jobs.

c. Board members may be able to visit training facilities for observation in Carlsborg, and elsewhere prior to the Work Plan presentation.

II. **Committee meeting:** As a committee, we decided to present two items for inclusion in the work plan, #1 and 6.

For future committee work, we need to know how much autonomy any committee has to make decisions for the committee which then presents results to Board for its approval.

A. I think all 6 items are significantly important, especially #1,3,5,6.

1. It appeared that #2 was already in place so needed little input or advocacy from Board. Correct? #4 also seemed to be in process with Fire and Police and PCC. Correct?

2. Members are able to learn a great deal if opportunities for us are made available in which to participate in items #2 and #4 as they are developed and implemented.

B. #3 – My original second choice. I have a great interest in learning more about this proposal. I assume this item was developed by many people in their jobs/positions who see situations daily and would benefit greatly from a coordinated team, to address the majority of medical, social, and mentally challenged cases that arise in our town.

1. Potentially, recurring calls by many individuals may be much better managed and served.

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