

PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY BOARD

Hybrid Meeting
Port Angeles, Washington
April 19, 2023 6:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Schwab called the regular meeting of the Public Safety Advisory Board to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

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

Members Absent: Kelsey Lane,

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

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Brown made a motion to accept the March 15th minutes, Brauner provided a second to the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

PUBLIC HEARINGS/OTHER BUSINESS:

STAFF UPDATES:

- 1) **Fire Department Report:** Chief Sharp gave a department update on staffing, Cory Mintz graduates from the fire academy tomorrow so Chief Sharp and Assistant Chief McKeen will be going to the graduation. The department has 6 firefighters completing their probationary period so there will be a Badge Pinning Ceremony on June 2nd.
There was department wide wildland training that consisted of 36 hours of interactive wildland fire training and that training was followed up by an 8-hour field day and hands on training.
Organizing Training on the COHO in the event of a tanker fire.
There will be a training burn with CCFD2 this weekend on the West side of town, 6 of our firefighters will be attending on Sunday. The Community Paramedic program was contacted by Peninsula College inquiring if their nursing students could observe with mental health patients and observe safety measures. Chief has been working on Medicare Ground Ambulance Reporting PCG – there are 9 full reports that have taken a lot of time and attention. PAFD ran 505 calls in the past month, 16 behavioral, 11 Overdoses (5 resulted in death), and 10 suicidal calls.
- 2) **Police Department Report:** Chief Smith attended last weeks council and joint county meeting regarding the joint EOC property at airport gardens of 3 acres, that program is coming along, and the next step is a detailed design of the proposed property. Two incidents Chief Smith noted were the theft in the removal of FD fittings at local business that Chief Sanders helped solve and end in a person of interest and that of the graffiti around town and the criminal damage to property. There was a collision into a building that resulted in a DUI and 3 officers were awarded for life saving measures. Year to Date there have been 20 DUIs (3 this week). Chief Smith noted that Legislative session is wrapping up and the department focus has been on pursuit deaths in Washington, they have been low and have decreased slightly w legislation. Traffic deaths went up 11% in Washington, but nationwide they went down. A few other statistics: violent crime has gone up 55%, Homicides are up 18% and down 4% in the nation. Staffing - Officer Brady started Academy and will graduate mid Aug. PD has one vacancy on sworn side, recruiting and retention continue to be a priority. Getting close on PENCOR to being staffed, retirement system is changing for dispatchers and they will now fall under the same retirement system and PD and FD. Wellness is a priority, working on a screening and surveillance of all employees and doing a deep

dive screening for cardiac issues and stroke. National radio Seattle was here last week and spent time with PD and the CPM, working on getting a photojournalist here to get a news story out about what we're doing here in Clallam County. Council Approved 4 Echo Boost vehicles, they will go to the Detective Division. Lastly, Clallam County currently has the highest overdose death percentage in the state.

DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION:

- 1) Police and Fire Advocacy Committee's role moving forward:
Brauner made a motion to stride the Police and Fire Advocacy Committee's role moving forward from the Agenda, Hauck provided a second and discussion ensued. Brauner withdrew her motion. The Police and Fire Advocacy Committee is dissolved.
- 2) Proposed annual or quarterly calendar:
Chair Schwab made a motion that in Quarters 2 and 3 that the Board focus on the Board's chosen priorities as outlined in the 2023-2024 PSAB list of priorities. During Quarters 3 and 4 the Board focuses on the Police and Fire Department's priorities and goals. Margolis provided a second. Chair Schwab called for a roll call vote:
Brauner- No
Brown- Yes
Hauck- Yes
Johnson-Yes
Margolis- Yes
McGuire-Yes
Schwab- Yes
Michael McGuire made a motion to add Cleanliness and Safety, as the Board's chosen priority as the Boards first action item to the Agenda, Brown provided a second. Chair Schwab called for a roll call vote:
Brauner- Aye
Brown- Yes
Hauck- Yes
Johnson-Yes
Margolis- Yes
McGuire-Yes
Schwab- Yes
High School Student Term: Chair Schwab made a motion to table this item until the next meeting due to the time, Margolis provided a second. Chair Schwab called for a roll call vote:
Brauner- No
Brown- Yes
Hauck- Yes
Johnson-Yes
Margolis- Yes
McGuire-Yes
Schwab- Yes

REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS:

Brauner noted her disappointment that monthly agenda assignments hadn't been made in regard to the Police and Fire Advocacy plan. Bertha Cooper, a local award-winning author, writes a weekly column for the Sequim Gazette. The article she wrote for the paper on April 5, 2023 (see link attached), "Do Unto Others", is based on an interview with a local woman of Jewish heritage and the prejudice she endures. Bertha was a speaker for PSAB's Senior Committee's "Walk Safely, PA!", providing a stimulating presentation about Senior safety issues that are common and serious. Let's consider her for one of our Work Plan presenters for safety in PA.

Link: <https://www.sequimgazette.com/opinion/think-about-it-do-onto-others/>

McGuire asked for clarification about the new actionable minutes and if the list of resources or reports will continue to be included.

Margolis noted that the Board should vote next month on the rest of the year and if we would be meeting in July, August and December.

ADJOURNMENT:

Hauck made a motion to adjourn at 8:09 and a second was provided by Margolis. The motion passed unanimously.

The next Scheduled PSAB Meeting May 17th, 2023

DRAFT