

MOA Public Safety Advisory Commission Meeting
May 13, 2020 at 4:30 pm
via Zoom videoconferencing

Members Present: Loren Leman (Vice Chairman), Sharon Chamard, Garry Gilliam, Charles An, Erich Reed

Members Absent: Amber Christensen Fullmer, Andalyn Pace, Nick Danger (chairman).

Representatives: Chief Jodie Hettrick represented AFD. APD was not present. Amanda Loesch represented OEM. The Assembly was not represented.

1. **Call to order/housekeeping:** After informal conversation among commissioners getting into the Zoom call, Vice Chairman Loren Leman called the meeting to order at 4:35 pm. He proposed to follow the agenda distributed by email—no objections. Loren reminded participants about Zoom procedures and asked them to mute microphones or be very quiet when not speaking.
2. **Roll Call:** Five commission members present (see the list above) after Garry arrived.
3. **Minutes:** Draft minutes for our March 11 and April 8 meetings had been circulated. They were both approved.
4. **Introductions:** Vice Chairman Leman welcomed Chief Hettrick and Director Amanda Loesch.
5. **Reports: AFD. Chief Hettrick** briefed us on management changes in AFD. DC Brian Keen's last day is June 5. Mark Monfor is the new DC. Captain Tom Westcott, who has statewide experience, will be the new BC. Corey's replacement is Ashley Rule. BC Dispatch has a new hire. AFD fielded 300 calls above average by the end of March. They responded to calls for homeless camps. A burn ban will go into effect on May 8 because of high fire danger. A lot of AFD's resources have been diverted to fight COVID-19, so it is being very careful. Stations have been closed to family members, retirees, and visitors like us. **OEM. Amanda Loesch** is the Deputy Incident Commander for the unified command at the EOC. As of our meeting date, we are now in week 11 of the declared emergency. EOC is operating with a new incident command structure. Many people do not have experience, but there are some subject matter experts. The EOC has moved from 1305 E St to Loussac Library, but plans to move back. In 15 years of emergency management, this is the longest incident Amanda has ever worked. They are developing sustainability plans for our "new normal." Fire season creates the opportunity for "an incident within an incident." The command is bringing in experienced Alaska-based contractors and OEM is advertising for new staff. The incident command has daily meetings with the State of Alaska and uses Microsoft Teams for the communication platform. Municipal Manager Bill Falsey is the spokesman. **Assembly.** Not present. No report.
6. **Old business:** Loren reminded members that we still need an election for commission chairman, but prefers to wait until Chairman Danger can attend. No objection to delaying.
7. **New business:** We discussed our summer meeting schedule and concluded that we will continue to meet monthly. Because our meetings will likely be by Zoom or similar platform, we should be able to meet even if members have other obligations. Now is an important time for us to stay connected and offer our advice. We will discuss this further at our June meeting.
8. **Audience participation:** No other members of the public were present.
9. **Commissioner comments:** Again several members expressed gratefulness for technology so we could meet and communicate. Sharon Chamard will be promoted to full professor at UAA on July 1, 2020. We all congratulated her.
10. **Next meeting/Adjournment:** Scheduled for Wednesday, June 10 at 4:30 pm. It probably will be by Zoom again. Vice Chairman Leman adjourned the meeting at 5:21 pm.

Draft minutes prepared and distributed by Loren Leman on June 7, 2020. Inputs from presenters and commission members are welcomed.