

Public Safety Advisory Commission
Wednesday, July 9, 2008 6:00 PM
Emergency Operations Center

Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

Linda Zaugg, Chair
Sharon Chamard
Jim Hubbard
Mark Mew
Sam O'Connor
Tony Piper

Genevieve Maurits
Ross Plummer
Michelle Weston

I. Call meeting to order

- Meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM

II. Approval of minutes for June 11, 2008

- Minutes approved with changes unanimously

III. Reports

Anchorage Fire Department Deputy Chief Weston

- Provided 2007 Community Service data for the commission's information
- 10.1 acre fire in midtown, very large by AFD standards – a typical wildfire we deal with is 1-2 acres.
- Captain Southwick and Battalion Chief Huxley, our two most experienced in the wildfire area were in command.
- AFD helicopter was at the end of its contract,
- Division of Forestry and AFD helicopter did tandem bucket drops.
- Tanker airplane dropped retardant on the forest behind the fire, knocked down trees. This is the same effect as bulldozing a fire line through the forested area.
- Forestry took over command of the fire, AFD had 65 firefighters assisting.
- Forestry did an excellent job, saved the Municipality the huge overtime expense it would have cost to fight this fire.
- Never reached the trigger point for an evacuation.
- State Legislation makes wildfires Department of Forestry jurisdiction.
- One of the challenges faced in fighting this fire was the public interest. People were on the bike paths and surrounding areas watching.

Anchorage Police Department Deputy Chief Plummer

- Inebriate problems, complaints from the community about homeless camps, the wildfire has drawn more attention to the problem.
- Success of the Fairview and Downtown foot patrols is part of the reason the inebriates are appearing in other areas.
- A noticeable number of individuals contacted in the homeless camps are sex offenders, many of these offenders not in compliance with registration.
- Sexual assaults and other unreported crimes occurring in these camps.
- APD, as part of the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) task force, is seeing an increase in the federal grant for the next fiscal cycle. These new funds will allow APD to hire civilian computer forensics technicians to do the forensic examinations of computers, freeing up officers to do the online work, such as undercover work in chat rooms.
- Response to a question about the increase in DUI arrests: APD has doubled the arrests, more DUI enforcement is possible due to Federal grants, extra officers were placed on a 5-day Wednesday to Monday DUI detail

Office of Emergency Management, Genevieve Maurits

- Federal Health and Human Services to provide shelter supplies such as cots and medical supplies at no cost to the Municipality Of Anchorage. OEM to provide the shelter and the staff.
- Conducted a medical surge exercise.
- Planning a full scale exercise for shelters sometime March 2009.
- Tour of the Food Bank July 10, at 10 AM

IV. Old Business

- Sam O'Connor inquires as to if the commission wishes to look into the public inebriate problem. After some discussion by the commission, Chair Zaugg asked Chief Weston to invite CW Floyd to a future meeting.

V. New Business

VI. Adjournment

VII. Next meeting August 13, 2008