

## **PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY BOARD**

Virtual Meeting

Port Angeles, Washington

November 20, 2024, 6:00pm

*This meeting was conducted as a hybrid meeting.*

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

Vice Chair Margolis called the regular meeting of the Public Safety Advisory Board to order at 6:01 p.m., there was a quorum with 7 members present.

### **ROLL CALL:**

**Members Present:** John Hauck, Jessica Johnson, Mary Margolis, , Kelsey Lane, Evan Brown, Sandy Sinnes, Finn Thompson

**Members Absent:** Michael McGuire

**Staff Present:** Derrell Sharp, Fire Chief; Karl Hatton, PenCom Deputy Director; Catherine Dewey, Board Secretary

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment was received, and after verifying there was no one online who wished to speak, the Chair moved on to the next agenda item.

### **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**Hauck made a motion, and it was seconded by Lane to approve the September 18, 2024, meeting minutes**

**Hearing no objection, the motion carried 7-0.**

### **STAFF UPDATES**

**Fire Department Report** – Chief Sharp noted that the fire department had not been awarded the SAFER grant but will reapply in 2025. Chief McKeen completed his ICC Inspector I, II and Plans Review Designations. Crews spent Monday – Wednesday doing live fire training. The department held a badge pinning ceremony on 11/08 and pinned 14 members. Two new paramedics started with the department and one more will be starting on December 9<sup>th</sup>. Interviews are scheduled for the Fire Prevention Specialist position, and Chiefs’ interview for a tentative Jan1 start date. Day Car Paramedic and Day Car EMT trainee positions are being recruited for. Paramedic Trainees Delano and Clark have completed their pm school ride time and will be taking their final in the upcoming month. PAFD will be hosting a Fire Investigator Academy in March of 2025 at the Field Hall Center. On November 12<sup>th</sup> Chief Sharp provided a presentation to Clallam County Board of Health and thanked them for the grant to fund the Community Paramedic positions. Part of the grant funded a Polaris to assist in rapid response. Chief gave an update on the “bomb cyclone” from fire’s perspective.

**Police Department Report** – Karl Hatton gave a PenCom report and a PenCom update on the “bomb cyclone” and noted that the County was impacted much further than the city, but that power was lost on the west side. Jessica Conner was promoted, and a new hire started training. PenCom currently has 15 taking the PST and 3 applicants moving into the background process. They are anticipating 9/20 positions vacant in February which would be a hiring crisis they are working on solutions and taking a couple of ideas to city council in the next few months such as

AI solution for responding to non-emergency calls and allowing travel dispatchers to take 6-month contracts. The Joint Public Safety Building is in the works, from an operational perspective PenCom needs a larger space. Jefferson county recently updated their radio over dispatch to match our system so that they are able to share some of the workload.

### **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

Work Plan Ideas: Speeding and cross walks in problematic areas: (Streets and intersections Clarify specific locations) See if there is any Grant funding already being applied for for the speed trailer and/or flashing lights.

December 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting: Hauck made a motion to cancel the December 18<sup>th</sup> PSAB meeting, Lane provided a 2<sup>nd</sup> and the motion passed with a 4/3 vote.

### **REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

Ad Hoc: Margolis announced that they met with the 3 applicants and if Council decides on Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> to provide more direction, they could make a recommendation to add members, but they'd like to get Council Direction before extending a recommendation to a seat that may not be open.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Lane made a motion to adjourn, Sinnes provided a 2<sup>nd</sup>, Vice Chair Margolis adjourned the meeting at 6:57 p.m.

**The next scheduled PSAB Meeting January 21, 2026**