

Murray Public Safety Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 11, 2021

Held at Fire Department Station #81

4848 South Box Elder Street

Time: 6:00 – 7:28 pm

In attendance: Chairperson: Alli Garrison; Vice Chairperson: Andrea Washburn; Police Chief Craig Burnett; Fire Chief Jon Harris; Chief Mike Obrey; Scott Goodman; John Prestwich; and Deborah Crane.

Excused: Brian Lohrke; Wayne Manu

Announcements

The Board Chair will be setting up one-on-one (in person or Zoom) meetings with each member to discuss focus, specific policies for review and upcoming agenda items.

- **Minutes from July 14, 2021 PSA approved.**
- **Citizen Comments – located for future opportunities**
(Comments will be limited to three minutes, step to the microphone, state your name and city of residence, and fill out the required form.)

Discussion Items:

1. **Murray Police – Citizens Police Academy** reports from various members. Different aspects of the citizens academy were discussed and information shared regarding the four-week training.

The next step with the police department is the organizing of ride-alongs for board members

Chief Obrey requested that we email our schedule to him. He recommended that weekends are generally the best time to experience the ride-along generally, but circumstances are different every day.

Board members should email Chief Obrey with schedules.

Chief Obrey's email: mobrey@murray.utah.gov

2. Family Health Safety Fair, Monday, August 16th - Board presence - Alli Garrison

What is the expectation of the board for this event?

The organization and plans are set for this year. However, please come and interact with the public and visit the different exhibits and presentations. Chief Burnett and Chief Harris would love feedback with ideas to improve the fair.

Ideas presented: Greater publicity could be generated. Ideas were shared. Possibly for future consideration, changing date of Fair to September so students back in school could assist in disseminating information and advertising of the fair. This may reach more people

Board members are asked to mingle and observe on Monday, August 16th. Board members are invited to consider ideas as to how the fair might be improved in the future.

Upcoming activities that the board can assist with:

Fire Prevention Week October 3 - 9

3. Murray PD Citizen Complaint - process and form(s) - Alli Garrison

Look over the complaint form available on the Murray Police webpage.

Review the form, policy and procedures where we can make adjustments to meet the needs of the citizens.

Review the policy and get a perspective of the citizens in a complaint issue.

How the form and site can be improved for feedback opportunities

Do you keep data on the number of complaints you receive?

Chief Burnett indicated affirmative to the collection of data, and identified a significant part of the police budget is utilized to maintain records in a large database.

Chief Obrey shared the complaint form and Policy 201. He discussed methods for contacting the department in regard to a complaint or issue. They would prefer citizens to contact with a call. This offers the complainant an opportunity to speak to the supervisor, which is the most successful method of addressing a complaint. Citizens can also but email the administration with issues which also will receive a response.. Several methods are available to be heard with complaints.

Chief Burnett indicated that social media is another avenue although it is a more anonymous voice and not as helpful in making improvements in training or procedures.

Scott suggested that the form be located on the front page of police website, making it more accessible to the public.

Online form option as well to make more accessible to citizens.

Next meeting when we meet in September, we will review the policy and form distributed by Chief Obrey and discuss ways to improve these documents.

4. Settlement reached in lawsuit – John Prestwich

Article discussed that was located in the Murray Journal from August 2, 2021 by Shaun Delliskave. The article refers to a lawsuit by Donna Miller regarding an event in 2018. At the conclusion of the article the formation of the Advisory Board is discussed. The mention of the board was part of the discussion in the meeting. Chief Burnett indicated that the ground work was already laid for the Advisory Board for Police and Fire and the lawsuit had nothing to do with the creation of the board.

Chief Burnett discussed the issues of inaccurate media coverage and inability to correct misconceptions found in the reporting of incidents is always a problem.

Chief Burnett shared that he used this and other experiences to reassess the training of the officers and to supplement additional training if needed.

5. Recent developments, issues, or concerns – Alli Garrison

Alli indicated that she would like to meet the mayor candidates as a board and discuss issues related to board concerns. This will be on the September meeting agenda for a vote.

Chief Harris requested that the Fire Department Community Breakfast be added for next month as well for discussion. This activity can be expanded

to include more activities and opportunities for the board's participation. The activity is planned for spring.

Chief Burnett - added that Salt Lake City Police Department has made an increase to their officer's pay scale in their department which will have a domino effect across the valley as departments scramble to remain viable in the employment market. Murray is now discussing the issue of changing their pay scale to bring good candidates to Murray City Police Department.

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm.

Next meeting will be: September 8, 2021