

Chico Police Department  
Police Community Advisory Board

**Wednesday, June 15, 2022**

8:00am – 9:30am



**Police Chief's Conference Room**  
**1460 Humboldt Road**

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**Group Agreements**

- Be Respectful • Stay Fully Present • Speak and Listen from the Heart • Expect and Accept Non-Closure •
- Hold the Complexity of Other's Experiences Without Judgment • Maintain Confidentiality •

**AGENDA**

- I. Opening Remarks
  - a. Chief Matt Madden
    - i. Chico Police Department 2021 Annual Report
- II. Approval of Minutes
- III. Report Review

**Chico Police Department | Police Community Advisory Board (PCAB)**  
**Police Chief's Conference Room ~ 1460 Humboldt Road**  
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**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chief Matt Madden, Gloria Halley, Kasey Reynolds, Tom van Overbeek

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Admin Analyst Crystal Peppas

**OPENING COMMENTS**

**Chief Matt Madden** stated this meeting would be a review of recent topics. PCAB will summarize all the topics discussed over the course of the last year in an annual report and provide recommendations to the Chief of Police. These recommendations will be presented to City Council by PCAB in September.

**DISCUSSION**

**Tom** said that the presentation on health and wellness by Jodi Drysdale, Butte Strong Wellness Program Unit Manager and Chico PD Lieutenant Terry Tupper was well done. The stressors and political climate that officers live with are incredible. People need support in tough jobs such as these. The on-duty workout program in combination with the Butte Strong Wellness Program appears to be a holistic approach.

**Chief Madden** stated that Risk Management has found that workers compensation claims have gone down with the institution of the on-duty workout program. When an officer enters the Police Academy, they must pass a physical agility course. Once they become officers, there is not an ongoing requirement for physical fitness, unless they apply to join a specialty team. The on-duty workout program is voluntary. With an overlap in each shift, the supervising sergeant, patrol officers and community services officers can work out together. However, if officers choose not to participate, they must be in the field and available for calls so there is some incentive to exercise. And, it has been established that physical and mental health are related. In addition to the on-duty work out program, the Butte Strong Wellness Program incorporates the Chico PD Peer Support Team and peer support teams from other agencies. These support teams train together and are ready to assist when critical events occur that affect law enforcement personnel. An employee can choose to talk to someone from their own agency, or another agency – whatever works best for them and maintains their sense of privacy. The stigma of asking for support and talking about stressors with peers is breaking down.

Recommendations that came out of PCAB's discussion on officer health and wellness include continuing with the Butte Strong Wellness program and for local agencies to prepare to fund the program if/when the grant funding is exhausted. Funding options may include searching for additional grants, match funding, or additional line-item requests to be added to each agency's budget. Another recommendation is on-site instructors and physical therapists coming to the Chico PD campus to work directly with employees. This is occurring at the Butte County Sheriff's office, through the Butte Strong Wellness Program.

**Chief Madden** moved the conversation to the next topic of Support Service Units. There has been pressure on cities across the nation to defund police departments and move more into social work. Co-response between law enforcement and behavioral health specialists is one solution. Chico PD and Butte County Behavioral Health have developed a good working relationship over the years. During a presentation to PCAB, Butte County Behavioral Health Crisis Services Program Manager Melody Robinson spoke to the development of the Mobile Crisis Unit. In 2017, funding from the Mental Health Services Act allowed for the creation of a Mobile Crisis Unit that co-responds with law enforcement to emergency calls for service and provides crisis-related outreach and engagement in the community. The program has proven to be successful and aids in the de-escalation of critical situations. The Mobile Crisis Team is currently available in Chico 7 days a week from 8am to 6pm. The stage is set for expansion of their services throughout Butte County. The future goal is to have funding and staffing for 27/7 coverage.

**Gloria** said that is important for Chico PD to ensure their collaborations, partnerships, and stories are being communicated to the public, so the national narrative is not automatically transferred to our community. **Chief Madden** shared that Chico PD's Public Information Officer (PIO) moved to Orange County and that a new PIO is in the process of a background check for employment. It is important for a Public Information Officer to establish relationships with local media and know the limitations of what government agencies can post on social media. The new PIO has education and experience that will serve her well in her new role.

**Kasey** said that one takeaway from the presentation by Melody Robinson was that even with the funding that Behavioral Health receives, recruitment and retention is a challenge. Butte, as a county, has low pay for positions in social work. Another point was that there is not a currently a sobering and detox center located anywhere in Butte County. This is a critical piece of the puzzle and conversations are in the beginning phases. It may be some time before potential impacts are analyzed and a facility location is established.

## **CLOSING**

**Chief Madden** stated that the next few weeks PCAB will draft a report of all the topics covered over the last year and include recommendations to the Chief.

Chief Madden shared the 2021 Chico Police Department Annual Report with the members of PCAB. The Chico PD Annual Report will be presented to Council and released to the public on the Chico Police Department website and social media accounts.