



**Minutes of the
Public Safety Advisory Board
February 17, 2026
3:00 p.m. – Police Department
Administration Conference Room
10 NE Tudor Road, Lee's Summit, Missouri**

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chairman Pryde.

ROLL CALL:

Council Liaison John Lovell	Absent	<u>Staff Present:</u>	<u>Guests:</u>
Chairman Jim Pryde	Present	Fire Chief Mike Snider	Present
Vice Chair Randy Johnson	Present	Asst. Fire Chief Jim Eden	Present
Board Member Kenneth Davis	Present	Chief Travis Forbes	Present
Board Member Bruce Trammell	Present	Major Josh Patterson	Present
Board Member Bill Morrow	Present	City Traffic Engineer	
Board Member Vanessa Hickman	Absent	Susan Barry	Absent
Board Member Mark Leetch	Absent	Chief Counsel of Public Safety – Civil law	
Board Member Jennifer Nussbeck	Absent	Beth Murano	Present
Board Member Dennis Savidge	Present		

1. Public Comments

- A speaker expressed appreciation for the PSAB's work, noting the board encourages presenters to think critically and often raises issues not previously considered.
- It was clarified that the PSAB serves as an **advisory board appointed by the City Council**, acting as the council's "eyes and ears" prior to items being presented for council consideration.

2. Board Comments

None presented.

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion carried.**

4. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the previous meeting as printed and distributed. **Motion carried.**

5. Committee Reports

- **Animal Control:** No issues reported.
- **Miscellaneous Issues:** No issues reported
- **Ordinance Review:** No issues reported.
- **Tow Committee:** No issues reported.
- **Traffic Safety Committee:** No issues reported.

6. Old Business

Adoption of the 2024 International Fire Code

- Presentation provided outlining the proposed adoption of the **2024 International Fire Code**.
- The update follows approximately six years since the last adoption.
- The code establishes **minimum national safety standards** addressing new technologies, materials, and fire safety lessons.
- Adoption process includes review by the committee and board prior to City Council consideration.

Regional and Technical Coordination

- Fire code provisions are coordinated with **International Building, Energy, and Mechanical Codes** to maintain consistency.
- Regional collaboration with surrounding jurisdictions supports consistent interpretation and enforcement.
- Fire Chiefs Council conducted a multi-month review process prior to presentation.

Lithium-Ion Battery Safety

- Significant focus on risks associated with **lithium-ion batteries and energy storage systems**.
- Amendments include:
 - o Charging station placement and safety requirements
 - o Enhanced detection and suppression in multi-family buildings
 - o Protective design requirements for centralized charging areas
- Residential garage recommendations include **heat detection devices** to address battery charging risks.

Multi-Family Residential Amendments

- Restrictions proposed for **propane tanks, grills, and pellet smokers** on apartment balconies and decks.
- **Valet trash service provisions** added to address hallway fire hazards.
- Additional guidance established for **temporary heating and cooking equipment**.

Residential Fire Safety

- Clarification provided for **one- and two-family dwelling recreational fires**.
- Patio fireplaces remain permitted with appropriate separation distances.
- Recreational fire permits will continue to be required.

Carbon Monoxide Detection

- Carbon monoxide detection expanded to additional residential and business occupancies.
- Battery-operated devices permitted where appropriate.

Operational Permits and Amendments

- Operational permits expanded to include **electric vehicle charging stations**.
- Existing operational permits remain in place for hazardous materials, propane exchange, and open burning.
- Open burning allowed on **residential lots greater than five acres** with proper permits.

Construction and Infrastructure Standards

Data Center and Infrastructure Safety

- Discussion addressed increasing development of **large data centers** and associated fire protection measures.
- Clean agent suppression systems and generator redundancy were noted as typical mitigation strategies.

Food Truck Safety Amendments

- Regional **food truck inspection reciprocity** adopted.
- Amendment allows **self-cleaning of short hood systems**, subject to inspection.

Fire Code Adoption Process

- Proposed code amendments will proceed through the following approval process:
 - o Board of Appeals
 - o Community Economic Development Committee
 - o City Council

7. New Business

None.

8. Fire Department Report

Staffing

- One vacancy exists following a recent resignation, with several candidates available from the eligibility list.
- The **communications center has three open positions.**
- Two new personnel recently began operations assignments.

Accreditation

- The department's **2025 annual compliance report** was approved, maintaining accreditation status.
- The next accreditation commission hearing is anticipated in **September 2027.**

Joint Operations Center

- Construction and preparation remain on schedule for a **June move-in.**

Station Alerting System

- Installation of the station alerting system was delayed until the Joint Operations Center opens.
- System activation is expected **June–July.**

Data Reporting System Transition

- The department transitioned from **NFIRS to NIRS reporting** in November 2025.
- Data inconsistencies are expected until a full year of reporting data is available.
- A department representative was appointed to the **NIRS Technical Panel.**

IAFC Election

- A representative is running for leadership within the **International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC).**
- The election will continue through **June 10**, with a four-year term for the position.

ISO Rating

- The city currently holds a **split ISO rating of Class 2.**
- A rating review is forthcoming.

World Cup Preparations

- Planning continues for **World Cup-related operations.**
 - Kansas City Fire Department has requested mutual aid but may not be able to reimburse assisting agencies.
 - The only confirmed commitment currently involves **Hazmat personnel support.**
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9. Police Department Report

Crime Trends

- Overall crime decreased **13.5% in 2025** despite increased service calls.
- Property crimes decreased approximately **17%**.
- Robberies declined, while assaults remain difficult to prevent proactively.

Technology and Enforcement Tools

- Increased use of **license plate readers (LPRs)** and surveillance cameras assists investigations.
- Mobile and intersection camera systems are expanding in coordination with Public Works.
- Retail security cameras can now feed alerts into the department's system.

Mental Health Co-Responder Program

- Co-responders assist officers with mental health calls and connect individuals with community resources.
- The program reduces time demands on patrol officers.

Drone Program

- Drone operations continue to expand with additional trained operators.
- FAA licensing requirements remain stringent.
- Transition planned from DJI drones to **Skydio systems** integrated with the Real-Time Crime Center.

Staffing

- The department remains **19 officers below authorized strength**.
- Staffing shortages limit expansion of specialized units while maintaining patrol coverage.

Recruiting

- Recruitment outlook expected to improve following updates to the **Fraternal Order of Police agreement** and pay adjustments.

Technology and Future Initiatives

Axon Technology Implementation

- Transition to **Axon systems** for body cameras and in-car cameras.
- Integration planned with the **Real-Time Crime Center**.

Real-Time Crime Center

- Dispatch operations will initially be located within the Joint Operations Center.
- Analysts will monitor camera systems and provide intelligence to field units.

Drone as First Responder (DFR)

- The department is pursuing a **Drone as First Responder program**.
- Drones would auto-dispatch to incidents and stream live video to command staff.

Virtual Reality Training

- A **virtual reality training system** is being installed at the former training center.
 - Stakeholders will be invited to participate in demonstration scenarios.
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10. Public Works Report

- Nothing to report.
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11. Roundtable

- Finalize the **Axon camera and drone system contract** in March.
 - Complete the **FOP work agreement** to implement revised pay scales.
 - Continue training personnel on the **virtual reality training system**.
 - Await further operational details and personnel requests related to **World Cup support**.
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12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:28 p.m.