RICHMOND POLICE COMMISSION

Wednesday, September 4, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.
Employment & Training Building
330 – 25th Street
Conference Room 1

MINUTES

I CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, PLEDGE

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Felix Hunziker

ROLL CALL

Present: Nemy Bautista
Felix Hunziker
Scott Gillespie
Bea Roberson
Glenn Stephenson
Eleanor Thompson

Absent: Therese Barquet
Alejandro Navarro
Yenny Velazquez

Vacancies: None

Administrative Staff: Terry Simpson, Investigator – Present
Malia Glover, Executive Secretary I – Present

Council Liaison: Jael Myrick, Council Liaison – Absent

City Attorney’s Office Representative: Bruce Soublet, Assistant City Attorney – Present

II APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 10, 2013

Upon motion by Commissioner Roberson and second by Commissioner Bautista, the minutes for the regular meeting of July 10, 2013, were approved as written.

III REPORT OF COUNCIL LIAISON JAEL MYRICK

Not present.
IV REPORT OF CHIEF OF POLICE (Chris Magnus or his representative)

A. Report of recent activities, events, incidents, and related matters

Chief Magnus distributed information about an investigation they worked on in cooperation with the DEA, FBI and the DA’s office over the last several months. It ties in to the Ceasefire program and the consequences of what happens if the shootings don’t stop.

The chief said they are in the early stage of Predictive Policing. They are also in the final stages of contract negotiations with the RPOA. He said they have asked them to agree to go back to 10 hour shifts in January; RPOA has been supportive of this.

Chief Magnus passed out copies of Policy #462 regarding license plate readers. He said they have a contract with a company that makes the hardware and they have a contract with a software vendor. He explained how the license plate readers worked.

Chair Hunziker asked if the data is stored by a third party vendor. The chief said yes, but they still have proprietary rights to how RPD’s data is handled. RPD has the option to share it with a national data base. The information is stored for a year. For it to be stored beyond a year there must be an ongoing investigation. The company does not share this data for any purposes outside of law enforcement. Chief Magnus asked the commission to review the policy and provide him with any feedback they may have in the next month.

Commissioner Stephenson asked if all officers will be trained on the license plate readers or just the officers that will be driving those vehicles. Chief Magnus said if they will be driving the cars, they have to be trained on the use of the license plate readers. There are four cars equipped with the license plate readers.

Chair Hunziker said that the policy states a minimum of one year before purging information. Chief Magnus said the purge date will be one year unless there are other circumstances involved. Chair Hunziker asked why the purge date was not 90 days. Chief Magnus said 90 days may not be a sufficient amount of time. Chair Hunziker said there are concerns about privacy and photos being sent out so he is interested in a 90 day purge date. Chief Magnus said he will find out what is being retained on the database.

Commissioner Gillespie asked if a crime occurred could the license plate reader be used to see if data was captured. Chief Magnus said yes, but he is not aware that that has happened yet.

Chair Hunziker asked if the 10 hour shift would reduce coverage. The chief said they are looking at several configurations and hope to have more overlap by staggering start times within shifts.

Commissioner Stephenson asked if officers will be getting automatic weapons. Chief Magnus said they have AR15’s and they are in the process of training the officers. It will be some time before everyone is trained.
B. Report on duties and responsiveness of Watch Commanders

No report on this item.

V INTRODUCTION OF NEW PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS UNIT SUPERVISOR (Lt. Brian Dickerson)

Chief Magnus introduced Lt. Brian Dickerson, the new lieutenant in Professional Standards. He said he selected Brian for his promotion and this challenging assignment because he has a lot of confidence in his skills; he is hard working and has integrity. Lt. Dickerson briefed the commissioners on his background and the future of the Professional Standards unit. He said he has had great interaction with the Police Commission’s investigator, Terry Simpson. He said it is important to keep integrity in the process when working with the commission, but also keeping the police department and police commission separate.

Commissioner Gillespie asked how the new software for tracking use of force is working out. Lt. Dickerson said it is working well. It is called the Blue Team program. They are approximately 85% on board with having everything uploaded.

Commissioner Stephenson asked if the program broke down the information by shift and/or beat. Lt. Dickerson said yes, you can set up different parameters.

Chair Hunziker asked what percentage of use of force incidents resulted in disciplinary action in the last year. Lt. Dickerson said he doesn’t know the exact amount, but it was a low percentage.

Chair Hunziker asked how long an internal affair’s investigation usually takes. Lt. Dickerson said that they have approximately one year to complete an investigation but they try to complete them within 45 days. Chief Magnus said there can be various factors that come in to play that may stop or delay the investigation such as legal actions.

VI REPORT ON CASE REVIEW STATUS AND ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATES BY CONFIDENTIAL INVESTIGATOR (Terry Simpson)

Terry Simpson said since 4/17/13, he was given eight cases for investigation plus two others for review that were a combination of 2012 and 2013 cases. Since then, several more have come in. Currently, of the 14 cases that he has reviewed, all but four have been completed. One case will be ready for review for the October police commission meeting. He hopes to have three of the four remaining cases completed this month.

Bruce Soublet said that at some point, if there is no cooperation from the complainants, the cases will have to be closed.

VII PUBLIC FORUM

No public speakers.
VIII POLICE COMMISSION CONTINUING EDUCATION

A. Discussion of planned or proposed educational and training opportunities for members of the Police Commission

Commissioner Roberson said that DUI Officer Phil Sanchez puts on a DUI class in conjunction with MADD on the last Saturday of the month at 9:00 a.m. in the City Council Chambers.

IX POLICE COMMISSION OUTREACH

A. Discussion of planned or proposed educational and training opportunities for members of the Police Commission.

Chair Hunziker said that the Home Front Festival will be on Saturday, October 12, 2013, at the Craneway Pavilion from 11:00 to 4:00. He asked if anyone would volunteer to help staff the Police Commission booth. Commissioner Stephenson said he may be able to.

Bruce Soublet reminded the commissioners to not respond to “all” on commission e-mails because it is a violation of the Brown Act.

Commissioner Stephenson suggested that they visit the Neighborhood Council meetings. Chair Hunziker said that anyone interested should contact Commissioner Stephenson.

X POLICE-COMMUNITY RELATIONS

A. Discussion of planned or proposed outreach projects to strengthen partnerships between the community and the Police Department.

There was no discussion on this item.

XI POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICY REVIEW

No policies were reviewed.

XII REPORTS BY:

• CHAIRPERSON
• COMMISSIONERS
• STAFF

Chair Hunziker

• Went on two ride-alongs
• Attended gun buy-back
• Attended Mobile Field Force training
• Attended NACOLE reception in San Francisco
• Attended DUI checkpoint
Chair Hunziker (cont.)
  • Asked about process for getting new council liaison (Bruce Soublet said to go through the mayor’s office).

Commissioner Roberson
  • Attended Coffee with a Cop
  • Attended DUI checkpoint
  • Attended National Night Out
  • Attended gun buy-back
  • Went on two ride-alongs

Commissioner Bautista
  • Attended National Night Out
  • Attended Coffee with a Cop
  • Attended gun buy-back

Commissioner Stephenson
  • Attended gun buy-back
  • Attended Chevron protest
  • Attended DUI checkpoint
  • Attended National Night Out
  • Went on ride-along with Det. Smith
  • Attended Pt. Molate Community Advisory Committee meeting

XIII  ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

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Felix Hunziker, Chair