

# **RICHMOND POLICE COMMISSION**

**Wednesday, July 7, 2010 – 7:00 p.m.  
Employment & Training Building  
330 – 25<sup>th</sup> 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 Cora Ward

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Nemy Bautista  
Dolores Hembree  
Felix Hunziker  
Roberto Reyes  
Bea Roberson  
Glenn Stephenson  
Cora J. Ward

**Absent:** Scott Gillespie  
Naomi Williams

**Vacancies:** None

#### **Administrative**

**Staff Present:** Don Casimere, Confidential Investigative & Appeals Officer  
Malia Glover, Executive Secretary I

**Council Liaison:** Jeff Ritterman, Council Liaison – Present

#### **City Attorney's**

**Office Representative:** Bruce Soublet, Assistant City Attorney – Present

### **II APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 2, 2010**

Upon motion by **Commissioner Roberson** and second by **Commissioner Bautista**, the minutes for the regular meeting of June 2, 2010, were approved as written.

### **III COMMENTS BY COUNCIL LIAISON JEFF RITTERMAN**

**Councilmember Ritterman** reported that he will be in Sacramento next week with the city manager, the mayor and Councilmember Viramontes as part of the City's negotiating team for a mediation session regarding the Chevron Renewal Project. He also reported on the Gaza flotilla incident. He said the taser item was not removed from the consent

calendar at last night's council meeting because the new law has not started yet in Arizona. **Councilmember Ritterman** said that the fireworks event on July 3<sup>rd</sup> in the City of Richmond was a stupendous event.

**Chair Ward** asked **Councilmember Ritterman** to invite members of the community to the Police Commission meetings. **Councilmember Ritterman** said he would.

**Commissioner Roberson** suggested to have initiation fees waived for apprenticeships to Chevron, or have Chevron pay the fees so that more Richmond youth could participate. **Councilmember Ritterman** agreed. He said they would also like to create manufacturing jobs in the City by having BART cars built in the City.

**Commissioner Reyes** said he supported **Councilmember Ritterman** in regards to the tasers and he also thanked him for the agreement that was negotiated with Chevron.

**Commissioner Hembree** suggested 801 Chesley (the old Rheem Manufacturing Co.) for manufacturing BART cars.

**Councilmember Ritterman** said they've initiated a process to make Richmond a heart safe city and plan on placing a certain number of automatic defibrillators in buildings and teach people how to use them.

#### **IV COMMENTS BY CHIEF OF POLICE (Chris Magnus or his representative)**

**Chief Magnus** thanked the commissioners for their review of the RPD policies. He said he had been frustrated with the quality of some of the policies. They assembled an administrative command staff and went through the recommendations from the commissioners and specifically the suggestion from **Commissioner Gillespie** to consolidate certain policies regarding use of force. As a direct result of those recommendations and suggestions, there will now be one use of force/firearms/control device policy that deals with all those different areas pertaining to the use of force. Chief Magnus said this is far improved from having individual policies for each. He said this highlights the importance of having the Police Commissioners involved in the policy review process. He said the Commission provided helpful feedback.

The Chief gave an update on crime in the city. He said overall crime is down 8%, however, burglary is slightly up. He made a proposal to the Commission to work with RPD in doing a community outreach program at St. Mark's Church this summer in response to the Latino community and their concern about checkpoints and immigration issues. They would like to focus on some of the neighborhoods with high crime, especially property crimes. The community would be invited to discuss how they could work together to prevent some of these crimes. He would like the Commission to give a presentation to let the community know what the Commission does. He would like the first session to be sometime in early September.

**Chief Magnus** said he sent an e-mail with some video links highlighted by KTVU. The segment was done by Berkeley journalism students. It highlights some of the things that RPD is doing with State Parole in terms of parolee compliance.

The Chief said they entered into a working group about 6-8 months ago with Richmond Youth Media which is a group of students that do video production. RPD invested money, time and energy to help develop a program that would focus on young people in Richmond. It airs monthly on KCRT and is called "Who I Am." It can also be seen on You Tube and several different public access channels.

The Chief also talked about a recent pit bull attack on a chihuahua. Many people of the community are wondering what the police department does with animal complaints and why they haven't arrested the owners, etc. He said that they have a contract with the Contra Costa County Animal Control who are the animal authorities that handle these complaints. They have a protocol that the courts follow on how they deal with this. The dogs did not have any prior history of being aggressive. The dogs were put down but the owners were not prosecuted. RPD does not have any control over this.

**Chief Magnus** said he is not expecting any problems in Richmond in regards to the Mehserle verdict. They are part of county mutual aid and will send officers to Alameda County if needed.

Lt. Zanolli's memorial service will be held on Friday, 7/16/10, at 1:00 p.m. at Fairfield Community Center, 1000 Webster Street.

National Night Out is on 8/3/10. The Commission is invited to take part in the event. They will forward more information later. The Chief thanked the Commission for their presence at Juneteenth.

**Chair Ward** said that the Commission will not be meeting in August. The next meeting will be September 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **V REPORTS BY:**

- **RICHMOND POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION**

No representative present.

- **LATINO POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION**

No representative present.

- **GUARDIANS OF JUSTICE**

No representative present.

## **VI DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING THE PLACEMENT OF PUBLIC FORUM ON AGENDA (Commissioner Stephenson)**

**Commissioner Stephenson** requested that Public Forum be moved higher on the agenda so that people who wanted to give comments would not have to wait so long to speak. After discussion, **Commissioner Stephenson** made a motion to move Public Forum to

Item V (after the Report by the Chief). The motion was seconded by **Commissioner Reyes**. All were in favor.

**VII DISCUSSION ON DEVELOPING STRATEGIES TO PROMOTE POSITIVE POLICE-COMMUNITY RELATIONS (Commissioner Hunziker)**

**Commissioner Hunziker** said that part of the Commission's mission is to develop strategies to promote positive community-police relations. He wants to talk about things they could do to fulfill this part of the mission. He said the best way to build trust between the community and the police is to get them talking to each other. The best way to make that happen is for residents to begin neighborhood watch groups where officers will come into their homes and they would meet each other and create a bond.

**Chair Ward** suggested that he lead an ad hoc committee to get together and bring some strategies back to the Commission.

**Commissioner Roberson** said that Neighborhood Watch groups are a part of Crime Prevention so they would have to work with Crime Prevention. She said some of the commissioners should find out if they could go to Crime Prevention meetings and offer their help to get more neighborhoods going. She also suggested that someone come to the Richmond Neighborhood Coordinating Council (RNCC) Board meeting and speak on behalf of the Commission. **Chair Ward** said she will be at the meeting. **Commissioner Roberson** said the next RNCC Board meeting is 7/19/10, at 330 – 25<sup>th</sup> Street at 7:00 p.m. There is no meeting in August. The regular meeting of the RNCC is 9/13/10, same time same place.

**Commissioner Reyes** made a motion to form an ad hoc committee to pursue Items VII and VIII. It was seconded by **Commissioner Hembree**. All were in favor.

**Commissioners Roberson, Reyes and Hembree** agreed to work with **Commissioner Hunziker** on the ad hoc committee.

**Chair Ward** said she and any volunteers that want to can work with the Chief regarding the meeting at St. Mark's in early September.

**VIII DISCUSSION ON WAYS TO EDUCATE THE COMMUNITY ABOUT THE POLICE COMMISSION (Commissioner Hunziker)**

See Item VII.

**IX PUBLIC FORUM**

No public speakers

**X DISCUSSION REGARDING ATTENDANCE AT THE 16<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL NACOLE CONFERENCE IN SEPTEMBER 2010 IN SEATTLE**

**CIAO Casimere** gave an overview of the conference. He said that due to budget constraints, if there are more than three commissioners that want to attend, up to five commissioners could attend but each would have to pay for their own transportation cost. **CIAO Casimere** said he would be attending. **Commissioners Stephenson, Roberson, Hembree, Reyes, and Chair Ward** want to attend the conference also. **Commissioner Hunziker** said he would like to be an alternate.

## **XI REPORTS BY:**

### **Commissioner Stephenson**

- Attended Meeting – Discovering the Reality of Our Community
- Police and Firefighter Awards Dinner in May

### **Commissioner Bautista**

- 6/08/10 – Served at election poll in neighborhood
- 6/24/10 – Attended May Valley NC
- Requested to close meeting in honor of Lt. Zanutelli

### **Commissioner Roberson**

- Inspector at election poll
- Attended RNCC Meeting
- Attended City Council Meeting
- Took part in Juneteenth Parade
- Attended Juneteenth Celebration
- Attended Music on the Main
- Attended San Pablo Public Safety Day
- Attended July 3<sup>rd</sup> Fireworks
- Did a Ride-along on 7/4/10

### **Commissioner Hembree**

- Attended San Pablo Public Safety Day
- Attended Richmond Pow Wow at Lucretia Edwards Park
- Attended July 3<sup>rd</sup> Fireworks

### **CIAO Casimere**

- Daily Contact Log will be sent to commissioners

## **XII ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 in honor of Lt. Zanutelli.

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**Don Casimere**  
**Confidential Investigative & Appeals Officer**