

RICHMOND POLICE COMMISSION

Wednesday, October 11, 2006 – 7:00 p.m.
Community Services Building
330 - 25th Street
Conference Room 1

MINUTES

I CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice Chair Cora Ward

ROLL CALL

Present: Susan H. Geick
Dolores Hembree
Cochise Potts (arrived 7:03)
Glenn Stephenson
Chris Tallerico
Cora J. Ward
Naomi Williams
Don Zingale

Absent: Albert R. Martinez, Chair

Vacancies: None

Administrative Staff Present: Don Casimere, Confidential Investigative & Appeals Officer
Malia Glover, Administrative Secretary

Vice-Chair Ward introduced and welcomed the newest commissioner, Chris Tallerico.

II APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 6, 2006

Upon motion by **Commissioner Hembree** and second by **Commissioner Geick** the minutes for the regular meeting of September 6, 2006, were approved as written.

Commissioner Geick requested to speak before the Chief's report and announced that this was her last Police Commission meeting. She stated that it was tragic that some commissioners had been here for three years and had not yet had an orientation by the Police Department. She expressed how important orientation is to new commissioners. She thanked Chief Magnus and Deputy Chief Ritter for getting the orientation together and scheduling it for October 24, 2006. She also requested that she be allowed to attend the training. She also commented that the Police Commission needs to get its collegiality back and the importance of the confidentiality of Police Commission business.

III REPORT BY CHIEF OF POLICE (or his representative)

Chief Magnus said they are putting their COMPSTAT program in place which provides officers and managers with timely crime data for every neighborhood in the city as well as calls for service data. The managers from each of the geographic districts attend a meeting every other week and talk about what they are doing to deal with those crime patterns. COMPSTAT takes data from the CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch) and RMS (Records Management System) programs and maps the data geographically so that officers and managers can see what's happening in terms of crime down to the block level. Data will be available to them beginning in November. There's a portion of that data that will be available to the public via the website after the first of the year.

Commissioner Tallerico asked if the system was real time or if it had to be crunched every few months. He also asked what other departments are using COMPSTAT. Chief Magnus said it is as close to real time as you can get. He said that Berkeley is one and San Francisco is working on it.

Commissioner Hembree asked if the system will be available to other agencies that Richmond dispatches to. Chief Magnus said they would have to have some financial buy-in to that.

Chief Magnus said school truancy sweeps will be starting soon. He said it is a positive program with cooperation at district level from County Youth Probation and PAL (Police Activities League). They will be having Active Shooter Training on Friday. It will train both SWAT personnel and other officers, including school resource officers, on how to react as opposed to waiting, if there is a shooter on the move inside of a school. Chief Magnus stated that their assessment of the tent cities in Richmond has been very positive. They are doing their best to provide security and support. He said the numbers of shots fired and incidents of violent crime in the immediate areas adjacent to the tent cities have gone down. Chief Magnus said they will soon have a booklet available to the public which answers questions on how to work with the police, how to report crimes, noise, garbage, etc. This will be published by the next meeting. The Chief expressed his disappointment regarding the fact that they still have not been moved out of the Hall of Justice. He said the building poses a safety risk for the people who work there due to the levels of mold in the building. He hopes the council will recognize that they need to go forward with the move as soon as possible.

Phil Mehas wanted to know the status of having updates of the Police Department Manual made available to the Police Commission for their review. Deputy Chief Ritter stated that the Police Commission has the current manual that they are operating with. The updates haven't been finalized and they will distribute those updates before they implement them. **Mr. Mehas** asked where he could get a copy of the agreement between RPD and the school district. Chief Magnus told him to contact him.

Corky Booze asked the timeline for updating the manual. Chief Magnus said there is no timeline. Chief Magnus said it is a working document. Some of the policies need to be updated and some are fine the way they are. The internal support is very limited in

having people to do policy development. Mr. Booze stated that if they see anyone doing any shooting near the tent cities, the police will be told. He encouraged the commissioners to go to the Fourth Street Park to see what the chief has done to help improve the park.

Vice Chair Ward thanked Chief Magnus for all that he has done and for coming to the meetings every month to give his report.

Commissioner Zingale asked if there was an accredited body for handling polices and procedures. Chief Magnus said there is but there is a very small percentage of police departments that participate in it. It is very expensive and requires a significant amount of dedicated staff to do nothing but manage that accreditation process on a daily basis. The Chief stated that he is very committed to involve the Commission in any revisions to their policies.

IV REPORT BY POLICE OFFICER ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE

Sgt. Darrel Jones was there to represent the RPOA. He is also vice president of the Guardians of Justice. He reported that there was a feature on Channel 5 regarding Officer Ronald Vinson's life. They also interviewed Sgt. Allwyn Brown concerning recruiting. Sgt. Jones said he has been appointed to work on the Commissioner orientation.

Commissioner Stephenson said the Highway Patrol was looking for 645 officers and he assumes that will hurt Richmond's recruiting efforts. Chief Magnus said they are working on a major recruiting campaign that will start after the first of the year.

V REPORT BY GUARDIANS OF JUSTICE REPRESENTATIVE

Included in Item IV.

VI REPORT BY LATINO POLICE OFFICER ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE

Off. Esteban Barragan, Vice President of the LPOA, reported that they are having a Christmas/Thanksgiving fund raiser trip to Reno on October 21, 2006. The donation is \$45.00. He distributed flyers with more information.

VII COMMENTS BY MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE

Bob Sutcliffe said that the Police Department deserves the Commission's undivided attention in understanding the Police Operations Manual thoroughly. He told the commissioners to demand revisions and review them. He told Commissioner Geick that it was an honor to serve with her. He said she was one of the best prepared people for meetings. Mr. Sutcliffe said he has concerns about the way the direction the Police Commission is going. He thinks that having a contract employee working for the Commission has taken away from the benefit of the Commission as a whole.

Corky Booze said it was a pleasure knowing Commissioner Geick. She has done a fabulous job here. Mr. Booze said if the Commission lets Cochise Potts down, he will do everything in his power to see to it that that is followed through to the end.

Phil Mehas welcomed Chris Tallerico to the Commission. He encouraged the Commission to assert themselves when it comes to the Policy Manual. He said the Chief is going to need a lot of support to get the new building that they need.

VIII REPORT BY CONFIDENTIAL IAO

CIAO Casimere reported that he, Chair Martinez, and Commissioners Williams and Potts attended the Crime Prevention meeting on 9/20/06. There was also a presentation given at the Richmond Heights Neighborhood Council meeting in September. He attended along with Chair Martinez, Vice-Chair Ward and Commissioner Stephenson. There was one complaint received in the past month. Mr. Casimere attended the NACOLE (National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement) conference with Chair Martinez and Vice Chair Ward. They distributed copies of the Aggressive Animal Policy at the conference. It was well received by the delegates at the conference.

Corky Booze asked CIAO Casimere if he has attended any tent cities. CIAO Casimere said he has not. Mr. Booze urged him to attend because some of the problems in the City of Richmond could include police brutality.

Bob Sutcliffe wanted to remind the Commission that the Mayor and City Council appoint police commissioners; the RPOA President does not have that authority.

Phil Mehas said that the ACLU has well documented throughout the state that Police Commissions are under fire. If the Police Officers' Association had their way, there would be no civilian overview in this state. He finds it interesting that a political organization like the RPOA has an office at the expense of tax payers in the police department.

IX REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES

A. West County Alcohol Policy Working Group

Commissioner Williams attended the meeting. They talked about several things including crime statistics, markets working on their reinstatement licenses and others that need to be closely watched or closed down. She said they sent a letter to the governor that they are supporting SB148 which will give local citizens more power to say no to places that want to sell liquor in their neighborhoods.

B. Church Outreach Committee

No report

C. Neighborhood Council Outreach Committee

Vice Chair Ward said there will be some meetings scheduled for next month. Commissioner Stephenson said they had a good meeting at East Richmond Neighborhood Council. They handed out a lot of information and they're looking forward to another one. **Commissioner Hembree** requested that the commissioners be informed of the dates of the presentations.

Deputy Chief Ritter said she met with many commissioners to see what information they would like included in the orientation training. Sgt. Jones, who is in charge of the Training Division, coordinated the training date and secured the personnel to provide the training. She handed out the finalized training document and explained each section. It will be an eight hour class with lunch provided. D/C Ritter said it provides a basic overview of what the police department is all about. The more the Commission knows about the department, the more they can take back to the community to help educate others about why something happens.

X EXECUTIVE SESSION: Public Employee Performance and Discipline/Release (Police Officers)

A. Discussion and Action Regarding Complaints #02-2006 and #03-2006

Upon motion and second, the report and finding of Unsubstantiated for one allegation of Unnecessary Force in RPC Complaint #02-2006 were accepted.

The Complainants, Officers and Chief of Police will be notified in writing of the findings regarding this complaint. Additionally, the Commission recommends that existing policy regarding the documentation of all felony stops should be consistently implemented. If no such policy exists, one should be introduced.

Upon motion and second, the report and finding of Unfounded for one allegation of Unnecessary/Excessive Force in RPC Complaint #03-2006 were accepted.

The Complainants, Officers and Chief of Police will be notified in writing of the findings regarding this complaint.

B. Discussion Regarding Complaints Received in the Past Month and Past Complaints

One new complaint this month.

XI REPORTS BY COMMISSIONERS/FOR THE GOOD OF THE COMMISSION

A. Reports on Community Events/Training Attended

Vice Chair Ward announced that the NACOLE Conference will be held in San Jose next year.

B. Police Commissioner Orientation Training – October 24, 2006

Discussed before Executive Session

XII ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 by **Vice Chair Ward**.

Don Casimere
Confidential Investigative & Appeals Officer