



**Minutes of the Northwest Area Community Policing Council**

**Regular Meeting**

**Monday, September 12, 2016**

**Northwest Area Command**

**10401 Cibola Loop NW**

**Albuquerque, NM 87120**

**1. Call to Order**

Chairperson, Eric Jackson, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. (MST) on Monday, September 12, 2016.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chairperson Eric Jackson

David Dunlap

Jill Greene

Cmdr. John Sullivan

Pete Gelabert

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Celina Espinoza, APD

Ed Harness, CPOA/CPB

Mr. David Gold, Facilitator, Office of Diversity and Human Rights

**CITIZENS PRESENT:**

20+ Citizens attended.

**2. Approve Minutes**

Chairperson Eric Jackson's motion to approve the August 8, 2016 minutes, seconded by David Dunlap, passed unanimously.

### **3. Approve Agenda**

Jill Greene's motion to approve the agenda for September 12, 2016, seconded by David Dunlap, passed unanimously.

### **4. Area Command Activity Report**

Commander John Sullivan spoke. He is new to this role. He said he likes questions and that his card, phone #, email are readily available. This command responded to the Victoria child abuse case. It was worse than the media said and was unspeakable evil. They Command is still following up on the mental health of officers who were the first responders to walk through the door.

### **5. CPOA/CPB Update**

CPOA head Ed Harness spoke.

The National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (NACOLE) Conference is September 25-29. The Community Forum is September 25. The meeting is free. The talking circles are facilitated by national people. If you attend one session you're invited to participate in next part. They expect 430 attendees from 8 countries.

The POA meeting was Thursday (9/1). There were three serious use of force cases. The Hawkes and Chase shooting are before the board. Hawkes will be gone for 90 days. Chase will come before that.

Department of Policy Analysis is reviewing body recording devices. OPOA invited the policy author and the ACLU. The defense bar wants everything recorded. ACLU wants privacy. There will be discretion about turn on and turn off. Citizens have expectation to have right to privacy.

Question: What do you do with CPOA findings? They are posted on website as well as the minutes. This includes details, allegations, investigation and recommendation for discipline. Also the Chief's response.

The previous board, which was scrapped, had "no teeth". The current boards do, however final say lies with Chief. We are in 30% non-concurrence.

### **6. Old Business**

#### ***a. Revised Guidelines – Version 3.5***

Continues to be work in progress. Changes were added and removed as appropriate:

- Included origin, CPCs exist as result of the agreement.
- Residence/work requirement.
- Application process. Went through Mayor's office, but no longer does.
- Use of executive session. Can you be part of two CPCs? Appears you can.

Chairperson Eric Jackson's motion to approve the revised guidelines was seconded by Jill Greene and passed unanimously.

**b. "Return to Work" legislation recommendation**

Return to work allows police to be brought back on the force after retirement. In past, anyone could do this, but the State determined the system was abused; people got a pension and paycheck. There was a police officer exception that was done away with in 2010. It was set up to just work in the streets. The recommendation would enable APD to bring back officers. Last year HB171 was introduced. Officers still pay into retirement fund from their paycheck. People are concerned about double dipping. They would still contribute to pension fund. We're hoping it will be reintroduced. The Chief, city council, chiefs across state all support it. Albuquerque was hard hit due to PERA changes. The 7 year (Cost of Living Adjustment was 4 years. We lost a lot of highly trained officers. They can't work for other state agencies.

We will send a recommendation to chief. The CPC should support new legislation. Union is opposed to RTW. Consider it a Band-Aid. We agree, but we want to stop the bleeding. Recruiting has improved. Still it takes 10 months to train. Then you only have a rookie.

**c. WSCONA**

WSCONA will have legislators at meeting Oct 5, at TRCC. You can meet the candidate and ask questions. WSCONA represents 34 Neighborhood Associations on the West side.

**d. Use of Force presentation schedule**

Sgt. Lorris and Major Tyler are confirmed for October. Lorris is in charge of the Use of Force investigation team. Tyler runs training.

**e. Recommendation update**

- i. **Hearing protection for animals.** The department doesn't provide protection for police dogs and horses. There is a debate in the literature. Animals can be subject to acoustic shock. The thought was to protect animals' hearing in training. Officers in firing range wear protection. Earplugs are also made for dogs and horses.
- ii. **Use of tools for rescue in police cars.** Police have difficulty breaking a window or cutting a seat belt after an accident. Specialized tools would save lives. A "rescue hammer" has glass breaking tips, and seat belt cutter. Keychain versions exist too. They run \$10-15. Commander Sullivan agreed this was a "great idea". It's not an additional item on a belt, but is kept in the trunk instead. It's also good for kids/animals left in a car.

## **7. New Business**

**a. Truck & trailer theft prevention**

There is an increase in thefts of vehicles and cars. There is special concern about the Balloon Fiesta (Oct 1-9). Some hotels are issuing a sheet that says lock up vehicles. Last year APD did pre-press conferences and had plain-clothes detectives. In addition, they put out bait cars. Last year we had no balloons stolen.

APD is planning the same thing as last year and has a smaller TAC plan in the State Fair. 4 auto theft suspects were arrested last time.

There are devices to deter theft. A “coupler lock” locks in the cavity. You can’t pull your truck up and steal the trailer. They are very available. Auto burglary was down 60%.

***b. Operation Lilly – Road Rage awareness and prevention***

Lilly Garcia was killed Oct 20th last year. Operation Lilly was intended to get people to think about road rage. We want to promote awareness above and beyond. We have flyers. Discussion of tying a ribbon to a steering wheel to remind you to “Let it Go”. Tying onto steering wheel could be dangerous. Discussion of stickers, keychain, visor, and vent clips. Other idea included: push out to schools and APD could do video using in-house production crew. MADD already has a video.

***c. APD alarm response policy changes***

Alarm response is under discussion. An area of concern is false alarms. It takes the equivalent of 13 full-time FTEs to respond to false alarm calls. No recommendations so far. Lobbyists are saying there are changes. It would have to go through City Council. 1 in 4 people have alarms, but all taxpayers pay. The current threshold is very high for charging for false alarms. Currently three warnings for fee. We could look at the Dallas policy. If you take it off, burglars know they have infinite time. Alarms usually don’t prevent a robbery, but it does limit time.

***d. Pushing information: Safe Exchange Zone, Online reports***

We need to get out information for safe exchange zones. Could be used for custody arrangements, as there is constant video surveillance. Craig’s list sales too. Celina could get the word out. Possibly one could notify the Real-Time Crime Center. Courts, woman’s centers could be notified.

***e. Westside Coalition***

Candidates meeting, Oct 5th, 7:00 PM, Taylor Ranch Community Center.

**8. Matters from the public**

Concern was expressed about streetlights that are out and associated safety issues. Sometimes an entire strip is out. Lights are maintained by PNM, not city or county. Quickest PNM response time is three weeks. Lights around the “Big I” belong to city.

311 was good when it first started. They would directly connect. Now they are the secretary to waste management.

Coyote issue on Paradise Blvd. You have a grade school and middle school nearby. A group called Project Coyote that does coyote intervention. They relocate. They can help with hazing and property protection. Call 311. Animal control guidelines are: throw rocks, no pools of water and other attractants. Coyotes are important part of ecological area and only will be removed if aggressive, injured or sick. Coyotes typically don’t attack.

**9. Executive Session: Discussion of potential Council members**

**10. Adjournment**

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Chairperson Eric Jackson reminded everyone of the next Regular Meeting of the Council on Monday, October 10, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at the Northwest Area Substation. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

SUBMITTED:

READ AND APPROVED:

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Mr. David Gold  
Secretary to the Board

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Mr. Eric Jackson  
Chairperson of the Board