

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**VALLEY AREA COMMUNITY POLICING COUNCIL**  
**THURSDAY, May 25, 2017**  
**APD Training Facility**  
**ALBUQUERQUE, NM**

**I. CALL TO ORDER: Chair Edwina Kiro**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM.

**II. COUNCILOR ROLL CALL: Chair Edwina Kiro**

**Present:**

Edwina Kiro –Chair  
Rowan Wymark  
Bernando Aragon PAC  
Sgt. Nicolas Sanders  
Officer Regina Sanchez

**Absent**

Jami Porter Lara  
Kathleen O' Malley  
Paul Watson

**Also Present:**

Celina Espinoza APD  
Nicole Chavez-Lucero APD

Facilitator:  
David Gold

Community members present: See attached sign in sheet

**III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was approved by consensus.

**IV. APPROVAL OF May 23, 2016 MINUTES**

The minutes were accepted by consensus.

**V. PRESENTERS – APD Forward Jack Taylor, Kathy Angeles, Paul Heidel**

- A. APD Forward is reviewing the Process. In April 2014 issued the findings letter, 1 month after Boyd shooting. The City and DOJ arrived at court appointed settlement and the Monitor (Dr. Ginger), officer of the court.
  1. Dr. Ginger and team spend a few months here, then issue reports. We issue a report after.

- B. The City issued a report before the Monitor. We feel this is the cart before the horse. We want to follow on the Monitor report.
  - 1. Dr. Ginger is the court appointed monitor. Oversees two other effects, NJ State police, and Pittsburg. He has a team.
  - 2. This is the fifth report issued.
- C. ABQ Forward is 18 organizations, and families of victims of police violence. We work for a safer community.
  - 1. We do round tables.
  - 2. Web site with resources. Information on what people can do to be involved.
- D. Our goals are:
  - 1. Have community involvement in the process.
  - 2. Hold APD accountable to agreement. We want people to listen.
  - 3. Press for collaborative goals.
  - 4. Institutionalize mandate. Make sure reforms are permanent and long lasting, sustainable.
  - 5. Fund the reforms. Lawsuits cost millions. Cheaper to fund reforms.
- E. There is good news:
  - 1. Shootings by APD are down.
  - 2. Monitoring and supervision of tasers is improved.
  - 3. Specialized units, bomb squads, canines, have more supervision.
  - 4. CPOA is a staffed agency. CPOA and POB are run by Ed Harness. Mission is in full compliance with agreement. There were some challenges with communication with APD but effort received praise.
  - 5. APD needs to be at 95% operational compliance for two years. It's currently at 47%. Originally it was scheduled to be at 95% at this point.
- F. Bad news:
  - 1. The compliance is low hanging fruit. There are 3 levels of compliance. Primary, secondary, operational. Primary is policy and training. 93% compliance at primary level. We need a cultural change.
  - 2. The settlement agreement is 300 paragraphs. The main component is the use of force (UOF). The pattern of excessive UOF brought DOJ to town. We are at 25% operational compliance for UOF.
  - 3. Supervisory compliance for staffing management and supervision is at 10%. Should be 95%.
- G. The Ugly:
  - 1. The Monitor report is 405 pages. Our analysis is 4 pages. The Monitor saw a sense of obstruction. 9 are points identified that are deliberate non-compliance.

2. The Monitor was supposed to review the Office of Policy policies. In the minutes they saw a special order that changed how frequently supervisory staff reviewed the body camera policy. APD did not go through the process. The Monitor approves police policy. The process was not followed.
  3. The term “distraction strikes” is a euphemism for UOF. The Monitor says the term can’t be used.
  4. The Monitor at the hearing put up chart of effectiveness of UOF review. Chart shows 0%. Monitor says that is not sustainable.
  5. Mayor Barry and Chief Eden are nice but not putting leadership into making changes. In the original report, between 2009 and 2012 DOJ said UOF was not justified in majority of cases.
- H. Q: APD Forward say it is acknowledging the community. I disagree. Nothing ever came back to us. What is result of surveys? We’re just hearing PR. If you’re being progressive. The last three mayoral forum APD leadership came up. You were not at forums. In a closed door meeting Ed Harness said voice of CPC was not being heard, so he was no longer attending. Hispanic voices are not being and are being discriminated against.
1. We disagree with what you said. We will have a Mayoral forum on September 6 with APD Forward and League of Woman Voters in the African American Pavilion.
- I. Q: So far there is no accountability for the 2009-2012 shootings. None for Boyd shooting. Officer has rights, citizens have rights too. CPOA and POB want complete subpoena powers and haven’t received it.
1. We have a long way to go. We’re not where we need to be. Are CPCs and POB working perfectly? Not yet.
- J. Q: Are you looking at a new mayor and police chief? Are you advocating we go outside city for new police chief?
1. It’s up to the new mayor. We are not advocating a specific solution.
- K. I’ve gone on ride-alongs but I think they’re weak. When I did ride-alongs with Sheriff’s dept my questions were answered in writing. In 5 ride-alongs with APD they didn’t.
1. APD Response: The purpose of the Citizens Police Academy (CPA) is to ask questions. You have a good suggestion to implement into the ride along system.
  2. Officer: I welcome questions on ride along. At the end of a shift I won’t remember all the details. Right after I take a call, ask a question. I welcome questions.
  3. Attendee: Doing CPA I was dragged kicking and screaming. It is incredible eyeopener. These guys are amazing. After ride along, I asked so many questions her ears were buzzing. I got great answers.

- L. APD Lt: About New Forms: The forms help us remember to make sure all points are covered.
- M. APD Lt: Monitor's Report: As far as monitor's report, we have our own opinion about how we are doing. At first we said 95% will take 4 years. Once we got into process we realized you cannot go through with that speed. It is a long process. 4 years was not realistic but we continue to make improvements. Sometimes we have already made certain fixes that aren't in the report.
- N. APD Lt: Use Of Force investigation.
  - 1. There are concerns with the current process that make it demoralizing and time consuming.
  - 2. Time consuming for Lt., Cmdr., and Sgt.
  - 3. Looking at UOF it can be simple. You can make quick analysis.
  - 4. We're knocked, because we're supposed to review the entire video, aside from the UOF incident, and dock the officer for other policy violations.
  - 5. Officers are holding back. One officer cussed with another officer, and he is getting docked. The first officer who reviewed it may not have noted the cussing.
    - i. The rules say, we must analyze everything, not just UOF.
    - ii. Each person that watches it catch different violations, and we are not in compliance.
    - iii. The Monitor team reviews it and sees an officer's boots are not shined, they say we didn't do adequate investigation of use of force.
  - 6. Q: Is that a training issue? We're still learning. For years we had bubble sheet that was inadequate. At bottom you'd sign it and it took 5 minutes. Now it takes hours. It is taking way to long. It took me all day yesterday to review one incident. Commanders have 100 officers. Lt. review is supposed to be the longest. We want to be efficient and effective. If we're doing UOF investigations, then we're not supervising. 5<sup>th</sup> floor is still taking suggestions. They are soliciting ideas to make this a better process. The UOF part of the review is usually easy. Everything else on the video takes time. Even with training, people have different perceptions.
  - 7. Q: How many UOF videos you review in a week? I'm PAC Lt so I don't get many. Day shift Lt. has 12 to review. It's a couple a month. Now for Valley we have 14 waiting, but that is several months.
  - 8. The Force Review Board reviews all UOF videos. Also random 10%. They pull in Sgt, and Lt. We're constantly putting in new things. We continue to learn. Still it is large amount of time.

- O. APD: The process to get changes made through monitor takes a long time. Sometimes frustrating because we want to fix things, but we have to wait for monitor.
- P. APD Forward: Episcopal Church. We all want best possible police dept. following best practices. We all want the same thing.
  - 1. Lt: Police want the same thing. Sometimes you have to overcome culture. We want to be best.
- Q. APD Forward:
  - 1. We are encouraged police say it will take more than 4 years.
  - 2. We are aware of understaffing of officers.
  - 3. I have cousin who was murdered as a policeman in line of duty. I am pro-police.
- R. Q: We caught special meeting with CPOA and POB. They are not getting cooperation from APD command. They are looking at the same thing. A lot of POB members have quit. A better job must be done at the top end. Ed Harness and spoke at the status conference. Word is coming down that they are being stonewalled.
- S. One point of disagreement, we feel the Monitor's roles is central to all of this. Monitor's role is official accessor of compliance.
- T. Celina: APD must respond to issues brought up at hearing. We get a list of questions. We'll file the report in court. Judge Bratt, APD and APD Forward will put it on a web site.

## **VI. MOTION TO ADJOURN**

The motion to adjourn was accepted by consensus.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

??? - Secretary