

**PUBLIC SAFETY LIAISON TEAM
MEETING MINUTES**

July 20, 2006

**Fire's Third-Floor Conference Room
City Hall Building No. 2**

Present: Councilmember Vern Bisterfeldt
Deputy Chief George Webb, Boise Fire Department
Chief Masterson, Boise Police Department
Captain James Maxson, Boise Police Department
Jade Riley, Special Assistant to the Mayor/Administration
City Attorney Cary Colaianni, Legal Department
Administrative Manager Sandy Records, Boise Fire Department
Administrative Manager Doreen Queen, Legal Department

I. Police Chief Mike Masterson

A. Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs)

Chief Masterson started by describing how much they rely on the City Attorney's office. Assistant City Attorney Jill Musser recently prepared an MOU between the Department and the Veterans Administration hospital, as well as the agreement for providing services to the State Capitol. The Chief also complimented Public Works on working with them to develop a "bomb pit" where they can safely detonate suspect devices.

B. Ethics Commission

The Chief also complimented Legal for coordinating with the Ethics Commission. During a recent meeting, they were able to work with the Commission to hammer out answers some pressing ethical questions and finally have a "bright line" with which they may consider gifts. For example, if an officer is visiting a conference and drops his business card with a vendor and subsequently wins a prize, he/she cannot keep it. However, if they win a door prize for their attendance, they may or if they participate in a skills competition (i.e., shooting) and win, they may keep that prize. Ms. Musser got lots of clarity and will be doing ethics training for the officers in August.

Going back to MOUs, the Chief explained that the Ada County Sheriff had folded its bomb squad into BPD's, and Ms. Musser prepared another good MOU for that change. He also complimented Assistant City Attorney Alison Tate for her assistance in personnel matters and explained how heavily they relied upon her for those issues.

C. Range Update

Unfortunately, Chief Masterson was disappointed in the consultant's report. Basically, the consultant simply provided information that the Department already knew: there are three locations which each have pros and mostly cons:

- Airport property – for a variety of reasons, this is not a viable option;
- Clubhouse – it is overpriced and would take major redesign (price tag for property alone is \$1.4M). Councilmember Bisterfeldt again requested that the City hold a public hearing that would permit the City to rent the facility until another option could be found, and Chief Masterson explained that the two officers who had been going to purchase the property had pulled out so there is no ethical concerns at this point. Instead, they still are using the facility on a month-by-month basis but that will come to a close when the property is sold.
- Blacks Creek – unfortunately, there is residential housing right next door to the property and so this is not a feasible option.

The County is looking at land west of the existing landfill, which would involve a complicated land swap that has a 50/50 chance of succeeding. The cost for these 10 acres would be \$1.28M with \$.5M expected from the City. Everyone agreed that this option would only be viable if there was shared governance and a user board operating the facility. Other than that, the project is in limbo for now.

D. Annexation CFS (Statistics)

Captain Jim Maxson distributed documents that discussed the statistics related to the annexation areas. Prior to the annexation, the Department was servicing 4,800 calls; after the annexation, the next year went to 6,400 calls. The Captain cautioned that not all of these would be new calls for service – they were probably calls that had previously been handled by Ada County. At this point in the year, they have handled about 8,000 calls for service.

Councilmember Bisterfeldt expressed his concern about neighborhood issues – not seeing BPD officers driving in the area and no one handling the Code Enforcement issues. Chief Masterson explained that he is working with BSU to do a resource inventory with PDS and try to become more proactive rather than reactive on issues like overgrown weeds and abandoned cars. BPD wants to team up with Code Enforcement and the Neighborhood Associations on these issues.

City Attorney Cary Colaianni indicated that his staff was researching how to go about getting the City's own judge to do something similar to the Councilmember's "live-ability court," however, he cautioned that it would have to involve other agencies.

E. Extreme Fighting at the Boise Centre

Chief Masterson also reported that with the "Extreme Fights" at the Boise Centre, they were seeing more aggressive and hostile citizens afterwards. Another fight is scheduled in a few weeks, so he will be scheduling additional resources downtown on that night.

F. COPS

COPS (the television show) has requested to come and film in Boise. They have their own privacy insurance, and the Department will receive editorial control. They are scheduled for July 25th with two film crews filming from 4pm until midnight. They will handle all waiver issues. Chief Masterson will e-mail this information to the Mayor for his Friday packet.

II. Councilmember Issues

Councilmember Bisterfeldt

A. BFD Backing up BPD

Councilmember Bisterfeldt did not know all the details, but he was concerned about some information he had heard that indicated an officer requesting assistance from BFD was denied help. Chief Masterson briefly explained the circumstances. This was a disobedient crowd, and there were many other options for handling the situation, including pepper spray. Basically, using fire hoses should not be an option for crowd control when the crowd is peaceful. Apparently, an officer had called BFD and a member of the media had overheard only one side of the call.

Deputy Chief George Webb explained that there had been a question about whether it was in their policies, and everyone agreed that it would not have been appropriate in this circumstance. Special Assistant Jade Riley stated that while this was not in our usual toolkit, it would not be ruled out completely. Chief Masterson also stated that Chief Ross and he were putting together a working committee to come up with an MOU between the two Departments to discuss and address ongoing issues similar to this.

III. Legal Issues

City Attorney Cary Colaiani

A. Case Management System

Mr. Colaiani explained that he will be meeting with the County on August 2, 2006, to discuss the case management contract. He explained that since the Department had not been happy with the proposed contract, we had drafted one of our. Ted Argyle from Ada County will be negotiating with Mr. Colaiani over the specifics.

IV. Airport Police Issues

Chief Mike Johnson

A. Update

Chief Johnson briefly updated the group on the recent graduation of one of his officers and the additional of sixth bomb dog being authorized.

In addition, he relayed his own personal story about dealing with Code Enforcement. He had tried to file an anonymous complaint, just requesting that the officers drive by and simply look at the house in question, but Code Enforcement refused to take the complaint without a name and in effect simply told him to call the Mayor's office to complain.

Councilmember Bisterfeldt said the story agreed with everything that he hears from his constituents and relayed that in one situation, the Code Enforcement person had directed the caller to "quit calling and harassing me." Mr. Riley made a note to discuss with Bruce Chatterton.

V. Fire Department Issues

Deputy Chief George Webb

Deputy Chief Webb reported that the Department was preparing to do a training burn; however, they were getting numerous complaints from the neighbors. He also assured Mr. Riley that the Department complied with all the air quality and environmental requirements when they did their training burns.

Minutes Approved:

Doreen Queen, Administrative Manager

Date