

**RILEY COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY
LAW BOARD MEETING
City Commission Meeting Room
1101 Poyntz Avenue
Manhattan, KS
March 23, 2015 12:00 p.m.
Minutes**

Members Present: Robert Boyd Craig Beardsley (arrived at 12:38 p.m.)
 Wynn Butler Karen McCulloh
 Usha Reddi Ron Wells (left at 1:00 p.m.)
 Barry Wilkerson (left at 1:08 p.m.)

Absent:

Staff Present: Director Schoen Assistant Director Doehling
 Captain Fink Captain Hegarty
 Captain Hooper Captain Kyle
 Captain Moldrup

- I. Establish Quorum:** By Chairman Boyd at 12:00 p.m.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by Director Schoen.
- III. Consent Agenda:**
- A.** Approve February 17, 2015 Law Board Meeting Minutes
 - B.** Approve 2015 Budget Expenditures/Credits
 - C.** Juvenile Transport Reimbursement
 - D.** County Inmate Medical, Facilities, Maintenance & Repairs Expenditures- (*Review*)
 - E.** Riley County Jail Average Daily Inmate Population- (*Review*)
 - F.** Monthly Crime Report- (*Review*)
 - G.** 1.3.13 Use of Force 4th Qtr./Annual Report- (*Review*)

Wells moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Reddi seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, motion carried 6-0.

IV. General Agenda:

H. Additions or Deletions: None.

I. Public Comment: James “Bud” Valerius- Manhattan Resident: Mr. Valerius updated the Law Board concerning his claim that his son (Brandon Valerius) was being harassed by the Riley County Police Department for failing to register in Wichita as a condition of his offender registration. Valerius thanked Director Schoen for providing a written response to his claim; however, he wished to note a couple of corrections. Valerius stated that he was able to view online each time his son registered as an offender and conclude that he had registered precisely one week before the RCPD clerk contacted his wife.

With respect to Brandon's belief that he was being followed by two police officers, Director Schoen maintained in his response that the officers were dispatched to a domestic disturbance at a residence near where Brandon had been, and that they did not run his license tag. Valerius said that shortly after the two officers pulled up behind Brandon he observed them sit in a vehicle for over an hour at the storage units down the street from his shop. Valerius said he was not certain what kind of domestic dispute the officers were responding to at the storage units. Perhaps they responded to a call prior to that. He added that he does not believe in coincidences. He finds it strange that his family becomes involved in these types of coincidences all of the time.

Chairman Boyd thanked Mr. Valerius for his comments.

J. Board Member Comments: Reddi briefed members of the Law Board and public on discussions that were held at the National League of Cities Conference in Washington, D.C. earlier this month. Conference speaker Cathy Lanier, Chief of Police for the Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D.C. shared her thoughts on how they were able to improve their city and police department. Reddi said that much of what Lanier shared is already being done at the Riley County Police Department (e.g., actively engaging various community groups, utilizing social media, implementing a police officer body-worn camera system, etc.). However, there is always room for improvement with regard to integrating technology and fostering positive relationships with members of the community.

After receiving feedback the Board, Chairman Boyd announced that a Special Law Board Organizational Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 9, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Commission Chambers, 115 N. 4th Street. The second Special Law Board Budget Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 30, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers, 1101 Poyntz Avenue.

K. Law Board Member Recognition: On behalf of the Riley County Law Enforcement Agency and the Riley County Police Department, Director Schoen and Assistant Director Doehling presented David (Lewis) Guthals with a plaque in recognition of his dedication and years of service to the citizens of Riley County, Kansas and men and women of RCPD.

Lewis stated that it has been a fascinating experience and privilege to serve as a member of the Law Board. He leaves the position with great admiration for the men and women of RCPD, and a tremendous amount of appreciation for their families and the sacrifices that they make. He added that he has been an advocate among fellow County Commissioners throughout the state of Kansas for consolidated law enforcement. He feels that it is a remarkable organization and structure with excellent leadership and oversight. Consolidated law enforcement something that he hopes other communities explore. It is one of the reasons Manhattan and Riley County continue to be great places to live.

L. Letter of Appreciation: Director Schoen and Assistant Director Doehling presented Dr. Stefan Bossmann with a Letter of Appreciation in recognition of his assistance to the Riley County Police Department and the Hazardous Materials Response Team (HMRT). In 2013 Dr. Bossmann agreed to assist the HMRT with the investigation into a criminal hazardous materials incident in Manhattan, Kansas. During the course of the investigation he was able to aid the team in correctly identifying the substances/chemicals used which ultimately led to criminal charges against an individual related to the manufacture of illegal drugs. The expert testimony he provided

throughout the trial greatly helped in the successful prosecution of the individual. Since that time, Dr. Bossmann has assisted the HMRT with a number of incidents. His research, academic advice, and incident response evidence his commitment to serve the community.

Dr. Bossmann said that it has been a pleasure to be a part of an excellent team. What he has seen in the field has been truly extraordinary. If he is able to help identify the right subject in a case or prevent good people from getting hurt then it is a pleasure. Bossmann stated that the Kansas State University receives public funding for research among other things. He believes it is only fair to give back to the community.

M. National Public Safety Telecommunications Week Proclamation: Chairman Boyd read the National Public Safety Telecommunications Week Proclamation proclaiming that all citizens of Manhattan and Riley County observe the week of April 12th through April 18th, 2015 as National Telecommunications Week, in honor of the men and women whose diligence and professionalism keep the city, county and citizens safe. Dispatch Supervisors Tyler Siefkes and Dawn Wickizer, and Dispatchers Lakin Huckabey, Stefanie Shaw and Sarah Bell accepted the proclamation on behalf of the Department.

N. Fake Patty's Day Review: Captain Kyle extended his appreciation to Aggieville Business Association (ABA) Executive Director Rod Harms, President Aaron Apel and the many organizations and agencies that assisted RCPD during Fake Patty's Day. Due to their willingness to assist and send officers the Riley County Police Department was able to provide an extended presence during the event.

Kyle provided the Board with a summary of calls for service, reports filed, citations issued and arrests made during the 2015 Fake Patty's Day event compared to that of previous years. He reported that there appeared to be an increase in the number of participants this year, especially in neighborhood parties surrounding Aggieville. However, despite the number of participants, the Department experienced a reduction in citizen generated calls for service, arrests, and citations issued. Officers spent quite a bit of time responding to noise and parking complaints. The leading citations issued were for possession of an open container in public followed by possession of alcohol by a minor. The number one arrest was for disorderly conduct.

Larry Couchman, Director of Emergency and EMS Services for Mercy Regional Health Center reported to the Riley County Commission that there was a significant increase in the number of alcohol related treatments in the field and in the emergency room this year, which is a concern for EMS and RCPD. Another concern which was identified during the after action review pertained to individuals at neighborhood parties hanging out on rooftops. Captain Kyle described a video currently posted on social media which shows a roof collapse on 20-30 young people in California. The Riley County Police Department, EMS and the City of Manhattan have discussed enforcement codes in relation to people hanging out on rooftops. This is an issue that they will address significantly before next year's event.

Reddi commented that Aggieville is very well contained. The activity has spread to other areas, chiefly neighboring house parties. She expressed her concern not only with people hanging out on rooftops but also with participants entering Aggieville in the morning already intoxicated. In addition, while driving through the area on Fake Patty's Day she noticed a considerable amount of trash on rental property lawns. She conveyed that these are not RCPD, City or County specific but rather larger societal/community issues that need to be addressed.

Butler stated that the plan to manage Fake Patty's Day has been well coordinated. The data collected proves that the plan works. In review of the data, it appears as though the Department has accomplished what it set out to over the past 4 years which was to gain control of the event. The Riley County Police Department has taken the lead, but it has been a team effort. There were a lot of people paying attention to public safety which may have played a role in the increase of EMS calls. Butler watched as police officers approached individuals who were intoxicated to the point that they needed to go to the emergency room. Had officers not approached those individuals much worse could have happened. He congratulated everyone on the outstanding work during the event.

Harms said that Aaron Apel did a great job getting the Aggieville Business district and bars together so that there was some education and buy in prior to the event. He added that the ABA is committed to improving each year and they are sympathetic to the concerns voiced by Commissioners Reddi and McCulloh. He thanked KSU Chief of Staff and Director of Community Relations Jackie Hartman for her involvement and those who volunteered during the event.

O. 2016 Budget Development: As an addition to their packets, members of the Law Board were provided copies of the Riley County Police Department 2016 Budget Narrative and Proposed Budget Draft 1. Director Schoen explained that draft 1 includes scheduled merit increases for employees and a 1.5% Cost of Living Allowance (COLA). This option represents a 1.964% increase from the 2015 approved budget when the carryover is applied. Assistant Director Doehling briefed the Board on each of the budget lines.

Reddi noted that the increase in Account 19 Computer Contractual Services is largely driven by the implementation of the police officer body-worn camera system. She wished to know more about the program.

Doehling stated that he intends to present the body-worn camera policy to the Law Board at the regularly scheduled April meeting. He added that the projected increase will allow for the purchase of cameras and accessories for each officer as well as video storage and retrieval.

The Board will examine the budget documents in preparation for further discussion at the April 20, 2015 Law Board Meeting.

P. Executive Session: At 1:44 p.m. McCulloh moved to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing non-elected personnel matters and attorney client privilege not to exceed 10 minutes. Reddi seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, motion carried 5-0

At 1:55 p.m. the open meeting reconvened.

Q. Affirmation or Revocation of Discipline: McCulloh moved to affirm the Director's disciplinary actions. Reddi seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, motion carried 5-0.

R. Adjournment: The March 23, 2015 Law Board Meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.