



FARGO POLICE DEPARTMENT

A SAFE AND UNIFIED COMMUNITY BUILT ON TRUST, ACCOUNTABILITY AND INCLUSION

POLICE ADVISORY & OVERSIGHT BOARD

MINUTES

Meeting: Police Advisory & Oversight Board Regular Meeting

Date: 08.08.2024

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Location: City Commission Chambers

The Regular Meeting of the Police Advisory & Oversight Board of Fargo Police Department was held in the City Commission Chambers at City Hall at 5:00 p.m., Thursday, August 8th, 2024.

The Police Advisory & Oversight Board members present or absent were as follows:

Present: Scott Paul (by conference), Todd Spellerberg, David Hogenson, Joanna Johnson, Conrad Thomas, Lucruchia King, Tonya Greywind.

Absent: None.

Item 1. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Greywind welcomed Members to the meeting and introductions were made.

Item 2. Approve or Amend Agenda

Member Spellerberg moved the Agenda be approved as presented. Second by Member King. All Members present voted aye and the motion was declared carried.

Item 3. Approve or Amend Minutes

Member Spellerberg moved the minutes of the July 11th, 2024 Police Advisory & Oversight Board meeting be approved as presented. Second by Member King. All Members present voted aye and the motion was declared carried.

Item 4. Public Comment Period

No one signed up for public comment.

Item 5. Questions from Community Members

There were no items under this category this month.

Item 6. Police Department Updates – Chief David Zibolski

1. Chief met individually with all Board Members excepting Vice Chair Thomas after the last meeting regarding meetings going forward and information the Board may have an interest in.
2. There were many community events the Fargo Police Department was involved with, including the July 20th Liberian Independence celebration, the Street Fair, Navy Week, and the Air Show.
3. Working with other staff in the city on the new camping ordinance that was passed by the Commission.
4. Phone meeting with an individual from state DHS regarding a grant for an intermediary between new Americans and housing.
5. Sergeant Gamradt said the Burundian community reached out to the Police Department regarding understanding their culture and Academy teaching, and also about topics to help them understand.
6. Lieutenant Bernier retired in June, 2024. Sergeant Moser will be promoted to lieutenant of the Specialized Services Division.
7. Member Hogenson asked about the events coming up this weekend, Pride Parade, how does prep look like for the Department when compared to other events like the Holiday Lights Parade and the St. Paddy's Parade. Chief Zibolski thinks they're really the same. All of the events are situations in which we want to make sure everyone is safe. Member Johnson commented that she was able to go to the Command Center during the St. Paddy's Parade and it was a great experience.
8. Vice Chair Thomas asked, in regards to DEI, if anything has changed regarding the Police Department in terms of approaches, philosophies, in today's dynamics. Chief Zibolski answered there is an individual on the DEI committee/group. Vice Chair Thomas said it seems like things are changing in regards to how that is interpreted and translated into policies and wants to know if things are going to change.
9. Member Paul asked for an update on how the support went to Milwaukee for the RNC. Chief said it was very well received, it was a great experience, the utilization of Police Department personnel from across the country and things they did from a security standpoint. The Fargo Police Department didn't get involved in any activities and had no issues in their areas.

Item 7. Meeting Protocol – Nancy Morris

- Raised a couple of comments and issues. The goal is to help the Chair run a smooth meeting and have everybody have their voices heard. There is a process to run an orderly meeting with the intent of having everybody being able to speak in turn, including recognition by the Chair for the speaker. Regarding the Chair recognizing a member of the public to comment, there's an opportunity to do that. Most of the time, that is a public comment opportunity. In regards to what should be done when there is a disruption to a meeting, there is a process, normally recommend a request to discontinue the disruption and then take a recess to reconvene when it works, whether that's in a few minutes or another day, possibly by video. An open meeting allows any member of the public to attend, but does not require that anyone be allowed to participate.
- In regards to amending an agenda at a meeting, for notice purposes, it is asked that an agenda item be submitted in advanced so items aren't being added to a meeting that has already been noticed.
- Vice Chair Thomas asked, regarding meeting disruption, does there need to be a motion to pause or discontinue. Chair Greywind said it comes to the Chair to call a point of order or otherwise end the disruption.

Item 8. Policy Review Process – Chief David Zibolski

- DC Anderson previously gave a presentation on Lexipol (which is a policy company and national organization). Lexipol is the main mechanism of how policy updating works. The policy manual has about 150 policies in it. One of the big projects Chief Zibolski has had is editing those policies not just through Lexipol, but also for consistency in regards to things like terminology. Starting with high-liability policies (and have gone through about a third of them).
- The process involves information coming through Lexipol, suggestions from department personnel, legislative changes, changes to best practices, new technologies, and operational changes.

- Review-process-wise, there can be things that the City Attorney or HR needs to look at and review. There is an internal process with executive staff and a policy review committee. There might be subject matter experts.
- A finalized update is pushed out through department directive, and then the Lexipol system is accessible via smartphone in the field. There is also a daily training bulletin piece.
- Member Johnson asked if there are policies currently being reviewed. Chief Zibolski confirmed there are. Member Johnson asked, when the policies change, is it the wordage that's changing, or how often are there completely different standards? Chief Zibolski said standards changes aren't as frequent. Legal standards, there might be legislative changes. Sometimes best practice changes come out. On the website, some of the policies will have an "under review" designation. Member Johnson asked if the change to handcuffing policy a change to best practice or something for the Fargo Police Department. Chief Zibolski would have to look back.
- Vice Chair Thomas asked how the policy changes are tracked with the officers. Chief Zibolski answered it goes out electronically. The officers generally get a week to review and acknowledge the policy before it goes into effect. Acknowledgements are electronically audited and tracked.
- Chair Greywind asked if that's a lot of messages going out. Chief Zibolski answered that it's a data audit trail, not individual emails. Chair Greywind asked if something like that could go out to the Board. Chief Zibolski wouldn't send it out of the Department as a draft. Once it is published/implemented, it can be brought before the Board.
- Vice Chair Thomas asked, once an officer checks off that they've read the policy, what guarantee is there that the officer actually understands the policy? Chief Zibolski answered that supervisors go over the policy at briefing and can answer any questions. Daily training bulletins also provide an insight to officers' understanding of the policy.

Item 9. Brown Bag Agenda Setting – Board Members

- The meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 8/15 at Nexus PATH Family Healing, 1202 Westrac Dr S, in the first floor training room.
- There was some discussion on what the agenda should look like for the meeting and what Board Members would like to accomplish.
- Member Johnson would be interested in discussing future agenda items, would like to have some more public meetings (town hall type thing to get input from the community)
- Member Hogenson brought up a group out of Brainerd, MN called Strong Towns, which is a group which advocates for safe streets, safe intersections, walkability, and can do crash analysis. The possibility might exist for a member of Strong Towns to do a presentation to the Board.
- Vice Chair Thomas mentioned de-escalation training and maybe talk more about that (maybe for a future Board meeting or community session).
- Member Johnson mentioned if there's opportunity to provide any community education
- Member Hogenson said there may be an opportunity to talk about is there anything the Board can do to support LE's efforts to address exhibition driving or dangerous driving behavior.
- Chair Greywind said what can the Board do to support, not just the Police Department but other members of the city of Fargo.

Item 10. Real Time Crime Center Operations – Sergeant Travis Moser

- Sergeant Moser introduced himself.
- How it was used in the 2024 Street Fair
 - Daily staffing included an incident commander, a sworn detective, and a crime analyst
 - Event Time Frame – got center running an hour an hour before the event until an hour after.
 - Resources included the FLOCK system, current city cameras, traffic cameras, the regional UAS team (drones), and Axon.
- FLOCK

- 5 cameras in the downtown area
 - 21 license plate readers (LPRs) throughout the City of Fargo
- City of Fargo Cameras
 - 575 cameras covering various city properties
- Traffic cameras
 - 61 traffic cameras covering major intersections in the City of Fargo
- Axon
 - Currently have LPRs on all squad cars
 - Ability to live stream all active recordings BWC
- Regional Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)
 - Ability to live stream the UAS that was utilized to conduct rooftop canvases and to assist in monitoring criminal activity
- Member Spellerberg said, going back to command center, how were the incident commander, sworn detective, and crime analyst chosen. Sergeant Moser was incident commander two of the three days. The incident commander is going to be a supervisor or somebody involved in supervision. All three analysts were used at different parts of the day. There are two detectives very familiar with the camera systems, and they were also used at different parts of the day.
- Member Spellerberg asked if the officers know if their body worn camera is being livestreamed? Sergeant Moser answered that they will. The body worn camera will beep and the indicator light will change color.
- Member Hogenson commented there were officers visible on Broadway. He asked about the collaboration between officers on the street and people in the crime center. RTCC had their own radio channel for the event. Downtown officers were also on that channel.
- Monitored 101 incidents total
 - Of those, only 3 were identified by officers on the ground. The RTCC was able to direct officers and/or inform them of the activity they were monitoring
 - There were some that weren't related to the Street Fair, but flowed in from other areas. RTCC was able to monitor and direct officers to that area
- Chair Greywind asked how long RTCC has been implemented. Sergeant Moser answered it has been used for two incidents, the Fargo Police Picnic and the Street Fair. The city/traffic cameras have been used for several years.
- Phase 2
 - Additional RTCC Technology – FLOCK OS Elite allows integration of CAD system, other camera software systems, Axon software, city map overlays, and GPS map positioning of officers into one platform
 - With future funding – additional future phases of RTCC Technology, personnel, dedicated work area
- Member Hogenson ask about funding, is it funded locally or are there state/federal dollars? Captain Ahlfeldt answered current phase 1, the pilot program, was approved to purchase with seized asset funds
- Member Spellerberg clarified all FLOCK cameras are downtown? Captain Ahlfeldt answered there are two parts to the FLOCK system. Cameras are replacing those that were already in the downtown area, they were already becoming outdated and obsolete. The LPRs have been placed in strategic areas around the city.
- Success stories include the recovery of stolen vehicles, fugitive apprehension, suspect identification on shots fired/shooting cases, identification of fleeing suspects, person of interest identification in a sexual assault case (vehicle identification by color and license plate state), missing persons/endangered adults

Item 11. Presentation Questions

- Chair Greywind asked about potential grants. Sergeant Moser answered that they're currently applying for one.

- Captain Ahlfeldt added they're looking at making it available throughout the day rather than just during special events. Member Hogenson asked for clarification if there could be someone in there full time.
- Member Spellerberg asked if this will help free up officers that are on the street. Captain Ahlfeldt said it won't free up officers, it will give them more intelligence to act on and data, increasing safety and efficiency.
- Chair Greywind asked if this is modeled after larger cities. Captain Ahlfeldt said it's becoming more of the trend. There are many smaller cities that use FLOCK cameras and LPRs without a RTCC.
- Sergeant Moser commented FLOCK systems are compatible, so if there is an agency elsewhere that has the FLOCK system and they have a high-profile criminal they're looking for, they can enter their information and if the vehicle enters a city that has a FLOCK system, that city can be alerted that vehicle has entered their city and they can start looking for it.
- Member Hogenson asked if there is an opportunity for collaboration with West Fargo and Moorhead. Captain Ahlfeldt answered the Fargo Police Department is the first in this region, but others are starting to look at it. If they jump on the technology, the Fargo Police Department will plan with those border cities to ensure they're working with each other instead of against each other to deploy those resources throughout the metro.
- Member King commented that, given the growth of Fargo and North Dakota as a whole, this system is great.

Item 12. Adjourn

The time at adjournment was 6:05 p.m.