

June 17, 2010

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners was held on the above date, commencing at 5:32 P.M.

PRESENT: Commissioners: Richard C. Cox, Chair
Carolina M. Stark
Kathryn A. Hein
Sarah W. Morgan

ABSENT: Commissioner: Paoi X. Lor (Excused)

ALSO PRESENT: Mark Rohlfing, Chief, Milwaukee Fire Department; and Monica Ray, Assistant Chief, representing the Milwaukee Police Department.

The Chair reconvened the Board in Regular Session, having previously met in Executive Session from 5:10 p.m. to 5:20 p.m. pursuant to Section 19.85 (1)(c) Wis. Stats. to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over whom the Board has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, to wit: Promotion of Fire Lieutenant to Administrative Captain – EMS.

The Director presented for adoption minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 3, 2010. He noted that meeting was held at Alexian Village, and there was lengthy discussion on the Use of Force Report published by the Commission and the Police Department Code of Conduct. The Fire and Police Commission 2009 Annual Report was also approved at that meeting. Commissioner Morgan moved approval of the minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a) The following promotion, as presented by Chief Mark Rohlfing, was approved by the Board:

TO ADMINISTRATIVE CAPTAIN – EMS, from Fire Lieutenant, on a waiver basis, effective June 27, 2010:

MICHAEL D. WRIGHT.

2. NEW BUSINESS:

a) The Chair moved the temporary residency exemption to the end of the agenda.

3. EXAMINATIONS:

a) The Director presented for approval a transfer/promotional examination announcement bulletin for the position of Accountant I in the Police Department. Marti Cargile, Human Resources Representative, from the Department of Employee Relations, spoke regarding the bulletin. She stated there are no changes from previous announcement bulletins and this is similar to one produced in 2005 for Milwaukee Public Schools. Commissioner Morgan moved approval of the bulletin, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

b) The Director presented a letter dated June 9, 2010, from Chief Edward Flynn, wherein he notifies the Board that #20 – Colin G. Jorgenson requests to have his name removed from the Police Sergeant Eligible List. Commissioner Stark moved approval of the request, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

4. FIRE DEPARTMENT:

a) The Director presented two letters dated June 10, 2010, from Chief Mark Rohlfling, wherein he nominates Fire Captain Aaron D. Lipski and Fire Captain Daniel C. Lipski to the exempt positions of Battalion Chief, Fire in the Fire Department, to be effective July 11, 2010. Pursuant to Rules of the Board, final action on these nominations was laid over to permit the nominees to be interviewed.

b) The following promotions, as presented by Chief Rohlfling, were approved by the Board:

TO FIRE LIEUTENANT, on a waiver basis, from eligible list established December 17, 2009, effective June 27, 2010:

#5 – LANNY T. CURTIS* and #6 – CASEY KERWIN.

*Previously promoted on March 8, 2009 using the Fire Lieutenant Paramedic special promotion process.

c) The Director presented two letters dated June 7, 2010, from Chief Mark Rohlfling, wherein he notifies the Board that Fire Paramedic Michael J. Scianni returned from an unpaid military leave, effective June 2, 2010, and Firefighter Jason Leistiko has been granted an unpaid military leave of absence effective June 16, 2010.

d) The Director presented a letter dated June 9, 2010, from Chief Mark Rohlfling, wherein he requests reclassification of one Fire Equipment Repairer II position in the Bureau of Construction and Maintenance. The Chair referred the request to the Department of Employee Relations for study and report.

e) The Director presented to the Board for adoption the Milwaukee Fire Department (MFD) 2009 Annual Report. Chief Rohlfling spoke regarding the report. After it is approved, the report will be printed, put onto minidisks, and be available next week. MFD spent \$800,000 less in 2009 with the same quality of service as 2008. Response times remain under the national standard of six minutes, with 95% of MFD response times being under five minutes. In 2009, MFD received \$1,224,221 in grant funds, including grants from Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI), Port Security, and Project Safe Neighborhood. The Fire Investigation Unit was implemented in conjunction with the Milwaukee Police Department to help determine fire causes. In 2008 there were six fire fatalities and seven in 2009, the lowest numbers in a two year period in MFD history. Twenty-one education and outreach programs were coordinated, reaching 311,972 citizens. The three main programs were: Project Staying Alive, which teaches anger management and conflict resolution to students in Milwaukee Public Schools (MFD is believed to be the only program like this in the country); Project Firefighters Out Creating Urban Safety (FOCUS), which provides at-risk neighborhoods with fire prevention literature and free smoke detectors; and the Survive Alive House which provides students with a hands-on experience to learn how to escape their homes safely in case of fire. There were 53,047 emergency medical assists and 1,930 fires extinguished. Through Project FOCUS 1,166 homes were inspected, 1,183 smoke detectors were installed, and 350 smoke detector batteries were installed. Fifty-one MFD members retired and 59 were promoted. Members completed 38,071 hours of training in a variety of disciplines at the Bureau of Instruction and Training, including training of special teams such as HazMat, Dive Rescue, Heavy Urban Rescue Team (HURT), and fireboat Trident operators. Commissioner Stark moved approval of the annual report, seconded by Commissioner Morgan. The motion carried unanimously.

5. POLICE DEPARTMENT:

The Director took the following item out of order:

e) The Director presented to the Board for adoption the Police Department 2009 Annual Report. Anne Schwartz, Public Relations Manager, was present and spoke regarding the report. In continuing with recruiting efforts, Cramer-Krasselt has agreed to put the "Be A Force" campaign billboards back up, as well as run the TV and radio commercials again until June 25th. 2009 showed a continued drop in crime. This

occurred due to intelligence-led policing and twice daily crime meetings with command staff to talk about crime trends and addressing those areas. This is referred to as putting “cops on the dots.” A major redistricting also took place in 2009 to keep like crimes in the same district. The Intelligence Fusion Center (IFC) was created in 2009 and is a regional clearing house for crime information. The information is shared with federal, state, and local partners. The pro-bono branding campaign created by Cramer-Krasselt promoted the good work of the MPD and raised the awareness of MPD in the City. As part of the recruiting effort, individual officers will be going to radio stations for one hour shifts, spinning music and talking about what it is like to be a police officer. There was a 39% decrease in overtime usage over the past two years. The Department was awarded over \$15.5 million in grant funds, including the COPS hiring grant that will pay for a class of 50 new officers. The Neighborhood Policing Bureau represents each of the seven districts and the Neighborhood Task Force, and the report shows crime statistics for each entity. The Criminal Investigation Bureau includes the Violent Crimes Division, Homicide Section, and the Cold Case Unit, and statistics and crime clearance rates are reported for each division. The report also includes the arrest of an alleged serial killer, suspected of murdering seven women over the past 20 years. From 2007 to 2009 traffic stops increased 265% and subject stops increased 189%. Citizen generated complaints against officers were down 22%. The Merit Awards program and Department members who were on military duty were also highlighted. Commissioner Hein moved approval of the annual report, seconded by Commissioner Morgan. The motion carried unanimously.

a) The Director presented a letter dated June 9, 2010, from Chief Edward Flynn, wherein he nominates Joel B. Plant to the exempt position of Chief of Staff – Police in the Police Department, to be effective July 7, 2010. Pursuant to Rules of the Board, final action on this nomination was laid over to permit the nominee to be interviewed.

b) The following appointments, as presented by Chief Flynn, were approved by the Board:

TO POLICE OFFICER, from POLICE AIDE, contingent upon successful completion of a background update, medical examination, psychological evaluation, and drug screening, effective July 11, 2010:

ANTHONY J. MILONE; MATTHEW A. PHILLIPSON; JONATHAN ECHEVARRIA; GERARDO SALGADO; NEIL E. VERBURGT; MARTEZ L. BALL; ZACHARY J. BURCZYK; JESSICA M. CANNON; DARRYL L. ANDERSON; JAKE D. PUSCHNIG; JOHN H. LARSON; ADAM J. RUSCH; IRVING R. HERNANDEZ MAESTRE; ANDRES CABRAL, PHILLIP J. FERGUSON; DANIEL J. KELLER; PAUL J. TERRIQUEZ; ALAN D. CARSKY, and JULIAN G. NUNEZ.

Police Aide Neil Verburgt read a prepared written statement. He talked about his experience as a Police Aide, the responsibility and knowledge he gained. He stated this will give him a huge edge to assist his classmates. He feels the program is an incomparable opportunity, and thanked Assistant Chief Monica Ray, Police Officer Bobby Lindsey, Police Lieutenant Michael Schmitz, and Chief Edward Flynn for saving the programs and making positive changes to make the program better. He thanked his teachers in the academy for preparing him for the job of a Police Officer. He is grateful for the opportunity to stop crime, fear, and disorder in the City.

The Chair thanked the Police Aides for serving the citizens of Milwaukee and making a wise career choice.

TO POLICE OFFICER, from eligible list established May 3, 2007, contingent upon successful completion of a background update, medical examination, psychological evaluation, and drug screening, effective July 12, 2010:

#289 – CALVIN J. SMITH and #576 – PETER R. HAUSER.

TO POLICE OFFICER, from eligible list established January 10, 2008, contingent upon successful completion of a background update, medical examination, psychological evaluation, and drug screening, effective July 12, 2010:

#262 – MATTHEW C. KNAACK; #280 – SCOTT A. STRONG; #282 – MICHAEL J. RUBLEE; #300 – ANDREW S. KEMPEN; #314 – JAMES R. JORDAN; #317 – DAVID L. GUTBROD; #321 – RYAN M. FEKETE; #322 – BRIAN J. YOUNG; #324 – KARL T. WALLICH; #332 – JEFFERY G. PIERSON; #336 – RICHARD D. MICHALAK, JR.; #338 – JAMES I. LANDERS; #350 – PATRICK R. COE; #380 – STEPHEN L. DOMBROWSKI; #386 – ERIK V. MALDONADO; #409 – JASON J. DAERING; #437 – MICHAEL L. JAMES; #461 – RALPH L SALYERS III; #476 THADDEUS J. SCHIMMELS; #483 – ZACHARY T. FITZPATRICK; #485 – ERIC HEGWOOD; #490 – KENNETH R. CYIARK; #531 – MATTHEW J. BOUZEK; #554 – BLAKE J. KASBERGER; #556 – TOMMY R. JONES; #574 – SERGEY V. BABAKHANOV; #575 – ROSS B. MUELLER; #590 – STEVEN R. KEILLER; and #593 – FRED A. WARING.

TO POLICE OFFICER, on a contingency basis, from eligible list established January 10, 2008, contingent upon successful completion of a medical, psychological, and drug screening, and vacancies, effective July 12, 2010:

#611 – ERIC S. WENZEL; #615 ANTHONY W. SCHNACKE; #622 – MARCO A. LOPEZ; #625 – MARIBELL VELEZ; #626 SHAWN L. LYLES; and #638 – SARAH M. BELAND.

TO SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD (REGULAR), with effective dates:

ALICIA N. BROWN (5/20/10) and TENISCHA D. WILLIAMS (4/19/10).

c) The Director presented two letters dated June 9, 2010, from Chief Edward Flynn, wherein he notifies the Board that Police Services Specialist Investigator Susan M. Bodden-Eichsteadt has been granted a one year extension to her leave of absence for the purpose of continuing the position of Investigator/Auditor with the City of Milwaukee Fire and Police Commission. The leave shall expire April 19, 2011, and may be renewed upon request; and that Police Officer Nicole Vele has been granted a one year extension to her educational leave of absence for the purpose of pursuing her law degree at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The leave shall expire August 24, 2011, and may be renewed upon request.

d) The Director presented a correspondence dated June 9, 2010, from Chief Edward Flynn, wherein he requests changes to the current Criminal Investigation Bureau's (CIB) divisional structure. Assistant Chief James Harpole was present and spoke regarding the proposed changes. The CIB is transitioning from a functional based structure to a geographic and functional based structure. The mission of the CIB is to reduce crime by focusing detectives in neighborhoods that correspond with district boundaries and work hand-in-hand with department members in those areas. Best practices and other departments were analyzed to come up with the best model for the CIB. He thanked the Detectives, Lieutenants, and Commanders in the CIB for their dedication and hard work. A peer-to-peer network will be created between the CIB and the Neighborhood Policing Bureau by dismantling the current bureaucratic structure. This will link CIB supervisors with district supervisors at the Lieutenant and Captain ranks, and also link Police Officers and Detectives together in the field. There will be three geographic divisions: the North will contain districts 7 and 4 under the command of Captain Gary Gacek; the Central will contain districts 3 and 5 under the command of Captain Michael Dubis; and the South will contain districts 1, 2, and 6 under the command of Captain Carrienne Yerkes. A Narcotics Division will be created by restructuring the Organized Crime Division and will be housed at the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) location. A contingent of Detectives will be assigned to work with Department members already assigned to HIDTA working on mid and upper level drug investigations. The Detectives not assigned there will remain at the Police Administration Building and will comprise a Drug-Gang Task Force that will work with district officers on street level narcotics and open-air drug markets. The Anti-Prostitution Unit, under the command of Captain James Shepherd, will be added to the Human Trafficking Task Force. The Violent Crimes Division will be renamed the Metropolitan

Investigation Division under the command of Captain Kurt Leibold. What is known about crime and victimization is that 10% of victims report 40% of crimes committed, 10% of suspects account for 50% of crimes committed, and 10% of areas account for 60% of crime. The Chair laid the matter over to the next meeting.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Michael Crivello, President of the Milwaukee Police Association (MPA), read a prepared written statement dated June 17, 2010 regarding the issue of promotion opportunities for Detectives. He feels rumors and innuendo have affected morale of the Detectives. He stressed his concern about the rank of Detective becoming a dead-end rank and mentioned several high-ranking Department members who rose through the path of Detective. He reiterated previous comments about the importance of Detectives and their duties, which cannot be conducted appropriately by a police officer. He stated in 2008 the homicide clearance rate was 93%, in 2009 the homicide clearance rate was 81%, and currently the homicide clearance rate is 61%. He attributes the drop in clearance to the dwindling numbers of Detectives.

The Chair gave a two minute recess to allow audience members who were not involved in the residency exemption request the option and time to leave.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

a) The Director presented a memo from Paralegal Cynthia Janusz and a request from Police Lieutenant James Mac Gillis for a temporary residency exemption in order to care for his ailing in-laws. The Commissioners and Lt. Mac Gillis discussed the health of his in-laws and other possible options. The Chair explained the exemption and review process. Lt. Mac Gillis stated he understood the rules and the process. Commissioner Hein moved approval for a one year temporary residency exemption, seconded by Commissioner Stark. The motion carried unanimously.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Morgan moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting concluded at 6:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael G. Tobin
Executive Director

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