

**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA  
FIRE & POLICE COMMISSION MINUTES**

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Thursday **March 24, 2011 @ 4:00**  
Santa Barbara Fire Department  
Emergency Operations Center  
121 W. Carrillo Street

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**REGULAR MEETING**

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:**

Present: Commissioners: Lennon, Christensen, Rodriguez, Signor and Torres-Santos (new commissioner)

Staff Present: Police Captain Armando Martel, Fire Chief Andy DiMizio, Division Chief Pat McElroy, City Attorney Michelle Montez, and Acting Secretary Carol Lupo

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**MOTION:** Rodriguez to approve minutes of the Special Meeting of **February 8, 2011**. Signor seconded.

**VOTE:** Unanimous voice vote: Motion passed.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Any member of the public may address the Fire & Police Commission for up to one minute on any subject within the jurisdiction of the Commission that is not scheduled for a public hearing before the Commission. The total time for this item is 10 minutes. If you wish to address the Commission under this item, please complete and deliver to the Commission Secretary before the meeting is convened, a "Request to Speak" form, including a description of the subject you wish to address.

Robert Nieves owns a towing service in Goleta and has been in business for 18 years. They have served the Sheriff's Department for 13 years and the University Police for 7 years. He would like to put on the agenda to discuss being added on the Santa Barbara Police Department's towing service rotation. Mr. Nieves provided business information packets.

Police Technician Perea responded that when there is an availability on the list, which there currently is, the Commission may have the discretion to allow the for a new application process to be opened, but referred to the City Attorney's office on the actual regulation. City Attorney's office will review the process. It was agreed to put a general discussion about the application process on the next meeting agenda.

Russell Trenholme (late addition at 4:12 PM)  
Requesting to be put on the agenda for next month's meeting. He would like to discuss the 30 day impoundment law for failure to have a driver's license, and also the location of DUI checkpoints.

Christensen commented what exactly is the issue? He wants a discussion with the Board. Lennon advised he should send a written proposal to the City Attorneys Office to

address changes in law. It was decided that the Commission can advise on these matters.

Trenholme will send Christensen a written proposal of what he wants discussed.

**4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

None.

**5. OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**6. NEW BUSINESS:**

General discussion re: towing service application procedures next meeting.

**7. Event Guard Services/Private Patrol Application.**

Present: 2 people

Commissioner Rodriguez excused himself from the discussion. Kelly Martin is seeking to register "Event Guard Services" as a private patrol operator. Christensen asked to see the packet the petitioner brought to verify their vehicle and uniforms conform. All Commissioners verified that their uniform meets the policy.

**MOTION:** To uphold the Department's decision to approve the registration of "Event Guard Services" as private patrol operators.

**VOTE:** Unanimous voice vote; motion passed.

**8. Jacinto Chavez – Appeal of Denial of Taxi Driver Permit Renewal Application.**

Present: Mr. Chavez and his son.

Mr. Chavez's son translated for his father: He really needs a job, if he could keep his permit for at least the weekends. He apologizes for his error that he did. Commissioner Rodriguez questioned his charge of reckless driving. He was originally charged with a DUI, which was pled down to a wet reckless.

**MOTION:** Christensen to uphold the Department's decision to deny Mr. Chavez Taxi Driver Permit Renewal application

**VOTE:** Unanimous voice vote; motion passed.

**9. Elect Vice-Chair to the Commission**

**MOTION:** Rodriguez to nominate Christensen as Vice-Chair of the Commission.

**VOTE:** Unanimous voice vote; motion passed.

**10. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

Operations Division Chief Pat McElroy provided a brief overview of the department:

- Recruit academy is in process. Graduation will take place April 8; commissioners will be invited to attend.
- New ladder truck is being placed in service. It will replace the current frontline truck from 1981. Truck 2 will be auctioned off and replaced by the current truck 1. Receiving grants to obtain equipment so that both Truck 1 and Truck 2 will be outfitted the same.

- Last Sunday's large storm event, we responded along with Harbor Patrol, Coast Guard and County Fire to water rescues involving 3 boats. We will be following up with these agencies to improve operations.

From Chief DiMizio:

- Construction of the Administration Office Building will begin the first week of April, with a construction time of about 6 months.
- Tsunami Ready status – Chief DiMizio and Fire Marshal Poire will be updating City Council next week on the status of the City becoming an official Tsunami Ready Community.
- Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) will begin the second week of April. There is still space available for the class. Trying to target City employees first.
- Strategic Planning – Staff has been meeting to revise our strategic plan and will be setting goals for the next 5 years. Final document will be submitted to the Commission for review and comment.
- The "On Duty" TV show, similar to "On Patrol" Police Department show, is going well. Highlights County fire as well.
- Responses: 1839 calls for service since January. Approximately \$500 million in fire lost to date. Average response time is 3:08.

## **11. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT**

From Captain Armando Martel, Investigative Division

- Gang Injunction – Filed with the Court. Very preliminary step, it will be a couple of months before we see any enforcement activity.
- Murder Trials – Carachure, Lyons - Halfway through 2<sup>nd</sup> trial, and Musser.
- Graduation – 2 cadets graduating April 21 in Ventura after completing 6 months of training. 5 recruits in San Bernardino will graduate in June.
- 3 Additional vacancies.
- Promotions – Bridget Moore and Lorena Razo have both been promoted to Dispatch Supervisors. We are down 5 dispatchers out of a total of 18.
- Milpas Area – Currently fairly quiet. Park has been fenced off. Crimes have been slow recently which may be due to the weather. Department is providing additional enforcement to the area.

## **12. ADJORN: 4:51 PM**