

I. Public Comment: James “Bud” Valerius- Manhattan Resident: Mr. Valerius cited a recent article in the local newspaper concerning the Kansas Supreme Court reversal of the 2012 conviction of Luis Aguirre, saying that his Miranda rights were violated during a police interview. Valerius suggested a review of the RCPD budget, and the addition of a line item specifically to fund interview and interrogation training for detectives. He explained that the training would educate detectives on how not to make the same error in the future and place the burden on the taxpayers to retry the case.

J. Board Member Comments: Wells expressed his concerns regarding an article he read in the Manhattan Mercury dated May 14, 2015 titled “City’s Request for RCPD Cash in Legal Limbo.” Wells said that he found some of the comments that were made to be disconcerting. In the article, City Finance Director Bernie Hayen was quoted as stating “Unlike other departments, the police department never has to cut back when the city has budget shortfalls.” Wells said that is true. However, the Law Board sets the budget for RCPD which the Department has to stick with. With respect to possible use of the RCPD Emergency Reserve Fund to cover the shortfall, the fund can only be used for emergency purposes. June and July is a prime season for flooding and tornado weather. The Department needs to maintain Emergency Reserve Fund for emergency purposes.

Wells stated that there have been some misstatements in the newspaper. The Riley County Police Department does not have an unlimited credit card, and the City does have money in their Reserve Fund. The City budgeted several percent for 2009 through 2013 for delinquent taxes, but they did not budget anything for 2014 and 2015. He said that these are not Law Board matters, but rather City of Manhattan issues.

There were a number of special and regular Law Board Meetings in which the RCPD budget was discussed. During those meetings, City Commissioners were using Law Board time to try to figure out how to fund the City’s budget, and if it was possible to create an additional reserve fund. Wells said that they are there to conduct Law Board business. They should be there as Law Board members. He would like to stick to Law Board matters and let the City and County tend to their individual budgets. The Riley County Police Department is doing a fine job. Their budget is controlled by the Law Board, and they do not have the ability to add funds to their budget anytime they like.

McCulloh stated that she attended the Cooking for Cops event at Triangle Park on May 9th to support the Manhattan Arts Center and Manhattan Senior Center Meals on Wheels Program. There was good food and it was a great event.

Boyd attended the RCPD picnic last Friday to honor those local Law Enforcement Officers killed in the line of duty. He stated that it was a very nice event.

K. Employee Recognition- Exemplary Performance in Police Training Officer Program: Director Schoen recognized Officer Rachel Pate for completing the Riley County Police Department Police Training Officer (PTO) program at an exemplary level. Officer Pate entered into the PTO program in November of 2014 after graduating from the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center (KLETC). Since graduating from KLETC she spent 6 months in the PTO program. The PTO program incorporates 5 projects involving fellow officers, citizens in the community, governmental agencies, as well as other law enforcement agencies. During the project, the recruit officer is asked to do all of this additional work as well as his/her daily assigned tasks of investigating crimes, taking calls for service, and carrying out all other duties associated with being

an officer. Officer Pate not only completed these additional assignments, but did so at an exemplary level, the highest level in the program.

In order to achieve an exemplary mark on a single project, the recruit officer must thoroughly research, meticulously document, and impressively present their projects, while incorporating leadership on that project. Officer Pate did just that on 5 separate projects. One of the projects involved working with Big Lakes Developmental Center on possible training for police officers on how to respond to individuals who are mentally challenged. Schoen presented Officer Pate with an Exemplary Performance in PTO Program ribbon.

McCulloh commented on the number of reports in the news regarding tragic events involving law enforcement. She stated that in Baltimore, Maryland an individual is able to become a police officer directly out of high school. The amount of training an RCPD officer receives provides them with a better sense of security while on duty. It provides a sense of security to the general public as well. She added that training is vitally important because she would hate to have a local tragedy.

L. Approval of Justice Assistance Grant Funding: The Riley County Police Department requests that the Law Board authorize the agency to move forward on an application for grant funds through the 2015 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant program. Captain Hegarty explained that the 2015 allocation of \$17,177 was released on May 12, 2015 with an application deadline of June 16, 2015. There is no matching fund requirement for this grant. Should the application be approved, the RCPD intends to apply the entire grant allocation towards 2015 expenses related to body-worn cameras. While the 2016 proposed budget includes funding for the plan (as will budgets for subsequent years), the current 2015 budget includes no such funding. This grant will help offset the cost of body-worn cameras for the first year of the plan.

The Riley County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) is set to review the application on May 21, 2015, conduct the required public hearing on the matter, and hopefully approve the application. The Riley County Police Department recommends that the Law Board give authorization to the agency to proceed with the grant application process through the Riley County BOCC and to accept and utilize the funds should the application be approved and the funds awarded.

Boyd opened for public comment and received none.

Wilkerson moved to approve the Department's application for the 2015 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant. Wells seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, motion carried 6-0.

M. Public Hearing for 2016 Budget: Director Schoen explained that at the April 30, 2015 Special Law Board Meeting the Board approved RCPD Budget Draft 1 for publication. Following publication, a public hearing on the budget of expenditures should be held.

Boyd opened the public hearing for the 2016 RCPD budget. No comments were received from the public. The public hearing was closed.

Butler noted a \$20,000 reduction in RCPD Budget Draft 2 when compared to Draft 1. It appears as though administration reviewed the line items that were discussed at the last meeting. However, the training and travel line item was not reduced.

Schoen stated that was correct. The reduction was made in the fuel and lubrication line.

N. 2016 RCPD Budget: Wilkerson moved to approve RCPD Budget Draft 2, reflecting a \$20,000 reduction from the published budget. McCulloh seconded the motion.

Butler asked if there are any additional lines within the budget that could be reduced.

Schoen responded that there may be a \$1,000 reduction here and there. However, he and Assistant Director Doehling feel like they did that during the last budget discussion. They are comfortable with the numbers that have been provided to the Board.

Butler explained that he does not want to negatively impact training, but at the last Law Board Meeting he asked the Director to take a look at expenses related to training, specifically with respect to the Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce Regional Leaders Retreat. In his opinion, the retreat is an expense that could be eliminated. He stated that they could quibble over \$1,000 here and \$500 there. In his opinion, any amount is worth quibbling over when it comes to tax dollars invested. He believes that further reductions to the budget could be made.

Butler added that he has received a number of letters concerning the number of stationary police vehicles in the RCPD parking lot. On one occasion, he counted 15 police vehicles in the parking lot.

Schoen stated that following the last Law Board Meeting Captain Hegarty asked the Maintenance Supervisor to keep an eye on the number of police vehicles in the parking lot over the course of 1 month. He took count during varying times of the day. On average, there were 4 cars per day that weren't actively being used. However, those vehicles are reserved on the property for emergencies or special event detail such as KSU football game day traffic assistance, Fake Patty's Day, etc. When the public views a patrol vehicle in the parking lot that does not mean that an officer isn't at work or the car isn't assigned to someone. Typically, the supervisor or officer assigned to the vehicle is inside the building working on reports or other administrative duties. Schoen added that the situation probably looks worse lately because the Department has new vehicles waiting for equipment to be installed. In addition, there are a number of old cars that are waiting to be auctioned. In short, he is comfortable with the current number of police vehicles.

Boyd stated that he is in support of the training and travel budget. He believes it is a prudent amount. He also stated that he supports the Director's attendance at the Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce Regional Leaders Retreat in Overland Park, Kansas. He believes it is of great benefit to the public and non-elected leaders in the community to see the Director at the retreat.

On a roll call vote, motion carried 6-0.

N2. 1st Quarter Reports/61.1.1 Traffic Accident & Enforcement Analysis: Director Schoen explained that the Department utilizes the Traffic Accident & Enforcement Analysis as a tool to establish targeted enforcement locations on a quarterly basis. He said that most accidents occur within the City of Manhattan, specifically in the southeast portion of the city. As depicted in the report, the top driver actions leading up to a preventable accident during the 1st quarter 2015 include: inattention (general sense), failure to yield to the right of way, following too closely, under the influence of alcohol, and disregard of traffic signs, signals, markings. Hot spots where a number of injury accidents and/or preventable accidents occurred during the 1st quarter were the areas of Bluemont Avenue and N. 4th Street, and Bluemont Avenue/Anderson Avenue between N. 9th and Sunset Avenue. Accidents that were animal or weather related were not included in the report.

Boyd thanked Schoen for the explanation.

O. Executive Session: It was determined that an executive session was not needed.

P. Adjournment: The May 18, 2015 Law Board Meeting adjourned at 12:34 p.m.