

OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

May 7, 2018 – 8:30 A.M.

NOVATO CITY HALL – WOMACK CONFERENCE ROOM

Chief Mike Norton called the meeting to order at 8:34 am. The following were in attendance: Sheriff Robert Doyle, Undersheriff Mike Ridgway, Central Marin Police Chief Mike Norton, CHP Captain Robert Mota, Task Force Commander Rudy Yamanoha, Task Force Special Investigations Assistant Christine Wheeler, Corte Madera Town Manager Todd Cusimano, Novato City Council Member Pat Eklund, County Administration Dan Eilerman, Detective Corin Priest, public member Ed Schulze, public member Dan Falzon, and civilian Mark Dale.

Chief Norton opened the meeting with introductions.

Chief Norton then presented approval of last meetings minutes. All present approved.

Lieutenant Yamanoha informed the committee that recently due to illness Beau, the Task Force K-9 has retired. With funding through HIDTA we were able to purchase a new K-9. Yamanoha introduced our newest K-9 team member, Max, and his handler Detective Corin Priest. Detective Priest informed the committee that Max recently completed training in cocaine, methamphetamine, and heroin detection. Max was top of his class. Max will be attending training this week for firearm detection. Max will also attend training for marijuana detection. Detective Priest expressed that being a K-9 handler has been a goal of hers and to work with Max has been a dream realized. She spoke highly of Max's accomplishments, demeanor, and looks forward to growing with him. Chief Norton spoke further on Beau's handler, Mark Reischel, who will be taking ownership of Beau in his retirement. A Beau-Fund-Me was set up on behalf of his medical needs, which rose over \$20,000.00. Any leftover funds will be set up for retired K-9's in need of assistance.

Lieutenant Yamanoha then informed the committee that an expected payment from pending Asset Forfeiture should be coming through in the next few weeks. This amount will go towards the balance owed to the Sheriff's Office. Once applied the remaining balance owed will be approximately ten thousand dollars. There are other cases close to resolution and it is likely the balance will be paid off by the end of the year. Schulze inquired about legislation discussed at the last meeting interfering with Asset Forfeiture. Sheriff Doyle responded that nothing has happened yet and politicians are making ground to keep Asset Forfeiture.

Yamanoha discussed recent cases, stats, and agency contacts. He informed the committee that a destruction/purge is scheduled this month, that drug testing has been completed for the unit, and a couple operations will be wrapped up soon with the help of ABC.

Yamanoha spoke about recent trends via the Dark Web. The dark web is used to deal drugs anonymously while protected by encrypted sites. Two task force detectives will be attending training this month to gain more expertise in this area.

Personnel change will be coming in July. Sergeant Fay will be returning to the Sheriff's Office and Sergeant Ryan Petersen will be joining the team.

Sheriff Doyle mentioned the Sonoma County Home Invasions and asked if the task force had further information. Details of the cases were discussed and it is foreseen that incidents like these will continue. Schulze asked where they were getting their firearms to carry out the home invasions. Yamanoha responded that depending on their networking or gang affiliation it is very easy. Norton questioned whether the package cases we worked were from local residents or from people flying in from out of state. Yamanoha replied both.

Eklund thanked Lt. Yamanoha for the attendance of Detective Jensen and Special Agent Kolanowski at the Mayors and Councilmembers dinner. She stated it was a great experience and was truly appreciated by all members.

Captain Mota referred back to the Sonoma counties discussing concerns about future problems we may begin to see.

Norton opened public comments. Mark Dale thanked Sheriff Doyle for his commitment. Dale spoke of recent and upcoming trainings and the significant response he is seeing to them. He stated that an upcoming school site training will be discussing vaping and the problems being associated with vaping. He also referred back to the dark web discussion stating that the Silk Road case was associated with a death in Marin.

Next meeting set for August 6th at 0830. Location Novato City Hall.

Meeting adjourned 08:47 a.m.