

**BERLIN POLICE COMMISSION
MONTHLY MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION**

DATE: MONDAY, September 12, 2022
TIME: 2:00 P.M.
PLACE: BERLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Comm. Nault at 1:59 P.M.

II. Roll Call: Commissioners Nault, Tremblay, and Morin were present.

Others Present: Chief Buteau, Capt. Roy, Capt. Lemoine, Det/Sgt Goulet, Cpl. Eoin Stapleton, and Jennifer Cloutier.

Recorded by: Kimberly Bijeau

III. Acceptance of Minutes of July 25, 2022: Minutes were unanimously accepted as printed, on a motion by Comm. Tremblay, seconded by Comm. Morin.

IV. Monthly Financial Report: Discussion reference the W/C figures, Computers and Support, Clothing Allowance, and Longevity line items (paid once a year/in July). The report was unanimously accepted on a motion by Comm. Morin, seconded by Comm. Tremblay. A brief discussion then ensued with reference to Harmon and Bowman's upcoming graduation on September 23rd.

V. Old Business

A. ATV Event: Capt. Lemoine advised that the event was a great success. The department had 306.5 man hours in two days between officers and dispatch. There were 7 arrest / 7 accidents. Berlin PD did 47 OHRV stops and F&G had 86 stops: the trails were highly congested which made it difficult for OHRV's to speed.

B. Roland Lamontagne: Chief Buteau acknowledged Roland's years of hard work and dedication. 1961 – 2022 (61 Years of Service) Presented plaque, blanket, and retired officer badge/wallet. Commission thanked Roland for his service. Chief Buteau and Capt. Roy walked Roland out and thanked his wife for her support.

C. SRO Candidate: N.C. candidate didn't work out. Tentative plan: we have sought interest from within the dept. and outside the dept. Plan is to assign Lt. Hollie Dube to the school 3 days a week to start. We are still working on the scheduling and the school is working on the funding. Scheduling will be difficult as the department is currently short on patrol officers and supervisors. There are a few additional hurdles to overcome. Lt. Dube was very enthusiastic and the school was pleased to have her. The position is still listed on Indeed. Julie King acknowledged a few of the officers who have been taking the time to do foot patrols in and around the school: including Gale and Dumas.

- D. **P.E.T. Officer:** Stapleton filling position part-time currently as overtime. Cpl. Stapleton spoke with ref to P.E.T. advising that due to limited resources in the North Country he is not able to address the prevention portion. C.A. office has been briefed ref other agencies having worked almost as a P.O. Treatment portion: taking a subject to detox today. Subject had walked in off the street. There are limited resources in Berlin. Solid partnership with FRC, CCFHS, etc. Discussion ref issues with the doorway program and PAL (Police Athletic League). Had a grant program.
- E. **Other:** Nothing.

VI. New Business

- A. **Chief's Meeting:** Grafton/Coos Chief's meeting with SP. Met in Whitefield at the Mt. View Grand.
- B. **FCI Memorial:** Chief Buteau attended in Berlin on August 15th.
- C. **NHSP Ceremony:** Ceremony for Lord and Philips on August 19th. Flag raising ceremony at Troop F.
- D. **FCI Community Relation committee:** FCI has had the board for a number of years. Chief Buteau attended the meeting in August. The committee provided an update with ref to issues within the prison including the fact that the prison is down approx. 30% on employees.
- E. **Mt Carberry/Success MOU with CCSD:** Have updated the MOU with Sheriff Valerino as it had been a while since it had been updated.
- F. **Public Parks:** Complaints ref homelessness in the parks. New development: Central Rivers Power hired the department to do patrols t/o the month. Tonight is the first patrol. They have already trespassed a number of people from the park. Discussion ensued with ref to the fact that drugs and homelessness go hand in hand in Berlin.
- G. **Secretary of Trans. visit:** The visit went off without a hitch. The visit had been kept quiet due to security reasons. Discussion ensued with ref to the huge project in Berlin.
- H. **Press Release Letter:** (copy of the letter included) Press release should be coming out in the paper and has been posted on Facebook.
- I. **91-A:** Still getting hit with requests. Last one was from WMUR and was very time consuming. Could use additional help with processing the requests.
- J. **Dispatch:** Overwhelmed and near breaking point; have difficult time keeping up. Possibly need a dispatch shift to straddle the afternoon/night shifts.
- K. **Drug Overdose Meeting:** 17 fatal overdoses since October of last year. Y-T-D there has been 42 suspected overdoses. Set-up meeting with CDC. DTF, AG's, NCHC, NG, etc.; met 2 weeks ago via Zoom with plan to start-up coalition among the various departments. Drug monitoring initiative: Berlin is #1 in drug related ER visits, #1 in EMS Narcan

administration, and #1 in overdoses per capita, but last in treatment admissions. Have been trying for the P.E.T. program for 5 years and was finally approved this year. Believed to be directly related to the realization that the drug issue in Berlin area is continuing to escalate.

- L. OHRV Study Commission:** Chief Buteau asked to be on the state study commission out of Concord on behalf of the NHCOP.
- M. Outstanding Service:** Note from July King with ref to Gale and Dumas. CFS in Milan in August: Randi did an excellent job coordinating the call and Lt White did CPR on the subject for approx. 15 min prior to the arrival of EMS.
- N. Training:** Regional SIMMS coming up in Oct. Invites have gone out to area departments from Conway to Pittsburg. To be held at the old Currier Building in Gorham and will be a 3-day event. DRE training: Dumas coordinating with Daisey on Nov. 29.
- O. Hiring:** O'Connell's open position. Plus three to fill SRO, PET, and DTF.
- P. Statistics:** Statistics were reviewed and discussed. Burglaries down 56%, Suspected OD up 133.33%. Discovered a new substance; has been sent to the state lab. OHRV accidents down possibly due to slower speeds on the trails. EMS assists still up.
- Q. Correspondence:** Chief Buteau highlighted several thank you notes and cards.
 - NCHC letter of support. Partner with grant funds.
 - Quilts of Valor honor veterans touched by war Sept 17th presentation (monthly)
 - Heartwarming thank you addressed to Lt Hollie Dube
 - Comm. from Cpl. Stapleton with ref to the PET start-up instructions
 - WMCC speed complaint from subject on Riverside Dr.
 - NECOP letter; providing guidance from AG's office
 - Julie King school drop off change
 - ZT Scherer ref Sgt. Paul Brodeur; law enforcement recognition
 - NE HIDTA: High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas.
 - Special Olympics thank you
 - NHCOP OHRV
- R. Other:** Further discussion with ref to the coalition on drug overdoses.
 - Old 1894-1896 documents from City Hall provided by Shelli
 - Fill gap ref certified officer(s): paid internship through college Criminal Justice program. Question on whether would need new line item or alter Auxiliary line item. Plan would be to complete the hiring background check process so once they graduate from the college they could come right on the department.
 - Wildlife feeding question / ordinance.
 - Discussion with reference to the ordinance ref fireworks. Message reminder with ref to the ordinance due to it being an issue. Recommendation ref airbnb's posting information pertaining to the ordinance and fines.

VII. Public Comments: None.

VIII. Adjournment of Public Meeting: At 3:52 p.m., Comm. Nault motioned, with a second by Comm. Morin, to move into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3, II (c), (d), and (e). The Commission

entered non-public session by roll call vote with all members voting in the affirmative. Public session reconvened at 4:52 p.m. There were no decisions made in non-public session, and minutes were sealed on a motion by Comm. Tremblay, seconded by Comm. Morin, carried unanimously by Comm. Nault, as their release could adversely affect the reputation of a person other than a member of the Commission.

Comm. Morin then motioned, with a second by Comm. Tremblay, to adjourn the public meeting; so moved. The next meeting will be held on **Thursday, October 6th at 07:30 a.m.**