

**DOWNRIVER MUTUAL AID  
REGULAR MEETING – May 6, 2010**

**Item #4**

Present:

Allen Park	Mayor Gary Burtka
Brownstown Twp.	Trustee Barbara Warren
Ecorse	Mayor Pro-Tem Darcel Brown
Flat Rock	Councilman Paul Gagne
Gibraltar	Mayor James Gorris
Grosse Ile Twp.	Supervisor Brian Loftus
Huron Twp.	
Lincoln Park	Mayor Frank Vaslo
Melvindale	
River Rouge	
Riverview	
Rockwood	Police Chief Russ Van Wassehnova
Romulus	
Southgate	Mayor Joseph Kuspa
Taylor	
Trenton	Councilman Terry Teifer
Woodhaven	Mayor Pro-tem Jeffrey Harris
Wyandotte	Mayor Joseph Peterson

Others present: D/F/Lt. Darwin Scott, Police Chief Dan Grant & Fire Chief Mark Hogrebe

The meeting was opened by the Chair, Councilman Terry Teifer, at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call and introductions.

Agenda: Motion by Mayor Peterson, supported by Trustee Warren, to accept the agenda as presented, with one addition (Discuss of Ordinances re: Medical Marijuana). The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes: Motion by Mayor Kuspa, supported by Mayor Peterson, to accept the minutes of 3/4/10 as written. The motion passed unanimously.

Presentation: Benny Napoleon, Wayne County Sheriff, gave an overview of the role of sheriff. He explained about the overcrowding in the jails, with a capacity of 1,700 people. He gave an on-line presentation of how an ankle tether works; adding how useful this tool is for alleviating the overcrowding in the jails and increasing their ability to track released prisoners using GPS and cell towers. Statistics are: out of 522 people released on tether, 520 were exactly where they should be, and the two who were not, were easily tracked and arrested. As an alternative to incarceration, the tether system costs about \$25.00/day versus \$140/day in the jail; saving over \$50,000/day total. Discussion followed regarding the jail budget, prisoner transport, and patrolling of parks.

Finance Committee Report: Chairman Terry Teifer reported in Treasurer Keyes' absence.

Finance Committee Minutes of 3/4/10 & Checks over \$5,000: Motion by Chief Van Wassehnova, supported by Mayor Peterson, to accept the Finance Committee minutes of 3/4/10 as written, along with the checks for approval over \$5,000 (\$13,106.51 to the State of Michigan). The motion passed unanimously.

Downriver Mutual Aid Report:

DRANO: D/F/Lt. Darwin Scott reported. Activity report was included in the packet for information. (1) They replaced the sergeant position; (2) they will be getting another trooper position for Auto Theft in June; (3) they lost a Melvindale officer from budget cuts; (4) received \$85,000 in HIDTA funding; (5) \$13,000 was approved for a new vehicle; (6) received \$30,000 in a COPS grant for surveillance equipment; (7) DRANO crews are busy: there was a major heroin dealer bust; DRANO officers assisted Ecorse in dealing with a homicide and DRANO assists with other major crimes as well. He asked communities to consider placing an officer with DRANO because they assist with narcotics and many other facets of crimes. (8) He is available to answer questions about medical marijuana if needed (police chiefs should have updated information on this too).

Police: Police Chair Dan Grant reported. Police Chief minutes of 3/3/10 and 4/7/10 were included in the packet for information. (1) There were no call outs this month from any of the teams. (2) They are forming a technology committee to review specs to purchase a new radio system. Our current vendor, Motorola, said DMA's current radio technology is outdated and that our system must be updated. They are currently looking at cost and options available.

Fire: Fire Chair Mark Hoglebe reported. Fire Chief minutes of 2/12/10 and 3/17/10 were included in the packet for information. (1) There is no longer funding available for the upkeep of the Accu-Med Web Software Licenses - each department is now responsible for this annual user fee to continue use of the software. Cost for new 3-year contract is \$71,000. (2) One call-out for the Fire Investigation Task Force in Riverview; This team's work has resulted in 12 convictions in 3 years; (3) All teams will be updating their SOP (Standard Operating Procedures); (4) Mark Wheeler retired from the Gibraltar Fire Department, however, he'll be staying on the Dive Team as an instructor; (5) HEMS protocols have tightened up with drug boxes at the hospitals; (6) Oxygen generating machines in the Northline warehouse – we want to generate our own so the communities don't have to pay to get medical oxygen; (7) New purchasing committee chair is Chief Steve Portis; (8) Reduced manpower affects response time for fighting fires (Report on Residential Fireground Field Experiments from the U.S. Department of Commerce, was distributed). Mayor Dan Paletko of Dearborn Heights said that four or five CWW communities are looking to create a fire authority. Mutual Aid agreements will be stretched due to reduction in manpower.

Ordinances Related to Medical Marijuana:

Mayor Frank Vaslo asked Jim Perry and DCC staff to survey member communities about medical marijuana ordinances – he would like to see communities unify a plan to deal with this issue; to prevent any one community from being a “grow community”. Several communities expressed interest (Dearborn Heights, Southgate). Mayor Dan Paletko of Dearborn Heights said Oakland County did a county-wide plan. Discussion followed. Chief Dan Grant said the director of the Michigan DEA attended a Chiefs' meeting to discuss language needed for a special ordinance – which Wyandotte passed. Cindy Dingell, of the Wayne County Executive's Office, expressed interest in Wayne County being included in the discussions.

No new business or remarks from the audience. Motion by Chief Van Wassehnova, supported by Mayor Peterson, to adjourn at 6:50 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.