



# McCordsville Metropolitan Board of Police Commissioners- Minutes

---

Location: McCordsville Town Hall – Council Chambers

Date: Monday – November 19, 2018

Time: 6:00 pm EST

---

## Minutes Summary:

1. Meeting was called to order on or about approximately 1800 hours.
2. Roll Call
  - A. Present – Dr. Burney, Ms. Schoen, Mr. Meggenhofen, Mr. Benson, Mr. Apel, Mr. Robinson, Chief Rodgers, Major Casey
  - B. Absent – President Walker
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Minutes were approved and signed from October 15, 2018.
5. Awards Ceremony – Life Saving Awards – Chief Rodgers and Special Guests Present Them:
  - A. Officers Receiving them:  
Chief Harold C. Rodgers, Jr.  
Sergeant Jimmy R. Bell  
Officer Aaron Watts  
Officer Jeffrey Herber  
Officer Dan Trejo
  - B. Special guests:  
Mr. Stanley H. Nash  
Mr. Anthony J. Arvin
6. Old Business
  - A. Zoey's Place – Chief Rodgers attended the MOU signing ceremony and signed the MOU. Chief Rodgers also reported that due to the overwhelming positive response, No Shave November may be extended through January 2019.

- B. Commissioners' monthly report has been changed removing run count, effective January 2019's first report.

7. New Business

- A. Discussion was held about replacing the department's aging handguns. Sgt. Jimmy Bell made a presentation to transition to the 9MM round so that officers will have increased accuracy, less expensive ammunition, and the Glock G-17 is better for small hands as well as less recoil. This was budgeted as a 2019 project. Current guns are between 5 and 10 years of age with varying stages of spring maintenance. Officer Kyle Smith spoke in favor of transitioning to the 9MM handgun. Commissioner Robinson motioned to approve the purchase and transition to the Glock G17 handgun, with a not to exceed amount of \$10,000.00. Commissioner Benson seconded. Motion passed 4-0.
- B. Discussion was held about supplying the department's road officers with a department issued 9mm carbine. Sergeant Bell made a presentation, stating that currently department officers supply his or her own carbines in .223/5.56 NATO. With the recommendation officers will be able to carry 5 to 6 magazines on his or her person that are interchangeable with the Glock 17 and Glock 19 pistols. Commissioners' Counsel recommended allowing the audience to speak on the recommendation. Officer Kyle Smith spoke, by his statement, for all of the officers against such a change. Officer Smith discussed an article from the internet, i.e.: Officer.com that the .223 is more accurate a long range and is capable of doing more damage. According to Officer Smith's account of the article the 9MM was not as devastating. According to Officer Smith, the magazines for the AR-9 should work, but have had reported troubles with the magazine springs, suggesting more magazine changes and increased expenses. Suggested local building of rifles for less expense. Officer Brady spoke of round count; police active shooter events are situations that are rapidly evolving. Officer Watts spoke on the round count advising that the .223 rounds and the pistol rounds combined would be 96 as opposed to the requested change to 85 rounds. Officer Watts was concerned more about the reduced round count than what round was being carried. Major Casey entered the discussion raising the point that there would be a gain in rounds on the officer's person on a daily basis, but less for the rifle. Commissioner Meggenhofen raised the point that he believed that the .223 round was too much power for a school or an office building. Officer Barnes added that based on what she's heard, she proposed that the department do its own internal testing so that "we officers and admin staff can get on same page." Chief Rodgers made the suggestion to withdraw the request for the rifles at this time. Commissioner Benson made a motion to keep the .223 carbines, as supplied by the officers, and the department continue supplying the ammunition. Commissioner Robinson Seconded. Motion passed 4 in favor – 0 against. Commissioner Robinson motioned to table the rifle discussion until such time as it needs brought back up. Commissioner Benson seconded. Motion passed 4 in favor – 0 Against.
- C. Discussion regarding the new noise ordinance, feedback and enforcement questions. Major Paul Casey led the discussion regarding the new, approved on first reading, noise ordinance. Major Casey raised questions on the calibration and the number of devices being



recommended. Major Casey also raised questions regarding what he believed were loopholes and questions that needed resolution before the council enacted the ordinance at their December 2018 meeting. No decisions were made by the Commissioners; however, Major Casey's concerns and questions were noted.

- D. In the matter of General Order 4.400 Personal Appearance, Commissioner Robinson motioned to approve General Order 4.400. Commissioner Benson Seconded. Motion passed 4 in favor – 0 against.
- E. In the matter of General Order 4.710 Administration of Sanctions and or Discipline, Commissioner Benson motioned to approve General order 4.710. Commissioner Robinson seconded. Motion passed 4 in favor – 0 against. Chief Rodgers requested that a committee consisting of 2 of the Commissioners, the Commissioners' Counsel, the Chief of Police and the Assistant Chief of Police to establish a clear workflow of the process not covered under this general order.
- F. In the matter of General Order 10.110 Employment – New Position (Sworn), Commissioner Robinson motioned to approve General Order 10.110. Commissioner Benson seconded. Motion passed 4 in favor – 0 against.
- G. In the matter of General Order 10.140 Employee Nepotism/Conflict of Interest. Chief Rodgers wanted to make sure that his interpretation of the statute was still correct since transitioning from a Town Marshal system to a Metropolitan Board of Police Commissioners. Under the Marshal's system, the Marshal was in charge of hiring, so the issue of potential favoritism or nepotism was clear. Now that the Commissioners make the final decision on employment, not the Chief of Police, Chief Rodgers wanted to know if this General Order needed changes or met both the statutory requirement for either system. Counsel Schoen informed the Commissioners that she would review how other agencies are dealing with this matter and advise the Chief and the Commissioners on what, if anything, needs amended. After discussion, Commissioner Apel motioned to approve General Order 10.140. Commissioner Benson seconded. Motion passed 4 in favor – 0 against.
- H. Chief Rodgers talked about the Hancock County Joint Tactical Team Call-Out in Bay Creek with giving recognition to Officer Brady, the Hancock County Emergency Center Dispatchers, the professional response personal and the positive outcome with the situation. Chief Rodgers read the transcript of the dispatch texts between the dispatcher and the individual involved in the matter, so that the Commissioners can see the type(s) of calls that the police department's officers are responding to.
- I. Chief Rodgers informed the Commissioners that Meijer's donated sixteen (16) sets of handcuffs to the police department. The Commissioners would like to send a Thank You card the them for that donation and asked Chief Rodgers to author such a letter to be signed by

the Chief of Police, the President of the Police Commissioners, and the President of the Town Council.

- J. Chief Rodgers discussed an improvement to the benefits provided to the officers of the police department. Chief Rodgers explained the history of the department's current take-home police vehicle policy. Chief Rodgers added that, we collectively understand that we cannot compete financially with larger more established agencies; however, there are some things that we can do. One of those things was the amending of the department's take home policy. Currently, the officers must pay for any and all personal mileage. As we are moving more and more toward paperless, the Chief Requested that the General Order, effective January 1, 2019, be amended to allow officers to have 200 miles of monthly de-minimus personal use mileage before being required to pay for off-duty usage. The Chief reference the call where he was off duty in his take-home vehicle and responded to the person trapped under a mower as demonstration on how the benefit goes both ways. Commissioner's Counsel inquired if the extra amount for this was budgeted for 2019. Major Casey, in response to the question, informed the Commissioners that the amount was not budgeted; however, since the rifles were tabled that money was now available to support the change in take home procedures. Chief Rodgers requested Officer Kyle Smith address the Commissioners regarding this benefit, since he was one of the people who had made that recommendation to the Police Administration. Officer Smith spoke in favor of the mileage discussion. Commissioner Benson motioned to approve providing officers with 200 miles per month of personal use before having to pay for personal mileage. Commissioner Robinson seconded. Motion passed 4 in favor – 0 against.
- 8. Under new business:
  - a. Dr. Bryan Burney wanted to give the Commissioners an update regarding a speed monitor, radar sign, sign board in the Deer Crossing Housing Edition. Mr. Pettygrove addressed the Commissioners by complimenting the town on the sign board in the neighborhood more often, even though the Town of McCordsville did receive one citizen complaint advising that the sign board was an eye sore in the neighborhood. Dr. Burney asked Mr. Pettygrove if there was any further discussion amongst the members of the Deer Crossing Homeowners association about their neighborhood contributing to or donating a radar board. Mr. Pettygrove informed the Commissioners that there is still ongoing discussion; however, little movement. No further action was requested or taken.
- 9. Under President's recognitions:
  - a. Recognition for Officer Brady's performance during the EDP call in Bay Creek housing edition.
  - b. Officer Bowersox was recognized by Mt. Vernon Middle School for his participation in Unified Champions (Special Olympics / IHSAA).
  - c. A Facebook© message received from Ms. Kristee Alora, of McCordsville, thanking Officer Smith for his efforts while handing out candy on Halloween Night.




- d. A citizen thanking Officer Herbert for his generous actions during a student's fund-raising activity – even though he was offered free candy bars, he paid for them since the money was going to a good cause.

10. Having no other business before the Commissioners, Commissioner Robinson motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Benson seconded. Meeting adjourned at or about 20:10 hours.

**Minutes Approved**

These minutes approved this 17<sup>th</sup> day of DECEMBER, 2018.

Approved By:   
Mark Walker – President, Board of Police Commissions

Attested By:   
Wade E. Apel – Secretary, Board of Police Commissions