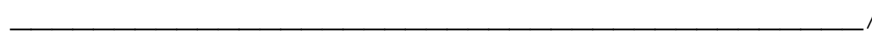


5/1/2014

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DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING



PAGES 1 TO 20

Taken at Detroit Public Safety Headquarters  
1301 Third Avenue  
Detroit, Michigan,  
Commencing at 3:05 p.m.,  
Thursday, May 1, 2014,  
Before Wendy A. Boer, CSR 3505.

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COMMISSIONERS:

- MS. JESSICA TAYLOR, CHAIRPERSON
- MR. WENDELL L. BYRD, COMMISSIONER
- MR. WILLIE E. BELL, COMMISSIONER
- MS. LISA CARTER, COMMISSIONER
- MR. RICHARD SHELBY, COMMISSIONER
- MR. RICARDO R. MOORE, COMMISSIONER
- MR. WILLIE E. BURTON, COMMISSIONER

REPRESENTING THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE:

ASSISTANT CHIEF LASHINDA HOUSER

1 Detroit, Michigan  
2 Thursday, May 1, 2014  
3 About 3:05 p.m.  
4

5 CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: If you'd take a seat  
6 please, we will get started. The meeting is called to  
7 order at 3:00, p.m., Thursday, May 1st, 2014. I am  
8 Commissioner Jessica Taylor, Chairperson of the Board.  
9 And I'm going to ask our Secretary if he would call  
10 role, please.

11 SECRETARY ANTHONY: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
12 For the record, George Anthony, Secretary to the Board.  
13 Commissioner Donnell R. White has called in. He will  
14 not be here today. Commissioner Richard Shelby?

15 COMMISSIONER SHELBY: Here.

16 SECRETARY ANTHONY: Commissioner Wendell L.  
17 Byrd?

18 COMMISSIONER BYRD: Here.

19 SECRETARY ANTHONY: Commissioner Reginald  
20 Crawford? Commissioner Willie E. Bell?

21 COMMISSIONER BELL: Here.

22 SECRETARY ANTHONY: Commissioner Willie E.  
23 Burton?

24 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Present.

25 SECRETARY ANTHONY: Commissioner Lisa Carter?

1 COMMISSIONER CARTER: Present.

2 SECRETARY ANTHONY: Commissioner Ricardo R.  
3 Moore?

4 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Present.

5 SECRETARY ANTHONY: Madame Chair, you have a  
6 quorum.

7 CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: Thank you. I'd like to  
8 introduce from the Chief's Office, First Deputy Chief --  
9 First Assistant Chief Lashinda Houser.

10 ASSISTANT CHIEF HOUSER: Thank you. Happy to  
11 be here. I'd just like to state for the record through  
12 the Chair that the Chief will be present at next weeks  
13 community meeting.

14 CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: Okay. Thank you.  
15 Mr. Secretary, will you introduce the rest of the staff,  
16 please?

17 SECRETARY ANTHONY: Thank you, Madame Chair.  
18 We have seated in the front Ms. Aliyah Sabree, who is  
19 our attorney to the Board, and Ms. Pamela Davis-Drake,  
20 our chief investigator from the Office of the Chief  
21 Investigator, Mr. Robert Brown, our office manager to my  
22 right, Officer Dan Danokowski who is recording our  
23 proceedings and Ms. Wendy Boer from Hanson Court  
24 Reporting Service. That completes the introductions.

25 CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: All right, thank you,

1 sir. I'm going to ask, do we have a Chaplain? Deacon  
2 Adams, will you do us the honor, please?

3 DEACON ADAMS: It's always an honor to pray.  
4 Great, awesome and wonderful God, we're here uplifting  
5 and glorifying your holy name, oh Heavenly Father.  
6 Please bless us and touch us and let us carry out your  
7 mission in order to represent your people and to be fair  
8 in deliberation, oh Heavenly Father, that all decisions  
9 that we make be thoughtful and this process is going to  
10 be a benefit to those that we serve, as right as we  
11 possibly can be, oh Heavenly Father, touching each and  
12 every person here, whether they be commission or whether  
13 they be audience or whether they be just citizens in  
14 general. All these things we do and ask in the name of  
15 your son, Jesus Christ, in his name, Amen.

16 CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: Thank you. I call for a  
17 motion to approve the agenda for Thursday, May 1st,  
18 2014.

19 COMMISSIONER BELL: So moved.

20 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Second.

21 CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: It's been moved and  
22 seconded. Any discussion? All in favor?

23 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

24 CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: All opposed? Agenda  
25 stands approved. I'd like to call for a motion to

1 approve the minutes for Thursday, April 24th, 2014.

2 COMMISSIONER BYRD: So moved.

3 COMMISSIONER BELL: Second.

4 CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: It's been moved and  
5 seconded. Any discussion? All those in favor?

6 COMMISSIONERS: Aye.

7 CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: All opposed? Minutes  
8 stand approved as written. The report presentation by  
9 the Department, do we have a report?

10 ASSISTANT CHIEF HOUSER: No, not this week,  
11 ma'am.

12 CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: Okay. Thank you.  
13 Standing committee reports? Any new business? Old  
14 business? Any business? Well, our next meeting will be  
15 Thursday, May 8th, 2014, 6:30, at the Bushnell  
16 Congregational Church, the Eighth Precinct. That's at  
17 15000 Southfield Freeway in Detroit. At this time,  
18 we'll move to oral communications from the audience.

19 SECRETARY ANTHONY: Madame Chair, if I can  
20 just make an -- or just remind you too that there is the  
21 interfaith memorial service tomorrow. It's -- the  
22 information is in your package of material.

23 CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: Okay. All the  
24 Commissioners have a copy?

25 SECRETARY ANTHONY: Yes, ma'am.

1 ASSISTANT CHIEF HOUSER: Through the Chair,  
2 I'd also like to make an announcement. You may have  
3 heard, Assistant Chief Eric Jones is going to be  
4 retiring from the police department after 25 years of  
5 dedicated service. He's going to have a coffee and cake  
6 on May 9th here in this room. However, the Chief wanted  
7 me to invite you all to what we are doing as relates to  
8 replacing his position. There's going to be what we are  
9 calling a professional promotional assessment. And he  
10 wanted to invite the Board members to participate as  
11 evaluators on that particular assessment. Right now,  
12 it's been tentatively set for May 16th on Friday. We do  
13 not have a time yet. But I will forward it to your  
14 office.

15 CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: All right. Thank you,  
16 ma'am. Are there any more announcements?

17 COMMISSIONER BELL: Sure. I think the First  
18 Assistant Chief should mention the groundbreaking  
19 ceremony that took place this morning in the Fourth  
20 District. I think this is an oversight on her part.

21 ASSISTANT CHIEF HOUSER: Commissioner Willie  
22 Bell, he was standing right there next to me and so was  
23 the Chair and so was Commissioner Shelby, yes. So, this  
24 morning, this morning at 10:00 the groundbreaking for  
25 the Fifth Precinct at 3500 Conner I believe was the

1 address. So, it's going to be an awesome safe haven for  
2 community members in that area, Conner and south of  
3 Mack.

4 CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: Nice building, nice  
5 building too.

6 COMMISSIONER BELL: Madame Chair, I just want  
7 to say that we are really pleased in District Four and  
8 also the City of Detroit. This really is historic,  
9 restoring the precincts. So, I'm just elated the people  
10 that responded and most important have gotten the word  
11 out. So, hopefully, I think it's opening up around  
12 December of this year.

13 ASSISTANT CHIEF HOUSER: Yes, sir.

14 COMMISSIONER BELL: Thank you.

15 CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: Is there any other  
16 announcements? If not, now we will move to oral  
17 communications from the audience.

18 MR. WELBORNE: Good afternoon to the Board.  
19 Bill Welborne, W-e-l-b-o-r-n-e, president of City Wide.  
20 I got some people calling me asking me a couple  
21 questions which I didn't know the answer to. One of  
22 them -- I don't think you do that -- a lady called me  
23 and asked me do the police department put out an arrest  
24 list every day. And I told her, that's just about  
25 impossible for a city like this, this size. I guess she



1 is from some small city somewhere that put out an arrest  
2 list every day. But I never heard of it.

3 ASSISTANT CHIEF HOUSER: No, sir. Through the  
4 Chair, no, sir, we do not.

5 MR. WELBORNE: And another call I got, where  
6 is the best place to ask for copies of the Most Wanted  
7 List, the Ten Most Wanted List for I guess the FBI list.

8 ASSISTANT CHIEF HOUSER: Through the Chair, I  
9 believe it can be captured on line. It's a website, FBI  
10 website.

11 CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: Probably Google it.

12 MR. WELBORNE: Okay, because I wasn't sure on  
13 that. I heard that, but I didn't try to Google it  
14 myself. I just wanted to make -- get the right  
15 information before I even tried myself. Also, on the --  
16 let me get my specs out so I can see. You know, I'm  
17 working with the Chief's city camp thing. And we are  
18 going to have our first graduating class next week on  
19 the 9th of May at Don Bosco Hall at 4:30 p.m. The kids  
20 going to graduate. I only got about half the class  
21 graduating.

22 We lost a lot of kids because some of the  
23 kids, I will be honest with you, I just want to ring  
24 their necks, a couple youngsters that I just, oh. But  
25 then you got a couple kids there that's really really

1           excellent, and I'm proud of them. And I told them that  
2           today when I left there today. And they have come  
3           forward, and they help me with the other kids. And they  
4           are changed, you know. When a kid goes from first walk  
5           in there, they curse me out, call me all kinds of names,  
6           blah, blah this and blah, blah that.

7                         Now I walk in, they shake my hand, how you  
8           doing, Mr. Welborne? And I appreciate that. And we did  
9           the best we could. But this is the first year. We will  
10          do it better next time. So, but they're graduating next  
11          on the 10th, on the 9th rather next month, this month.  
12          It's May already. I just want to let you all know.

13                        CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: Excellent. Thank you,  
14          Mr. Welborne. Miss Bernice, you have to come on the  
15          first call because you know the Commissioners told me I  
16          can only ask one time now.

17                        MS. SMITH: Bernice Smith, human resources.  
18          Well, shall I begin? Brown, please don't time me  
19          because this is important. Last week -- no, it was this  
20          week -- it was very disappointing to see on the news,  
21          and you know I'm going to come to you whenever I have a  
22          problem with the police department. And then I'm going  
23          to tell you also when you do good.

24                        I was very shocked to hear about 27 police  
25          officers with tickets. And wasn't no big deal for a lot

1 of people but it was for me because of the fact that the  
2 police department supposed to be an example for the  
3 citizens of Detroit or anywhere else that they go  
4 because they wear the badge. And the majority of it was  
5 moving -- well, moving and parking violations, nothing  
6 really serious. And other than that, and that's serious  
7 enough.

8 And I feel as though that we should be careful  
9 what we do. The citizens, they need to pay their  
10 tickets also and the police also. And I don't think  
11 that there should be an exception to the rules. And I  
12 do hope that this won't happen again next year when we  
13 have another accounting. You will have an accounting  
14 twice a year. So, I feel maybe you better do it three  
15 times a year. This way, you will keep abreast on how  
16 you're doing as far as your traffic violations are  
17 concerned. Now, with that being said --

18 ASSISTANT CHIEF HOUSER: Madame Chair, can I  
19 speak on that first? It should be noted for the record  
20 that this is an audit that we did. Nobody else did the  
21 audit for us. And certainly, the majority of those  
22 tickets that created warrants in some issues were  
23 parking tickets. And the others, there were members who  
24 maybe didn't cut their grass or something like that.  
25 And then depending upon which municipality they lived

1 in, they would get tickets.

2 And in some cases, if you have children, you  
3 know, your kids get all these parking tickets in your  
4 name and you don't know. So, there were an array of  
5 reasons why this happened. And certainly some of the  
6 officers did not know. But once everyone was notified,  
7 everyone took care of it. Yes, ma'am.

8 MS. SMITH: Yes, they did, because the Chief  
9 was right on it I understand. So, we don't want to make  
10 that no habit. And we certainly don't want to be in the  
11 paper for people to read because all they want to know  
12 and think that we are -- Detroit did this and Detroit  
13 done did that. All right.

14 Yesterday on our radio program, you know, most  
15 of you know I do commentary. And Cliff Russell, he's  
16 our mediator now. The subject was the state police, the  
17 people having complaints against the state police. The  
18 mayor was stopped. Of course we know he drives fast  
19 anyway. But he was stopped and by the DNR, not the  
20 state police, the DNR. And the reason why I know that,  
21 I went there. So, he was stopped. And then the next  
22 one was stopped was the president of the city council,  
23 Jones. She got upset because she was stopped. And then  
24 Ashley Winfrey was stopped.

25 They made the remark as most of you know

1 saying that we trying to get the riffraff out of the  
2 island. Well, it upset me when I heard all of this.  
3 So, I said, well, when I talk with Cliff on the air and  
4 it was brought up to our attention, people that was  
5 listening. And I stated that I was going to go out  
6 there to Belle Isle and check on it myself.

7 And that's what I did. I called. That's when  
8 I called Brown to get the state police. He is very  
9 handy in giving me information when I can't get it. So,  
10 I got the state police number. And then I asked to  
11 speak to the person who was in charge of Belle Isle.  
12 So, I got the name, which is Michael Shaw in case any of  
13 you would like to know. And I did leave a message on  
14 his machine, and then he called me back within  
15 30 minutes.

16 And I spoke to him and told him what I wanted  
17 to see him about and what the problem was with the  
18 citizens here in Detroit. So, he gladly stated that I  
19 can come out to Belle Isle, where he would be at 2:00.  
20 I got out there about 2:30, going on three. And in the  
21 meantime -- they're in that white house back there in  
22 case you want to know where they are.

23 And I was surveying the area when I was  
24 driving. And it did say 20. And I have no problem with  
25 that because I was looking to see what they are doing.

1 They are putting up barricades up and everything. And  
2 one thing I did notice, not one of us was working there.  
3 So, that's something else I'm going to ask about. In  
4 the meantime, I get there; and a lot of the police were  
5 standing out in front, about eight or nine of them. And  
6 it was only two women of my color and one of your color.  
7 And the rest of them were all white.

8 So, when I get out of the car, they told me  
9 where I can park because one was pulling out. So, I  
10 parked there. And then I went up to them and I said, I  
11 understand you fellows is having problems here with the  
12 citizens of Detroit. And they wanted to know what I was  
13 speaking about. I said, well, first of all, I want to  
14 see Lieutenant Shaw. They told me he was in the  
15 building.

16 So, I said, I will talk to you if you are out  
17 here when I come back. So, I go inside the building. I  
18 asked a gentleman that was coming down the steps about  
19 where Lieutenant Shaw was. So, in the meantime, he was  
20 coming out of his office. And I introduced myself to  
21 him and told him that I wanted to, you know, wanted to  
22 talk about what we spoke about. So, in the interim, to  
23 make all this short, I did tell him about different  
24 comments that was made about the police department, the  
25 state police there.

1                   And he did make it clear to me that he would  
2                   be glad to come on the program and explain because  
3                   that's really what I wanted him to do because I couldn't  
4                   bring all what we talked about to the audience, you  
5                   know. So, he did give me his card. And he promised me  
6                   that he would be on the air. And he was. He was on the  
7                   air this morning. So, the people, they were just --  
8                   they called in. It was flooded for call in. They were  
9                   very nice about it.

10                   But one thing I want to let us know here, the  
11                   state police have a job to do just like you have a job  
12                   to do. I was very dubious about how their attitude was  
13                   towards us because I never been stopped by a state  
14                   police. But what comments was said by not only the  
15                   mayor but also Jones and Winfrey. So, I wanted to get  
16                   that straight in my mind. And they did state that one  
17                   of the police did make that reference about riffraff.

18                   But what he meant as we all know because we  
19                   all been out there on Belle Isle, we know how they are  
20                   in that little circle there. You can't hardly go  
21                   through there because the music is playing loud, and you  
22                   do smell the weed. But of course I don't go through  
23                   there, but I have seen it and heard about it. But  
24                   anyway, as I stated, we do know that area. And I would  
25                   call the riffraff myself, you know, hoodlums.

1           So, anyway, that is some of the things that's  
2 going to be corrected because I did see in the paper the  
3 other day, four fellows was in a car. They stopped the  
4 car. Guess what? Weed came out. Two didn't have no  
5 driver's license, and one had a warrant. So, they are  
6 doing out there, the same job that you guys are doing  
7 here in the city. They are stopping them. And you  
8 can't blame them because look what they confiscated in  
9 that short of time.

10           So, we are not blaming the police for doing  
11 their job. So, let us understand and I want the public  
12 to understand and I am not on they side or anything.  
13 I'm being very plain about what I learned in that one  
14 time visit coming out there. They got a job to do as  
15 far as keeping Belle Isle clean and keeping out the  
16 riffraff as we want to -- you know, going to say. So, I  
17 just want you guys to know, watch yourself and do the  
18 20 miles. There's nothing wrong with just cruising  
19 along. I don't see nothing wrong with it.

20           But they are going to raise it up to 25. Some  
21 areas is 20 and over on that side was 25. But the area  
22 where it was 20 was because people are walking there and  
23 they have the bikes. So, therefore, they are going to  
24 raise it up they stated to 25 so it will be a  
25 comfortable drive for people.



1                   But in the meantime, they are doing their job  
2                   out there. And I will be -- I will be watching to see  
3                   if anything going to go wrong. But the fact is, I was  
4                   satisfied that we are not being harassed as lot of the  
5                   people say that we are. They must have been doing  
6                   something because they did state that some cars are  
7                   doing 60 and 70 coming through there. And, you know,  
8                   you have seen cars speeding through Belle Isle yourself.  
9                   So, if they are going to stop it, fine. Do it in a  
10                  decent way and respect the Detroiters and for Detroiters  
11                  to respect the police. That's all I say, and you won't  
12                  have no problem.

13                  Of course, I got respect out of them because I  
14                  did talk to them. Some came from Gaylord. All of them  
15                  don't come from Detroit or the surrounding areas. They  
16                  come from the upper part of Michigan. And they  
17                  volunteer to come down here and work with us. So, I  
18                  think that was a good suggestion for them to be here.  
19                  But we must be careful even on the city streets in  
20                  driving and then also in Belle Isle so we won't be able  
21                  to get a ticket for them to stop us.

22                  CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: I agree with you,  
23                  Miss Bernice. I have been going around Belle Isle every  
24                  day for the past two weeks, and I have had no trouble.  
25                  I like what I see. I like to see them enforcing the

1 law. They are not doing -- and they are not targeting  
2 anybody because they are stopping everybody and anybody  
3 that's not abiding by the law.

4 And we -- and I hope that we don't set it up  
5 where they stop, you know, try to stop them from doing  
6 their job. I mean, if you want change, everything has  
7 to change, and the way we do it has to change. So, I  
8 didn't have a problem with them, and I haven't been  
9 stopped. And I'm out there every night. I am going  
10 back again today.

11 MS. SMITH: I don't think people think they  
12 are doing a bad job, the majority of it. I don't think  
13 if we go out there and find out exactly what they are  
14 doing. And then one Detroiter said on the radio that,  
15 well, you know, they have -- they are going to have  
16 those beer cans and they are going to be drinking out  
17 there when the races come. Well, I found out about  
18 that. They don't have -- the state police don't have  
19 anything to do with it. The contractors that contract  
20 this racing, they are the ones that give them the  
21 authority and give them the okay to have the beer and  
22 whatever they want to, you know, have out there.

23 That's the contract that they got with the  
24 racing people. So, there's nothing we can do about  
25 that. But in the meantime, we will be watching them and

1 seeing what's going on and make sure that people do not,  
2 you know, break the law in any way whatsoever. So,  
3 Byrd, is that all right with you? You seem like you  
4 bored stiff. Am I talking to you all right? Is it okay  
5 what I'm saying, you ain't bored?

6 COMMISSIONER BYRD: I'm good.

7 MS. SMITH: I appreciate that. That's my  
8 report for the day. And I just want you guys to be  
9 careful, that's all, wherever you go in this city  
10 because we are being watched constantly, that's for  
11 certain. And I know my sergeant, my chief here is going  
12 to do a good job wherever he goes. I don't have to  
13 worry about him.

14 CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: Bernice, Mr. Brown say  
15 your two minutes are up.

16 MS. SMITH: Thank you very much.

17 CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: Are there any other  
18 comments? If not, move to adjourn?

19 COMMISSIONER BURTON: So moved.

20 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Second.

21 CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: Meeting adjourned.

22 (Proceedings concluded at 3:27 p.m)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF MICHIGAN )  
 ) SS  
COUNTY OF MACOMB )

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I reported  
stenographically the foregoing proceedings and testimony  
under oath at the time and place hereinbefore set forth;  
that thereafter the same was reduced to computer  
transcription under my supervision; and that this is a  
full, true, complete and correct transcription of said  
proceedings.



*Wendy A. Boer*  
\_\_\_\_\_

Wendy A. Boer,  
CSR 3505

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