



**TRAINING / SPECIAL MEETING  
MINUTES OF ACTIONS  
for**

**Wednesday, April 6, 2011  
Art Pick Council Chambers  
3900 Main Street, Riverside, CA**

Audio for this Training / Special Meeting is available on the CPRC website:  
[www.riversideca.gov/cprc](http://www.riversideca.gov/cprc)  
Copies can also be obtained by calling the CPRC office at (951) 826-5509.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**Regular Meeting Roll Call**

Rotker	Slawsby	Johnson	Brandriff	Morales	Jackson	Roberts	Santore	Adams
✓	A	✓	LE (6:56)	A	✓	✓	✓	✓

✓ = Present    A = Absent    L = Late    LE = Left Early

**STAFF:** Frank Hauptmann, CPRC Manager; Phoebe Sherron, Sr. Office Specialist

**Public Comments**

Public comment on any subject matter within the Commission's jurisdiction.

Mary Shelton spoke regarding the COBAN and audio training. She also spoke regarding the CPRC history workshop, saying it is important for people to know how the Commission was formed. She said that the emphasis on Long Beach being the sole model not accurate.

**RPD Training**

RPD Staff will provide demonstrations on the use of the COBAN video recording equipment and digital audio recorders.

Lt. Bruce Loftus gave the Commission this presentation on RPD's use of the COBAN video recording equipment and digital audio recorders.

- COBAN is a corporate name for this in-car video system.
- RPD ordered 129 systems in 2007, all of which include a belt recorder.
- COBAN is now the primary recording device.
- The steady red light is activated to activate COBAN.
- Pre-event time: camera records video, but a minute worth of video prior to officer activation is at

the beginning of the video and has no sound.

- Digital audio recorders are usually carried in the left chest pocket.
- RPD Policy 4.64 states when officers are required to record and suggests when a recording should be made.
- Officers are told to review COBAN video before writing their reports; excellent tool.
- Every unit (black and white) from sergeant down have a COBAN unit installed.
- Copies of a COBAN video can only be made if required for court.

Mr. Hauptmann commented that the COBAN cameras are very sensitive and will "lighten" the area, making it easier to see. Lt. Loftus said COBAN actually suggests recording in black and white at night.

Mr. Hauptmann also asked about the download process. Lt. Loftus said that the case number is the only thing an officer can manipulate on video files. Then they hit a button to upload and that's it. Video can be deleted, but the trail cannot be deleted. Videos are retained for one year only and are set to automatically delete after a year and a day. If a video is involved in a case, it is retained. When it is no longer needed, it is manually deleted.

Several questions were asked of Lt. Loftus.

Commissioner Brandriff:

- Officers are required to record when officer-initiated contacts are made. Why aren't search or arrest warrant incidents recorded?
  - They are different because they're considered investigations. However, many are recorded and often with a video camera.

Commissioner Rotker:

- If a complaint is filed, would video be retained?
  - Yes.
- The action in many COBAN videos is off to the side. Is there any technology to widen the view?
  - Not at this time. Some departments are using officer-held videos; RPD is looking at some for special investigations.
- Is audio delay on the videos necessary?
  - The system is programmed to have one (1) minute of pre-event video attached, which has no audio. Audio does begin when an officer activates the system.

Chairman Santore:

- How is the system powered?
  - By the car battery and a separate system battery. COBAN will operate for 1.5 hours after which the battery will be dead and the unit will be turned off.

Commissioner Johnson:

- What is the durability of the system in the event of a traffic collision?
  - COBAN systems are very sturdy. When the unit from a damaged car is put into a new car, COBAN personnel are brought in to do the installation.

Mr. Hauptmann:

- There is a GPS system in the laptop, correct?
  - There is an AVL (auto vehicle locator) that allows Dispatch to locate RPD's cars. It also measures the vehicle's speed, and where car has been. It measures the specifics in 100% of RPD's vehicles.

Lt. Loftus noted that digital audio recorders are secondary now. However, in two-officer cars, both officers are required to record in accordance with policy: one officer will have a digital audio recorder, while the other will have the COBAN device. He also said that officers are not allowed to delete from audio recorders. Accidental recordings can't be deleted, but they're marked a certain way. Investigators can delete recordings.

At this time, Lt. Loftus and the Commission left the Council Chambers to be shown the COBAN system in an RPD patrol car.

**Annual Report 2010**

Discussion and action, if any, on whether to accept Draft No. 3 of the 2010 Annual Report as complete.

Mary Shelton said she liked the comparison of findings tables, commenting that RPD had a higher sustained rate than the Commission. She said her main concern was 'Trends & Patterns' and that there wasn't much there, stating that this section gives a history of the past year.

Chairman Santore opened discussion. Commissioner Johnson said he had concerns with demographic table on Pg. 29. After some discussion, Vice-Chair Roberts suggested putting demographic information for the Commission on one page and that for the City on another.

Motion for Approval	Motion	Second	Approve	Oppose	Abstain
To put Riverside demographic data and chart on one page and the CPRC data on another page	Roberts	Brandriff	<b>Unanimous</b>	0	0

Commissioner Brandriff suggested several modifications:

- Pg 4, Structure of the Commission, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph: change municipal code to charter;
- Pg 4, Who Does the Commission Represent?: 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, add "and the Police Chief" after City Manager.
- Pg 11, 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph: change "modeled after the City of Long Beach" to note that the CPRC is a hybrid of the Berkeley and Long Beach models.
- Trends and Patterns: add at the end of the paragraph "The Commission continues to encourage the voluntary use of the audio recorder as it is a valuable tool in the review of cases."

Ms. Sherron expressed concern over a request to use the 57 complaints received by the Commission in 2010 in a ratio or comparison with the total number of incidents recorded by RPD. She noted that using "57", which was not the total number of complaints filed against members of RPD, against the 186,425 incidents logged by the Department, would not be an accurate comparison of citizen complaints versus RPD incidents.

After some discussion, the following vote was made:

Motion for Approval	Motion	Second	Approve	Oppose	Abstain
Provide, for the reader, a comparison using the 57 CPRC complaints to RPD's 186,425 incidents	Roberts	Johnson	Rotker Santore	<b>Johnson Brandriff Jackson Roberts Adams</b>	0

Commissioner Rotker made a motion that Staff create language to note that complaints to contacts is miniscule. The motion died for lack of a second.

Motion for Approval	Motion	Second	Approve	Oppose	Abstain
Accept the Report with the changes and modifications as discussed	Brandriff	Johnson	Unanimous	0	0

**Officer-Involved Death (OID) Evaluation Process**

- A) Continued discussion and action, if any, of the Sanchez OID.
- B) Continued discussion and action, if any, of the Acevedo OID.

Michael Dunn expressed concerns that the complaint process in city doesn't work, saying that it is circumvented by some at RPD. He said the Commission needs the best possible information regarding OIDs, saying that the CPRC investigator needs to be sent out as soon as possible rather than wait 30 days. He said the issue could be addressed by petitioning the City Council to allow the Commission's investigator to be sent out as soon as possible.

Discussion began on the Sanchez OID with acceptance of the finding rationale.

Motion for Approval	Motion	Second	Approve	Oppose	Abstain
Accept the Sanchez OID Finding Rationale as presented	Rotker	Johnson	Unanimous	0	0

After some additional discussion, Mr. Hauptmann said he would use the comments and notes for preparation of the draft public report.

Discussion moved on to the Acevedo OID.

Mary Shelton said that the answers, given to Commission questions that have been posted on the CPRC website, are based on law enforcement information, not on that of the medical community. She also said a follow-up on hobble training is needed.

Chairman Santore brought the fact sheet up for discussion. Commissioner Rotker moved to adopt the worksheet for the Commission's review of the Acevedo case. The Commission, in a general consensus, agreed.

Commissioner Rotker asked for information regarding the three chemicals found in Mr. Acevedo's blood. He also asked for the amount in Mr. Acevedo's system and what constitutes a fatal dose. Mr. Hauptmann said he would get that and forward the information to the commissioners. Mr. Hauptmann said he would look at the autopsy report and get clarification on the medical report.

Commissioner Adams commented on the "5150" aspect of this incident and asked if it would be right for a mental health expert go out in these types of situations.

Lt. Vance Hardin said that RPD has developed a mental health program and that two people were hired to work in this capacity. However, the current financial concerns caused the loss of both people working for RPD. Officers were also put through a week of training to help deal with 5150 / mental health concerns.

Commissioner Johnson asked for information regarding positional asphyxia, noting that Mr. Acevedo's symptoms were identical to positional asphyxia.

Chairman Santore asked for medical reports on the drugs along with information on positional asphyxia.

### **Items for Future Commission Consideration**

Michael Dunn said the Commission needs expert help with the Acevedo case, and should get someone to advise them of the drugs in Mr. Acevedo's system and effects of the drugs. He also noted that the possibility of positional asphyxia and hobbling is troubling. He again said he believed the Commission needs expert advice on the various issues raised.

Chairman Santore asked for a timeline of the Acevedo incident.

Commissioner Jackson asked if anything was being done to introduce new officers to the Commission. Lt. Hardin said no introduction was done during the Police Academy training because it is multi-agency. He couldn't say anything about introduction once someone was hired because it's been quite a while since new officers were hired. Mr. Hauptmann said he would contact Lt. Loftus concerning this.

Commissioner Rotker asked about the sample complainant letters Staff had provided the commissioners. He asked about the optional signature for the complaint form as noted in one of the letters. Commissioner Rotker asked that discussion of the RPD complaint form and CPRC letters be agendized for further discussion.

Vice-Chair Roberts asked to agendize discussion on having a medical expert's presentation on the Acevedo case.

Chairman Santore said that he, along with Mr. Hauptmann and Commissioner Johnson, gave a good presentation to the Community Relations class at RCC. He noted, however, that they were filling in for Commissioner Brandriff, who had originally been scheduled to make the presentation. He said it would be a good idea for members to team up for presentations of this nature in case one of them was unable to attend.

### **Adjournment**

The Commission adjourned at 7:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



PHOEBE SHERRON  
Sr. Office Specialist