

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
6:45 P.M.
TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2024
SCHIEFFELIN HALL
(CORNER OF FREMONT AND FOURTH STREET)

- I. CALL TO ORDER** Chairman Dustin Escapule called the Board of Police Commissioner Regular Meeting to order on Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 6:45PM.
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Chairman Dustin Escapule led the Board of Police Commissioners and the general public in a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. ROLL CALL**
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|---------------------------|---------|
| Commissioner Colin Regan | Present |
| Commissioner Bill Barlow | Present |
| Commissioner Matt Faulk | Present |
| Commissioner Jim Newbauer | Present |
| Vice Chairman Jim Adams | Present |
| Chairman Dustin Escapule | Present |
- Also in attendance: Charissa Presti, Interim City Clerk

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION: Approval of minutes from Tuesday, April 9, 2024.

MOTION by Commissioner Regan, **SECOND** by Commissioner Newbauer, to approve the minutes for Regular Meeting for Tuesday, April 9, 2024.

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: 5/0

MOTION: Carried

B. MARSHAL'S REPORT: The Marshal's Report – April 1, 2024 through April 30, 2024.

Crime report:

April: 144 Total incidents / 91 Traffic stops / 2 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 0 with injuries / 4 DUIs. Notable trends: The usual.

Reserve Hours:

Reserve Deputies worked 26.9 hours in April for a salary savings to the city of \$524.55.

Tinfoil Hats:

The life and times of Donald Opolski. Donnie has a long and illustrious history of meth induced psychotic events that frequently necessitate a Law Enforcement response and typically end with his incarceration. This includes reports by him of people planting things inside his vehicle, residence, and his head that people speak to him through. He even fired a shot at a shadow sitting on his bed that turned out to be nothing, other than a fresh bullet hole. A few months ago, he assaulted a TMO Deputy and then failed to appear for his court appointment, resulting in a warrant being issued for his arrest. CCSO SWAT came out and did the honors of applying an abundance of gas to his apartment after he barricaded inside of it. He got booked.

Animals misbehaving:

- Black cow #179 was reported to be walking on Highway 80. He was disinclined to acquiesce the Deputy's request to go back into the pasture.
- A Turkey Vulture knocked out the power in parts of Tombstone when he or she chose a poor place to perch.
- A deer at Fremont and Camino San Rafael looked at the headlights too long.

Events of significance in March:

- Smuggling: We assisted HCPD with a load vehicle that thought it wise to come to Tombstone. People went to jail.
- Smuggling: A 17-year-old from Tucson jumped out of his car yelling for 'help' when he was pulled over for excessive speed. When his kidnapping story didn't pan out, he admitted the (3) undocumented non-citizens in his vehicle were being smuggled and he was to be paid for doing it.
- Smuggling: A 22-year-old man out of Iowa was caught driving a U-Haul with (4) undocumented non-citizens in the back. He went to jail. His truck went to impound. Welcome to Southern Arizona.
- Pursuit: A 125mph chase from the outside edge of town ended when the car got spiked. The driver got away but has been identified. The passenger chose poorly when getting dressed and wasn't wearing shoes. She didn't get very far. It was also her second offense since January. She got booked.
- Pursuit: CCSO stopped a car on Davis Road. While talking with the driver, the passenger hopped over into the driver seat and stole the car right in front of everyone. Another 125mph chase ended when the vehicle got spiked. There was also drug stuff in the car. The driver got lots of charges and he went to jail.
- DUI: Drunk driver almost hit the arresting Deputy head-on.
- DUI: Driving on the wrong side of the road led to an arrest for DUI. The driver already has multiple license suspensions.
- DUI Drugs: 18-year-old rocket scientist paid \$700 to get his buddy's car out of impound after it got towed because they used it for smuggling. The suspect then decided it clever to smoke marijuana and then drive (poorly) without a license. His buddy's car got towed again.
- DUI: An Illinois resident drove his rental car on the closed portion of Allen Street, while he was drunk, which someone called in to report. He was charged accordingly.
- Road Rage: A 35-year-old woman from Sierra Vista got cited for Reckless Driving following a Road Rage incident.
- A runaway juvenile with no license was found driving a car. She went with the Department of Child Services and the car went to impound.
- A travel trailer and the shed attached to it caught fire and burned down. The cause is being investigated.
- A failed relationship turned into a physical altercation with rocks being thrown, a man being injured, and a truck window being broken. It was learned that the victim may have driven his truck toward the suspect, damaging a fence in the process and prompting the subsequent assault. Charges are pending.
- Counterfeit \$100 bill labeled 'For Motion Picture Use Only' was passed at a local business. These bills look very real. Please check them with a counterfeit pen.

- An 84-year-old man, who was a member of the church choir, grabbed the pastor by the shirt, flexed his arm, and pointed to his bicep while articulating a threat. He's looking for a new church.
- An attempted suicide was thwarted by family members. If you're feeling inclined to end your life, please call 9-8-8...they are there to help.

Other Item of Interest:

Grants: We received an award from the Arizona Department of Public Safety for \$103,041 to purchase (2) mobile License Plate Readers, Fentanyl educational materials, and a Spectrometer, which uses lasers to test drugs in the field. We'll be the only agency in Cochise County with this technology.

We also received a tentative award from the Arizona Department of Homeland Security for \$7,200 to purchase (9) gas masks that offer protection against chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials.

We picked up our new Rural Rescue Vehicle which is set to be upfitted in or around July. This will allow us the ability to conduct basic search and rescue operations in rugged terrain. This truck was completely paid for with grant monies.

Top Cop: Sgt. Jeff Garcia was nominated for the Cochise County Top Cop Award for his exceptional service to the department.

MADD: Deputy Miriam Bear was nominated for the Mothers Against Drunk Drivers Award. In 2023, TMO had 24 DUI arrests. Deputy Bear accounted for 16 of them.

The Dog Days of Tombstone event was held this past Saturday and included a nice parade down Allen Street to Discover Tombstone Field. The Opening Ceremony followed thereafter with a posting of the Colors by the Tombstone High School's JROTC Mounted Color Guard, singing of the National Anthem by Candy Carpenter of The Band Wanted, an Invocation by Pastor Larry Whitney of the Mustang Mountain Cowboy Church, reading of the official Proclamation by Mayor Escapule, and a swearing in for Law enforcement K9s from Bisbee PD, Willcox PD, and the Tombstone Marshal's Office. There was live music, food, vendors, and numerous demonstrations surrounding bite dogs, drug detection dogs, and flying frisbee dogs. We also had a pet costume contest judged by none other than Mayor Pro Tem, Bill Barlow. We are exceptionally grateful for the outpouring of support from the community in making this event a success, including the donation of a very cool dog bed made from a whiskey barrel provided by Councilman Matt Faulk. These are preliminary numbers, but after expenses, it looks like we raised roughly \$17,000 which will go towards our K9 program, scholarships for disabled students, and to fund next year's event. A full accounting and presentation will be made at next month's Council Meeting.

Lastly, it's getting hot out, so please make sure your critters have ample shade and water... and do not leave them unattended in your car or we might be inclined to pop one of your windows and relocate the pet to more suitable accommodations. Your criminal citation will be waiting for you when you come to retrieve Fluffy.

Chairman Escapule: Anybody have any more questions? Anybody from the council? I just want to make one statement. That when the Marshal and Charissa came to me about Dog Days of Tombstone, they said, we want to do this in May. I said, you guys, you need to start a year ahead of time. And that was five months ago. Four months. Three months.

Vice Chairman Adams: About three and a half.

Chairman Escapule: Yeah, well, you sure made a liar out of me. You guys did a great job putting it together. A lot of hard work. You know, the whole, I can't tell everybody's color, everybody's name, but a lot of effort, a lot of time. Thank you very much.

Vice Chairman Adams: Thank you, Mister Mayor.

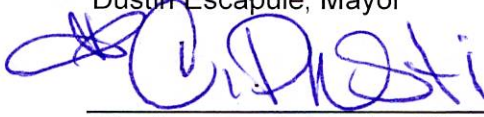
Mayor closes Marshal's Report.

V. MOTION TO ADJOURN

MOTION by Commissioner Barlow, **SECOND** by Commissioner Newbauer, to adjourn. The Board of Police Commissioners was adjourned at 6:56 p.m.



Dustin Escapule, Mayor



Charissa Presti, Interim, City Clerk