EPOA Meeting

06-02-22

**Call to Order:**

Sgt.Hogue called the meeting to order at 1735 hours.

**Roll Call:**

Hogue-President, Brenneman-VP, D. Rabelos – SAA, Tararan-TR, Suarez-SEC, C. House, J. Taylor, O. Kravchun, L. Uhden, D. Sanchez, A. Ferreira, J. Rasco, B. Hoelzel, R. Edmonds, J. Gottas, S. Ross, A. Fletcher, J. Seth, D. Sinex

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

Led by Sgt. Hogue

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Money is still there, about 1 million.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Money is still there. 1 million still in the bank

**New Business & Update:**

EPOA have been getting multiple questions about the Omnibus questionnaire, as if it’s something officers need to be completing. Sgt. Hogue and Brenneman met with the prosecutor’s office along with our attorney along with the DC from Lynnwood PD, DC Irving, Lacey, and serval folks with the county. Matt Baldock led the meeting, to discuss the origination of the questionnaire and how it came about. According to the EPOA attorney, she is still recommending officers not to complete it. Baldock mentioned that not signing it could tie us up depositions, tie us up in going to court before a judge. Officer could send an email to the prosecutor, politely declining in filling out the questionnaire. Officers may see different Omnibus questionnaires, they are all going to have the same format, but there several different questions that could be chosen that are pertinent to that particular case. The defense are the ones picking the questions. The long story of the questionnaire is: that the courts found that officers needed to provide information within court rules, this was the prosecutors solution to pass that liability from the prosecutors’ office to the officers.

Q: If during a prosecutor interview, it officers were asked the omnibus questions, what should we do.

A: Recommended to politely to decline in answering the questions.

Many of the questions on the Omnibus are general and are open to interpretation. Sgt. Hogue and Brenneman will be meeting with them in about two weeks. Very important to not sign the omnibus questionnaire, because if we are not all on the same page. Baldock mentioned that the defense came up with their form and the courts were good using it, and the prosecutors boycotted using their form. We asked Baldock, why can’t we just do the same thing, which is the same thing (boycott). If they want to keep calling us in for these hearings, that are going to waste the courts time. Baldock will eventually do what’s easy for everyone in his office, but we won’t have any leverage if people keep filling out the Omnibus forms. Remember even as a police officer, you still have constitutional rights, don’t let a prosecutor bully you into answering these questions.

MOU for x2.5 expires at the beginning of June 5th, so June 4th midnight it is over. There is nothing to replace it as of this meeting.

Still getting quotes for building update and quotes for the plumbing. If you need to use the building, please contact Danny. Do not drop or donate furniture at the building without notifying Danny first.

MOU for paying higher medical premium expired (end of May). Your June 10th paycheck should reflect that, everyone is encouraged to double check their paycheck. It should go back down to 10% from 15%.

Board met with Jason Cummings and Bret Rogers who are running for Snohomish County Prosecutor, as Cornell is not running again. Rogers is a retired Seattle Police Officer, who went to law school and practice some law. He had never been a prosecutor. We also met with Jason Cummings who has about 20 years of experience as a prosecutor. Both are seeking endorsement from EPOA. At this moment, the EPOA board is leaning more in favor towards Cummings. However, it doesn’t hurt us to stay out of endorsing either one. EPOA board meet both separate, because there have not been enough members showing up. Cummings had a plan on how he would handle repeat offenders, as Rogers was not polished and seem to not have an understanding in what a prosecutor does.

Members wanted more information in person from both Cummings and Rogers, and would like them to come to an EPOA meeting for Q&A.

Motion to invite both Cummings and Rogers to EPOA meeting for Q&A - Sgt Edmonds, 2nd to Motion– Sgt. Ross. Motion Passed.

July 4th ops plan will be released very soon. There was a note stating that if you call in sick on the 4th you will lose holiday pay. If someone come down with COVID during that time, and you have to be off. Let a board member know so that we can address it with command staff. It’s not a sure thing that you’ll get your pay back, be we can address it.

Mayor did a poll, to see what citizens thought about several things including law enforcement, fire, ASMD and parks. The pole was done to see whether the citizens would pay for a new levy to fund these entities a higher rate. Due to a miscommunication, the got done without approval without any of the three unions. The mayor thought she had approval for this to occur, and it was just a miscommunication that between the unions and the Mayor, the went ahead and did the poll already. As of now, we are in a contract year, and the poll came out favorable for us, except no one wants to pay or support a new levy. The amount that the city and/or Mayor is asking from the EPOA…

Background (Explanation): The Mayor came to the unions asking to fund the poll, but Dan’s situation happened, and the poll was put on the back burner. But this poll actually goes back to before George Floyd happened. She came to a meeting asking for the funding, but G. Floyd happened, then Covid happened. She came back about a year ago again asking for funding for the poll, and was then held off.

…. going back to now, the mayor is asking for $7900, which is 1/3 of the poll amount. Thus, paying it looks favorable for contract negations. EPOA was already given the invoice for the poll, but the mayor knows that the membership would need to vote for approval for paying for the poll. The previous board had talked about supporting this poll, especially during a negotiation year as it looked favorable.

Q: Are the other two unions going to pay.

A: Fire would only pay if only if all unions agree to pay.

The mistake was made, and it would seem in our best interest for the body to help the mayor, in this position in what she is in. EPOA is not looking at supporting this poll as a quid pro que, for our upcoming negotiations. Our concern we have, is if we don’t support the poll, whether the mayor does it consciously or subconsciously it could impact our negotiations. The mayor had fallen on her sword and apologized for this mistake.

Motion to Fund/Pay for the Poll – Sgt. Edmonds, 2nd to Motion – Sgt. Ross, Motion passed.

Negations committee had their first meeting as a committee. Then on the 13th, we will have our first meeting with the city. Our proposal is not finalized, it will probably be finalized on the second or third meeting. Not a whole lot of to report on negotiations right not. Our main goal for contract negotiations is to keep it simple.

Sgt. Fletcher talked to the members about the memorial fund. Explained that he will send an email to everyone about the memorial fund and its purpose and function.

**WaCops:**

N/A

**Adjournment:**

Motion to Adjourn – Sgt Ross, 2nd to Motion - Sgt. Edmonds, Motion to Adjourn.

**Attendance “Pot of Gold” Drawing:**

Sgt. Fletcher