Camden and Wyoming Chief's Advisory Board

2/24/2025 Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Camden Police Chief, Marcus Whitney Wyoming Police Chief, Richard Baker Fleur McKendell- Board Member Dr. Corey Miklus- Board Member Bishop Carol Boggerty- Board Member Maryanne Faust- Board Member Mike Marasco- Board Member Christopher Asay- Public Attendee

- 1. Meeting called to order at 6:02PM by Fleur McKendell.
- 2. 8/12/2024 meeting minutes approved.
 - a) Mike Marasco moved. Dr. Miklus seconded. Minutes unanimously approved.
- 3. Police Operations Camden (given by Chief Whitney:
 - 1. Slight increase in Part 1 physical offenses (felony offenses).
 - 2. Sex offense complaints have dwindled down.
 - 3. The homelessness crisis appears to be dwindling in common parts of the town.
 - 4. There was recently a large clean up behind Lowes (cut down trees, etc.)
 - 5. Accreditation manager (part time) approved by Town. Accreditation takes a year, and there are 108 accreditation areas to meet.
 - 6. The Camden PD "use of force" policy has been adjusted to reference "response to resist."
 - 7. There was no Sexual Harassment policy for the PD or the Town. Chief Whitney has rolled out a policy applicable to the police department only.
 - 8. The PD has 1 Internal Affairs investigation self-reporting (due to nature of allegations, an independent agency will handle).

Police Operations Wyoming (Chief Baker):

- 1. 1 Internal Affairs (sleeping on duty). Investigation is closed. Officer was disciplined.
- 2. There have been a few reports of overdoses (non-fatal).
- 3. PD is also working on their accreditation process.
- 4. Advisory Board Training Updates (given by Chief Whitney):
 - 1. Maryanne Faust, Fleur McKendell and Bishop Carol Boggerty's training is complete (Council members must have 20 hours in first year of being appointed to the Board).
 - 2. Bishop Carol Boggerty mentioned Dover's Citizens Police Academy as a means to complete training for those who need hours.
- 5. Student Subcommittee Discussion (Dr. Corey Miklus):
 - 1. The subcommittee will be focused on the High School student community

- 2. A Community Liaison has been hired by the CR District as well as several Climate Paraprofessionals (they are at sporting events, band nights, plays, etc.) They are there to form relationships with students and to guide them in the right direction.
- 3. CR High School has had a lot fewer fights this year.
- 4. A weapons detection system has been implemented.
- 5. There is a new School Resource Officer for the High School (a Delaware State Trooper as Camden does not have manpower to assign a full-time officer to the High School).
- 6. Dr. Corey Miklus will attempt to get one student to join the Advisory Board. Dr. Miklus mentioned that it might be difficult to have consistent attendance and the training requirement met due to student competing priorities.
- 7. Recommendations from Dover Advisory Board will be sent to Fleur McKendell by Bishop Carol Boggerty.

6. Open Discussion:

- 1. Bishop Carol Boggerty is also a POST Commission member and wanted to alert everyone that there is a growing concern about how Advisory Boards are handling civilian complaints (should they have access, input?)
- 2. Fleur McKendell mentioned that she believes the identity of an officer named in a complaint should remain confidential.
- 3. House Bill 205 requires substantiated complaints and fireable offenses on CJC website. If an officer is decertified, their name goes on a national registry.
- 4. Chief Whitney reported two fatal pedestrian crashes in the last two months.
- 5. Bishop Carol Boggerty mentioned that Dover's women and children shelter is open and the men's shelter is not at capacity; so Camden and Wyoming can offer it as a resource.
- 6. Mike Marasco appreciates the presence of Camden and Wyoming PD's out in the community.

7. Future Meetings:

- 1. The Board agreed to meet every other month.
- 2. The next meeting will be held on April 14th (6pm).

8. Public Comment:

- 1. Christopher Asay mentioned the Advisory Board needs to be more community friendly and that he wasn't able to locate the meeting notice on the website.
- 2. Christopher Asay suggested that contact information for Board Members should be on the website.
- 3. Christopher Asay suggested that the organizational structure of the Board be placed on the Town website.
- 4. Christopher Asay inquired if the Board will be able to influence law enforcement policies within the Camden and Wyoming PD's.

9. Adjournment:

1. 7:15pm adjourned.