

Tow and Recovery Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Warrenton Police Department

February 8, 2017

Tow Board Members Present: Charlie Crummett, Eddie Payne, Steve Wright, Ron Stanley, Ray Prudhum, Sam Tilley, Dave Foster, Neil Stribling

Other Attendees: Lt. Zeets, Kim Walkup, Drew Fioranelli, Justin Foster, Rue McGee, Russell Crowe, Jeffrey Gitoui

Prudhum opened the meeting and announced that after opening they will be going directly to the session to go over some homework items and there will be no public time. Topics being covered in the work session will be tow zone issues, application annual process and a follow-up from discussion Prudhum had with Tracy Gallehr the County Attorney.

Tow Zone issues:

GIS Director Drew Fioranelli passed out a 11 X 17 print map of the tow zones that showed bigger labels, lighter coloring, and informed that it is missing town and cities because he forgot to turn the layer on before he printed. Prudhum brought up the 29/17 interchange issue. Drew asked the Board to let him know what they want him to do with it. Stribling confirmed that the map provided shows right. Prudhum talked about 29/17 intersection and why would patrol coordinate with dispatch on the closest tow company to respond. Stribling says it states in ordinance it is the discretion. Steve Wright believes the intersection will take care of itself and nothing needs changed. Lt. Zeets drawback is from patrol stance they are going to follow whatever zone through what dispatch tells which is based off how the address is inputted. Discussion continued about different scenarios in regards to where tower vehicle is in regards to location and who can get there quicker. Zeets commented from patrol stance they will do what they want, but doesn't want deputies to be picking and choosing. Stribling advised the problem was when the board had to split area somewhere that intersection was the best area. Then all of a sudden you get a call at Sheetz and it is a central call one time and then south another and with the flyover they called him and the deputy said it should have been a central call and Stribling thought it should have been a south zone. Prudhum suggested MDT to check zone and Zeets commented they still will revert back to the dispatch and doesn't want them to have to go back to their car and hope they have service on their MDT. Tilley shared if address is between something it is the closest address that is to it and does not want patrol officers deciding right or wrong. Stribling expressed the concern with it being central on time and south the next. Steve Wright added 605 to county line central call, Zeets commented that 605 and 603 used to be a fire changeover. Prudhum asked for a resolution. Stribling suggested that Casanova Store to Old Auburn Bridge should be a central call. Foster confirmed that the map provided was the original. Tilley wanted to know what it is going to take to update changes. Drew confirmed he would take care of on his end. Prudhum said from what he is hearing to go with the original and patrol to work with Joell provide additional oversight. Zeets suggested looking at the map with the CAD map to make sure they match. Prudhum asked Zeets to work with Joell to double check that. Wright would like to see 17 south of light in Opal either north or south bound should be a south call to Butlers Farm Rd and 605 given to central all the way. Prudhum wants to make sure that they are

fair to everyone and wants to make sure dispatch, CAD and MDT matches. This will be added to the agenda for next month. Crummett brought their map to show the GIS director since there system does not dictate zones. Crummett explained the way Virginia State Police calls and zones are handled. Crummett asked Drew to add route numbers and label roads that fall on boundary lines.

Ordinance review:

Dave Foster asked if the original ordinance stated all tow companies had to be registered and slept in county. Wright said it had to be registered in the county but thought that it was knocked out on the first review. Dave Foster, Russell Crowe and Neil Stribling discussed truck registration and how they handle upcoming calls. Prudhum did not find any reference to slept in county.

Wright brought up something a tower asked for him to bring up in regards to section 13-68e, cars with no insurance if tower has car overturned over a guardrail and he send roll back and roll back can't do it needs a heavy duty wrecker and he has a heavy duty wrecker to do it can he use his heavy duty to do it. Prudhum will refer to Tracy Gallehr. Dave feels that you get on scene and can't take care of it you should walk away and have to go through the county rotation first.

Crummett advised per section 13-68a in regards to WT tags that if you bought new equipment and have 30 day tags don't get caught towing with temp tags. Violation of the ordinance and in paragraph b you can't have name on front of windshield because it is not approved by the Superintendent. Crummett asked for them police themselves. Wright said he took the tint off his truck and wanted to know about others. Prudhum said they complied.

Prudhum shared question from Aaron Conner in regards to workers comp insurance wanted to if they all meet the standard and what is the requirement for towers and tow companies. This is in the ordinance and checklist. Prudhum looked up and it says more than two employees is required by law to carry workers comp insurance.

Sgt. Crummett asked if the board wants to entertain rewriting 13-68e in regards to the question brought up earlier in regards to heavy duty if you have your own equipment to use it. Wright wants to see what the county attorney says. The board discussed further on this subject. Prudhum will draft up an email and send to the board prior to sending to Tracy Gallehr so everyone can see what is going up.

Application:

Steve Wright said that Ron Stanley said once a year is a little redundant. Steve also said that Culpeper has gone to a one time application as long as they provide insurance they are good to go.

Steve Wright- would like to have treasurers receipt, zoning confirmation, criminal record waiver, business cards, vehicle storage lot lease agreement, state corporation commission and insurance certificate

Dave Foster has concern with criminal record waiver.

Neil Stribling agrees with Steve Wright and added the county business license.

Ron Stanley said their hours are 24/7 and that doesn't change.

Lt. Prudhum commented what he hears is the renewal process should be different than new application.

Steve Wright commented that section 8 of the application asks for double and some questions don't make sense. Stribling agreed.

Prudhum will try to create two separate processes with the application process a renewal process and initial application. Existing towers renewal application Prudhum will come up with a PDF fillable form and talk to IT and run through the Sheriff.

Justin Foster asked if there should be public time to address how they feel about it and discuss terms of board members and training. Prudhum said that short of the application process Tracy Gallehr will break it down and see if any changes need to have the ordinance changed and will require public hearing. Prudhum advised that term limits are not referenced in this ordinance and advised that he should reserve those comments and feedback at public time next month.

Follow up discussion with County Attorney:

Prudhum sent email to Tracy Gallehr in regards to issue of towers compensation out in the field. What is law enforcements obligation to assist towers after recovery in secure payment from a customer, example: vehicle functional and able to leave scene. County Attorney advised that Sheriff's Office and law enforcement does not get involved in collection matters these are private and contractual civil matters between the tower and the vehicle operator owner, the only payment matter in which the Sheriff's Office or law enforcement has any standing is consideration of complaints of overcharges by towing company and broke down by code and some situations that may come up. In fairness to tow companies that should not be penalized for showing up for recovery only to be waived off by vehicle owner by lack of funds if law enforcement realizes that the vehicle is not impeding the flow of traffic, not a hazard to traffic or illegally parked such as law enforcement impoundment is not an option of vehicle law enforcement does not get involved impeding before a law enforcement request is made LE should ask the owner if they have the ability to pay for before calling for a tow truck. Prudhum will provide copy of at next meeting

Zeets commented you might have noticed recently dispatch asking how much it they charge because they are on the side of the road and they are trying to see how much it is to tow vehicle prior to so it is happening. If you are getting turned down because you can't transport people to let them know because it is not your responsibility to transport but they appreciate when they can.

Jeffery Gitoui ordinance does not specify towing cars out of jurisdiction of Fauquier County would like to have addressed at next meeting. Prudhum asked for him to come to next meeting and raise during public time.

Next meeting tentatively scheduled for March 8, 2017 at 6:00 pm.

Steve motioned to adjourn. The board adjourned at 7:19 pm.