



Arizona Automobile Theft Authority

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 9th, 2019

AATA Office - 1st Floor Conference Room

1110 W. Washington Suite 105, Phoenix AZ 85007

Board Members Attendance:

Matt Reed, Chair, State Farm Insurance Companies

Chief Daniel Sharp, Vice-Chair, Oro Valley Police Department

Sheriff Paul Penzone - Maricopa County Sheriff's Office – **NOT PRESENT**

Sheriff Joseph Dedman, Jr. - Apache County Sheriff

Joe Brosius – Public Member

Director Eric Jorgensen – Jackie Gentner representing

Director Frank Milstead – Arizona Department of Public Safety, Major Jack Johnson Jr.

Chief Michael Soelberg – Gilbert Police Department - telephonic

Bill Montgomery – Maricopa County Attorney's Office, Auto Theft Bureau Chief, Kristin Sherman representing

Dean Butler – Farmers Insurance – **NOT PRESENT**

Mary Snider- Public Member

AATA Legal Council:

John Tellier, Assistant Attorney General, AZ Attorney General's Office

Kristin Story – Attorney General's Office

Public/Guests:

Captain Paul Etnire- Arizona Vehicle Theft Task Force, Department of Public Safety

Tony Rogers- La Paz County Attorney

David Gray- Quartzsite Police Department

Chief William Ponce- Quartzsite Police Department

Hilario Tanakeyowma- Quartzsite Police Department

Richard Ruelas- Public member

AATA Staff:

Frederick W. Zumbo, AATA Executive Director

Art Myer, AATA Chief Financial Officer

Ann Armstrong, AATA Grants Administrator

Frank Ceballos, AATA Administrative Service Officer

Amanda O'Halloran, AATA Administrative Assistant III

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- I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL
 - Chairman Reed call to order at 1:00pm, roll call conducted.
 - II. FY'19 Arizona VTTF Grant (#773) Contract
 - Chairman Reed introduced copies of the previous year's contract as well as the current year contract with the suggested changes to the board.
 - Chairman Reed turned the floor over to Major Johnson representing Arizona Department of Public Safety (AZDPS) to present their concerns with the contract.

- Major Johnson advised that the Arizona Department of Public Safety's (AZDPS) first concern is obligating the department to mention the Auto Theft Authority in press releases as the sole funding source of the Vehicle Theft Task Force (VTTF) and operations involving multiple work groups. On DPS general counsel's recommendation, Major Johnson advised, that if the Auto Theft Authority provided 50% of the funding of the operation, AZDPS would in fact acknowledge the Auto Theft Authority in a media release.
- Chairman Reed advised there has been a different recommendation agreed upon with DPS general counsel that removed the funding percentage requirement suggesting only that the VTTF is "substantially funded by the Arizona Automobile Theft Authority."
- Major Johnson advised of AZDPS's second concern is in regards to payment disbursement on quarterly basis and the timeliness of these payments, noting that this year's payment are behind.
 - Chairman Reed advised that payments this year have been delayed due to the contract not been signed. Chairman Reed advised that AATA policy 102, which was effective in 2009 advised all grant applications require a signature from an authorized representative, and AATA director before grant is funded.
 - Mr. Myer advised of concerns about being able to make payments for July 15 and April 15, as funds from collections are not yet available. He advised that he prefers not to see payments be restricted to the dates listed.
 - Major Johnson advised he would have these dates reviewed by DPS general counsel.
 - Discussion among the board resolved to have payment dates already missed, be stricken from the FY'19 contract and reflect that payments for Q1 thru Q3 will be made by January 15 and Q4 by April 15.
- Chairman Reed advised there are no issues with adding the verbiage that Arizona Department of Public Safety may suspend operations of the Vehicle Theft Task Force at anytime.
- Major Johnson advised AZDPS's third concern is pertaining to having an audit conducted by a "Non-Law Enforcement" entity and having to provide potential case sensitive information.
 - Chairman Reed advised that he would like to have the Administration and Finance Subcommittee up and running. This committee would be responsible for establishing when and whom the AATA would audit in accordance with the AATA policy.
- Chief Sharp motioned to make changes to the contract discussed including providing payment to the grantee for the first three quarters by January 15, 2019 of the FY'19 contract.
 - Mary Snider 2nd motion.
 - Vote passed unanimously (9 -0).
- Director Zumbo has requested that the AATA and AZDPS meet up to discuss FY 2020's contract, which will be worked out soon.

III. AATA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REVIEW

- Executive Director Fred Zumbo waived requirements for executive session.
- Chairman Reed opened the floor for commentary.
 - Chief Sharp expressed concerns of unprofessionalism, and inappropriateness from Executive Director Zumbo.

- Major Johnson concurred, and recounted specific instances for reference as well noted Executive Director Zumbo in some of these actions should have reached out to Director Milstead of the Arizona Department of Public Safety.
- Chief Sharp expressed concern and questioned Director Zumbo in regards to a specific email that Director Zumbo sent referencing evoking “Whistler blower protection.”
- Mary Snider brought concerns of perceived “attitude and defensive posture” from Director Zumbo.
- Chairman Reed advised that now the issues have been brought forth, he would like to revisit this topic during the next board meeting January 25, 2019.
- Chief Soelberg has requested a copy of the administrative review process as governed by the AATA Board of Director bi-laws.

IV. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF PROPRIETY AND EXTENT OF POSSIBLE ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATION

- Chairman Reed advised this agenda item was at the request of executive staff and opened the floor up to Executive Director Zumbo.
 - Executive Director Zumbo has requested any allegations be written, signed and submitted for investigation.
- Major Johnson motioned to go into executive session at 1:56pm.
- Chief Sharp 2nd motion.
- Vote passed unanimously
 - EXECUTIVE SESSION concluded at 2:08pm.
- Mr. Tellier advised no further action to be taken at this time.

V. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

- Chairman Reed opened the floor to public comments.
 - Chief Ponce from Quartzsite Police Department addressed the board. He provided his account of the board meeting previously brought up as well of words of support towards Executive Director, Fred Zumbo and the AATA.
 - Tony Rogers La Paz County Attorney addressed the board. He provided his words of support to the Executive Director Zumbo as well as the AATA Staff.

VI. REPORTS ON CURRENT EVENTS, MATTERS OF BOARD PROCEDURE REQUESTS & ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:

- Chairman Reed advised the board he met with Senator Livingston and Senate bill 1012 has been dropped, a revival of HB 2002.

VII. DATE-TIME-LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING

- Friday, January 25, 2019, 10am – AATA Building - 1st Floor Conf. Rm #105 - 1110 W. Washington Street, Phoenix AZ 85007.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting adjourned at 2:13 PM

Dated this 25 day of January, 2019.

Arizona Automobile Theft Authority

By: Matt Reed

Matt Reed, AATA Board Chairman