

GRIFFITH SAFETY BOARD

April 11, 2013

The Griffith Safety Board was called to order by Chairman Marker at 7:00 p.m.

Those in Attendance

Jim Marker	Griffith Safety Board Chairman
Gary Sutton	Griffith Safety Board Vice-Chairman
Liz Goral	Griffith Safety Board Secretary
John Volkmann	Griffith Safety Board Member
RoAnn Purgert	Griffith Safety Board Member
Glen Gaby	Town Council Liaison
Gregory S. Mance	Chief of Police
Roy Schoon	Fire Department

The meeting opened with the pledge of allegiance. The following items were discussed:

Approval of March 14, 2013 minutes: Motion by Safety Board Vice-Chairman Sutton
2nd by Safety Board Volkmann
Motion carried 5-0

Reports: Griffith Police Department

Chief Mance read the monthly report for March.

The Mary Austgen kidnapping/murder investigation is ongoing with the FBI now involved.

Lt Gang wanted to mention the cooperation between Police, Fire, and VEST to welcome home Blake Loudember home from the hospital. Fire and Police went to the University of Chicago to visit Blake before his return home. Chairman Marker wanted to thank all who were involved.

Griffith Fire Department

Chief Schoon read the March monthly report.

Chairman Marker thanked the Fire Department for a fine job on the recent brush fire.

VEST

Dale Hess stated that he has nothing to report at this time.

FOP Post 161

Officer Tharp stated that he has nothing to report at this time.

Old Business

K-9 Program Update - Officer Gutierrez

Officer Gutierrez introduced his new K9 partner Gino. Gino was born November 2011 and comes from the border of France and Germany. There is four more weeks of training. Chief Mance would like to thank the public and businesses that donated funds toward this project. The vehicle is going through the uplifting process. No petting Gino yet and don't put your head over Gino's head because the dog sees this as dominance. Don't stare into Gino's eyes. Don't approach

quickly. He is a patrol (bite work and tracking) and narcotics dog. Alsip Nursery will be the sponsor of Gino and will be supplying food, grooming, toys, snacks, flea & tick, veterinary, etc. Lions Club will be having a Bunko fundraiser on April 19, 2013 with all proceeds going to the K9 program. April 27th is the YMCA Taco Dinner fundraiser with proceeds to go to K9 program as well. This will be from 4-8:00p.m. with Gino there at 5:00 p.m. and the admission is \$12.00. School shirts passed out with Officer Ghrist organizing sales. Plush Dog with Jedi's as a sponsor will be for sale. The fence is complete at Officer Gutierrez's home. Continued weekly training will be with Officer Gressler of Hobart PD who is a master trainer.

New Business

Motion to reconfirming Interim Chief Moore recommendation to suspend Sgt. Gulley without pay for 30 day starting February 27, 2013.

A motion by Safety Board Secretary Goral that Sgt. Gulley be suspended without pay for 30 days beginning February 27, 2013 and that he be allowed to claim vacation and sick time. Motion seconded by Safety Board Vice-Chairmen Sutton. Motion carried 5-0.

This board has also received a letter of intent to retire from Sgt. Gulley. The letter is being forwarded to the pension board.

Cpl. Hector Arroyo's attorney has requested that his client's status be changed and that he be placed on administrative leave with pay.

Safety Board Secretary made a motion to deny this request, seconded by Safety Board Vice-Chairman to deny. Motion carried 5-0 to deny the request.

2012 Police Department Recognition & Awards

Dispatcher Amanda Gulley was recognized for locating a person in need of medical attention on November 15, 2012 incident 1211-0267.

Cpl. Bottiger was recognized for apprehending a suspect in numerous thefts on July 4, 2012 incident 1207-0113.

Detective Schoon, Officer Hemphill and Officer McCarter were recognized for arresting two individuals on August 23, 2012 suspected to be involved in numerous burglaries with one suspect fleeing the scene.

Tow Facility Presentations

Denise Bolton from A Towing 4530 W. 74th Ave., Merrillville as well as Tommy Bertagnolli and Kyle Brazel of Double T Towing 1950 N. Indiana, Griffith would like to be considered as an addition to the Police Department tow rotation.

Questions/comments from the floor.

Town Council President Gaby presented the Safety Board with certificates of recognition.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

/lep