DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. Present for the meeting were: Walter Allen RHC Director of Police Academy, Tim Vu Associate Dean Golden West College, Ron Mark CSU Long Beach, James Engen Rio Hondo College Adjunct Faculty David Reynoso El Monte Police Department, Jackie Gomez-Whiteley (retired Chief of Police) and Mark Yokoyama Rio Hondo College

* Director Allen provided an update on the Police Academy POST Basic Course Certification Review (BCCR) that occurred this past July 2021. During this BCCR, POST reviewed instructional materials ensuring they were in accordance with certification requirements. During the BCCR, POST also reviewed instructor qualifications, training and testing specifications and the delivery of POST, as well as college curriculum requirements. We are happy to report that POST provided positive remarks from their review and recommended re-accreditation of the Police Academy.
* Director Allen advised that the current Police Academy started on Sept. 15th, 2021 and will be graduating in March 2022.
* Rio Hondo College’s new Use of Force training simulator is in the process of completing an acceptance of grant funds from Sen. Archulata’s office for a new simulator on Use of Force to enhance training for police recruits and in-service police officers.
* Mark Yokoyama reported that the college has in place a COVID vaccination policy for all students attending in-person classes, including for the police academy. However, our in-service AOT classes offered to agency personnel. In the near future a phone application will be used for daily screening of all students and staff entering college facilities.
* Mark Yokoyama reported that the college is going through a re-accreditation process with the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges. All divisions are working on ensuring a successful accreditation process. It is anticipated that a site visit will occur in April 2022 by a peer review team.
* Mark Yokoyama reported enrollment numbers are down approx. 30% at the college and the number of classes being offered have been reduced college-wide, with online being the prominent choice of selection by students. How classes are offered in the future will be reviewed at a future date.
* Mark Yokoyama spoke about creating new COA’s like for the Police Academy, Corrections, AJ, Forensics and so on and discussed the need for one with Dispatch careers. Currently, Rio Hondo College doesn’t have a program which would allow students who attend the intensive dispatchers course to obtain a certificate of achievement. Implementing a Certificate of Achievement program for the Division of Public Safety would provide tremendous job opportunities for graduates of the dispatcher course. The AJ committee approved development of such and this will also be brought to the Chief’s Committee at a future meeting.
* The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m. Next meeting TBD 2022.