

# Academy Advisory Council – Meeting Minutes

## September 11, 2020

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### PRESENT:

Ron Waters - AJ Director, College of the Redwoods  
Brian Ahearn – Chief, Arcata PD  
Don Chin – Community Member  
John Packer - Sergeant, Humboldt State University PD

Jose Ramirez – CR Staff , Community Member  
Randy Waltz – Undersheriff, Del Norte Sheriff's Office  
Steve Watson – Chief, Eureka PD  
Debbie Topping - Recording Secretary

Ron Waters called the meeting to order at 10:00 via Zoom after which he shared the experience of debriefing the current Academy cadets regarding the recent officer-involved shooting in Kenosha, WI. The students viewed video of the incident and were asked to evaluate it, both as a potential officer as well as a member of the public. The situation was also discussed with and by instructors during the lecture portions of several other Academy blocks.

Few members were in attendance largely due to wildfire evacuations and home-school consideration. Ron would call for topic suggestions for the “Community Guest Speaker” presentations with the Academy.

The topic of “prior experience” was brought up with the expression that there is value to sharing experiences between the police and the public who each bring prior events to situations. **Undersheriff Waltz** noted that the best and worst is remembered of all of our experiences, whether law enforcement or employers or anything else. **EPD Chief Steve Watson** shared that he regularly reminds his officers to consider the prior experiences of the people they contact and to take opportunities to make their contact a positive experience. To a question about what was missing in the George Floyd incident, came the answer: Humanity.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:23 pm with plans for a meeting in October.

Respectfully submitted,



Debbie Topping  
Recording Secretary