

Mid City Security District Minutes
Board Meeting of **June 20, 2024**, 6:00 P.M.
The Cannery, 3803 Toulouse Street, New Orleans, LA 70119

Chairwoman Wendy Laker called the meeting to order at 6:00pm with a roll call of participants which established a quorum.

ATTENDANCE:

Board Members present: Wendy Laker; Alvin Williams, Jr.; Charley Richard; Robert Rivard; and Darby Shields via telephone.

Excused absence: Rick Lorusso.

Presenters: Sudie Joint, CPA, MCSD accountant; Sgt. Alfred Russell, MCSD/NOPD Full Time Coordinator; and Marcel Madere and David Myers from Pinnacle Security.

Guests: Craig Johnson and Donna Barry.

➤ **BOARD MINUTES**

- R. Rivard moved to rescind the original minutes of March 21, 2024. The motion was seconded by W. Laker and approved unanimously. A. Williams, Jr. then motioned to approve the revised minutes of the March 21, 2024 meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by R. Rivard and passed unanimously. Revised meeting minutes of 3/21/2024 are attached as Appendix 1.
- R. Rivard moved to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2024 meeting as distributed to the board. The motion was seconded by W. Laker and passed unanimously.
- W. Laker moved that the minutes of the May 29, 2024 special meeting be approved. The motion was seconded by R. Rivard and passed unanimously.

➤ **FINANCIAL REPORT**

- The May 2024 Bank Statement was approved and initialed by all Board members present.
- S. Joint requested Board approval of May/June monthly bills: Adams and Reese LLP - \$2,587.50; Graphix Matter - \$1,003.75; NOLA Broadband, Inc - \$85.00; OPSE - \$360.00; Pinnacle Security - \$22,762.48; SDT Productions LLC - \$4,500.00; Sudie S. Joint CPA LLC - \$1,033.88; and EFT of \$112.80 for Verizon. All payments were approved with a motion by W. Laker which was seconded by R. Rivard and approved unanimously.
- S. Joint presented the Financial Statements. It was noted that NOPD has still not prepared any 2024 invoices and that the projections for 2024 expenses were estimated based on 2023 invoices. Presented and discussed were the Balance Sheet as of May 31, 2024, versus same period 2023; Profit and Loss for January through May 2024 versus same period 2023; and Profit and Loss, Budget vs. Actual for January through May 2024. A sheet detailing the disputed Mid City Security District millage charges was also presented. R. Rivard moved to accept the financial report as presented. The motion was seconded by W. Laker and passed unanimously.

➤ **CRIME REPORTS**

- Sgt. A. Russell provided detailed reports of crime activities for each week since the April meeting. He noted that there has been a recent increase in sex crimes although many other crime stats had decreased from 2023 numbers. Among the other concerning statistics were robberies where perpetrators were stealing ATMs or safes, theft of catalytic converters and e-bikes. Since school is out now, there have been concerns about the numbers of attempted and actual auto thefts. Sgt. Russell noted that there had been 16 calls from the Mid-City Security District App thus far.

- D. Meyers and M. Madere presented the breakdown of Pinnacle Statistics for patrols from May 15 through June 19, 2024, including incidents by category which indicated which were Pinnacle dispatched versus Self-initiated incidents. There were a total of 240 reportable incidents along with 7 citizen contacts. A comparison of March, April and May data was also presented. GPS reports indicated a number of statistics including average daily miles driven (134), number of stops (424), and monthly total miles driven (4,826). Also discussed were upcoming improvements in the monthly Pinnacle reporting, quarterly data review, enhanced training on patrolling and reporting, and improvements in communications from supervision and management, and improved fleet maintenance.
- OLD BUSINESS
- W. Laker reported on the outcome of the Bonding Commission, which was that the ordinance had been approved and would now be forwarded to the Secretary of State.
 - D. Shields (via telephone) discussed the test cameras that had been installed at 139 S. Cortez St. It was noted that since the internet was upgraded there had been no problems with dropping the signal. D. Shields noted that he would prepare a report as the trial schedule had concluded although he felt that it could be extended.
 - W. Laker noted that the potential nominee from the City Park Neighborhood Association had declined to participate and therefore a board member from that organization was still being sought.
- NEW BUSINESS
- R. Rivard moved that the officers of the board be re-nominated for their current positions. A. Williams seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Those positions included W. Laker as Chair; A. Williams, Jr. as Vice-Chair; R. Lorusso as Treasurer; and C. Richard as Secretary.
 - A discussion was held concerning mailouts to explain the ballot initiative for MCSD renewal as well as timing of the meetings for the next two months. Because of the importance of the mailouts, it was decided to have the next meeting of the Board in July and at that time the board could decide whether or not to hold the August meeting.
- There was no other business brought forward.
- There were no public comments provided.
- At 7:29pm R. Rivard offered a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by W. Laker. There was no opposition.

CERTIFICATE As Secretary of the Mid-City Security District, I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes duly and legally adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Mid-City Security District, after due notice, and that said minutes have not been rescinded. WITNESS, my signature, this 18th day of July 2024.



Charley Richard, Secretary

Mid City Security District Minutes
Board Meeting of **March 21, 2024**, 6:00 P.M.
Pel Hughes, 3801 Toulouse Street, New Orleans LA

Chairwoman Wendy Laker called the meeting to order at 6:00pm with a roll call of participants which established a quorum.

ATTENDANCE:

Board Members present: Wendy Laker; Alvin Williams, Jr.; Charley Richard; Robert Rivard; Darby Shields, and Richard Lorusso.

Presenters: Sgt. Alfred Russell, MCSD/NOPD Full Time Coordinator; Sudie Joint, CPA, MCSD accountant; Chad Perez, and Marcel Madere from Pinnacle Security; Marshall Hevron, Adams and Reese, LLP, MSCD Legal Counsel (via telephone).

Guests: None present.

➤ BOARD MINUTES

- R. Rivard moved and W. Laker seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the February 2024 meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

➤ FINANCIAL REPORT

- The February 2024 Bank Statement was approved and initialed by all Board members present.
- S. Joint requested Board approval of January monthly bills:
 - City of New Orleans - NOPD 10/22/23 - 11/4/23. \$20,738.99
 - City of New Orleans - NOPD 11/5/23 - 11/18/23. \$28,905.09
 - City of New Orleans - NOPD 11/19/23 - 12/2/23. \$23,708.47
 - City of New Orleans - NOPD 12/3/23 - 12/16/23. \$21,026.80
 - City of New Orleans - NOPD 12/17/23 - 12/31/23. \$18,539.05
 - Bourgeois Bennett LLC. Progress billing. \$5,000.00
 - Pinnacle Security – 2/3/204 – current. \$28,662.25
 - Graphix Matter, March 18, 2024 Invoice. \$990.00
 - Sudie S. Joint CPA LLC, February 2024 Invoice. \$952.00

All payments were approved with a motion by W. Laker which was seconded by A. Williams and approved unanimously.

- S. Joint presented the Financial Statements. Presented were the Profit and Loss for January through December 2023; Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2023; Profit and Loss, Budget vs. Actual for January through December 2023; Profit and Loss for January through February 2024 versus same period 2023; Balance Sheet as of February 29, 2024, versus same period 2023; Profit and Loss, Budget vs. Actual for January through February 2024.
- It was noted that the final 2023 Budget vs. Actual showed that there was less than 5% variance in the actual versus the budgeted amount.
- It was noted that the PO Box was renewed and is included in the CPA invoice paid above.
- It was noted that the Auditors were approximately half finished with the 2023 financials.
- Because of the compromised check last fall, Hancock Whitney Bank is requiring MCSD to utilize “Check Positive Pay” at the cost of \$150/month. Following a discussion on alternatives, R. Rivard moved to adopt “Check Positive Pay” permanently but to inform the bank that we might look for alternative banks. W. Laker seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

➤ COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Outreach. W. Laker reported on the Mid City Neighborhood Association meeting and the May 13 Town Hall meeting being prepared which will include representatives from city agencies.

➤ CRIME REPORTS

- Sgt Russell provided detailed reports of crime activities for each week since the February meeting. A chart comparing crimes from 2023 and 2024 (to date) was presented and will be made available through the MCSD website.
- Sgt Russell provided an update with regard to the MCSD mobile app. Officers are evaluating it and getting a better understanding of how it will work. Responses have been favorable.
- Chad Perez, Pinnacle Security, presented a breakdown of February through March patrols including incidents by category which indicated which were Pinnacle dispatched versus Self-initiated incidents. GPS reports indicated a number of statistics including average daily miles driven, number of stops, and monthly total miles driven.
- Pinnacle indicated they would have a new contract for MCSD to consider although in the meantime, patrols would continue on a month to month basis.

➤ OLD BUSINESS

- An update on prep to utilize the MCSD mobile app had already been presented by Sgt Russell.
- D. Shields reported that the test cameras were to be professionally installed which would include wiring of the cameras to the computer interface. The building owner would provide the internet service. D. Shields moved and R. Rivard seconded a motion to authorize up to \$3,500 for installation of the cameras. The motion passed with C. Richard abstaining.
- After discussion on the resolution language and timeline for placing on the ballot, R. Rivard moved that the resolution as amended by the footnotes be adopted and that a final version be signed by the secretary and circulated to the board. The motion was seconded by W. Laker and approved unanimously. It was noted that M. Hevron approved the documentation provided in the resolution and footnotes and it was further suggested that the ballot be prepared in time for the Presidential election by M. Hevron.
- It was noted that the Sexual Harassment Annual Report included that all board members had taken the class.

➤ NEW BUSINESS

- The concept of mailing information to residences and businesses within the MCSD areas was discussed. W. Laker moved that a flyer/mailout be made in April or May and that up to \$2,000 be allocated for the postage. C. Richard seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- Board members were reminded of the mandatory Financial Reports that are due by May 15, 2024.
- It was noted that R. Rivard has resigned as the interim board member appointed by this board and that he has been appointed by MCNO to finish the term of B. Emmanuel. In accordance with the enabling statute, this term will end on August 31, 2026.
- It was further noted that CPNA should appoint a board member as soon as possible to the MCSD.

➤ There was no other business brought forward.

➤ No guests were present so there were no public comments.

➤ At 7:53pm, W. Laker offered a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by R. Rivard. There was no opposition.

CERTIFICATE As Secretary of the Mid-City Security District, I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes duly and legally adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Mid-City Security District, after due notice, and that said minutes have not been rescinded. WITNESS, my signature, this 20th day of June 2024.



Charley Richard, Secretary