# **DOWNRIVER MUTUAL AID REGULAR MEETING** – May 3, 2018

Present:

Allen Park

Mayor Pro-Tem Gail McLeod

Brownstown Twp.

Dearborn

Ecorse Mayor Lamar Tidwell

Flat Rock

Gibraltar Mayor James Gorris
Grosse Ile Twp. Supervisor Brian Loftus
Huron Twp. Supervisor David Glaab
Lincoln Park Mayor Tom Karnes

Melvindale

River Rouge Mayor Michael Bowdler Riverview Mayor Andy Swift Rockwood Mayor Dan Guzzi

Romulus

Southgate Dustin Lent, City Administrator

Taylor Mayor Rick Sollars

Trenton Jim Wagner, Economic Development Coordinator

Woodhaven Councilwoman Jan Sikes Wyandotte Larry Stec, City Clerk

Others Present:

Fire Chair, Chief Jeff Drouillard

Ken Dilg, DRANO

The meeting was opened by the Vice Chair, Supervisor David Glaab, at 6:01 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call and introductions.

Agenda: Motion by Delegate Wagner, supported by Mayor Guzzi, to accept the agenda as presented, with one addition: Presentation by the DEA regarding legislation to legalize marijuana. The motion passed unanimously.

<u>Minutes</u>: Motion by Mayor Guzzi, supported by Mayor Bowdler, to accept the minutes of 2-1-2018 board meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Executive-Finance Committee Report:**

Minutes of 3-22-2018: Motion by Mayor Guzzi, supported by Mayor Gorris, to accept the Executive-Finance minutes of 3-22-18 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

<u>Audit Presentation</u>: Kristin Hunt of Plante Moran, distributed the audit synopsis/graph and gave an overview of the <u>DMA audit</u>. This audit resulted in an "unmodified opinion"; <u>the highest possible audit opinion</u>. All funds ended the year with a positive fund balance, except Highway Safety had a deficit of (\$90,783). The federal program audit was not required. There was a financial statement finding related to journal entries that were required during the audit, related to year-end receivables. Motion by Mayor Guzzi, supported by Mayor Tidwell, to accept the DMA Audit as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

### Downriver Mutual Aid Reports:

## DRANO - D/F/Lt. Ken Dilg reported.

- 1) Ken expressed his appreciation and thanked the communities for their continued support of DRANO and specifically to those communities providing an officer to the team. Recently, both Melvindale and Allen Park added officers to the team and Taylor PD had one officer return to their department and replaced him with a new officer. Currently, DRANO has officers from Southgate, Ecorse, US Border Patrol, Melvindale, Allen Park, Taylor and MSP on the team.
- 2) The team is seeing great success in the local communities and since January 1, 2018, has opened cases in the following communities: Taylor, Dearborn Heights, Ecorse, Dearborn, Lincoln Park, Allen Park, Belleville, Romulus, Westland, Melvindale and Southgate. In many of these communities they have multiple ongoing investigations and the teams have been recovering marijuana, heroin, cocaine, fentanyl and numerous prescription drugs. Team members are committed to the communities of the DCC-DMA and are always looking for tips and cases to be turned over from the local police departments.
- 3) Ken expressed that the DRANO team is here to serve the communities and will work with any of the local police departments on issues they are having.
- 4) DRANO would like to thank everyone for all the tips that get called into our tip line. So far in 2018, DRANO has seized narcotics valued at over \$532,000.

## DMA Police Report: No report.

## DMA Fire Report: Chief Jeff Drouillard reported.

- 1) Received \$40,000 UASI grant, plus \$14,000 for HazMat team for additional equipment
- 2) Have been meeting with Monroe about them joining DMA; still working on details, including assessment fees, etc.
- 3) Looking for additional team members; new assessment dues begin October 1<sup>st</sup>; biggest need is on the HazMat team.
- 4) HazMat team has new equipment; held new member training
- 5) Fire Investigation Team had call-outs in Taylor and in Lincoln Park
- 6) New Dive Trailer was purchased
- 7) There is an Opioid drug shortage for use by emergency personnel
- 8) Annual license renewal

#### Presentation: Overview of issues related to legalization of marijuana

Bruce McColley, Assistant Special Agent in Charge II, DEA Detroit Field Division, gave a Power Point presentation describing the public safety risks of legalizing marijuana.

Also provided for reference, was a document '<u>Lessons learned from Marijuana legalization in four U.S. States and D.C.'</u>

Executive Highlights: Colorado and Washington legalized marijuana in 2012, followed by Alaska and Oregon in 2014. The District of Colombia legalized cultivation and possession in 2014. Today's highly potent marijuana represents a growing and significant threat to public health and safety, a threat that is amplified by a new marijuana industry intent on profiting from heavy use. State laws allowing marijuana have, in direct contradiction to federal law, permitted this industry to flourish, influencing both policies and policy makers. While the consequences of these policies will not be known for decades, early indicators are troubling.

## **Executive Highlights** (continued):

This report, reviewed by prominent scientists and researchers, serves as an evidence-based guide to what is currently observed in various states:

- Youth and school impacts
- > Selling to minors
- Social Justice
- > Alcohol consumption not decreasing
- Hospital and Emergency Room Visits
- > Costs related to highly potent THC burns
- The Black Market
- > Crime
- > The Workplace
- Impaired Driving
- > Opioid deaths have increased, not decreased
- Marijuana Policy adverse effects on health outcomes
- > Commercialization: A growing concern
- > Marijuana-related poison control calls, hospitalizations and ER visits

#### Public Safety / Unintended Consequences:

- > Rental homes, the traditional use for "grow" houses, are being used and abused
- > Altered electrical systems in grow houses
- > Moisture / mold grow houses
- > Cut holes in houses / structural damage
- > Explosive hazards / flammable fertilizers (improperly stored chemicals); first responders dealing with these explosive hazards (butane/propane) and altered structures with tripping and entanglement hazards;
- > High THC edibles (cookies, suckers, etc.) can be deadly to children; need clear warning labels
- > Increased emergency room visits due to high THC levels; high potency in THC now
- > Traffic crashes and fatalities related to marijuana use from 2013-2016 have doubled;
- > Homeless and transient increased in areas where marijuana is legal
- > Mental illness statistics have increased as a result
- Rise in homicides; drug cartels have moved into areas as a result of legalized marijuana
- > Pathway drug to substance abuse issues

Additional information regarding the impact of marijuana legalization can be obtained from the Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (<u>www.rmhidta.org</u>) report, *The Legalization of Marijuana in Colorado: The Impact, Vol. 5 (2017).* 

The Board thanked Mr. McColley for his informative presentation.

New Business: None

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 6, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Councilwoman McLeod, supported by Supervisor Loftus, to adjourn at 6:39 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.