CATPA Board Minutes

Date: July 20, 2017
Location: Montezuma County Sheriff’s Office
730 E Driscoll Street
Cortez, CO 81321

Time: 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM
Chair: Tonia Rumer
Vice Chair: Sheriff Steve Nowlin

Conference Call: CATPA Conference Phone

Attending Board Members
☒ Sheriff Steve Nowlin, Law Enforcement Rep.
☒ Robert Pace, Insurance Rep.
☒ Chief Michelle Marie Tovrea, Law Enforcement Rep.
☒ Jess Redman, District Attorney Rep.
☒ Ron Kammerzell, DOR
☒ Toren Evers-Mushovic, Consumer Rep.
☐ LTC Barry Bratt, CDPS

Attending CATPA Office Staff
☒ Robert Force, Director
☒ Kenya Lyons, Grant Manager
☒ Krystal Cook-Matson, Grant Specialist

Public Attendees
☒ Wayne Jones, CSP BATTLE SW
☒ Brad Rosch, Durango PD BATTLE SW
☒ Chris Thompson, Durango PD BATTLE SW
☒ Stephanie Alderton, The Journal (Cortez, CO)

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 1:35 p.m.

Introductions
Board members, CATPA staff and public attendees introduced themselves.

Agenda Amendments
Tonia Rumer requested amendment to the Agenda in adding: 1) Standing Business; Grantee Update: Southwest Battle Grant, and, 2) New Business: DOR Representative.
- Bob Pace motioned to approve the Agenda as amended.
- Toren Mushovic the motion.
- There was no discussion of Agenda Amendments.
- Motion Passed (unanimous)

Public Comment
None

Standing Business

Approval of CATPA Board Minutes from June 15, 2017
Sheriff Nowlin pointed out correction to page 3 that should read: “Sheriff Nowlin elected as Vice Chair.” Tonia pointed out correction to Page 4, Next Meeting, to be July 20, 2017.
Sheriff Nowlin motioned to approve the minutes with amendments.
Bob Pace seconded the motion.
There was no discussion.
Motion Passed (unanimous)

**CATPA Financial Reports**

**July 20, 2017 Operating Budget Report**
Director Force provided a briefing of the 2017 Operating Budget indicating the administrative budget is on-track and the CATPA Office is in the process of closing FY17. From indications, the Operating Budget should result in about a $70,000 balance. As of the Board meeting, there were no expenditures accounted in FY18, as payroll and other expenses were not obtained. Director Force advised these funds would roll over in the CATPA Cash Fund and CDPS Financial Services were still understaffed to provide a reconciliation of the Cash Fund.

- Sheriff Nowlin made a motion to approve the budget as presented.
- Judi Burk seconded the motion.
- Motion Passed (unanimous)

**July 20, 2017 Grantee Budget Report**
Grant Manager Kenya Lyons presented the FY17 Grant closing report and advised that all grantees were beginning to close their grants. Grantee’s were given clear advisory that no reimbursement requests would be accepted after August 15, 2017, as directed by the Board and consistent with State Fiscal Rules. Currently, the AG’s Office has submitted final payment summing a total balance of $6,838.21 of unused funds; Coloradans Against Auto Theft submitted a final payment summing a complete expenditure of the grant ($0 balance); Colorado Auto Theft Investigators submitted final payment summing a total balance of $34,981.51 of unused funds; Colorado Bureau of Investigations submitted a final FY17 payment of $55,750 leaving the FY18 rollover balance of $372,783. The three pending grantee’s pending closure are: 1) Auto Theft Intelligence Coordination Center with a remaining balance of $157,453.73; 2) Beat Auto Theft Through Law Enforcement with a remaining balance of $344,480.77; and 3) CATPA Metropolitan Auto Theft Team with a remaining balance of $1,007,060.62. Director Force and Grant Manager Kenya Lyons attended the CMATT Board of Director’s meeting and emphasized the FY17 closing date. Grant Manager Kenya Lyons provided the FY18 Grant Budget Report indicating no expenses have been received because the fiscal year just started on 7/1/17.

- Judi Burk made a motion to approve the budget as presented.
- Bob Pace seconded the motion.
- Motion Passed (unanimous)

**Grantee Update: FY18 Grant Process**
Grant Manager Kenya Lyons briefed the Board that all FY18 Grant Award contracts/agreements are in place and grantees have begun their projects. CATPA staff met with all grant project directors and fiscal managers for the quarterly Project Directors meeting and the meeting went very well with information sharing, discussions related to the CATPA sunset review and processing fiscal and programmatic paperwork. John Henry had a discussion with the group on the grassroots efforts and media releases. CAAT presented the new public service announcements that was highly accepted and very impressive.

- Information – No Action Taken
Grantee Update: Southwest BATTLE Grant Program

Trooper Wayne Jones, Detective Brad Rosch, and Detective Chris Thompson briefed the Board on the challenges faced in southwest Colorado. Overall the problems experienced in the area are much different than that of the metropolitan area, where the types of vehicles stolen are typically trailers, ATVs, and pickups. There doesn’t appear to be clear ‘hot spots’ as seen in the metro areas and the coverage area is vast compared to metro areas. The biggest challenge the area faces is manpower, where there are no fully dedicated auto theft investigators, nor would it be reasonable to have them, as calls for service are handled with patrol and troopers, and investigators are generalists – where one day they will work homicides and the next work property crimes. The rural enforcement programs are very flexible and the dedication to work strictly auto theft is completely dependent on the priority of the calls that occur from day to day. There is a lack of communication within the area, when dealing with auto theft, as some challenges occur where officers do not have communication via phone, internet or radio, due to the terrain and remoteness of the area. There has been discussion with ATICC on trying to produce some intelligence/information products that can be accessed in the field without communications, such as printed hotlists from NCIC that include adjoining state thefts. The area will typically see stolen vehicles from multi-state jurisdictions including New Mexico, Arizona, Utah because of the proximity to the 4 corners area. Director Force suggested communicating with CBI CJIS to obtain an NCIC Hotlist File that could be accessed and saved on a computer file or otherwise printed. The area did have one ALPR but it was involved in a crash and was damaged, but the unit has not been replaced. Director Force asked if the investigators were familiar with the ATICC website and able to access it, where the group was familiar with it but did not have knowledge on using it. The group discussed other prosecution challenges where the local district attorneys are swamped with cases and the district attorneys could use some help with using a liaison. The group was appreciative of the funding they do receive and believe the training they get from CATI is very good. The group discussed the trend in Durango is stealing vehicles from downtown and then driving them to Farmington, NM where they leave the car and then steal another and dump it in Durango. They have used BATTLE West’s BAIT cars and receive support from BATTLE South. Because of the history of officer involved shootings with auto thefts, the group uses high attention to active cases and interdiction of stolen vehicles. They use trackers, which are old, and have requested new trackers but haven’t yet received them. There are more agencies interested in joining BATTLE SW, namely Mancos, Silverton, and other agencies in the San Luis Valley. Overall, the group expressed appreciation for the support that CATPA has given them and was happy the CATPA Board traveled to have the meeting in Montezuma County, which is the first time the group is aware that the CATPA Board has come to Southwest Colorado.

• Information – No Action Taken

Old Business

Update: Grant Specialist III, Krystal Cook-Matson

Director Force announced that Krystal Cook-Matson had been hired on July 10, 2017 and began work as the new Grant Specialist III. Krystal Cook-Matson introduced herself and Board members welcomed her to CATPA.

• Information – No Action Taken

New Business
**DOR Representative**

Director Ron Kammerzell announced that he would be retiring from the State as of August 31, 2017 and would be stepping down from the CATPA Board. Ron Kammerzell advised his new replacement will likely be Cory Amend, who was recently hired as the Senior Deputy Director of Enforcement. Cory Amend is the current director of the Colorado Police Officers Standards Training and will bring enforcement experience to the Board. Director Kammerzell expressed his appreciation with serving on the Board. Board and staff members expressed their appreciation for the dedication, commitment and leadership that Director Kammerzell has provided to CATPA. Director Kammerzell was attending the meeting telephonically and would likely do so for the Fort Collin’s meeting next month, but would be able to attend the October Board meeting.

- **Information – No Action Taken**

**ALPR Infrastructure Design – State OIT Technical Group**

Director Force briefed the Board on updates to finding an information technology solution to centralize all CATPA funded automated license plate reads for statewide information sharing amongst all task force personnel. CATPA has been working with the Governor’s Office of Information Technology (OIT) for the past year to request permission for an infrastructure design to allow non-state law enforcement agencies to share ALPR data within the state’s server system and to further provide the ALPR data to the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) via International Justice and Public Safety Network (Nlets). OIT has been in support of the infrastructure design but is still attempting to determine the costs that may be involved. Once CATPA receives the costs evaluation, Director Force will provide the information to the Board for decision-making and possible funding allocation.

Director Force said he’s had several meetings with Ted DeRosa, Colorado CJIS Compliance and Nlets Representative for Colorado, where Mr. DeRosa has been supportive of CATPA’s design. Mr. DeRosa is fairly confident that Nlets will be able to provide funding to complete necessary connections and communications to share the state centralized ALPR data with Nlets, but the centralized server must be the priority to build first. Mr. DeRosa said he has spoken with Nlets and they are highly interested in obtaining Colorado’s ALPR data, as it will be the first state to have statewide information sharing to Nlets. Currently only local jurisdictions have ALPR information sharing through Nlets. Director Force advised that Mr. DeRosa has given strong support to CATPA’s request to alleviate the NCIC automatic 5-year purge of stolen vehicle records – where Nlets and NCIC have agreed to do so. The new policy will not take effect until 2018.

Director Force advised CATPA facilitated a meeting last week with Numerica Corporation - Vice President Nick Coult, Colorado Information Sharing Consortium – Director Dave Shipley, BATTLE – Captain Mark Mason, CMATT – Commander Mike Greenwell, and CJIS Compliance – Ted DeRosa. The meeting provided opportunities to CATPA in discussions related to existing ALPR information sharing projects that Numerica is in process of working on. Namely, Numerica currently has ALPR information sharing capability with Aurora PD, Denver PD, Colorado Springs PD and most of the larger agencies in Colorado who use 3M and/or Elsag ALPR equipment. The meeting was highly beneficial as Numerica and CISC advised they would look at costs associated to centralization and normalization of ALPR data from existing partnerships.

- **Information – No Action Taken (No objections or comments)**
CDPS Financial Services – FY 17 Closing

Director Force advised the CATPA staff is working on closing the financial records for FY17 and has been given until tomorrow (7/21/17) to provide information on the total amount of revenues and insurance company compliance related to the assessment periods. Director Force advised this has been a significant lift for the CATPA staff and financial balances and account management is being performed that is well beyond the expertise of the CATPA staff, yet due to the personnel shortage of the CDPS EDO Financial Services, it must be completed. Director Force advised the CATPA Office has been working with CDPS EDO Financial Services to request financial reconciliations of the CATPA Cash Fund (which was last reconciled in 2016), however the account balances are still questionable as an accountant should review and sign verification. Director Force has met with Suzanne Collins, EDO Deputy Controller, to request support but until the Deputy Controller can employ another accountant the Cash Fund will not be reconciled. Director Force advised the accounts are currently being balanced through internal comparisons with the state’s financial accounting system (CORE) and the CATPA Office’s financial reporting system (FARS). Director Force reported he will continue to update the Board on the progress of getting financial reconciliation assistance from CDPS in future Board meetings.

Director Force reported that CATPA is undergoing a CDPS Risk Management Assessment. CATPA staff met with Susan Redmond, CDPS Chief of Compliance and Professional Standards, and Ed Gietl, CDPS Compliance Officer. During this assessment, CATPA’s financial reconciliation concerns were expressed concurrent with understanding that the CDPS Financial Services is significantly understaffed to provide direct support to CATPA.

- Information – No Action Taken

Unfinished Business

July 17, 2017 Crime in Colorado Report From Colorado Bureau of Investigations

Director Force provided a summary of the new Crime in Colorado report that was published to the general public on Monday, July 17, 2017. The report was generated through the FBI Uniform Crime Report and demonstrates a 22% increase in auto theft from 2015-2016, with a 19.5% increase per-capita. Director Force pointed out the 20% increase was 10-plus percentage points above all other reported crime and CAAT, CSP, CATPA, CATI, AG’s Office and the task forces have been responding to multiple media requests this week. Of note, Director Force pointed out that the auto theft arrests summary shows a 24.2% increase with 21.8% per capita increase. The increase of arrests is consistent with the CATPA task forces antidotal reporting that enforcement activities have significantly increased, including the number of case assignments, arrests, recoveries and court filings. In speaking with Dr. Rick Linden (Doctor of Sociology, University of Manitoba), this is an anomaly in criminology where the norm demonstrates that when overall enforcement increases (especially the number of arrests) the incidence of crime will likely decrease, if not rise by a small percentage compared to the increase of enforcement. Director Force advised the UCR data appears to support what task forces are reporting: auto theft offenders have progressed engagement into multiplicity of criminal offenses – including those of violence; and/or that captured auto theft offenders have no consequence of determent where once captured and released without jail they return to reoffend. Task force commanders and investigators have commented to Director Force that it is highly unusual to arrest an auto theft offender today that does not have a significant history of habitual auto theft charges coupled with many prior offenses of other criminal acts.
A note of concern is that preliminary indications from the ATICC database show an additional increase of auto theft from 2016-2017 during the first six months of reporting. Director Force advised the ATICC will be publishing a second part of the Influential Factors to the Rise in Auto Theft Since 2011. There is a question on whether the change in reporting standards (from 2012) have an influencing factor on the 2015-2016 rise, but Director Force pointed out that the reporting standards have normalized since 2012 and it would not be expected to have had any significance for the 20% rise.

**Next Meeting**
August 17, 2017 from 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM
Fort Collins Police Services
2221 S Timberline Road
Fort Collins, CO 80525

**Adjourn**
The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.