

Costa Mesa Police Department

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: Tom Hatch, CEO
From: Steve Staveley, Chief of Police
Date: May 19, 2011
Subject: ABLE



I note that from the last council meeting a member of the council has requested some additional time before ABLE disbanding to address the potential of selling ABLE assets to a private company. Additionally, there are other options including Newport Beach buying all the assets and Costa Mesa buying resources (patrol and response time) from them on an as needed basis. The third potential option, of which I am currently aware, is to continue on with ABLE but using much less expensive non sworn and part time pilots while using "Mission Commanders" as the right seat observer.

Attached please find an excerpt from the ABLE board meeting of May 19, 2011. This excerpt from the minutes outlines action of the Board to ask the Costa Mesa City Council and then seek the support of the Newport Beach City Council to do the following:

- 1) Continue on with ABLE operations until Oct. 1, 2011 to allow time for the options above to be developed and subsequent recommendations from the ABLE Board to each council.
- 2) Costa Mesa is well on in the budget development process and following council's previous direction we have not budgeted for ABLE's continuation during this period. Nor for that matter has Newport Beach. Thus the ABLE Board has authorized the complete costs for both cities for ABLE operations including staffing to be deducted from ABLE reserves to allow the extension of operations. During this extension period the various options can be explored and presented to the Costa Mesa City Council and then to the Newport Beach City Council. At that point the Council can take the action it desires. This second item makes the extension a no cost time to this or FY 11/12 budgets to continue on for the short period of time necessary to explore the options presented.
 - a) The \$212,000 currently in the proposed FY 11/12 preliminary budget would remain unmolested and unused during the extension period. These funds are budgeted for the purpose of acquiring helicopter patrol and response time after ABLE is dissolved.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Rescind prior action to withdraw from ABLE as of June 30, 2011 and take new action to withdraw from ABLE October 1, 2011 to allow time for additional study of above options and possibly other options.

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ATTACHMENT 3
Attachment
May 19, 2011

Excerpt from May 19, 2011 ABLE Meeting

1. Helicopter Options

Summery:

There are a few options that ABLE staff has explored to keep the aircraft in operation. These include; outsource flight time to another agency, NBPD purchase the assets and operate their own program, or privatize the operation with a prerequisite the operator purchase all of the assets.

Motion: Chief Staveley made a motion that the A.B.L.E. Board propose to the Costa Mesa City Council that they extend the A.B.L.E. program to continue on to October 1, 2011 so that additional research can be done and this additional expense would come out of the reserve fund. Captain Tom Gazsi seconded the motion.

Public comments – None

Motion carried by the following vote: All in favor. Motion Approved.