

Present: Commissioner Stum, Commissioner Lemus, Commissioner Toston, Commissioner Fallenstein

Absent: Commissioner Oberst

Meeting called to order at 5:35pm

Sheriff Knezovich Presentation

May letter about police militarization. Has been in discussion with ACLU because he thinks the numbers are incorrect. Distributed their response to us.

Has two hour presentation he whittles down to 45 minutes. Slides are on Youtube.

The Threats WE Face v Myth of Police Militarization

Domestic, left, right and international threats and Extremism. Because we have a democrat in White House, the right has become very active.

Constitutionalists: video West Memphis police officers. Sovereign Citizens group. Wont follow rules, shoot the officers and kill them both. They were killed after shooting two more officers.

Last year, group went to Nevada to support Cliven Bundy and his cow problem. Feds gave him 20 years to get his cows off. Feds began to remove the cows, drew guns on officers. Two of the militia remained, killed officers and declared beginning of war.

Called for abolishing government in 2015. Former militia was arrested in Tonasket WA. End up stopped because they make their own license plates. They recognize Sheriff, he went to intervene and arrested them.

Constitutionalists share ideology that they want their own country, separate from others they don't like.

Guy was arrested for obstructing deputies during lawful stop. He put out on social media that he was arrested for being Constitutionalist. Deputies faced death threats as a response.

Extremism is NOT activities protected by the 1st Amendment.

Extremism IS breaking the law, threats to perpetrate mass violence. 1995 OK City event.

Most of us are activists, but we don't break the law. Constitution does not protect unlawful behavior.

The Order: wanted white nation. Killed, robbed, use religion in their rhetoric. KKK dropped lit all over town just this Spring. Counter protest happens because we don't believe in their ideology.

Aryan Peoples Republic: Kehoe gang. Perpetrated bombing of City Hall.

Sean Gillespie and the Aryan Nations

Phineas Priesthood

Bombed a bunch of places in Spokane, heavily armed. Sheriffs only had shotguns and faced a highly armored Priesthood group. They carried armor piercing bullets, we had very little defense.

Out in the community. Loves explosives. Has group with militia training. Purchased property in Spokane.

Valhalla Bound Skinheads: beat up African Americans. Wanted final solution. Saved all his money to take out three city blocks in downtown Spokane.

Kevin Harpham tried to blow us up at MLK parade, 2011. Was directional, chemical and biological. Most sophisticated bomb seen in US.

More white supremacists, planting bombs.

Lone wolf operator, wrote letters, tried to make ricin and wants to blow us all up. Name is Anthony Garver. After escaping he murdered a young woman in Lake Stevens. Gave him bus ticket to jail, of course he didn't show up.

The New Threat: Radicalized Islamic Extremists

We have plan in place to deal with ISIS threat to community. Tactical plan to deal with it. If they hit the target, won't get there in time.

Joseph Brice was converted to radical Islam in college. Blew himself up making bombs.

Has video that summarizes all ISIS activities in last few years.

The Myth of Militarization of Police: The New 'War' on Police

He doesn't use the word 'war.' Tactics of policing have changed very little in last 20 years. Armored vehicles have been in US at least since 1930.

Media and activist groups get it wrong: ACLU, Times. Video is called Truth in Media.

Made point that police would be even more open to being killed if they didn't have these kinds of weaponry, both offensive and defensive types.

Attacked the numbers supplied by the ACLU.

We have three army helicopters, one for parts. Forward looking infra-red, 4 m_16 converted to semi-automatic from fully automatic.

Search and rescue gators. MRAP, sites for AR-15's, non-armored Humvee. 1122 program in 2000. Response to Phineas threat. 57 M-16 .223 rifles, converted to semi-automatic.

Made points about how the community needs to be involved in hearings and interacting more with law enforcement.

They have citizen's academies each spring and fall to help educate citizens.

Had quasi discussion about what causes of violence and stuff.

Ended his presentation 7:03PM.

Letter to Candace Mumm in favor of Matthew Cardinale and his presentation he made at our previous meeting in July as well as the three main recommendations he calls for housing. Provided information about correlation between race and social class in Spokane.