

**SECURITY:**

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policy to require officers to record all traffic stops, disturbances and when officers are at risk of injury. He said, in most situations, officers will use their discretion about when to record, which is important because the video files take up a large amount of storage space.

The five-year contract includes 15 cameras that patrol officers are now required to wear, as well as 750 gigabytes of online data storage per year. The department implemented the mandatory camera policy April 17 and, in less than two weeks, has already amassed about 45 gigabytes of data, but that included training videos that will soon be deleted, as well as some officers recording irrelevant situations, such as typing reports, Edmiston said. Cameras at the station already record interviews and interactions, he said, and any redundant or irrelevant material recorded by the body cameras uses valuable storage space.

Edmiston said, once the data is uploaded to the secure online cloud storage, it will be saved for at least 190 days before being deleted. Although the department must redact certain sensitive information

before releasing any video to the public, these changes are automatically saved to a separate file, preserving the integrity of the original copy, he said.

“The skeptics out there are going to say you can alter a video,” he said. “You can’t with this system.”

Edmiston said people can submit reasonable public records requests for the video files using a form available on the department website. As with other police records, not all information can be released. He said video from traffic stops and field interviews will be accessible, but records from active criminal investigations probably will not be released immediately.

“Our intent is to try to be as transparent as possible, as open as possible,” he said.

Edmiston said, however, if an officer-involved shooting is recorded, a criminal investigation would be conducted by another law enforcement agency, and the video would probably not be immediately available. He said the department might also “have to get a green light” from its insurance company before releasing such material.

The department charges \$10 per request, plus \$35 per hour of work and \$2 per DVD. Edmiston said the department will try to answer requests within a 10-day period.

**CLARK:**

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have tried mounting the cameras on their shoulders and collars and are now trying headset mounts to determine which method works the best.

Technically, the cameras are always recording video while turned on, but the data is not saved unless an officer pushes the record button, Clark said. This allows the device to capture 30 seconds of video without audio before the record button is even pushed.

Police Chief Jason Edmiston said department policy mandates officers turn the cameras on during all traffic stops, disturbances and when officers are at risk, and officers must inform people they are being recorded.

Clark said most people have not taken issue with be-



EO MEDIA GROUP FILE PHOTO BY E.J. HARRIS

The Hermiston Police Department has issued body cameras to all patrol officers.

ing recorded, thus far. “I haven’t really had any experience with anyone saying, ‘I don’t want you recording me,’” he said. “One thing we have noticed is people tend to be a little more calm, more respectful when they know they’re being re-

corded.” After recording an incident, he said the officers spend about a minute labeling the file using their smartphones, and, at the end of their shift, they plug the camera and battery into a docking bay that charges

them and uploads the data to a secure online cloud storage database. Once uploaded, the videos can be reviewed by the department and shared with the district attorney’s office.

“It’ll be a very, very good tool,” Clark said.

**CELEBRATION:**

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nine musical acts will perform, along with comedy and dancing performances.

De La Cruz said about 4,500 people have attended the celebration during the last two years, but he is expecting between 6,000 and

7,000 this year.

“Hopefully, we can increase the numbers every year a little bit at a time, and that’s what we’re looking forward to,” he said. “As things are going by, we’re getting a lot of support from the community. We’re probably going to be the second biggest event in Hermiston besides the Umatilla County Fair.”



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**Cinco de Mayo schedule**

Sunday, May 3  
Downtown Hermiston  
11:30 a.m.: Parade, followed by dancing horse competition  
12:00 p.m.: Welcoming ceremony  
1:00 p.m.: Miss Cinco de Mayo Pageant presentation  
1:30 p.m.: DANCE — Ballet Folclorico Estrellas de Mexico  
2:45 p.m.: COMEDY — Show De

Diversion

**MUSIC**

12:15 p.m.: La Reina De Tierra Caliente  
2:00 p.m.: Los Broncos Del Norte  
3:00 p.m.: Lo Forasteros  
3:30 p.m.: Mariachi Los Temerosos  
4:15 p.m.: Los Rebeldes De La Sierra  
5:00 p.m.: La Porencia De Mexico  
5:45 p.m.: Ruta Libre  
6:30 p.m.: Tormenta De Durango  
7:15 p.m.: Grupo El Tiempo  
8:00 p.m.: Daniel El Noble De Aguililla Michoacan

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