



La Mesa Community Police Oversight Board

Minutes of a Regular Meeting

Date: May 15, 2024, 4:00 p.m.
Location: La Mesa Police Department Community Room, 8085 University Avenue
La Mesa, California

Present: Chair Leroy Johnson
Vice Chair Janet Castanos
Board Member Lauren Cazares
Board Member John Fonseca
Board Member Aaron Landau
Board Member Jeffrey Scott McIlwain
Board Member Susan Wayne

Absent: Board Member Christian DeMent
Board Member Caitlin Tiffany

Staff: Assistant City Manager Amanda Lee
Chief Ray Sweeney
Assistant to the City Manager Dedmon
General Counsel Caroline Chiappetti
Independent Police Auditor ("IPA") Rick Rasmussen
Deputy City Clerk Stacy Ready

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

1.1 **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA**

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS – (TOTAL TIME – 15 MINUTES)**

Gene Carpenter commented on Chief Sweeney's presentation of the Challenge Coin for Compassion Award to Melinda Sheriff and the application submission process for the CPOB Board.

4. CONFLICT DISCLOSURES

There were no conflict of interest disclosures.

5. CURRENT BUSINESS

5.1 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE COMMUNITY POLICE OVERSIGHT BOARD REGULAR MEETING HELD APRIL 17, 2024

Moved by Board Member Fonseca

Seconded by Board Member Cazares

Approve minutes.

Yes (7): Chair Johnson, Vice Chair Castanos, Board Member Cazares, Board Member Fonseca, Board Member Landau, Board Member McIlwain, and Board Member Wayne

Absent (2): Board Member DeMent, and Board Member Tiffany

Motion Approved (7 to 0)

5.2 LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATES

- **STAFFING AND RECRUITMENT**
- **PAST AND UPCOMING EVENTS**

Chief Sweeney provided an update on the staffing, recruitments, and vacant positions in the La Mesa Police Department ("LMPD"). He recognized National Police Officers Memorial Day in honor of the fallen officers who have fallen in the line of duty.

Chief Sweeney commented on April and May community events and activities.

Following Board questions and comments, no action was taken.

5.3 INDEPENDENT POLICE AUDITOR UPDATES

IPA Rasmussen gave an update on the quarterly report and shared he submitted Case Nos. 23-14 and 23-15 for staff review. Due to an officer involved shooting, Case No. 23-08 was pending.

Following Board questions and comments, no action was taken.

**5.4 PRESENTATION BY CITYGATE - LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT
INDEPENDENT STAFFING STUDY RESULTS**

Chief Sweeney introduced Citygate Associates Gary Elliott, John Carli, Thomas Woodward, and Ralph Brown. The Citygate team provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Comprehensive Staffing and Resource Analysis Study for LMPD, and shared their recommendations for patrol and traffic unit services, investigations, records and communications, and services training and administration with the CPOB Board.

Following Board questions and comments, no action was taken.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS (3-MINUTE LIMIT)

There were no committee reports.

7. STAFF AND BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Johnson announced the cancellation of the June 19, 2024 CPOB meeting due to the Juneteenth National Independence Holiday. He commented on the 3rd Annual La Mesa Juneteenth and Friends Celebration event on Sunday, June 16, 2024, from 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Board Member Cazares invited Board Members to the Career and Life Goals event hosted by Mayor Arapostathis and Councilmember Dillard on Thursday, May 16, 2024, from 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Johnson adjourned the meeting at 6:03 p.m.