



La Mesa Community Police Oversight Board

Minutes of a Regular Meeting

Date: August 21, 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 Denise Carlson
Board Member Lauren Cazares
Board Member Christian DeMent
Board Member Aaron Landau
Board Member Jeffrey Scott McIlwain
Board Member Susan Wayne

Absent: Board Member John Fonseca

Staff: Assistant City Manager Amanda Lee
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 - ROLL CALL**

Chair Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Assistant City Manager Lee acknowledged new Community Police Oversight Board Member Denise Carlson.

Board Member Carlson, Police Beat 4 Representative, introduced herself and expressed her interest in serving on the Community Police Oversight Board.

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

There were no public comments.

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 JULY 17, 2024

Moved by Board Member Wayne

Seconded by Board Member DeMent

Approve minutes.

Yes (8): Chair Johnson, Vice Chair Castanos, Board Member Carlson, Board Member Cazares, Board Member DeMent, Board Member Landau, Board Member McIlwain, and Board Member Wayne

Absent (1): Board Member Fonseca

Motion Approved (8 to 0)

5.2 LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATES

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

Captain Nicholass provided an update on the staffing, recruitments, and vacant positions in the La Mesa Police Department ("LMPD"). Captain Nicholass mentioned that CPOB Student Intern Lucas Fonseca would be helping to coordinate youth programs, such as the Explore or Cadet programs.

Captain Nicholass commented on July and August community events and activities.

Following Board questions and comments, no action was taken.

5.3 FIRST QUARTERLY REPORT FROM THE INDEPENDENT POLICE AUDITOR COVERING THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY 1, 2024 TO MARCH 31, 2024

IPA Rasmussen provided an overview of the Independent Police Auditor 2024 First Quarter Report. Case Nos. 2023-08, 2023-09, 2023-12, 2023-14, and 2023-15 were reviewed and discussed.

Following Board questions and comments, no action was taken.

5.4 SECOND QUARTERLY REPORT FROM THE INDEPENDENT POLICE AUDITOR COVERING THE PERIOD FROM APRIL 1, 2024 TO JUNE 30, 2024

IPA Rasmussen provided an overview of the Independent Police Auditor 2024 Second Quarter Report. Case Nos. 2023-08, 2023-14, 2023-15, and 2024-01 were reviewed and discussed.

Following Board questions and comments, no action was taken.

5.5 DISCUSSION OF THE LA MESA CITY COUNCIL'S DECISION NOT TO FILL A CPOB VACANCY FOR POLICE BEAT 4 AT THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF JULY 23, 2024

Vice Chair Castaños gave an update on the recent decision of City Council to not fill the Police Beat 4 vacancy. She commented on support from City Council in filling the vacancies for Police Beat 3 and La Mesa-Spring Valley. A meeting with City Administration was requested to review and discuss the ordinance that established the CPOB (Ordinance No. 2020-2881), and to address the concerns regarding the unrepresented quadrants of the City of La Mesa.

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

Assistant to the City Manager Dedmon reminded Board Members of the Racial and Identity Profiling Act (RIPA) Subcommittee meeting on Thursday, August 29, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

Assistant City Manager Lee suggested including a discussion with Environmental Sustainability Manager Hilary Ego regarding the EV Charging Stations Master Plan on the next meeting agenda.

Board Member Cazares shared that La Mesa Park and Recreation Foundation was awarded \$100,000 from San Diego Community Power and the San Diego Foundation for EV Charging Stations located in parks.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Johnson adjourned the meeting at 5:03 p.m.