



La Mesa Community Police Oversight Board

Minutes of a Regular Meeting

Date: January 15, 2025, 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 Brianna Coston
Board Member Christian DeMent
Board Member Aaron Landau
Board Member Susan Wayne

Absent: Board Member John Fonseca
Board Member Jeffrey Scott McIlwain

Staff: Assistant City Manager Amanda Lee
Chief Ray Sweeney
Assistant to the City Manager Lyn Dedmon
General Counsel Julia Michel
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)

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 NOVEMBER 20,
2024**

Moved by Board Member Landau

Seconded by Vice Chair Castanos

Approve minutes.

Yes (6): Chair Johnson, Vice Chair Castanos, Board Member Carlson,
Board Member Coston, Board Member Landau, and Board Member
Wayne

Absent (3): Board Member DeMent, Board Member Fonseca, and Board
Member McIlwain

Motion Approved (6 to 0)

5.2 LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATES

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

Board Member DeMent arrived to the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

Chief Sweeney provided an update on staffing, recruitments, and vacant
positions within the La Mesa Police Department ("LMPD"). He also
commented on community events and activities that took place in
December and January.

Following Board questions and comments, no action was taken.

5.3 AB 481 PRESENTATION

Lieutenant Lynch provided a PowerPoint presentation on Assembly Bill
481 ("AB 481"): Annual Military Equipment Report explaining its purpose,
the use of various equipment, and any violations or complaints related to
the military use policy.

Following Board questions and comments, no action was taken.

5.4 INDEPENDENT POLICE AUDITOR UPDATES

IPA Rasmussen gave an update on the Independent Police Auditor's 2024 Third Quarter Report, stating that he had submitted it for staff review. The number of complaints received in 2023 had decreased by 53% in 2024.

5.5 CRITICAL INCIDENT VIDEO

IPA Rasmussen presented a video on a critical incident video: LMPD Officer-Involved Shooting on August 6, 2023.

Cliff Ewbank commented on the policy regarding gunfire directed at a residential building during a pursuit.

Following Board questions and comments, no action was taken.

5.6 2025 WORK PLAN REVIEW

Board Member Coston left the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

Assistant City Manager Lee and Assistant to the City Manager Dedmon provided opening remarks on the review of the draft Fiscal Year 2025 CPOB Work Plan. Assistant City Manager Lee discussed the following Work Plan changes for Board approval:

- Work Plan Item 1 and Work Plan Item 8: Integrate Work Plan Item 8 with Work Plan Item 1.
- Work Plan Item 9: Remove Nos. 1.3 and 1.5.

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

Board Member Landau and Board Member Dement commented on the Homeless Outreach and Mobile Engagement ("HOME") team and commended them for their service to the homeless.

Vice Chair Castaños shared that she would be attending a Department of Justice briefing to gain information on the Racial and Identity Profiling Act ("RIPA") Data Report and its recommendations.

Assistant City Manager Lee encouraged board members to meet with their assigned ad-hoc subcommittee for the CPOB Annual Report.

Following Board questions and comments, no action was taken.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Johnson adjourned the meeting at 5:43 p.m.