

CHARLOTTESVILLE POLICE OVERSIGHT BOARD MEETING
MINUTES

Date: May 11, 2023

Scheduled Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: City Space

Board Members Attending: William Mendez (Chair), Jeffrey Fracher (Vice Chair), Charles Fleming, Lakesia Washington, James Watson, George Dillard, Susan Krischel, Patricia Jones Turner (Remote)

Board Members Not Attending: All board members in attendance

Guests: Independent Counsel Pamela Y. O’Berry (Sands Anderson)

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at about 6:38 PM

Announcements: No Announcement

Approval of Agenda: Member Susan Krischel moved to approve the Agenda, Lakesia Washington seconded, and the motion was passed unanimously.

Introduction of new PCOB Executive Director: Executive Director Inez Gonzalez was introduced by Chair Mendez who provided a synopsis of her experience and accolades received while in the service of the Newark Police Department.

The Executive Director made brief remarks and expressed her excitement in beginning her work with the PCOB.

Public Comments (I): Ms. Kate Fraleigh requested that the board members introduce themselves.

Status of Complaints and Review Requests: The Vice Chair presented data from the summary report provided by the Internal Affairs (IA) Department (Table 1). A total of three complaints were filed with IA by civilians in April. One complaint was classified as a “service-related inquiry” that did not involve a violation of Department General Orders or Guidance. The remaining allegations (unsatisfactory performance and discourtesy) are both pending.

Table 1. Summary of Internal Affairs Report, April 2023

Date Received	Date Closed	Summary	Allegation(s)	Finding	Corr. Action
10-Apr-23	Pending	Call for Service RE: Breaking & Entering	Unsatisfactory Performance	Pending	None
13-Apr-23	Pending	Call for Service RE: Motor Vehicle Accident / Report	Lack of Courtesy	Pending	None
18-Apr-23	N/A	RE: Question about a Detention	Service-Related Inquiry (Will be handled In-House)	N/A	None

The Chair noted that the PCOB still has a long-standing review request that with the appointment of the new PCOB Executive Director, as well as research / recruitment of potential hearing examiners being conducted by Susan Krischel, the PCOB expects to begin making progress concerning that request.

Executive Director Gonzalez asked how complaints were being received and was advised by Vice Chair Fracher that the complaints he reported on were received and investigated by Internal Affairs. Chair Mendez explained that there was one complaint received via the PCOB (Sivil) Portal, that was forwarded to Internal Affairs as an Executive Director had not yet been hired.

Teaching Module: Chair Mendez initiated a discussion and asked Board Members questions regarding the PCOB's Operating Procedures concerning Hearing Examiners (PCOB-9) and Hearings (PCOB-10). Chair Mendez discussed that the "Desk Book" that will be utilized by Hearing Examiners is in the process of being created by Independent Counsel O'Berry. Ms. O'Berry provided an update on the status of the desk book and stated that she expects the first draft to be ready for review within a week.

Bias-Based Policing Recommendation: The Chair read the proposed changes to the Bias-Based Policing General Order that were forwarded to Chief Kochis. A motion was made by the Vice Chair to make the recommended revisions to the Bias-Based Policing General Order a formal decision of the Board. The motion was seconded by James Watson. The motion was passed unanimously.

Commendation for Major Durette: The Chair read the proposed wording for the commendation to be awarded to Major Durette for the contributions he had made during his tenure as Interim Chief. The Board voted by majority vote to issue the commendation as read.

Chair Mendez, Vice Chair Fracher, Members Watson, Fleming and Washington voted Yes. Members Krischel and Turner Abstained.

Member Watson mentioned that several community events would be coming up soon and wanted to ensure that the PCOB would have swag available to distribute to the community. The Vice Chair mentioned that we should also begin preparation for a future town hall meeting.

Public Comments (Second): No members of the public asked to make comments.

Adjournment: The Vice Chair moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Member Watson. Meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at approximately 7:47 PM.