

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY OF LA MESA  
CITIZEN PUBLIC SAFETY OVERSIGHT TASK FORCE  
5:00 PM, LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY ROOM  
8085 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, LA MESA, CA 91942**

**MINUTES  
July 29, 2020**

This meeting was conducted utilizing teleconferencing and electronic means consistent with State of California Executive Order N-29-20 dated March 17, 2020, regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Jamal McRae called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL** (X indicates present)

- Robert Duff X
- Dr. Janet Castanos X
- Jamal McRae X
- Susan Wayne X
- Caitlin Tiffany X
- Patricia Dillard X
- Rev. Frank Willey X
- Joshua David Morse X
- Steven Evans X
- Vacant (Police Beat 4 Resident Representative)
- Vacant (La Mesa Older Adult Representative)

Others present: City Clerk Wiegelman; Lieutenant Bell; Community Service Officer Allsberry

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

City Clerk Wiegelman and Lieutenant Bell read aloud the emailed public comments submitted by 3:00 p.m. the day of the Task Force Meeting.

Richard L. Hammett submitted a comment regarding concerns over the proposal for using an investigation focused model of oversight board.

Richard L. Hammett submitted a comment regarding True North Research.

Dave Myers submitted a comment regarding the Task Force's presentation to the City Council.

Emily Green submitted a comment regarding support of an independent oversight board.

Melissa Walter submitted a comment regarding support for the Task Force.

Vinton Omaleki submitted a comment regarding support for the Task Force.

Jennifer Grigg submitted a comment regarding displeasure with the work of the Task Force.

Sasha Jonestein submitted a comment regarding support for the Task Force.

The following comments were not received by the 3:00 p.m. deadline, and therefore were not read aloud during the Task Force Meeting:

Missy Solis submitted a comment regarding support for the Task Force.

The Agenda Items were considered in the order presented, except for Item 6 which was heard prior to Item 5.

## **CURRENT BUSINESS**

### **1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE CITIZEN PUBLIC SAFETY OVERSIGHT TASK FORCE SPECIAL MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY JULY 8, 2020**

ACTION: Motioned by Vice Chair Castanos and seconded by Member Willey to approve the minutes for the Citizen Public Safety Oversight Task Force Special Meeting held Wednesday, July 8, 2020.

Vote: 9-0

Yes: Chair McRae and Members Castanos, Duff, Wayne, Tiffany, Morse, Evans, Dillard, and Willey

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

### **2. SELECTION OF TASK FORCE VICE CHAIR**

ACTION: Motioned by Member Duff and seconded by Member Dillard to nominate Member Castanos as Task Force Vice Chair.

Vote: 9-0

Yes: Chair McRae and Members Castanos, Duff, Wayne, Tiffany, Morse, Evans, Dillard, and Willey

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

### **3. BRIEFING ON THE CITY OF DAVIS' OVERSIGHT COMMISSION**

Abram Jones is a current commissioner for the oversight commission for the City of Davis Police Department. Jones helped to create oversight commissions for the police departments of the City of Davis and for UC Davis.

Jones explained that their number one goal is to create and support community outreach. He stated that the oversight commission for the City of Davis works through an auditor and is not investigatory.

Richard L. Hammett submitted a comment regarding the Oversight Board's proposal.

David Myers submitted a comment regarding subpoena power and POBAR.

Melissa Walter submitted a comment regarding the oversight commission for the City of Davis Police Department.

Following Task Force questions and comments, no action was taken.

### **4. REVIEW OF UPDATED PROPOSED DRAFT OF COMMUNITY POLICE OVERSIGHT BOARD**

General Counsel Larson reminded the Task Force of advice given by NACOLE regarding different models of oversight commissions. General Counsel Larson also discussed the roles of an oversight commission.

General Counsel Sheridan Ordin and General Counsel Larson both recommend an external professional auditor who reports to the oversight board. They recommended a Memorandum of Understanding, rather than subpoena power. A limitation of the investigatory model was that the board cannot enforce disciplinary actions.

Task Force Member Evans left the meeting.

Rev. Marcus C. Lohrmann submitted a comment regarding concern with Section II of the proposal.

Rev. Rebecca Littlejohn submitted a comment regarding concern with the language in Section II.

Rev. Kelly Ryan submitted a comment asking the Task Force to be as specific as possible in writing the proposal.

David Myers submitted multiple questions for the Task Force and the attorneys.

Task Force Member Willey left the meeting.

**ACTION:** Motioned by Vice Chair Castanos and seconded by Member Dillard to request that the lawyers draft an ordinance which focuses on the auditor monitor board structure and incorporates the other changes discussed.

Vote: 7-0

Yes: Chair McRae, Vice Chair Castanos, and Members Wayne, Tiffany, Morse, Dillard, and Duff

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Members Evans and Willey

Motion passed.

**5. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF DRAFT HANDBOOK REGARDING THE COMPLAINT PROCESS**

Chair McRae explained that they want to make the complaint process as easy as possible. The Task Force listed possible avenues for filing complaints.

Lieutenant Bell stated that the complaint form will be posted online.

David Myers submitted a comment regarding the development of a handbook not being part of the Task Force mandate.

Following Task Force questions and comments, no action was taken.

**6. CRIME MAPPING AND HOW THE LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT UTILIZES ITS INFORMATION**

Chair McRae explained the website CrimeMapping.com, which can be utilized to view what crimes have occurred in a specific geographical area.

David Myers submitted a comment questioning how Crime Mapping relates to the mission of the Task Force.

Following Task Force questions and comments, no action was taken.

**7. FIVE MINUTE PRESENTATION OF LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATIONS FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS**

This Item was withdrawn.

**8. REVIEW DRAFT SURVEY OF LA MESA RESIDENTS' PERCEPTION OF THE LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT**

This Item was tabled to a future meeting.

**9. STAFF AND TASK FORCE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair McRae adjourned the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 19, 2020.

Prepared by:

Nora Allsberry, Community Service Officer