

**REGULAR 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  
September 16, 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.

The Agenda Items were considered in the order presented, except for Items 2 and 3, which were considered together.

**CALL TO ORDER**

City Clerk Wiegelman 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
Kathie Taylor	
Andy Trimlett	X
Vacant (La Mesa Police Officers' Association Representative)	

Others present: City Clerk Wiegelman; Lieutenant Lynch; Community Service Officer Allsberry; General Counsel Larson; General Counsel Sheridan Ordin; General Counsel Chiappetti

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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

Meegan Nolan submitted a comment in opposition to the Police Officers Association's request to meet and confer.

Demetrius Antuna submitted a comment in opposition to the Police Officers Association's request to meet and confer.

Cheri Robertson submitted a comment in opposition to the Police Officers Association's request to meet and confer.

Melissa Walter submitted a comment in opposition to the Police Officers Association's request to meet and confer.

Nicole Chenelle submitted a comment in opposition to the Police Officers Association's request to meet and confer.

Quintin Lucas submitted a comment in opposition to the Police Officers Association's request to meet and confer.

Sasha Jonestein submitted a comment in opposition to the Police Officers Association's request to meet and confer.

Missy Solis submitted a comment in opposition to the Police Officers Association's request to meet and confer.

Rev. Rebecca Littlejohn submitted a comment in opposition to the Police Officers Association's request to meet and confer.

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

Apryl Stepp submitted a comment in opposition to the Police Officers Association's request to meet and confer.

## **CURRENT BUSINESS**

### **1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE CITIZEN PUBLIC SAFETY OVERSIGHT TASK FORCE REGULAR MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY JULY 15, 2020 AND SPECIAL MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 2020**

ACTION: Motioned by Member Wayne and seconded by Member Willey to approve the minutes for the Citizen Public Safety Oversight Task Force Regular Meeting held Wednesday, July 15, 2020.

Vote: 8-0

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

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Members Taylor and Duff

Motion passed.

ACTION: Motioned by Member Wayne and seconded by Member Dillard to approve the minutes for the Citizen Public Safety Oversight Task Force Special Meeting held Wednesday, July 29, 2020.

Vote: 8-0

Yes: Jamal McRae, Susan Wayne, Caitlin Tiffany, Dr. Janet Castanos, Patricia Dillard, Rev. Frank Willey, Andy Trimlett, Joshua David Morse

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Kathie Taylor, Bob Duff

Motion passed.

Task Force Member Duff joined the meeting.

Agenda Item Nos. 2 and 3 were considered together.

- 2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF SUGGESTED CHANGES TO THE TASK FORCE'S PROPOSAL BY THE LA MESA CITY COUNCIL FROM THE SEPTEMBER 15, 2020 CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING**
- 3. DISCUSSION OF PRESENTATION FOR THE SEPTEMBER 22, 2020 LA MESA CITY COUNCIL MEETING – General Counsel Larson**

General Counsel Larson explained that changes made to the document were based on Task Force recommendations, not recommendations from City Council.

Substantive changes to the proposal included:

- The clarification of the eligibility of former public safety officers.
- Clarification of who will appoint the positions on the board.
- An added provision regarding the review of serious incidents from the past.

The Task Force discussed the time period of five years for looking back at past incidents within La Mesa Police Department. It was determined that this time frame was based on state law for records retention.

The Task Force discussed the letter received by City Council from the La Mesa Police Department Police Officers' Association's legal counsel regarding the request to meet and confer.

City Clerk Wiegelman read aloud the emailed public comments submitted for Item 2 and 3.

Dave Myers submitted a comment regarding language and clarification of parts of the proposal, internal investigations and the suggestion of a press conference.

Gene Carpenter submitted a comment regarding City Council Member Baber's acceptance of a La Mesa Police Department POA donation.

ACTION: Motioned by Janet Castanos and seconded by Bob Duff for Task Force Members Trimlett, Taylor, Willey, Castanos and Dillard to draft a letter to the POA, to be discussed at a Special Meeting on Wednesday, September 23, 2020.

Vote: 9-0

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

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Member Taylor

Motion passed.

**4. REVIEW OF THE DRAFT COMMUNITY COMPLAINT PROCESS HANDBOOK – Chair McRae and Members Dillard and Willey**

Task Force Member Dillard gave an overview of the handbook, explaining that the goal was for the handbook to be user friendly. The Task Force discussed legal issues, language and also ensured the handbook was consistent with the Ordinance.

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

General Counsel Larson told the Task Force that he was optimistic and encouraged the Task Force to feel the same way.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Vice Chair Castanos adjourned the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 21, 2020.

Prepared by:

Nora Allsberry, Community Service Officer