

**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
October 21, 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 Item 3 which was heard prior to Item 2

CALL TO ORDER

City Clerk Wiegelman called the meeting to order at 5:03 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	X
Andy Trimlett	X
Alex White	X

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments submitted.

Member Taylor joined the meeting.

CURRENT BUSINESS

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE CITIZEN PUBLIC SAFETY OVERSIGHT TASK FORCE REGULAR MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 16, 2020

ACTION: Motioned by Vice Chair Castanos and seconded by Member Willey to approve the minutes for the Citizen Public Safety Oversight Task Force Regular Meeting held Wednesday, September 16, 2020; with changes to public comments to indicate they were "in opposition to" the Police Officers Association's request to meet and confer.

Vote: 11-0

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

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

2. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF THE COMPLAINT HANDBOOK

General Counsel Larson explained that he and the rest of the legal team looked at the handbook and amended it to ensure it is consistent with the Ordinance, LMPD complaint policies and procedures, and state law.

General Counsel Chiappetti explained some of the substantive changes that were made to the handbook by the legal team.

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

3. PRESENTATION OF LA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATIONS FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS – Lieutenant Bell

Lt. Bell presented the complaints/allegations and findings regarding those complaints for the La Mesa Police Department over the last five years. Lt. Bell explained the LMPD complaint process.

Mark Mayer submitted a comment regarding concern over a drainage ditch and the transient population at Severin Drive and Amaya Drive.

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

4. DISCUSSION OF SURVEY DISTRIBUTION

Vice Chair Castanos discussed the survey that she and Member Tiffany had created for the community. The goal of the survey was to find a baseline attitude towards the police department before the Board was implemented. The survey consisted of ten questions plus demographic information. The survey would be online and distributed manually within the community.

The Task Force discussed changes they would like to make to the survey.

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

5. DISCUSSION REGARDING RESEARCHING THE QUALIFICATIONS OF AN INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

General Counsel Larson stated that independent police auditors often have law enforcement experience as prosecutors, possess a law degree, and have been doing auditing of police departments on behalf of cities.

The Task Force discussed making recommendations to the CPOB regarding the selection of an independent auditor.

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

6. STAFF AND TASK FORCE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice Chair Castanos thanked Chair McRae and Member Trimlett for their presentation to City Council, and General Counsel Larson and General Counsel Chiappetti for being at the meeting and answering questions. Vice Chair Castanos also thanked Mayor Arapostathis, Councilmember Parent and Councilmember Weber for voting yes on the Ordinance.

Member Dillard reminded the Task Force of the previously discussed idea to publish an op-ed in local publications.

Member Willey thanked Lt. Bell for his presentation.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair McRae adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 18, 2020.

Prepared by:

Nora Allsberry, Community Service Officer