



**Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the City of La Mesa  
Community Police Oversight Board  
April 7, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.  
City Council Chambers, 8130 Allison Avenue, La Mesa, California**

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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 Castaños called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

**ROLL CALL** (X indicates present)

Chair Castaños	X
Vice Chair Dillard	X
Board Member Duff	X
Board Member Fuentes	X
Board Member Johnson	X
Board Member Kertson	X
Board Member McWilliams	X
Board Member Sylvester	X
Board Member Tiffany	X
VACANT (Police Beat 4 Representative)	
VACANT (Older Adult Representative)	

Others present: Assistant City Manager Tomaino; City Clerk Wiegelman; Lieutenant Bell; Senior Management Analyst Dedmon; General Counsel Chiappetti.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Board Member Duff led the Pledge of Allegiance

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

City Clerk Wiegelman read aloud the first 300 words of the emailed public comments submitted by 2:00 p.m. the day of the Community Police Oversight Board (“CPOB”) meeting.

Andy Trimlett submitted a comment regarding the report of findings related to the Leslie Furcron incident and La Mesa Police Department’s (“LMPD”) use of less lethal weapons.

Melissa Walter submitted a comment in support of the CPOB’s efforts to create a trustworthy channel to submit complaints against the LMPD.

Nicole Chenelle submitted a comment regarding the report of findings related to the Leslie Furcron incident and LMPD's use of less lethal weapons.

Teri Andre submitted a comment regarding the CPOB reviewing police officer training.

Sarah Young submitted a comment regarding the CPOB reviewing how the LMPD reviews charges for assault on a peace officer.

## **CURRENT BUSINESS**

### **1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE COMMUNITY POLICE OVERSIGHT BOARD REGULAR MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 2021**

ACTION: Motioned by Board Member Duff and seconded by Board Member McWilliams to approve the minutes for the CPOB Regular meeting held Wednesday, March 17, 2021.

Vote: 9-0

Yes: Chair Castaños, Vice Chair Dillard, Board Members Duff, Fuentes, Johnson, Kertson, McWilliams, Sylvester, and Tiffany

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

### **2. DISCUSSION OF INTERNSHIP PROGRAM: APPLICATION DEADLINE, INTERVIEW DATE, AND TERM LENGTH**

City Clerk Wiegelman requested the CPOB determine an application deadline, interview date and term length for the internship program.

Board questions and comments ensued.

ACTION: Motioned by Board Member Duff and seconded by Board Member Fuentes to: (1) direct staff to begin the recruitment process for the internship program by April 15, 2021, and publish and distribute the flyer and application by said date; and (2) set the application deadline for Monday, August 9, 2021, the interview date for Wednesday, August 18, 2021, the appointment date for September 1, 2021, and the internship term length between 3.5 and 6 months (1 to 2 school semesters).

Vote: 9-0

Yes: Chair Castaños, Vice Chair Dillard, Board Members Duff, Fuentes, Johnson, Kertson, McWilliams, Sylvester, and Tiffany

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion passed.

### **3. REVIEW OF DRAFT COMPLAINT OF POLICE MISCONDUCT HANDBOOK AND FORM**

Chair Castaños provided a brief background on the development process of the draft complaint of police misconduct handbook and form and explained the purpose for the handbook and form.

Board questions and comments ensued.

**ACTION:** Motioned by Chair Castaños and seconded by Vice Chair Dillard to: (1) establish an ad hoc subcommittee comprising of Vice Chair Dillard, Board Member Tiffany, and Board Member McWilliams for the purpose of working with the LMPD, General Counsel, and Independent Police Auditor to review the draft Complaint of Police Misconduct Handbook and Form and make any necessary changes; and (2) direct staff to bring back the final draft of the Complaint of Police Misconduct Handbook and Form to the CPOB for consideration and approval.

**Vote:** 9-0

**Yes:** Chair Castaños, Vice Chair Dillard, Board Members Duff, Fuentes, Johnson, Kertson, McWilliams, Sylvester, and Tiffany

**No:** None

**Abstained:** None

**Absent:** None

Motion passed.

### **4. REVIEW OF DRAFT COMMUNITY POLICE OVERSIGHT BOARD WORK PLAN**

Senior Management Analyst Dedmon provided an overview of the draft CPOB Work Plan.

Board questions and comments ensued.

Vice Chair Dillard left the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

**ACTION:** Motioned by Chair Castaños and seconded by Board Member Johnson to establish an ad hoc subcommittee comprising of Chair Castaños, Board Member Fuentes, Board Member Johnson, Board Member Kertson, and Board Member Tiffany for the purpose of reviewing the CPOB Work Plan and making any necessary changes; and (2) direct staff to bring back for CPOB consideration at the April 21, 2021, CPOB Regular meeting, or as soon as possible thereafter, the updated CPOB Work Plan.

**Vote:** 8-0

**Yes:** Chair Castaños, Board Members Duff, Fuentes, Johnson, Kertson, McWilliams, Sylvester, and Tiffany

**No:** None

**Abstained:** None

**Absent:** Vice Chair Dillard

Motion passed.

## **STAFF AND BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Assistant City Manager Tomaino announced the appointments to fill the two unscheduled vacancies on the CPOB would be made at the April 13, 2021 City Council Regular meeting.

Assistant City Manager Tomaino provided an update on the hiring of the Chief of Police.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Castaños adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m.