

Civilian Review and Accountability Board

Meeting Summary

Wednesday, November 29, 2023

Members Present: Kellie Watson, Chair; Turney Berry, Vice-Chair; Barbara Haigler; Jennifer Green; Marriana Michaels; Denise Sears; Guillermo Sollano; and Antonio Taylor

Staff: Edward Harness; Ambra Hunter; Kattie Snow; and Stella Dorsey.

I. Welcome and call to order

Chair Watson called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance.

II. Approval of the Agenda

Member Sears made a motion to approve the November 29th Agenda. Member Haigler seconded the motion. Unanimously passed.

III. Review and Approval of Minutes from October 25th, 2023

Vice-Chair Berry made a motion to accept with the addition of Member Sears as present, Member Michaels seconded the motion. Unanimously passed.

IV. Public Comment

None

V. Discussion and Possible Action:

a. Recommendation: LMPD – Use of Force Reporting (IG Harness)

IG Harness recapped that Dr. Whetstone did a presentation on the Use of Force and submitted a white paper and the 4 recommendations:

1. Revise SOP 9.1 to define and discuss and manage takedowns.
2. Revise the Blue Team Manual to include all takedowns as reportable uses of force.
3. Revise relevant SOP's to amplify the requirement that all takedowns require an AIR.
4. Allow the Blue Team program to collect data on takedowns to determine the effect of the revision.

IG Harness will request a response within 45 days, and a request for explanation if they respond negatively. Member Haigler made a motion to accept the recommendations be forwarded to LMPD. Member Sears seconded it. Unanimously passed.

b. Board priorities for IG examination of LMPD policy, trends or policing in general (IG Harness)

IG Harness asked the board to consider what they would like to focus on now that the board has found its footing. IG Harness gave examples of things he would like to the hiring process to be retooled and is worried by the national trend towards “Broken Windows” policing. Member Sears said she felt that some of the recruitment criteria was unnecessarily restrictive, especially given the officer shortage. Vice-Chair Berry asked if these were issues presented by the community, IG Harness clarified these are his personal ideas based off a general consensus from conversations with stakeholders. Member Green said she was concerned

that compensation for recruits was not competitive with market demand for workers. Vice-Chair Berry was interested in looking into response times, IG Harness said we could circle back to Dr. Whetstone's data on response time. Administrative Coordinator Hunter suggested looking into the outcomes for the pilot program where social workers were sent out on some calls for service. Member Taylor was interested in community engagement.

c. 2024 Meeting Dates & Times

There was consensus that meetings were kept at the 4th Wednesday of every month at 3pm. Vice-Chair Berry suggested that we limit virtual meetings to 3 or 4 a year. It was suggested by Member Taylor that perhaps 1 meeting a quarter be held out in the community.

VI. Investigation Findings

- a. 31-IG-2023 (Update)** – Board was provided two letters regarding this case. This case was authorized under Use of Force according to our Memorandum of Understanding. LMPD decided that a PIU investigation takes precedence and our investigation was put on hold. The county attorney decided not to press charges against the officer in the case. SID Commander also sent a letter to the OIG that the PIU investigation is open. We have another investigation, 58-IG-2023, related to 31-IG-2023

VII. Other Business:

a. CR&AB 2nd Qtr. Report to Metro Council

IG Harness submitted the report on the 30th of October. Chair Watson asked if there were any updates on a new board member, Ms. Jackson with Metro Council said that a list of nominees was being considered.

VIII. Adjournment- *Next Regularly scheduled Civilian Review & Accountability Board meeting will be held in person at the Mayor's Office in Room 106 on December 27th, 2023, at 3:00 p.m.*