

CIVILIAN APPEAL BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 19, 2022

These minutes are a summary of the discussions that took place during the last meeting of the Civilian Appeal Board. They are not a verbatim transcription of the remarks made by any individual.

CALL TO ORDER: 4:00 PM at City Hall Commission Chambers

Members Present: Reginald Howard
Sophia Brewer
Jason Osbourn

Member(s) Absent: Russell Olmsted
Michelle Williams

Non-Members Present: Brandon Davis, Director of Oversight and Public
Accountability (*Board Liaison*)
Philip Strom, Deputy City Attorney
Claudette Henry, OPA Exec. Asst. (*Board Secretary*)
Lt. Jana Forner - GRPD Internal Affairs Unit
Sgt. Nathan Mead - GRPD Internal Affairs Unit
Sgt. Joe Dailey - GRPD Internal Affairs Unit

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Civilian Appeal Board (CAB) of the City of Grand Rapids was called to order at 4:03 PM on October 19, 2022, in the Commission Chambers at City Hall by Mr. Davis. Mr. Davis welcomed everyone and requested a roll call.

ROLL CALL

A roll call was conducted. Members who were present or absent are listed above.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Davis called a motion for approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Board on September 21, 2022.

- Moved by Sophia Brewer and Seconded by Reginald Howard.
- Abstained by Jason Osbourn (first meeting as a new member).
- The motion passed with 2 votes in favor and 1 abstention.

BOARD LIAISON REPORT

- **New Board Member Welcome**

Mr. Davis formally welcomed the Board's newest member, Jason Osbourn. Mr. Osbourn introduced himself and spoke briefly about having the opportunity to serve the community. Mr. Osbourn said he looks forward to serving with honor and distinction. [A second person was appointed to the Board, but subsequently resigned.]

- **Use of Force CAB Training at GRPD**

Mr. Davis said he received high reviews from Board Members and the OPA Staff about the Use of Force training and gave special thanks to GRPD for providing the training.

- **Upcoming Appeal Case**

Mr. Davis said he had indicated that the upcoming appeal hearing would take place at the CAB meeting in November but due to an amendment to the Board's training schedule, the hearing will now take place at the meeting in December. Mr. Davis said all required Board training should be completed in November. Mr. Davis said he anticipates having the appeal packet available at or around the time of the November meeting.

- **CAB Training**

The *History of the Civilian Appeal Board* was presented by Attorney Strom, who gave an overview of CAB, including its legal history, statewide and best practices of law enforcement, and challenges faced by current and former members.

Introduction to Internal Affairs Unit was presented by Lt. Forner, Sgt. Mead, and Sgt. Dailey of the Internal Affairs Unit (IAU) at the Grand Rapids Police Department. They provided insights into their backgrounds, training, and roles. They also provided information about the Department's complaint procedures, investigative process, policy, and goals.

Board members asked the following of the IAU representatives:

- Discuss any training employees in the Internal Affairs Unit received related to cultural competence, diversity, equity, and inclusion. Sgt. Mead stated that the department is required by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) to go through biased-based policing training each year, as well as ethics training. Sgt. Mead further explained that no one in the group goes to specific training on those topics, but a lot of the training they received has those topics integrated with them.

- Explain what was referred to as a “qualifying complaint,” and what distinguishes a qualifying complaint from a non-qualifying complaint. Sgt. Mead explained that if the allegation of misconduct could be true, then it would be a qualifying complaint.
- Explain what a CAB-eligible complaint is based on. Sgt. Mead explained that CAB-eligible complaints are based on Commission Policy 800-02 and that anything other than a sustained complaint can be appealed to CAB. Mr. Davis further explained that GRPD categorizes the complaint as it relates to the findings, but ultimately the OPA and the law department review the complaint to determine if an appeal fits within the policy.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

OPEN DISCUSSION

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

NEXT MEETING

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 16, 2022, at 4:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:19 PM by Mr. Davis.