

CIVILIAN APPEAL BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 20, 2021

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: Huemartin Robinson II (*Chairperson*)
John Weiss (*Vice Chair*)
Briana Trudell
Michelle Williams
Sophia Brewer
Russell Olmsted

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*)

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Civilian Appeal Board (CAB) of the City of Grand Rapids was called to order at 4:00 PM on October 20, 2021, at City Hall Commission Chambers by Chairperson Robinson. Chairperson Robinson welcomed everyone and explained the purpose of the CAB. Chairperson Robinson stated that the purpose of the CAB is to act as a review body according to City Commission Policy #800-02 for finding facts made by the Grand Rapids Police Department (GRPD), concerning complaints made by individuals who believe that they have been mistreated by police officers through the use of excessive force, falsification/lying, civil rights violations; and/or conduct committed in a context of racial animosity or prejudice.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was conducted. Members who were present are listed above.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Chairperson Robinson called a motion for approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Board on September 15, 2021.

- Moved by Briana Trudell and Seconded Michelle Williams.
- Motion Passed.

BOARD LIAISON REPORT

Update: Additional Investigation SOP *(previously discussed in closed session)*

The Board Liaison provided an update regarding the process for submitting supplemental investigation requests to labor relations.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Ad Hoc Committee:** Chairperson Robinson announced that Russell Olmsted and Briana Trudell were appointed as the ad hoc committee to create the CAB's Annual Report.
- **Civilian Appeal Board Meeting – November 2021:** Chairperson Robinson proposed that the CAB meeting scheduled for November 17, 2021, be canceled so that the ad hoc committee could use the time to work on the report. The Board agreed.
- **Update:** Board Members inquired about the correspondence Chairperson Robinson was asked to write to the City Manager concerning the inadequacy of the supplemental investigation received from the Labor Relations Division in the Slater case. Chairperson Robinson said he should have it completed within the next week and will consult with the Board liaison about the appropriate way to provide it to the City Manager.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Additional Investigation Request Procedures

Board Members asked questions about the procedures for requesting additional investigation and provided feedback on which process they thought might work best. They accepted that the Board liaison completes the form, gives it to the Chairperson to review and sign, and then submits it to the Labor Relations Division. The Board also accepted that OPA provides the minutes from the CAB hearing after they are approved.

Additionally, the Board accepted that, if an issue were to be anticipated by the Chairperson or concern by other Board Members regarding the content of the request form or the language, they could call a special meeting to discuss the issue, with adequate notice given for the meeting, or the Board could address the matter at the next Board Meeting. Mr. Davis expressed that this could delay the process, but the Board could do either one if needed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Board will be at 4:00 PM on Wednesday, December 15, 2021. [cancelled]

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:28 PM by Chairperson Robinson.