

CIVILIAN APPEAL BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 16, 2020

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

CALL TO ORDER: 4:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members: Present: Huemartin Robinson II (Chairperson)
Sophia Brewer
Briana Trudell
Michelle Williams
Russell Olmstead
John Weiss

Members: Not Present: George Storms (Vice Chairperson)
John Van Tholen - Excused

Non-Members Present: Brandon Davis, Director of Oversight and Public
Accountability
Philip Strom, Deputy City Attorney
Phil Nevins, GRPD Internal Affairs
Nathan Mead, GRPD Internal Affairs
had McKersie, GRPD Training Unit
Becky Jo Glover, Chief Customer Service and
Innovation Officer
Kevin Curiel-Vazquez, Administrative Aide

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Robinson called the meeting to order at 4:03PM.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

There were no meeting minutes to approve.

MOTION TO AMEND THE AGENDA

Davis recommended the adjournment of the hearing regarding CR-1971 and to add training related to Section 8 Interviews and the Fourth Amendment in its place. Davis indicated that there were significant logistical issues associated with attempting to hold a CAB hearing virtually. Included amongst the reasons for an adjournment were the inability to share Section 8 interviews with CAB off site, and the failure to include the related in-car video (ICV) and body worn camera (BWC) footage in the appeals packet.

Davis indicated that the training provided was not just a place filler; the training would have been provided to CAB at a different time. Strom also recommended this change.

The board engaged in robust discussion regarding this topic. The general topics covered throughout the discussion are listed below:

- There has been a significant delay between the date of the appeal and the date of the hearing. Principles of fairness and justice require that the hearing be heard as soon as possible.
- COVID-19, past vacancies on CAB, and logistical issues contributed to the delay in hearing appeal CR-1971. However, the delay is still significant, and action needs to be taken to rectify this issue.
- CAB is open to the idea of meeting more frequently to resolve the backlog of cases.
- CAB would like additional information regarding the status of pending appeals including, but not limited to, the number of pending appeals.
- CAB would like appeals to be scheduled out in advance.
- CAB would like to receive the required materials for appeals as early as possible. CAB appeals can be voluminous, and it takes time to work through them.
- CAB would like to be given the opportunity to review confidential materials at City Hall after hours, if possible.

Chairperson Robinson requested a Motion to approve the amendment of the Agenda as proposed by Davis.

Brewer: Motion to amend agenda as previously stated.

Olmsted: Seconded the motion.

Chairperson Robinson asked whether discussion was needed regarding the minutes and there was no additional discussion was offered. A vote was called.

All in favor: ALL

Opposed: None

MOTION CARRIES: Unanimously.

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MOTION TO HOLD A SPECIAL MEETING

Given the backlog of cases, CAB discussed holding special meetings to resolve those matters. CAB also discussed having in-person meetings going forward. Major points in the discussion are as follows:

- CAB is open to in-person meetings as long as their best practices regarding COVID-19 are strictly followed including, but not limited to, wearing proper PPE and being socially distanced.

- Davis indicated that he would arrange for CAB to hold its meetings in the City Commission Chambers and that he would provide an opportunity for CAB to do temperature checks before entering the meeting.
- The meetings should be held on a date and time when there is enough time for the meetings to be effective.

The Board decided to hold special meetings on the 1st Wednesday of every month at 4:30PM until the backlog is resolved. This special meeting is in addition to the regularly scheduled in person meeting.

The Board also decided to hold in person meetings.

Board Training

Deputy City Attorney Strom provided training regarding Section 8 Interviews and the Fourth Amendment.

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:04PM.