



City of Columbia, Missouri

Meeting Minutes - Draft

Citizens Police Review Board

Wednesday, December 13, 2023
6:00 PM

Regular

City Hall – City Council
Chambers
701 East Broadway
Columbia, Missouri

I. CALL TO ORDER

Board Members Present: Denise Balazic, Stephanie Coleman, Douglas Hunt, Steven Jeffrey, and Jamie Thornsberry

Excused Absence: Brandon Barnes, Reece Ellis, and Xavier Lee Scruggs

Unexcused Absence: None

Staff Present: Sgt. Kim German, Officer Brandon Holtz, and Rose Wibbenmeyer

Councilperson Peters was present.

Members of the public were present.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

There were introductions.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Doug Hunt made a motion to approve the agenda. Stephanie Coleman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Draft Minutes November 8, 2023

Attachments: [11 Nov 8 Regular Meeting Minutes-Draft](#)

Doug Hunt asked to amend the draft open session minutes, under general comments to strike the sentence that Doug Hunt and Reece Ellis commented about police chief training.

Steven Jeffery announced that he would abstain from the vote. Denise Balazic made a motion to approve the November 8, 2023 regular meeting draft minutes as amended. Jamie Thornsberry seconded the motion. Steven Jeffery abstained. Doug Hunt, Jamie Thornsberry, Stephanie Coleman and Denise Balazic voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

November 8, 2023 Closed Meeting Minutes Draft

Doug Hunt moved for approval of the draft closed session minutes. Jamie Thornsberry seconded the motion. Steven Jeffery abstained. Jamie Thornsberry, Denise Balazic, Stephanie Coleman and Doug Hunt voted in favor of the motion. No one voted against the motion.

V. SPECIAL ITEMS

De-escalation Training, Sgt. Kim German

Sgt. Kim German gave a presentation on de-escalation training. Sgt. Kim German answered questions from the Board and members of the public.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

Election of Officers

The Board discussed the election of officers. By consensus, this item was passed to next month's agenda.

Recommendations

Attachments: [Recommendations for Consideration](#)

The Board first discussed this recommendation:

In order for there to be accountability and in efforts to build trust, and for the public to be better informed, CPD will be required to release body worn camera footage of any officer on the scene, when policy 300.11.2 ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE REQUIRED, is enacted and when legally possible. Doug Hunt said that he would like additional information before voting on this recommendation.

Steven Jeffery suggested tabling this recommendation to next month's meeting. Doug Hunt moved to table the recommendation until next month's agenda. Jamie Thornsberry seconded the motion. Jamie Thornsberry, Steven Jeffrey, Denise Balazic, Stephanie Coleman and Doug Hunt voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Doug Hunt discussed his Recommendation #1, which recommended that Section 300 be re-titled as "Response to Resistance, De-escalation, and Use of Force." Doug Hunt made a motion to send a recommendation to the city manager and the police chief that Section 300 be re-titled to "Response to Resistance, De-escalation, and Use of Force." Denise Balazic seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #2

Doug Hunt made a recommendation that Section 300.1 (Purpose and Scope) be reworded and suggested wording. Jamie Thornsberry suggested the wording be changed to include uncooperative and questioned adding other language to address risk. Doug Hunt made a motion to send a recommendation (as amended) to the city manager and the police chief that Section 300.1 (Purpose and Scope) be reworded to read as follows:

"The purposes of this policy are (a) to provide officers guidelines for safely dealing with individuals who are belligerent, uncooperative or armed; (b) to provide officers guidelines for distinguishing between situations where de-escalation strategies are the appropriate response and those where use of force is necessary; (c) to provide officers guidelines for responding to situations where the use of less-lethal force is appropriate; and (d) to provide officers guidelines for recognizing situations where the use of deadly force is appropriate."

Denise Balazic seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #3

Doug Hunt discussed recommendation #3 that Section 300.5 subsection A be amended to read:

"A. Except in situations where an officer or a member of the public is threatened with serious and immediate injury, officers will attempt, if practical, to resolve situations by using deescalation techniques rather than force."

Doug Hunt made a motion to send Recommendation #3 to the police chief and the city manager. Jamie Thornsberry seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #4

Doug Hunt explained his recommendation #4 related to Items 1 and 2 in Section 300.5.2.B. Jamie Thornsberry would like them to review that section. Doug Hunt proposed

a motion to make a recommendation that items 1 and 2 following Section 300.5.2.B be removed or rewritten. Jamie Thornsberry seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #5

Doug Hunt commented on recommendation #5. Doug Hunt made a motion to send a recommendation to the police chief and the city manager to recommend that the single sentence on de-escalation training in Section 300.13 (second paragraph) should be expanded and revised so that CPD's training on de-escalation exceeds the minimal P.O.S.T. standard. The training should be designed to simulate actual encounters with civilians who are hostile and resistant to commands, civilians who are mentally ill, and civilians who are armed with weapons other than guns (e.g. knives, rocks, or clubs). The de-escalation training should be integrated with training on the use of less-lethal and deadly force in a way that prepares officers to protect the lives of both the civilians involved and the lives of themselves and their fellow officers.

Denise Balazic seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #6

Doug Hunt discussed recommendation #6. Doug Hunt made a motion to send a recommendation to the police chief and the city manager to recommend that "In order to ensure that CPD keeps abreast of best practices in de-escalation, the Board encourages the department to send selected members of the command and supervisory staff to receive fresh training via a nationally recognized program such as that provided by Integrating Communications, Assessment, and Tactics (ICAT) Training Center in Decatur, Illinois."

Denise Balazic talked about training available for correctional officers. Doug Hunt made a motion to endorse recommendation number 6. Denise Balazic seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Stephanie Coleman asked to include in the letter that de-escalation training be a priority due to the mental health needs, in the community at this time. The Board agreed by consensus to include this note in the letter.

Future of Outreach Subcommittee

The Board discussed the future of the outreach subcommittee. The Board by consensus tabled this item to next month's agenda.

Review of Police Policies: 300, 306, 440, and 447

Attachments: [Police Policy 300](#)

[Police Policy 306](#)

[Police Policy 440](#)

[Police Policy 447](#)

The Board discussed their review of policies 300, 306, 440, and 447.

Planning for Work Session on Police Policy 447

The Board discussed planning for the work session. Staff will send out another doodle poll for work session dates in February and March with a 6:00 p.m. start time.

Audits

Stephanie Coleman said her group reviewed three or four complaints but they have not discussed them.

Rose Wibbenmeyer asked if the Board had anything to discuss in closed session. The Board agreed they did not need to have closed session tonight.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Report on NACOLE Conference-Reece Ellis and Steven Jeffrey

Steven Jeffery gave a report on the NACOLE Conference.

Review of Preliminary Draft 2023 Annual Report

Attachments: [2023 Draft Annual Report In Progress-Draft](#)

The Board discussed the preliminary draft 2023 annual report. This item was passed to next month's agenda.

Review of Preliminary Items for Next Month's Agenda

The Board discussed the following items for next month's agenda.

Special Item: Chief Jill Schlude

Old Business:

Review of Police Policies 300, 306, 440, and 447;

Planning for Work Session on Police Policy 447

Audits

Report on NACOLE Conference-Reece Ellis

Review of Draft 2023 Annual Report

Election of Officers

Future of outreach subcommittee

New Business:

Items for Next Month's Agenda

Reports:

Human Rights Commission

Positive Connections, Training and Ride Alongs

IX. REPORTS

Human Rights Commission

There was no report.

Positive Connections, Training and Ride Alongs

Doug Hunt reported a positive connection with the North Central Neighborhood Association and its meetings at Wilkes Boulevard United Methodist Church. Doug reported that Lance Bollinger and Jill Schlude came to the meeting and were very useful in the discussion of a number of items. Doug Hunt subsequently heard that the police are considering increasing the number of homeless liaison officers to mental health corresponders.

Denise Balazic reported a ride along and will email the date. She rode along from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

X. GENERAL COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, MEMBERS AND STAFF

Steven Jeffery announced the time limits for individuals and groups.

Members of the public commented. Chriss Jones spoke on behalf of Hold CoMo Accountable. Chriss Jones gave a report on the work of the Human Rights Commission. Chriss Jones talked about the de-escalation training, and the police department's undesignated elective hours which could be used to increase the number of hours of de-escalation training. Chriss Jones discussed a police trainer named Ryan Dowd. Chriss Jones also discussed Fayette's dumping of evidence bags.

Zooey Hillman with the Columbia Missourian asked clarifying questions.

XI. MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION

Analysis of Complaints

There was no motion to go into closed session.

XII. NEXT MEETING DATE

Next Meeting January 10, 2024

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Jamie Thornsberry made a motion to adjourn. Stephanie Coleman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.