



COMMUNITY OVERSIGHT BOARD

Minutes of the Joint Meeting of the Bylaws Committee and the Rules and Procedures COMMITTEE

Tuesday May 14, 2019 – 4:00 PM CDT to 5:30 PM CDT

Jury Assembly Room, Historic Metro Courthouse
Nashville, TN 37201

Members (7) ¹	Present	Absent	
	(X)	()	Adele M Lewis
	(X)	()	Danita Marsh
	(X)	()	Andres Martinez
	(X)	()	Brenda Ross
	()	(X)	Andres Martinez
	(X)	()	Jamel Campbell Gooch
	(X)	()	Matt Sweeney, Chair
	(X)	()	William Weeden, ex officio

Also attending: Alex Dickerson, Metro Attorney (for bylaws discussion only)

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1. Administrative matters. None. Quorum present.
 2. Guided in their discussions by Alex Dickerson, the joint committees discussed the current draft of the bylaws, several open issues, suggestions as to how to address them and one provision where options should be presented to the Board for further discussion.

At the conclusion of those discussions, the two members of the 3-person Bylaws Committee who were present voted to recommend to the Board the adoption of the Bylaws, with an option for alternative language on voting in Article 14, 2.D:

Should a majority vote be determined by

- (1) the affirmative vote of members present;
- (2) the affirmative vote of members present and voting; or
- (3) the affirmative vote of the members of the board.

At the end of the discussion about the bylaws Alex Dickerson left the meeting.

¹ Mr. Campbell Gooch is a member of the Bylaws Committee only. Mr. Martinez and Mr. Sweeney are members of both committees. All others listed here, except Mr. Weeden, are members of the Rules and Procedures Committee only. Mr. Weeden is COB Director.

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3. The committees then discussed the draft revisions to the MNPD police manual prepared by Director Weeden.

(a) There was a general consensus on the following points:

--The COB needs an agreement with the MNPD on the matters addressed in the proposed revisions and generally regarding the two agencies' anticipated interactions;

--It is probably better to approach that relationship through negotiation of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with MNPD than through negotiation of revisions to its manual for several reasons:

--COB is independent of MNPD and sharing a manual may imply otherwise;

--Likely easier to negotiate a MOU than changes to the MNPD manual

(b) We discussed the allocation of responsibility between COB and MNPD regarding types of complaints and their sources. Generally, we agreed that if a matter concerned the conduct of a MNPD officer or employee toward a member of the public, it should be handled by COB.

(c) We also discussed and agreed that Director Weeden should take the lead in drafting the MOU and in negotiating its terms with MNPD, subject to review by and input from both the COB Rules Committee and the community. Community input on the scope and terms of such an agreement may best be achieved through a task force. We made no decision regarding the stage at which community input should be sought, other than it should occur before the COB and MNPD agree to a MOU.

(d) Feedback from the Board on these issues will be helpful to the Rules Committee in its approach to and consideration of terms of amendments to the police manual or of a MOU.

Copies of the materials considered at the meeting are attached.

5:30 adjourned

/s/ Matt Sweeney
Matt Sweeney