

Community Oversight Board Meeting
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, June 22, 2022, 5:00PM- 7:00PM
Howard Office Building – Sonny West Room (A&B)
700 2nd Ave So, Nashville, TN 37210

1. Call to Order

- Chair Arnold Hayes called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
- **Board Members in Attendance:** Hamid Abdullah, Joe Brown, Arnold Hayes, Phyllis Hildreth, Walter Holloway, MaKayla McCree, Michael Milliner, Maxine Spencer, Shawn Whitsell and Mark Wynn
- **Board Members Absent:** Drew Goddard
- **Others in Attendance:** Jill Fitchard (Executive Director), Marian Pinson (Administrative Assistant) Gavin Crowell-Williamson (Research Analyst), Alex Dickerson (Metro Department of Law Attorney). Public was in attendance.

2. Establish Quorum and Reading of Appeals Statement

- Chair Hayes established a quorum and read the appeal statement pursuant to provision 2.68.030 of the Metropolitan Code of Law.

3. Approval of Minutes

- Board Members approved the minutes from the last Board meeting.

4. Chair Remarks – Arnold Hayes, Chair

- As requested by the Board, Chair Hayes wrote a letter to Mayor Cooper asking for an explanation why only four of the nine requested positions in the COB budget were funded in Mayor Cooper's proposal. In response, Chair Hayes received a reply from John Buntin, the Director of Community Safety with the Mayor's office. Chair Hayes indicated that Mr. Buntin's letter neglected reasoning as to why the other positions including a social worker, executive assistant, and legal assistant were not included.
- Chair Hayes stated the restrictions of the \$22.6 million MNPS (Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools) revenue shortage that was introduced by the Governor's new school funding formulas coupled with the mayor's budget restrictions made the budget process more difficult, but not impossible.
- Chair Hayes noted the Mayor's equity promise fell short for the Community Oversight Board. The COB continues to operate below the Penny Standard for every dollar the MNPD receives while also

having a high probability to slower response time to citizens' complaints. Chair Hayes noted as a result, the COB continues to lack the resources to speak to related family victims of trauma."

- Chair Hayes also informed the board a draft of Director Fitchard's performance evaluation report was prepared, rated, and revised by the Executive Committee and will be presented to the Board once it has been completed.

5. Executive Director's Report – Jill Fitchard, Executive Director

- Executive Director Fitchard discussed highlights in her Executive Director Report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. The discussion included:
 - Director Fitchard updated the Board on the Research Analyst position posted on Nashville.Gov.
 - Director Fitchard met with the Justice Integration System and the Mayor's office to discuss why the COB wanted to move to the JIS (Justice Integration System). Kristin Wilson of the Mayor's office requested an assessment be done by ITS to address COB concerns. An assessment is being conducted by ITS to determine any issues and JIS will then vote whether the COB will be able to come under the JIS platform and be a host for the MNCO's new case management system, CIVIL.
 - The COB had 3 investigative complaints received, 12 non-complaints received, 3 dispositions issued, 2 cases referred for mediation, and 5 requests for records.
 - Director Fitchard sent an email to the recruitment host, Commander of Recruitment, Commander of Community Engagement, and the Chief of Police to ask why the gang unit at the Police Academy recruitment event chose to display a t-shirt with 7 African American males, a clear storage bin of cannabis, hats, and other paraphernalia. Fitchard expressed the distastefulness and racial overtones that were displayed.
 - Director Fitchard was contacted about a police officer involved shooting that happened on Thursday, June 02, 2022 at 8:39pm. At that time TBI did not allow access to the interior of the business where the police shooting occurred but was able to view the Body Worn Camera video footage at MNPD Headquarters. The day after the police shooting, she and an MNCO investigator were able to view the interior of the business and were briefed by the TBI Asst. Agent-in-Charge.
 - Director Fitchard told the Board that she was informed that a new MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) agreement had been signed between MNPD, TBI and the District Attorney General (DAG) on May 23, 2022. Fitchard requested Legal Advisor Yoon to set up a meeting with the TBI to discuss the possibility of obtaining a MOU between the two agencies.

6. Report: Policy Advisory- Gavin Crowell- Williamson, Research Analyst:

- Research Analyst Crowell-Williamson presented a Semi-Annual Evaluation PowerPoint on what the MNPD has done with the COB policy recommendations since the inception of the COB.

- The COB implemented PPR (Proposed Policy Recommendations) responsive rate, measured with the metrics he has developed, has increased with MNPD from the 60% percentile in the previous year to 74% currently.
- **7. Proposed Resolution Report- Director Fitchard**
- Fitchard read PRR CC2021-005.
- Member Brown moved to accept but modify CC2021-005 for Officer-2 with a requirement that the report be added to the officer's personnel file. Member Milliner seconded. Board passed motion.
- Member Milliner then moved to accept the PRR with that modification and further modify PRR CC2021-005 for Officer-1 with a requirement that the report be added to the officer's personnel file. Member Abdullah seconded. Board passed motion.
- The Board, Director Fitchard, and Attorney Dickerson (Metro Legal, advising the Board) then discussed remote access to investigation files and records by Board members and progress on that.

8. Public Comment:

- Complainant for PRR2021-005 read a victim impact statement.

9. New Business / Announcements

- Director Fitchard informed the Board she spoke with Legal Resource Analyst Yoon about the BWC video footage related to MNCO investigation 2021-043 in conjunction with MNPD Incident 2021-3960 that had unexplained redactions. Atty. Yoon sent an email to Chief Drake asking for a catalogue of all BWC redactions and an explanation on why redactions occurred on 2021.043. The Board had an extended discussion on the redactions and the need for MNPD to investigate this and respond promptly.
- Director Fitchard read the upcoming Chair election criteria and eligibility, and notice requirements for nominating committee meetings.

10. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 7:59 pm.