



**MINUTES OF A QUARTERLY MEETING**

**APPROVED**

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**CIVILIAN POLICE REVIEW BOARD**

**DATE:** Wednesday, April 23, 2025

**TIME:** 5:30 p.m.

**PLACE:** Urbana City Council Chambers  
Urbana City Building  
400 South Vine Street  
Urbana, Illinois 61801

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Tony Allegretti, Chair; Peggy Patten; Ashley Withers

**MEMBER ABSENT:** Katrina Kindle

**ALSO PRESENT:** Carla Boyd, Human Rights and Equity Officer  
Tom Unzicker, Human Rights Specialist

**A. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM**

Tony Allegretti called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. The Recording Secretary took roll and a quorum was present.

**B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mr. Allegretti asked to add an additional announcement, H3. The Board approved the addition by a voice vote. Then the Board approved the finalized agenda by a voice vote.

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND CALENDAR**

1. Approval of Minutes of November 6, 2024

Peggy Patten asked that the minutes have a note added to explain the rationale for the approval of additional meetings: "More time to address one of the elements of the ordinance... Providing a systematic means by which to achieve continuous improvement in police/community interactions Section 19-20(a)... To provide a more regular platform for community engagement."

Ashley Withers moved to approve the minutes with the understanding that the official minutes will reflect the language surrounding the reason for adding additional meetings: To discuss additional ordinance requirements. Mr. Allegretti seconded the motion. Motion carried on a voice vote.

**D. PUBLIC INPUT**

There was none.

**E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. Annual Report

Carla Boyd stated that there is a need for the Board to get refocused on completing the report because the Board is heading into year six without finalizing a report of activities. The report is ready in the new portal for each of the members to add their information to it. She has received information from Ms. Patten.

2. TASER Review – 2021, 2022

Urbana Police Lt. Mike Cervantes briefly introduced himself to the Board. This is his first meeting after having received new responsibilities in the Department as Lieutenant of Patrol. He joined the department in 2006, after serving in the military and has served in numerous roles, most recently as Lieutenant of Investigations. His education includes a master's degree in law enforcement and public safety leadership.

In response to a question from Mr. Allegretti about his own TASER training, Lt. Cervantes stated he has not yet had such training due to the type of his previous assignments with the Department. Additionally, he mentioned that the amount of time required for training and limited resources as factors in determining which members of the department receive TASER training and when.

Lt. Cervantes then presented videos to the Board members from two incidents where personnel fired a TASER. Following the presentation, members asked for information about officers firing TASERS compared with displaying them for the last five years. The lieutenant said he would seek to gather the information before the next meeting.

Following the lieutenant's departure, discussion occurred among Board members wanting to see an increased emphasis on announcing a TASER before using it. There have been a couple of videos they have seen where not announcing might have an explanation, but Board members would like to see details of such circumstances further explained in reports of incidents

Further discussion occurred about the low number of TASERS available in the department thus far, and the training required to have more personnel certificated for TASER usage. Board members seek to make TASER usage a more readily available alternative to firearms.

Ms. Wither advocated for resources to provide more training. Ms. Patten emphasized simply displaying a TASER seems to play a significant role in deescalating a situation.

Ms. Withers also voiced concern about the number of domestic incidents where an alternative to using a firearm could be crucial. Mr. Allegretti stressed the data he seeks could show simply announcing a TASER on scene followed by no discharge could verify less people, including officers, are getting hurt. Ms. Wither suggested matching the display and discharge information with the nature of each call.

**F. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Recruitment of New Members

Ms. Boyd confirmed that there had been no new applications, however, she stated recruitment opportunities are at hand.

**G. OFFICER'S REPORT**

Ms. Boyd shared her monthly report. Highlights included:

- Complaint status
- She and Mr. Allegretti met with Mayor Marlin
- She is seeking the completion of appeal write-ups and annual reports from CPRB
- Responded to five Freedom of Information requests

- OHRE is part of planning underway for Juneteenth programming, which will include educational programs, a ceremony for raising the Juneteenth flag, and a food truck day
- There is opportunity to recruit new members just before one Juneteenth event on June 12<sup>th</sup>
- OHRE participated in Urbana High School's event recognizing students who completed volunteer hours. Collectively they completed the equivalent of three full years' worth of volunteer hours.
- Recruitment opportunities are ahead with Market on the Square on Saturdays beginning on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and continuing through October. The Office will schedule around the availability of members.
- Jettie Rhoades Day is Saturday, June 28
- Neighbor Nights on Wednesdays begin on June 4<sup>th</sup> and continue through July 30<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

#### **H. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. This Board has three vacancies
2. Next scheduled meeting: Wednesday, June 25, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.
3. The Board congratulated Ashley Withers as she departs this Board, but she continues her public service. She recently won election to the Urbana Park District Board of Commissioners.

#### **I. ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Patten asked for assistance after repeated downtime problems with new security features of the City's webmail. She asked for a pathway to minutes and meeting announcements online. There is a pathway from the City's new website. Ms. Withers assisted her in finding the pathway, and the office will assist her as needed also.

Mr. Allegretti called for a motion to adjourn the meeting and Ms. Withers so moved. Ms. Patten seconded the motion. The motion carried on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas D. Unzicker  
Recording Secretary