



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

**MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
CITIZENS' POLICE REVIEW BOARD
MONDAY, JUNE 14, 2021 - 6:00 P.M.**

Board Members	Attendance	1/2021 – 12/2021 Cumulative Attendance	
		P	A
Christina Currie, Chair	P	6	0
Paul Eichner, Vice Chair	P	6	0
Sgt. Bernard Beck-O'Steen	P	4	0
Ofc. Sabrina Byer	P	3	1
Marc Dickerman	P	4	2
Lt. Avery Figueras	P	3	0
Antonya Johnson (arr. 6:02)	P	6	0
Burnadette Norris-Weeks	P	4	2
Carol Lee Ortman	P	6	0

Staff

Salatheia Marion, Board Liaison
Lieutenant David Cortes, Internal Affairs
Brad Weissman, Assistant City Attorney
Sergeant Herns Eugene, Internal Affairs
Sergeant Donald Geiger, Internal Affairs
Sergeant Matthew Guerra, Internal Affairs
Sergeant Francisco Vetancourt, Internal Affairs
Brigitte Chiappetta, Recording Secretary, Prototype, Inc.

Communication to City Commission

City Manager and members of the Fort Lauderdale City Commission: the members of the Fort Lauderdale Citizens' Police Review Board are respectfully requesting an update on the following open requests/recommendations of the CPRB:

- Pending since August/September 2020: CPRB recommends revisions to Ordinance which in February 2021 at CPRB meeting City Manager advises expect to go to Commission early April/late May 2021
- Pending since February 2021: CPRB recommends that FLPD submit data to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI's) Voluntary National Use of Force Database
- Pending since March 2021: CPRB requests joint workshop date in follow-up to September 2020 joint workshop
- Pending since April 2021: CPRB makes recommendations to Chief/City Manager on Annual Response to Resistance Report for 2020: analysis of 14.9% increase in

holding suspects at gunpoint; analysis into potential racial/ethnic disparity & use of force.

A. Roll Call

Chair Currie called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

B. Motion to approve Minutes from the May 10, 2021 meeting

Motion made by Mr. Dickerman, seconded by Ms. Ortman, to accept the minutes. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

C. General Information

Ms. Johnson arrived at 6:02 p.m.

Chair Currie advised that she represented the Citizens' Police Review Board (CPRB) as part of a panel interviewing a number of prospective Chiefs of Police. The panelists spent time with each candidate, followed by discussion with City Manager Chris Lagerbloom.

Chair Currie continued that there are a number of open items on which the Board would like to see follow-up action from the City Commission. She suggested that they send a communication to the Commission to remind them of the Board's recommendations and request feedback. The open items include the following:

- Revisions to Ordinance (open since August/September 2020)
- Education on body-worn camera (BWC) footage (open since September 2020)
- Recommendation that the Fort Lauderdale Police Department submit data to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for its voluntary National Use of Force database (open since February 2021)
- Request for follow-up joint workshop with the City Commission (open since March 2021)
- Recommendations to the Response to Resistance Report (open since April 2021)

At this time Chair Currie ceded the gavel to Vice Chair Eichner.

Ms. Currie proposed that these open items be sent as a communication to the City Commission.

Lieutenant David Cortes of Internal Affairs advised that he has spoken with Command Staff to propose training for interested Board members not only on BWCs, but additional scenario-based training as well. This would require coordination with the Department's Support Services Bureau and Training Center. Ms. Currie confirmed that this item would be removed from the proposed communication to the Commission.

Motion made by Ms. Currie, seconded by Ms. Ortman, to send correspondence to the Commission for the open items the Board has discussed. The **motion** passed by unanimous consent.

Vice Chair Eichner returned the gavel to Chair Currie at this time.

D. Note to Files Summaries

None.

E. Review the following Internal Affairs Investigation

1. Complainant: Interim Chief of Police, Patrick Lynn (20-084)

Allegation: 1) Disobedience to orders prohibited:
Disobedience of any rule, order, or directive.

Officer: John Giga (1717)

Disposition: 1) Sustained

Motion made by Vice Chair Eichner, seconded by Ms. Ortman, to concur with the findings of Internal Affairs.

Chair Currie noted that the file states there was a performance plan for the subject Officer, dated 2019, which will end once the investigation into policy allegations is done or has been extended. Lt. Cortes explained that the Officer was still under the provisions of the performance plan when the incident occurred.

Chair Currie requested clarification of how progressive discipline would apply for different cases. Lt. Cortes characterized this discipline as determined on a case-by-case basis. If the violation occurred after the Officer received additional training, discipline would be progressive.

It was noted that the Officer in this case has had other issues come before Internal Affairs as well. Lt. Cortes stated that he did not know if the Officer was currently on a performance plan. Weekly review of a performance plan is conducted by the Officer's supervisor.

In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

Motion made by Mr. Dickerman, seconded by Vice Chair Eichner, to agree with the discipline.

Chair Currie commented that she felt the recommended discipline should be greater.

In a voice vote, the **motion** passed 8-1 (Chair Currie dissenting).

Ms. Ortman requested an update on the Board's recommendation regarding the Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO) language line. Chair Currie replied that she is awaiting a response on this issue.

The next CPRB meeting is scheduled for July 12, 2021.

There being no further business to come before the Committee at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Any written public comments made 48 hours prior to the meeting regarding items discussed during the proceedings have been attached hereto.

[Minutes prepared by K. McGuire, Prototype, Inc.]