

Civilian Oversight Board Meeting

Open Session Minutes

Location: 1520 Market, Room 4029

September 17, 2018

I. Welcome and Call to Order:

Open Session called to order at 3:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call and Attendance

Present: Bradley Arteaga, Jane Abbott-Morris, Heather Highland, Stephen H. Rovak, Ciera Simril

Absent: David Bell

Also present were Nicolle Barton, Executive Director; Mark Lawson, Associate City Counselor; Louisa Lyles, Investigator; Dorothy Malone, Executive Secretary

III. Motion to go into Closed Session:

MOTION

Motion was made by Stephen H. Rovak to go into closed session for the following purposes:

- A. Have confidential communications with legal counsel concerning legal causes of action pursuant to Section 610.021, (1) RSMo.
- B. Discuss matters relating to the hiring, firing, disciplining or promoting of particular employees, pursuant to Section 610.021 (3), RSMo.

Seconded by Ciera Simril.

Roll call vote as follows:

Bradley Arteaga	Aye
Jane Abbott- Morris	Aye
Heather Highland	Aye
Stephen H. Rovak	Aye
Ciera Simril	Aye

The Board, with a vote of 5-0, approved the motion.

The Board went into closed session at 3:05 p.m.

Open Session reconvened at 5:00 p.m.

IV. Approval of August 13, 2018 Open Meeting Minutes

MOTION

A motion was made by Bradley Arteaga to approve the open meeting minutes from August 13, 2018. Seconded by Ciera Simril.

The Board, with a vote of 5-0, approved the motion.

V. Discuss and vote on COB-18-0004

Executive Director read the details of COB-18-0004. Complainant alleged Officer(s) with St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department (SLMPD) displayed discourtesy when they used profanity and were unprofessional when they responded to an incident that occurred at the intersection of Boyle Avenue and Chouteau Avenue. The complainant also stated that the officers engaged in racially profiling him by how they responded to his explanations of the events that occurred prior to their arrival. The complainant further alleged the officer(s) did not conduct a proper investigation.

MOTION

A motion was made by Stephen H. Rovak to ratify the vote from closed session to agree with IAD findings of Not Sustained. Seconded by Heather Highland.

The Board, with a vote of 5-0, approved the motion.

MOTION

A motion was made by Bradley Arteaga to ratify the vote from closed session to discuss protocol with IAD with respect to notifying COB of witness interviews. Seconded by Jane Abbott-Morris.

The Board, with a vote of 5-0, approved the motion.

VI. Discuss and vote on COB-18-0010

Executive Director read the details of COB-18-0010. Complainant alleged an Officer with the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department racially profiled him for speeding and

issued him numerous traffic and equipment violations that were improper. The complainant also alleged discourtesy when involved officer posted an incriminating post on Facebook relative to his complaint.

Due to the COB's new office policy a letter was sent to the complainant advising him that his case may be closed if he failed to contact this office within fourteen (14) days from receipt of the letter. The COB has not received any communication from the complainant to this date.

MOTION

A motion was made by Stephen H. Rovak to ratify the vote from closed session to agree with IAD findings to close the case due to lack of cooperation from the complainant. Seconded by Heather Highland.

The Board, with a vote of 5-0, approved the motion

VII. Discuss and vote on COB-18-0012

Executive Director read the details of COB-18-0012. Complainant alleged Officer(s) with St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department (SLMPD) were racially profiling her when they conducted a traffic stop on her and her mother (who both have short afros) confusing them with black males.

Due to the COB's new office policy a letter was sent to the complainant advising her that her case may be closed if she failed to contact this office within fourteen (14) days from receipt of the letter. The COB has not received any communication from the complainant to this date.

MOTION

A motion was made by Stephen H. Rovak to ratify the vote from closed session to agree with IAD findings to close the case due to lack of cooperation from the complainant. Seconded by Heather Highland.

The Board, with a vote of 5-0, approved the motion

VIII. Discuss and vote on COB-18-0014

Executive Director read the details of COB-18-0014. Complainant alleged that the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department (SLMPD) officer's response time to a 911 call involving the complainant being assaulted and robbed was excessive. She alleged that she called the police several times but no one responded until an involved party was injured,

which resulted in the complainant's arrest. The complainant alleged that during the conveyance to the station, an officer told her the police wanted the involved parties to "kill or hurt one another" before they responded.

MOTION

A motion was made by Stephen H. Rovak to ratify the vote from closed session to table this case for 60 days in order to conduct a further investigation. Seconded by Heather Highland.

The Board, with a vote of 5-0, approved the motion

IX. Discuss and vote on COB-18-0019

Executive Director read the details of COB-18-0019. Complainant alleged that St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department (SLMPD) officers displayed Abuse of Authority during the execution of a search warrant and claimed they caused unnecessary damage to the property located on Barrett, St. Louis, Missouri 63107.

MOTION

A motion was made by Stephen H. Rovak to ratify the vote from closed session to agree with IAD findings as no violations of policy or procedure were found and to close this case as Unfounded. Seconded by Heather Highland.

The Board, with a vote of 5-0, approved the motion.

MOTION

A motion was made by Stephen H. Rovak to recommend that all IAD reports would refer to the specific regulations, policies, and procedures which govern the incident that occurred. Seconded by Jane Abbott-Morris.

The Board with a vote of 5-0 approved the motion.

X. Any recommendations from these complaints

There were 2 recommendations made:

1. Regarding COB-18-0004, COB made a recommendation to discuss protocol with IAD with respect to notifying COB regarding all interviews including witness interviews.

2. Regarding COB-18-0010, COB recommended that all IAD reports would refer to the specific regulations, policies, and procedures which govern the incident that occurred.

XI. Adjournment

MOTION

A motion was made by Stephen H. Rovak to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Heather Highland.

The Board, with a vote of 5-0, approved the motion.

Open Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Next Board meeting date will be Monday, October 22, 2018 at 3:00 p. m. for Closed Session and 5:00 p.m. for Open Session.