

CITY OF FERGUSON, MISSOURI
CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD
OPEN MEETING MINUTES
January 4, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Eugene Franks, Board President, called the meeting of the CRB to order at 6:30pm. Due to City restrictions on in-person meetings, the meeting was held via Zoom.

ROLL CALL

Eugene Franks, Chair	Present	William Bryant	Present
Tiffany Bush, Vice Chair	Present	Terry Burton	6:40pm
Patrick Chandler	Present	Ricky George	Absent
Gerry Noll	Present	Brenda Young	6:38pm

A quorum was declared. Also present was Consent Decree Coordinator Nicole Barton, Assistant to the City Manager Chris Crabel, and Councilwoman Toni Burrow.

MINUTES

The board reviewed the open meeting minutes from December 7, 2020. Motion to approve made by Ms. Bush, seconded by Mr. Noll. Unanimous vote taken in favor, Mr. Chandler abstaining. **MOTION PASSED.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Several comments from members of the public were made by "Chat" and discussed.

- James Cooper urged the board to review and report on the disciplinary records of two FPD officers. He also requested assistance with his open records request 20-130.
- Emily Davis thought Mr. Cooper's request for assistance qualified as a complaint submitted directly to the CRB.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Franks reported that Mr. George attended officer hiring panels in October and November.

Mr. Franks reported that he had forwarded to Chief Armstrong the board's finding on complaint **19-003**. He also asked that the City clarify when the board would be able to meet in closed session again in order to continue reviewing complaint investigations.

Mr. Noll requested that a followup be done on complaints **19-010, 20-004**, and **20-001** to see if the investigations are complete and available for our review. He also asked if the final disposition had been made on the complaints for which the board had completed its review. Ms. Barton responded that Chief Armstrong would have letters with his decision about each complaint in our folders this week.

The board decided that the five NACOLE webinars previously chosen would be shown via Zoom on January 19 and 25; and February 8, 16, and 22; all at 6pm. Mr. Franks requested Ms. Barton to setup Zoom links for each showing. When the schedule and details are written up they will be sent to Councilwoman Burrow for posting to the City website. The schedule and details will also be posted on Facebook and distributed to the NPSC, Proud, and published in the Ferguson Observer.

The board had previously requested that a list of 2020 Use of Force incidents be made available for the first board meeting of 2021. That request had been completed and the list was reviewed. Mr. Chandler expressed skepticism that the list was complete. He had personally seen force used on specific occasions and there were not any incidents reported on the list for those same dates. Mr. Franks will followup to determine if this is a comprehensive list.

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Mr. Franks led a followup discussion about the draft survey to be sent to each complainant after final disposition of their complaint. Edits to the draft were made during the discussion. Ms. Barton was requested to send an example of the type of survey used by the St. Louis City CRB. When completed, the survey will be shared with the NPSC.

Mr. Franks reported on the progress being made on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the FCRB and the FPD, and that further meetings will need to take place. It was decided that Mr. Franks and Mr. Noll will meet to prepare comments to be submitted to the Monitor by 5pm Friday, January 8, in advance of the Consent Decree hearing scheduled for January 12.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Noll discussed the 2020 Annual Report. He will use the previous annual report as a template and prepare a draft for the board to review prior to the next meeting. The goal is to publish it by the end of February/beginning of March.

Mr. Franks will put the FCRB Procedures document in Google Docs so the board can work together on editing it. He requested that edits be completed by January 18.

Councilwoman Burrow reported that the administration of FPD officer hiring panels will not change with the move of responsibility from FPD to HR. She will request that the process be documented in writing.

MISCELLANEOUS

Several announcements were made:

- Consent Decree hearing, 11am, January 12
- Florissant has created a civilian review board. They are currently taking applications. Mr. Franks will make contact after it becomes operational.
- NACOLE Use of Force webinar, 12:00-1:30pm, January 27. Cost is \$15. Register on the NACOLE website.

Mr. Noll stated that he would like to share these types of announcements on the FCRB Facebook page and places like the Ferguson Observer.

Mr. Franks will request a copy of the City's CBA (Collective Bargaining Agreement) with FPD officers so the board can become familiar with it and with any effect it might have on the board's work.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Chandler, seconded by Mr. Burton, to adjourn at 8:45 p.m.

The next open meeting is February 1, 2021, at 6:30pm

ATTEST:

Gerry Noll

Gerry Noll, Board Secretary

Eugene Franks
Eugene Franks, Board Chair