

**CITY OF FERGUSON, MISSOURI
CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD
OPEN MEETING MINUTES
April 5, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER

Eugene Franks, Board President, called the meeting of the CRB to order at 6:35pm. The meeting was held at the Ferguson City Hall after coming out of closed session. Due to City restrictions on in-person meetings, the public could attend via Zoom.

ROLL CALL

Eugene Franks, Chair	Present	William Bryant	Present
Tiffany Bush, Vice Chair	Present	Terry Burton	Present
Patrick Chandler	Present	Ricky George	via Zoom
Gerry Noll	Present	Brenda Young	Present

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

MINUTES

The board reviewed the open meeting minutes from March 1, 2021. Motion to approve made by Ms. Young, seconded by Mr. Bryant. Unanimous vote taken in favor, 8-0. **MOTION PASSED.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no comments from the public.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Franks attended police hiring panels for two officers on March 4. Ms. Bush attended police hiring panels for one captain and three officers on March 16. Mr. Franks and Ms. Bush will forward the names of those interviewed to the FCRB Secretary for tracking purposes.

Ms. Barton reported that Chief Armstrong had completed the review of citizen complaints from 2015-2018 based on the board's Sunshine Law records request 19-128. There were a total of 17 complaints in that time period. 5 of those complaints were filed by citizens in 2017/2018 while the board was active but only 1 of those 5 had ever been given to the board for review.

Mr. Chandler went on record expressing his outrage that complaint files had been withheld from the board.

A motion was made by Mr. Noll, seconded by Ms. Young, requesting that the full investigative files for the 4 complaints that were never given to the board during the time period when the board was active, complaints 17-001, 17-003, 17-004, and 18-001, be placed in the members' folders; and further asserting that the board will review the investigations of these complaints as they should have been given the opportunity to do when they were first filed. Unanimous vote taken in favor, 8-0. **MOTION PASSED.**

A motion was made by Mr. Chandler, seconded by Mr. Bryant, requesting that the board be given access to the redacted complaint files from the time period before the board was active, complaints 15-001, 15-002, 15-005, 15-006, 15-008, 15-012, 16-001, 16-002, 16-003, 16-004, unknown # dated 10/7/2016, and unknown # dated 8/22/2016; and further requesting that a date be given to the board when the redactions will be completed and the files ready for review. Unanimous vote taken in favor, 8-0. **MOTION PASSED.**

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A motion to ratify the decisions made in closed session by the Ferguson Civilian Review Board (“the Board”) concerning their review of complaint investigations conducted by the Ferguson Police Department (“the FPD”) was made by Mr. Noll, seconded by Mr. Chandler.

1. On complaint 20-002, the Board agrees with the FPD disposition of unfounded, and further makes the following recommendations:
 - a. Concerning the incident itself, to avoid this type of complaint in the future:
 - i. Leave contact cards in case the citizen has additional questions or information to supply.
 - ii. Let the citizen know what the next steps are in the investigation.
 - b. Concerning the submission of complaint forms: in order to take every opportunity to use Mediation to resolve complaints, when the section on whether the complainant is willing to engage in Mediation is not filled out, contact the complainant to clarify their answer.
 - c. Concerning the complaint investigative process: record phone interviews on BWC video with the speakerphone on so that both sides of the conversation can be heard.
2. On complaint 20-003, the Board agrees with the FPD disposition of sustained and further agrees with the recommended discipline of a written reprimand.

Unanimous vote taken in favor, 8-0. **MOTION PASSED.**

Mr. Franks gave a report on an addition to the CRB/FPD MOU. A motion was made by Ms. Bush, seconded by Mr. Bryant, to approve the addition. Unanimous vote taken in favor, 8-0. **MOTION PASSED.**

Final details were discussed concerning the Town Hall scheduled for April 12. Mr. Bryant requested that the call-in # be given to him, which Mr. Crabel supplied.

As part of the board’s review of CRB policies and procedures, the discussion of how to track police panel interviews was tabled until a new City Manager is hired. A motion was made by Mr. Chandler, seconded by Ms. Bush, to approve other amendments to CRB policies and procedures. Unanimous vote taken in favor, 8-0. **MOTION PASSED.**

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Ms. Young, seconded by Ms. Bush, to partner with PROUD for a discussion of the board’s 2020 Annual Report on Tuesday, May 18, at 6:30pm. PROUD will host the event on Zoom, moderate Q&A, and record the session. Ms. Barton was invited to be part of the panel. Unanimous vote taken in favor, 8-0. **MOTION PASSED.**

Several members agreed to take primary and secondary responsibility for attending police hiring panels during upcoming months:

- April: primary – Mr. Bryant; secondary – Mr. Burton
- May: primary – Mr. Chandler; secondary – Mr. Noll
- June: primary and secondary will be shared among Mr. Franks, Ms. Bush, and Ms. Young, with Ms. Young only being able to attend evening panels

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Franks mentioned the continuing need for the open position on the board to be filled by City Council; Mr. Franks stated that he will be writing a letter to the Monitor and Judge Perry before the Consent Decree hearing scheduled for April 8; and Mr. Burton reminded everyone that the Monitor has a survey on the City’s website for everyone to take.

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The board scheduled the next closed meeting for Monday, May 3, from 6:00-6:30pm at the Ferguson City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ms. Young, seconded by Mr. Burton, to return to closed session at 8:00 p.m.

The next open meeting is May 3, 2021, at 6:30pm

ATTEST:

Gerry Noll

Gerry Noll, Board Secretary

Eugene franks

Eugene Franks, Board Chair