

**COMMUNITY POLICE REVIEW COMMISSION
(CPRC)**

**Wednesday, December 4, 2019 – 7:00 PM
450 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA 94804
Basement - Employee Lunch Room**

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, PLEDGE

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by **Chair David Brown**

Present: David Brown (Chair), Yenny Garcia (Vice-chair), Diego Garcia, Oscar Garcia, Carol Hegstrom, Randy Joseph, Steven Lacy

Absent: Porschea Brown-Walton

Vacancies: 1

Administrative

Staff: Shané Johnson, Staff Liaison – Present

Council Liaison: Jael Myrick, Council Liaison – Present

City Attorney's

Office Representative: Bruce Soublet, Senior Assistant City Attorney – Absent

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (November 2019)

Upon motion by Vice Chair Y. Garcia and seconded by R. Joseph, the minutes for the meeting of November 6, 2019, were approved by the following vote: **Ayes:** Chair Brown, Vice-chair Y. Garcia, and Commissioners D. Garcia, O. Garcia, C. Hegstrom, R. Joseph, and S. Lacy. **Noes:** None. **Absent:** Commissioners P. Brown-Walton **Abstained:** None.

III. AGENDA REVIEW – No change

IV. PUBLIC FORUM

Patricia Perez – Commented on the recent involvement of RPD Officer Virgil Thomas in the homicide of Vallejo resident Eric Reason. She also shared that she and her family will continue their efforts to fight police misconduct.

- V. COMMENTS BY COUNCIL LIAISON JAELE MYRICK** – Malfunction of the recorder. Councilmember Myrick's comments are not available. However, the Councilmember reported that an offer had been extended to a candidate on a temporary basis, but had not yet been confirmed.

Rick Perez – Malfunction of the recorder. Rick Perez's comments are not available.

- VI. COMMENTS BY CHIEF OF POLICE (Interim Chief Bisa French or designate)** – Chief French reviewed the Shot Spotter report and provided information on recent homicides

in the City and County. The City has had 17 homicides of which one was an officer-involved shooting. She also mentioned that RPD has been on high-alert and was able to confiscate a gun from a Kennedy HS student without incident because of their awareness. The Chief said that recent modifications to RPD officer work schedules allowed her to bring back the youth engagement unit. Officers are also being encouraged to be volunteers in the elementary schools in an effort to build good relationships early on in childhood development. There are many other youth-serving organizations that RPD is partnering with to build good relationships.

The Chief reported that there were four injuries in the month of November 2019, and that there are currently 12 employees on injury leave and 1 officer on modified duty. New scheduling was discussed with the union and will take effect during early 2020. In addition, recruitment is progressing with two new sworn female officers, officers in training, and five new dispatchers. RPD is focusing on ways to recruit more officers and to assist them through the hiring process. RPD also offers options for officer wellness.

Chief French then answered questions from the commissioners regarding officer safety and wellness, as well as public safety at community parks.

Rick Perez – Expressed that he is grateful for Chief French. He also spoke about hearsay regarding former Chief Chris Magnus.

- VII. REPORTS BY RICHMOND POLICE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION (Jason Wentz, Vice President)** – Officer Wentz announced the Richmond Fire and Police toy program on December 21st. The RPOA started the non-profit Richmond Police Crime Prevention Foundation where they recognized some officers. The new foundation will allow for donations to be made to help fund additional training for officers if needed. Officer Wentz reported that the CA POST funding budget has been \$47 million in the past, but was doubled by the Governor this year. The new budget allocates approximately \$20 million to use-of-force training. Officer Wentz also reported that Tuesday night's council meeting was packed, but that no problems occurred.

Rick Perez – Upset with community policing and feels that officers should be worried about their image.

- VIII. PRESENTATION: Brandon Anderson to present on mobile tools and data that measure the impact of policing in real time.** – At the request of Commissioner S. Lacy, Mr. Anderson presented a proposal to increase feedback from the community to increase police transparency using his company, Raheem. The annual rate for the program varies, but is being billed at approximately \$95k for the City of Oakland. Mr. Anderson proposed a 3-month pilot program. The commissioners seemed interested, but were concerned about the feasibility of engaging in the program due to the CPRC's limited budget. Chair Brown is going to explore the program more and discuss with fellow commissioners.

Rick Perez – He thanked Mr. Anderson for the presentation.

IX. OLD BUSINESS, DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Status of search for new investigative officer (Mr. Soublet & Councilperson Myrick) – Refer to Agenda Item V.**
- B. Review pending cases (Mr. Soublet) – No report.**

X. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discussion of a response to the Perez case (Commissioner Hegstrom) – It was determined that the Perez family did not receive the proper communication from the City Manager as written in the ordinance. At the request of Chair Brown, staff S. Johnson will forward the letter from former Chief Brown to Chair Brown. Chair Brown will prepare a letter to the City Manager asking that the City Manager responds to the Chief regarding the CPRC's findings.**

Rick Perez – Shared his feelings about not receiving communication. He feels that “rules are rules” and that his family should receive the proper correspondence. He stated that this issue is very important to his family.

Richard Perez – Expressed that rules change when it comes to the police department.

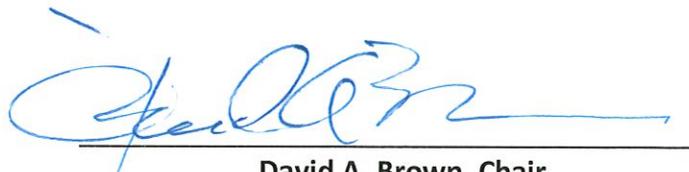
XI. REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES, COMMISSIONERS, CIAO AND STAFF

- Commissioner Y. Garcia – Excited that the subcommittees are working to get things done. She echoed the idea of having an updated flyer to distribute. Monthly outreach subcommittee meetings will happen each month.
- Commissioner C. Hegstrom – Reported that the subcommittee would like to expand the scope of the CPRC and asked that commissioners email her with any suggestions.
- Commissioner R. Joseph – Served on the interview committee for the new CPRC investigator.
- Commissioner S. Lacy – The outreach subcommittee met last week and would like to propose a foldable flyer/pamphlet.

Due to the upcoming New Year's holiday, the next meeting will be on January 8, 2020.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned to the public at 9:20 p.m.



David A. Brown, Chair

