



22500 Salamo Road  
West Linn, Oregon 97068  
<http://westlinnoregon.gov>

# **POLICE OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY TASK FORCE DRAFT MINUTES**

Wednesday, December 30, 2020

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## Members:

Present: Rishi Bansal, Nicole Dawson, Sharron Furno, Kristina Garcia Siegel, Michael Harper, Linda Hamel, Nancy Noye, Lonny Webb, Debbie Wong; Excused: Autumn Mercado

## Alternates:

Present: Fred Groves, Timothy Mullin, Evan Wickersham; Excused: Surja Tjahaja

## Liaisons

Present: Jerry Gabrielatos, Shannon Lee Erskine, Bill Reylea, Jules Walters.

## Facilitators

Present: Martine Coblenz, Erin Ruff

### **1. Call to Order**

- a. Meeting was called to order at 6:04 pm by Erin Ruff, Facilitator

### **2. Public Comment**

Ed and Roberta Schwartz, West Linn, submitted as written comment a letter and attachments sent to the City Council and City Manager urging both to address issues in the WLPD, and outlining a history of city records between 2008 and present.

### **3. Approval of Minutes from 12/16/2020**

The Task Force approved the draft minutes.

### **4. City Manager Liaison Response and Requests**

- a. Jerry Gabrielatos shared that the City is taking recommendations from the OIR report very seriously and are working to implement what they are able to. He invited TF to attend a future City Council meeting for recognition and to discuss recommendations.

- b. Acting Chief Mahuna has requested a member of the TF serve on interview panel for hiring a police officer this month. Jerry will communicate with the Task Force by email and request volunteers.

**5. Revise and finalize proposal**

- a. The group approved the following recommendations:
  - i. City Council to create a permanent police oversight committee that is funded, with permanent staff to serve the committee, and the committee has the power to recommend changes to the City Council thereafter.

This proposal passed unanimously.

*Note: This proposal was passed during the December 16 meeting. It is included here so that there is one complete list of approved recommendations.*

- b. "3 Tiered Cake Proposal". We recommend that the City take a three tiered approach to permanent oversight creation.
  - i. Tier 1 would be the work we will have completed for recommendation by the end of this meeting.
  - ii. Tier 2 would include, on a volunteer basis, those members of the taskforce who want to continue to work on formation of the permanent task force including but not limited to: working with council to be responsive to any concerns they have about recommendations made in Tier 1, and making other general recommendations to facilitate a smooth transition to a permanent oversight board. Tier 2 would cease when the permanent task force is created and meets for the first time.
  - iii. Tier 3 would be the creation and implementation of the permanent oversight board at which point this board would cease to exist.
  - iv. All current Task Force members and alternates are eligible to join the Tier 2 work.
  - v. Additional representation/expertise will be determined by the Tier 2 members. Consider mental health expertise specific to Law Enforcement and de-escalation techniques, and former local law enforcement.
  - vi. Care should be taken to have BIPOC representation on Tier 2 as other representatives are added.
  - vii. Tier 2 members may choose to invite liaisons or experts to one or more meetings.
  - viii. Tier 2 members may meet with the OIR team as part of their work.
  - ix. Tier 2 Volunteers are:
    - 1. Rishi Bansal
    - 2. Nicole Dawson
    - 3. Sharron Furno
    - 4. Kristina Garcia Siegel
    - 5. Linda Hamel
    - 6. Michael Harper
    - 7. Nancy Noye
    - 8. Evan Wickersham

This proposal passed unanimously.

- c. Complaints are filed to an entity (City or Contractor) outside of WLPD. Both WLPD and the oversight committee get notice. Investigation will be performed by an independent contractor.

This proposal passed unanimously

- d. Independent outside professional investigations for all whistle blower, civil cases, and those involving upper police leadership with investigative reports to all stakeholders including the public. Addresses internal investigative conflict of interest issues in serious misconduct cases as evidenced by Fesser case which could have been prevented.

This proposal passed unanimously

- e. Required expertise for Investigators, auditor in the laws, policies, standards of practice governing policing. Consequence of lack of expertise results in potential flawed investigations, with harm to people and increased liability for law suits.

This proposal passed unanimously

- f. Investigator to have subpoena power for documents in possession of City, and ability to compel employees to testify or answer questions.

This proposal passed unanimously

- g. Future committee should ensure that all recommendations put forth by the OIR group are implemented within TBD by Tier 2 months and that yearly audits are performed to validate effectiveness of recommendations. \

This proposal passed unanimously

- h. Accreditation of WLPD to raise standards of practice and policies to reflect evidence based practices by an external organization like by CALEA or OAA.

This proposal passed unanimously

## **6. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:01pm.