

CITIZEN POLICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

May 18, 2021

6:00 p.m.

The Citizen Police Advisory Committee met in regular session on Tuesday, May 18, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. in the Executive Conference Room at City Hall, 800 Municipal Drive, Farmington, New Mexico, 87401.

Members Present: Deb Dumont, Chairman; Patricia Simpson; Chuck Culpepper; Rose Grey; David Bratcher

Members Absent: Gloria Tso; Julie Blair

City Personnel Present: Steve Hebbe, Police Chief
Taft Tracy, Deputy Chief
Lt. Chad Byers
Sgt. Mark Gaines
Sgt. Richard Gibbons
Sgt. Travis Spruell
Kay Rose, Liaison

Guests Present: Rebekah Davis

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Deb Dumont at 6:00 p.m., and there being a quorum of members present, the following proceedings were duly had and taken.

II. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Chuck Culpepper moved to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2021 regular meeting as presented. David Bratcher seconded the motion. Motion carried.

III. OPEN MEETINGS RESOLUTION

Patricia Simpson moved to approve the Open Meetings Resolution. Chuck Culpepper seconded the motion. Motion carried.

IV. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Chuck Culpepper made a motion to nominate Patricia Simpson as Chairman. Rose Grey seconded the motion. Patricia accepted; motion carried.

V. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Steve Hebbe gave the Chief's report. Recruiting for the next academy has been slow. The department is also facing several retirements this year. FPD has increased the longevity bonus to hopefully retain more people.

HB4 passed in the Legislative Session, which means the department will face more lawsuits. The State also legalized marijuana, but did not establish a legal limit, which could also mean more lawsuits and could also affect recruiting. SB375, which would have increased training at the academy in Santa Fe among other things, passed unanimously, but was vetoed by the Governor.

The Real-Time Crime Center is still coming along. They used it to track down a recent shooter downtown, but still hope to expand it to more businesses in order to be more efficient.

Chief Hebbe also briefly discussed the difficulties that other cities who defunded the police are now having.

VI. INTERNAL AFFAIRS REPORT

Sgt. Gaines gave an overview of the Internal Affairs (IA) reports and Sgt. Spruell gave an overview of the Use-of-Force incidents for March and April. Below are the numbers, compared to the prior year.

	March 2021	March 2020
Citizen Complaints	3	5
Internal Affairs Investigations	1	2
Supervisor Inquiries	1	4
Use-of-Force Incidents	10	19

	April 2021	April 2020
Citizen Complaints	2	3
Internal Affairs Investigations	1	0
Supervisor Inquiries	1	3
Use-of-Force Incidents	9	12

Lt. Byers talked about de-escalation, training, and rendering aid. Chief Hebbe commended the officers who rendered aid after the recent shooting.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- a. MEMBERS – None.
- b. CITIZEN INPUT – None.

VIII. CASE REVIEW – None.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, and upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.


Patricia Simpson, Chairman


Kay Rose, Liaison