CIVILIAN POLICE REVIEW BOARD
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS
September 19, 2018

MEETING MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER – 10:12

Michael Graham, Acting Chair

II. ROLL CALL

OPS STAFF

ATTENDANCE
Roger Smith, Administrator
Henry Roney, Sr. Investigator
Kevin Wynne, Investigator
Shaunita Lee, Investigator
Vince Funari, Investigator
Art Bowker, Investigator.
Julie Delaney, Investigator
Keith Oliver, Investigator
Anitra Merritt, Investigator
Barbara Williams-Bennett, Inv.
Eric Richardson, Investigator

OPS STAFF

ATTENDANCE
Michael Graham
Ashley Mostella
Edwin Santos
Mary Clark
Michael Hess
Ernest Turner
LeeAnn Hanlon, Secretary
Gerri Butler, Staff Counsel

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

IV. PRESENTATION OF INVESTIGATIONS

OPS Investigative Staff

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

VI. OPS REPORT

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, October 17, 2018 at 10:00 am
III. PUBLIC COMMENT – Mr. Graham reminds every one of the three (3) minute time limit

Mr. Dave Lima, SURJ

In the July meeting the Board had the opportunity to ask questions of Chief Williams and engage in a dialog regarding a variety of issues. I appreciated the decision by the Board and the Chief to allow members of the public to remain in the room during the meeting.

A number of concerns surfaced during the conversation. The Board asked for a representative of the CDP to be present at Board meetings. The Chief agreed to take it under advisement but made no commitment. The possibility of racial profiling and the Nigerian community was brought to his attention. He seemed to discount this and responded, “Where there’s smoke, there must be fire.” When asked about the changes in findings and disposition and the limited explanation of those changes he responded that the limited explanations are largely done in order to avoid confrontations with the police union. Distinguishing between civil matters and police matters by officers was discussed with the conclusion that it is a gray area requiring discretion on the part of the officer. The issue of under-staffing of the Detective Bureau was mentioned without any sort of plan to address the problem except that the detectives need to make more call backs. The Chief appears to approve officer discretion in domestic abuse cases despite the fact that state law and the Department’s GPO does not allow for discretion. The only issue discussed where a commitment was made by the Chief was regarding translators. He was surprised that there was a problem, especially in situations occurring in the 2nd District. He agreed to address it by re-issuing the order and having it read for 7 days.

Needless to say, apart from the translation issue, I came away feeling quite dissatisfied with his responses. I worry about the implementation of the consent decree, a laissez-faire attitude within the department, the complaint and disciplinary process, the arbitration process, and the organizational resistance to change.

I noticed, as I went through the minutes of the August 15 meeting, out of the 17 sustained findings by this Board, 7 were for Failure to Activate WCS. In his view, the WCS is not only a protection for the public, but for the officers as well. Somehow, concern about this issue should be addressed and communicated to the CDP.
IV. VOTE

a. 14-336: Mbajika

P.O. Davis #2398

Allegation: Harassment
Recommendation: Insufficient Evidence
Motion: Santos
Second: Graham
Motion passes

b. 14-383: Oko

P.O. Davis #2398

Allegation: Harassment
Recommendation: Exonerated
Motion: Graham
Second: Santos
Motion passes

Allegation: Intimidation
Recommendation: Insufficient Evidence
Motion: Graham
Second: Santos
Motion passes

c. 15-090: Mbajika

P.O. Davis #2398

Allegation: Harassment
Recommendation: Insufficient Evidence
Motion: Graham
Second: Mostella
Motion passes
d. 15-241: Scott

P.O. Wagner #2270

Allegation: Lack of Service
Recommendation: Exonerated
Motion: Graham
Second: Clark
Motion passes

Allegation: Unprofessional Conduct
Recommendation: Unfounded
Motion: Graham
Second: Clark
Motion passes.

P.O. Davison #143

Allegation: Lack of Service
Recommendation: Exonerated
Motion: Graham
Second: Clark
Motion passes

Allegation: Unprofessional Conduct
Recommendation: Unfounded
Motion: Graham
Second: Santos
Motion passes.

e. 16-224: Boazman

P.O. Jarrell #543

Allegation: Unprofessional Conduct
Recommendation: Unfounded
Motion: Santos
Second: Graham
Motion passes
Allegation: Improper Search  
Recommendation: Unfounded  
Motion: Santos  
Second: Graham  
*Motion passes*

P.O. Santiago #1321

Allegation: Unprofessional Conduct  
Recommendation: Unfounded  
Motion: Santos  
Second: Graham  
*Motion passes*

Allegation: Improper Search  
Recommendation: Unfounded  
Motion: Santos  
Second: Graham  
*Motion passes*

**f. 17-028: Sanders: Complainant arrived after the CPRB adjudicated her case. The Complainant stated this officer has treated her so badly and wouldn’t make an addendum of her report and accused her daughter of driving her vehicle. It took a year for her to obtain a stolen vehicle report. The Complainant stated she felt like she was looked down upon.**

P.O. Collier#237

Allegation: Lack of Service  
Recommendation: Sustained  
Motion: Graham  
Second: Turner  
*Motion passes*

Allegation: Unprofessional Conduct  
Recommendation: Insufficient Evidence  
Motion: Graham  
Second: Clark  
*Motion passes*
Allegation: Failure to Activate WCS  
Recommendation: Sustained  
Motion: Graham  
Second: Mostella  
Motion passes

g. 17-036: Grindstaff

Det. Sudberry #1703

Allegation: Lack of Service  
Recommendation: Unfounded  
Motion: Graham  
Second: Clark  
Motion passes

Allegation: Unprofessional Conduct  
Recommendation: Insufficient Evidence  
Motion: Graham  
Second: Santos  
Motion passes

Allegation: Improper Procedure  
Recommendation: Sustained  
Motion: Graham  
Second: Santos  
Motion passes

h. 18-005: Gant – Complainant is present. Complainant stated he felt that Traffic Commissioner Muhic violated the rules by providing his name to another agency when he made an inquiry.

Traffic Commissioner Muhic #6040

Allegation: Improper Procedure  
Recommendation: Insufficient Evidence  
Motion: Graham  
Second: Santos  
Motion passes

*This case was returned to the OPS Investigator with instructions for a separate allegation, that of Unprofessional Conduct*

Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, October 17, 2018 at 10:00 am
i. **18-012: Graskey**

P.O. Krakowski #585

Allegation: Wrongful Determination of Child Custody
Recommendation: Sustained
Motion: Graham
Second: Santos
Motion passes with one opposed

P.O. Greear #965

Allegation: Wrongful Determination of Child Custody
Recommendation: Sustained
Motion: Graham
Second: Santos
Motion passes with one opposed

j. **18-036: Colon** – Complainant and advocate for the Complainant, Ms. Sonia Matis, is present. Ms. Matis stated that Det. Murphy never contacted the Complainant, despite them telling Det. Murphy that the report needed to be amended. Ms. Matis stated she felt that Det. Murphy did not do a good job with the investigation, and felt that the Complainant was ignored and that her voice wasn’t heard.

Det. Murphy #1500

Allegation: Lack of Service
Recommendation: Sustained
Motion: Graham
Second: Mostella
Motion passes with one opposed and one abstention

Allegation: Unprofessional Conduct
Recommendation: Insufficient Evidence
Motion: Graham
Second: Mostella
Motion passes with one opposed and one abstention
k.  **18-040: Boone**

P.O. Norman #1803

Allegation: Harassment  
Recommendation: Exonerated  
Motion: Santos  
Second: Graham  
*Motion passes*

P.O. Salupo #1969

Allegation: Harassment  
Recommendation: Exonerated  
Motion: Santos  
Second: Hess  
*Motion passes*

P.O. Smith #882

Allegation: Harassment  
Recommendation: Exonerated  
Motion: Santos  
Second: Turner  
*Motion passes with one abstention*

Sgt. Woyma #9157

Allegation: Harassment  
Recommendation: Exonerated  
Motion: Santos  
Second: Hess  
*Motion passes with one abstention*
I. 18-063: Gunter – Complainant is present. The Complainant stated that she felt that her civil rights had been violated, and that things had been done incorrectly with her son’s investigation.

Det. Howard #96 (deceased)

Allegation: Unprofessional Conduct
Recommendation: Unfounded
Motion: Graham
Second: Clark
Motion passes

Sgt. Dennis #9139

Allegation: Unprofessional Conduct
Recommendation: Unfounded
Motion: Graham
Second: Hess
Motion passes

P.O. Nhiwatwa #1181

Allegation: Lack of Service
Recommendation: Exonerated
Motion: Graham
Second: Hess
Motion passes

Allegation: Failure to Activate WCS
Recommendation: Sustained
Motion: Graham
Second: Santos
Motion passes

Allegation: Full Attention
Recommendation: Sustained
Motion: Graham
Second: Mostella
Motion passes
m. 18-073: Aziz

P.O. Lozinak #376

Allegation: Improper Citation
Recommendation: Exonerated
Motion: Graham
Second: Turner
Motion passes

Allegation: Unprofessional Conduct
Recommendation: Exonerated
Motion: Graham
Second: Clark
Motion passes

n. 18-078: Bennett

Sgt. Zeisel #9203

Allegation: Lack of Service
Recommendation: Insufficient Evidence
Motion: Graham
Second: Turner
Motion passes

o. 18-096: Richardson

P.O. Ellis #1524

Allegation: Lack of Service
Recommendation: Exonerated
Motion: Graham
Second: Santos
Motion passes
p. **18-099: Schade**

P.O. Troche #1878

Allegation: Unprofessional Conduct  
Recommendation: Sustained  
Motion: Graham  
Second: Hess  
*Motion passes*

Allegation: Improper Stop  
Recommendation: **tabled until 10/17/18 meeting to listen to dispatch recording**

Allegation: Failure to Activate WCS  
Recommendation: Sustained  
Motion: Graham  
Second: Turner  
*Motion passes*

q. **18-101: Sullivan**

P.O. Rodes #2126

Allegation: Improper Citation  
Recommendation: Sustained  
Motion: Graham  
Second: Santos  
*Motion passes*

Allegation: Unprofessional Conduct  
Recommendation: Insufficient Evidence  
Motion: Graham  
Second: Santos  
*Motion passes*
r. 18-103: John-Abbass

P.O. Holliday #1213

Allegation: Biased Policing
Recommendation: Unfounded
Motion: Graham
Second: Clark
Motion passes

Allegation: Unprofessional Conduct
Recommendation: Unfounded
Motion: Graham
Second: Santos
Motion passes

s. 18-105: Curd

P.O. Harris #692

Allegation: Lack of Service
Recommendation: Sustained
Motion: Graham
Second: Santos
Motion passes

P.O. Tolley #225

Allegation: Lack of Service
Recommendation: Sustained
Motion: Graham
Second: Turner
Motion passes

VII. REVIEW OF DISCIPLINARY DECISIONS

17-235 – The CPRB had no objections to the Chief’s decision. Final Disposition letter sent out.

Meeting adjourned at 14:34 hours.