



City of Davis
Police Accountability Commission Minutes
Monday, July 12 2021

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Horton called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

Commissioners Present: Ignacio Alarcon, Mary C. Bliss (Vice Chair), Robert Canning, Cecilia Escamilla-Greenwald, Dillan Horton (Chair), Abram Jones, Elaine Kahan, Judith MacBrine, Morgan Poindexter (Alternate), Don Sherman

Commissioners Absent: None

Others Present: Kelly Stachowicz, Michael Gennaco

2. Approval of Agenda

Escamilla Greenwald moved with second by Bliss approval of the agenda as presented. Motion passed as follows:

AYES: Alarcon, Bliss, Canning, Escamilla-Greenwald, Horton, Jones, Kahan, MacBrine, Sherman

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Sherman asked about where on agenda to discuss his research of police departments. Stachowicz suggested he should request it during discussion of the long range.

3. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners, and Liaisons

- Stachowicz noted the Council would be taking Council recess after July 20.*
- MacBrine – in process of being trained as certified instructor for mental health first aid and will create a non-profit organization to offer mental health first aid. Will apply for grant for mental health. Also requested reports from when Police Department staff leave the department.*
- Jones – would like item for future agenda – motion to ask PAC to formalize a liaison between PAC and UCD Police Advisory Board.*
- Bliss – Red Door Evolve project will be on Nov 5 at Mondavi's Jackson Hall*
- Escamilla Greenwald – Davis Vanguard accepting nominations for various social justice awards.*
- Poindexter – Supports previous comments to add information to agenda*

4. Public Comment

- 95618 – Concerned that police are rolling cameras and no one is paying attention*
- Deb – Wants to see diversity breakdown of city PD or UCD PAB. Shared account of brother's negative interaction with officer of Asian descent.*

5. Consent Items

5A. Minutes from June 7.

- *MacBrine – Lack of clarity on subcommittees (both what subcommittees exist and what their charges are). Crisis Now Mental Health and Mental Health Audit are different. One was voted on and one was not. Need to make them official. Grants subcommittee (Bliss, Escamilla Greenwald, Canning and MacBrine) is different than the other mental health subcommittee. The minutes from June do not reflect PAC approval of the grant effort.*
- *Bliss - Would like tasks defined for each subcommittee and would like to define lead for each group.*
- *Horton - Need to designate lead at meeting and need more clarity on timelines.*

Horton moved that commission hold minutes over to the next commission meeting. Motion died for lack of a second

Canning moved to hold minutes until next meeting and bring them back when they are more complete. Horton seconded.

Motion passed as follows:

AYES: Alarcon, Bliss, Canning, Escamilla-Greenwald, Horton, Jones, Kahan, MacBrine, Poindexter, Sherman

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

6. Police Auditor Update

Independent Police Auditor Michael Gennaco provided an update on Auditor activities to the PAC.

- *Still receiving feedback from DPD that needs to be considered before report can be finalized. Should be able to share at the next meeting in September.*
- *Police oversight world is uncertain and new and has challenges. City of Phoenix is 5th largest city in US but of cities in the top 20 is only city that has had no oversight of police. Recently the City Council in a divided vote decided to develop an oversight mechanism. State of AZ legislature decided to pass law which was just signed. Law doesn't eliminate civilian review board but placed limits on group: requires that 2/3 of the group had to be police officers of the organization that is being overseen.*
- *Poindexter asked for a more certain timeline for the audit.*

Public Comment:

- *Deb –DPD has left a lot to be desired over the past but bad behaviors come from across the demographics, not just white officers. Believes DPD needs to be fixed. Would like ethnic and racial breakdown of department.*
- *95618 - DPD uses their vehicles as intimidation factors. Vehicles swerved at him and his children.*

Poindexter - Has mental health call audit started

MacBrine – Encouraged commenters to use Gennaco to look into specific complaints

7. Regular Items

Presentation on the Commons Portal

Will Ferrier, Yolo District Attorney's Office, explained that DA's Office, Multi-Cultural Council, and Measures for Justice worked together to create the Commons Portal. Measures for Justice took data and published it on the portal. Shared demonstration of the site. Three major areas within Commons: Policy Goals, Case Flow Data, County Information.

Jonathan Raven - There are racial disparities, specifically with the Black population, less so with the Latino population. Measures for Justice asked what DA's Office is going to do about the disparity. The information has helped to divert some felonies; develop/inform Mental Health and Addiction Intervention Courts, Immigration consequences; look at sentences that no longer serve the interests of the public (1170D); look at drug possession as public health issues; mental health diversion program (\$1.2 million to start this program to decriminalize crimes committed but because of mental health/substance abuse); and to no longer exclude potential Neighborhood Court cases as result to past criminal record (this is fairly new and likely affects people of color).

Commissioner Questions and Comments:

- *Poindexter – what is number of officers from? How often is data updated? How many enrolled at one time in Yolo in Neighborhood Court (A: About 68 in one of three programs at a time). Display of data should show arrest rates of racial group benchmarked to that racial population.*
- *Escamilla Greenwald – Who have you collaborated with? (A: Yolo County Health and Human Services, Public Defenders Office, Mental Health Court, Probation, police agencies). Is there any comparison for validity of the data? (A: Ferrier went deeper into the portal to look at racial breakdown of cases referred to Prosecutor). Also asked about breakdown by race and ethnicity, not county resident.*
- *Canning – Percentages may be more helpful than raw numbers (standardize to population of city or rates per thousand in County, for example). Is there an FAQ for the database?*
- *Horton – commissioners can get comments and questions to staff, who can share with DA's Office*
- *Horton – Data was to guide department policy but also that Measures for Justice uncovered significant disparities for African Americans in Yolo County. What about disparities for Latinos (less than Blacks but still significant)? What has data shown about Latinos in Yolo County? (A: Haven't seen the same level of disparity in Yolo County with Latino population (as compared to Blacks) but that doesn't mean there aren't disparities.)*

Ferrier – can choose any number of manipulations and then send to individuals and/or organizations. Commons is doing town halls. Yoloda.org has registration information.

Jones exited meeting.

Public Comment:

- 95618 – Need mental health data to be transparent.
- Connor Gorman – drop down menu showed multiple supervisors as District 1. Questions relationship between DA’s office and mental health providers. Look at larger structural factors earlier in the process
- Cynthia Rodriguez – Stunned that DA’s Office and portal system now acknowledges disparities. No explanation on why there is a disparity of arrests and on the kinds of charges about the kinds of cases that are charged at higher levels than necessary to make diversion look better. Stats that could be most useful are not included.

Additional Commissioner Comments:

- Sherman – what are alternatives to referred to prosecutor? (A: Most arrests made are referred to the DA’s Office, even if there is a restorative justice goal.) Does the portal show the activity of the Davis Police Department? (A: DA’s Office gets cases from the police departments and charges in same manner.)
- Horton – When the Commission received the Racial Identity and Profiling Act (RIPA) data from the Police Department, there was concern that there was no mechanism to review data and work for improvements. How is the District Attorney’s Office changing DA processes to address disparities?
- Poindexter – There seems to be agreement that there are racial disparities, but the dashboard reports the exact opposite of this. It needs to show rate per population. (A: Measures for Justice owns the dashboard, so the DA’s Office will ask them.)

Alarcon moved to do report outs and end the meeting by 9:45. Canning seconded the motion.

The motion passed by the following vote:

- AYES: Alarcon, Bliss, Canning, Escamilla-Greenwald, Horton, Kahan, Poindexter, Sherman
- NOES: None
- ABSTAIN: MacBrine
- ABSENT: Jones

B. Follow Up Memo on Evictions and Mutual Aid

Commissioner Comments:

- Horton – Has there been any backup participation in evictions from DPD in 2019 or 2020? What is Mutual Aid Coordinator from Yolo Sheriff’s Department. What are operating procedures that an Incident Commander would typically do?

C. Subcommittee Updates

Crisis Now Mental Health- no report

Mental Health Audit – the group has met and have inquiry items and audit items. Will circle back with Police Department and with Auditor.

Audit Outreach – no report

Outreach – Sherman explained group had some questions about putting out publicity for a meeting. MacBrine said the group will meet again and create informational document about what PAC is doing. Kahan talked about newspaper story for what PAC is doing and how to file complaints with auditor. Also focus on restorative process.

Know Your Rights – Escamilla Greenwald reported that attorney Liz Kim (DOJ) has agreed to do Know Your Rights Presentation. Need to choose a date and work with staff on outreach.

Public Comment:

Connor Gorman – Supportive of Know Your Rights training but would like to know content and does not want police present.

Horton moved, with a second by Escamilla Greenwald, to support the event and encourage a September date. Commission discussed about whether a Police Department representative should be invited to the presentation. The subcommittee will consider this further.

Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Alarcon, Bliss, Canning, Escamilla-Greenwald, Horton, Kahan, MacBrine, Poindexter, Sherman

NOES: None

ABSENT: Jones

8. Future Agenda Item Requests/Long Range Calendar

- MacBrine – Interested in a future audit on police response for mental health and homelessness for homeless/mental health issues versus if you are college student.
- Sherman – would like 6 minutes to share research about other police departments
- MacBrine- requests committee reports in writing prior to meeting

9. Adjourn

Sherman moves with second by Alarcon to adjourn. Motion passed as follows:

AYES: Alarcon, Bliss, Canning, Escamilla-Greenwald, Horton, Kahan, MacBrine, Poindexter, Sherman

NOES: None

ABSENT: Jones

Meeting adjourned at 10:00pm