

Citizens Oversight Board

December 2, 2011

Approved December 15, 2011

Minutes

Call to Order:

Chairwoman Mary Davis called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Members Present:

Mary Davis, Cathy Reynolds, Jeff Walsh, Nita Gonzales, Steven Foster, and Carmen M. Velasquez

Staff Present:

Richard Rosenthal, Gregg Crittenden, and Michele Wheeler

Guests Present:

Manager of Safety, Alex Martinez
Director of Corrections, Gary Wilson

Manager of Safety, Alex Martinez

Manager Martinez attended the meeting and provided an overview of his vision and goals for the Department of Safety. He provided insight into his distinguished career as a Supreme Court Justice and Judge. The COB members engaged in a positive discussion and welcomed our new Manager.

Director of Corrections, Gary Wilson

Director Wilson provided an update on the disciplinary process and protocols at the Justice Center and information from the Steering Committee on Disciplinary Policies. There have been many meetings and hot topics related to this matter.

The group discussed the increasing age of the jail population and special needs and challenges senior inmates present. Director Wilson is working with the Commission on Aging and state officials to address the unique needs of older inmates. He is also working on reducing the medical health care costs associated with caring for inmates.

Update on Attendance Policy

Cathy Reynolds will draft an attendance policy for the COB members to review by the next meeting.

Public Forum

The next Public Forum is scheduled for December 15, 2011 at Temple Emanuel and Denver Police Chief Robert White will be present to address the audience.

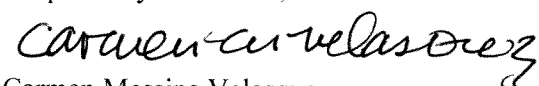
Executive Session

In accordance with D.R.M.C. 2-34(a) (3) the COB entered into Executive Session to address business matters.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at NOON.

Respectfully Submitted,


Carmen Messina Velasquez
Secretary

Citizen Oversight Board

November 4, 2011

Approved December 2, 2011

Minutes

Members present: Mary Davis, Cathy Reynolds, Pastor Paul Burleson, Rabbi Steven Foster, Jeff Walsh (via conference call), and Carmen Velasquez

Staff present:

Richard Rosenthal and Michele Wheeler

Guest:

Chief Gerald R. Whitman

Call to Order:

Chairwoman Mary Davis called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Approval of October 21, 2011 Minutes:

Rabbi Foster made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Pastor Burleson seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Chief Gerald R. Whitman:

- The Citizens Oversight Board had a positive discussion with the Chief and received an update regarding transition issues between Chief Whitman and the newly selected Chief Robert White. Chief White will assume his position mid-December 2011.
- The new Manger of Safety, Alex Martinez, is on board and began his term on November 1, 2011.
- There was discussion on the Matrix.
- An update on Occupy Denver movement was provided.
- The COB members presented Chief Whitman with a gift and expressed their gratitude for the many years of service to the Denver community and Police Department.

Report from Independent Monitor:

- Richard Rosenthal provided an update on the Department of Corrections DAG process.
- Rabbi Steven Foster represents the COB on the DAG Working Group.
- Standard for Attendance at COB meetings was reviewed.
- A DRAFT policy will be developed for consideration and to meet the request from the Auditor's Office.
- An update was provided on utilizing Facebook and Twitter for COB matters.
- Then next Public Forum will be held on December 15, 2011 at Temple Emanuel located at 51 Grape Street.

- Chief Robert White will be invited to meet the community.
- A review of the quarterly report was provided.
- TASER use and policies were discussed.
- An overview of TASER from the PERF was provided.
- A discussion of practices and procedures at Denver Health was discussed.
- A Department of Safety Directive regarding **No Preferential Treatment to be given to Employees of the Criminal Justice System or Public Officials** was distributed and discussed.

Executive Session:

In accordance with D.R.M.C.2-34(a) (3) the COB entered into Executive Session to discuss business matters.

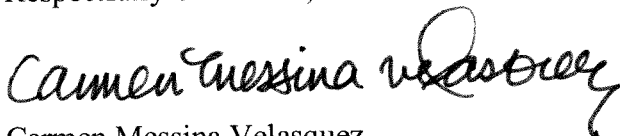
Next COB Meeting:

The next meeting of the COB will be held at the Denver Police Department Administration Building on **Friday, December 2, 2011.**

Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at NOON.

Respectfully Submitted,



Carmen Messina Velasquez
Secretary

Citizen Oversight Board Meeting

October 21, 2011

Minutes

Approved November 4, 2011

Members Present

Mary Davis, Rev Paul Burluson, Rabbi Steve Foster, Cathy Reynolds, and Carmen Velasquez

Staff Present

Richard Rosenthal and Michele Wheeler

Call to Order

Chairwoman Mary Davis called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Approval of October 7, 2011 and Public Forum Minutes

Cathy Reynolds made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Rabbi Foster seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

Report from Independent Monitor, Richard Rosenthal

- The search for the new Denver Police Department Chief is almost concluded
- The new Chief should be announced by November 1, 2011
- Richard provided the latest comments from the Legislative Audit Committee Hearing
- Jeff Walsh and Rabbi Foster attended the Audit Hearing with Richard Rosenthal
- There are still concerns regarding the final recommendations and tone of the report
- Board needs to review the current attendance patterns for Board members
- Protocols for attendance need to be established to avoid future issues with the Auditor's Office
- Interim Manager Ashley Kilroy was unable to attend the meeting due to concerns with the Occupy Denver movement and demonstration at Civic Center Park
- The new Manager of Safety, Justice Alex Martinez, will be on board early November

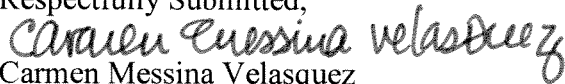
DPD Chief Gerry Whitman

The COB members wish to thank Chief Whitman for his dedicated years of services to the community and DPD. An appreciation gift will be purchased and presented to him in the near future.

Executive Session

In accordance with D.R.M.C.2-34(a) (3) the Board entered into Executive Session to discuss business matters.

Respectfully Submitted,


Carmen Messina Velasquez

Secretary

Citizen Oversight Board Meeting Minutes

Friday, September 16, 2011

12th Floor, Wellington E. Webb Municipal Building

10:00 a.m.

(Approved October 7, 2011)

Members Present: Steven Foster, Jeff Walsh (by phone), Cathy Reynolds (by phone) and Mary Davis

Chairperson Davis called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

The minutes of the September 1, 2011 meeting were approved.

The Independent Monitor reported that the OIM has not received a new Draft OIM Audit Report or a new date to respond to recommendations. The expectation is that the results of the Audit will be presented to the Audit Committee at its October 20, 2011 meeting. The Board discussed the recommendations made in the earlier Draft Audit Report with the goal of meeting the yet to be established deadline to respond to recommendations made by the Audit Team.

Members asked the Monitor to review and provide feedback about the status of citizen complaints referenced by participants at the September 15 Public Forum at the La Alma Recreation Center.

The Board went into Executive Session (In accordance with D.R.M.C.2-34(a) (3) to discuss ongoing investigations, disciplinary recommendations and other matters.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Mary J. Davis, Chairperson

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mary J. Davis".

CITIZEN OVERSIGHT BOARD QUARTERLY PUBLIC FORUM MINUTES

Thursday, September 15, 2011
6:00 – 7:15 p.m.

(Approved October 7, 2011)

The Citizen Oversight Board held a community forum at the La Alma Recreation Center beginning at 6:00 p.m. Members of the Board present were Cathy Reynolds, Jeff Walsh, Steven Foster and Mary Davis. Michele Wheeler, Office of Independent Monitor Ombudsman, was also present.

Chairperson Mary Davis opened the meeting expressing appreciation for being able to come to the community to hear concerns of citizens as well as to update the community on areas of interest about operations within City of Denver law enforcement agencies. She also expressed appreciation to Channel 8 for videotaping the forum proceedings for future airings on that station.

Chairperson Davis made a brief statement of COB purpose based on the City of Denver Ordinance establishing the body, as well as its constraints such as having advisory rather than command authority.

Denver Police Department District 6 Commander Tony Lopez welcomed Community Forum attendees and discussed actions being taken in District 6 to ensure public safety.

Guest David Edinger gave a report about the process being used to recruit a new Chief of Police. An executive search firm has been retained to conduct the search and review applications. One aspect of the recruitment process will be a series of public meetings in which Mayor Hancock will solicit comments from the community about their opinions of the attributes the new Chief should possess. A panel of City employees will interview the top candidates and recommend one or more finalists to the Mayor.

Guest Justice Alex Martinez was introduced as the incoming Manager of Safety. Justice Martinez has served as a Justice on the Colorado Supreme court for many years and states that he looks forward to the new opportunity to lead the Safety Departments of the City of Denver. He expressed his interest in keeping in touch with how the public feels through meetings such as the Community Forums.

The floor was opened for members of the community to voice their views or ask questions. One speaker spoke about concerns about status of police actions related to marijuana possession in Denver as well as about what he perceives as ineffectiveness of the Internal Affairs Division. He cited examples of how other cities use external investigators to investigate citizen complaints. Another spoke about a recent experience in which he feels he was treated unfairly by police officers. He was encouraged to file a complaint with the OIM. A third person spoke about what he considered to be lack of action about a complaint filed months ago by family members on his behalf. Members of the Board expressed their interest in learning more about each of these situations.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Mary Davis, Chairperson



Citizen Oversight Board

Meeting with Audit Team

September 9, 2011

Minutes

Call to Order

Chairwoman Mary Davis called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Members Present

Mary Davis, Cathy Reynolds, Jeff Walsh, Paul Burleson, Steven Foster, Carmen Velasquez

Staff Present

Richard Rosenthal and Joseph De Angelis

Audit Team

Kip Memmott, Clay Vigoda, Dawn Hume, and Audrey Donovan

Summary of Discussion

- Audit Team reviewed and commented on the previous comments made by the COB members and OIM staff
- Kip Memmott reviewed the audit process and target dates with City Council
- Discussed Public Relations image of the COB with Denver residents
- Discussed the need to tighten up the Matrix System
- Reviewed the Mission of the COB
- COB provides an important function for the City
- Group reviewed all the highlighted areas of the Draft report and made comments, requested edits and deletion of certain language
- Discussed the overall “tone” and ambiguous language in the Draft report
- Addressed the evaluation issues for the Independent Monitor
- Audit Team will consider the new recommendations and changes and incorporate as deemed appropriate

Meeting adjourned at NOON.

Respectfully Submitted,



Carmen Messina Velasquez
Secretary

Citizen Oversight Board Meeting

Thursday, September 1, 2011

MINUTES

(Approved September 16, 2011)

Call to Order

Chairwoman Mary Davis called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Present were Board members Jeff Walsh, Nita Gonzales, and Cathy Reynolds. Also present from the Independent Monitor's Office were Richard Rosenthal and Dr. Joseph De Angelis. A quorum was present to conduct business.


Approval of August 19, 2011 Minutes

Cathy Reynolds moved to approve the minutes as presented. Nita Gonzales seconded the motion. Members voted unanimously to adopt the minutes.

Executive Session

In accordance with D.R.M.C. 2-34(a)(3), the Board entered into Executive Session to discuss ongoing investigations, disciplinary recommendations, and other confidential matters.

Respectfully submitted,


Jeffrey M. Walsh

Citizens Oversight Board

August 19, 2011
10:00 a.m. to NOON

Minutes

(Approved September 1, 2011)

Call to Order

Chairwoman Mary Davis called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Members Present

Mary Davis, Cathy Reynolds, Jeff Walsh, Rev Paul Burleson, Rabbi Steven Foster, Nita Gonzalez, and Carmen Velasquez

Staff Present

Richard Rosenthal

Guest

Director of Corrections, Gary Wilson

Approval of August 5, 2011 Minutes

Cathy Reynolds made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Jeff Walsh seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Presentation from Director Gary Wilson

The members had a very productive conversation with Director Wilson regarding issues at the detention center. There has been much problem solving over this year regarding policies, procedures, and use of force. Director Wilson complimented the work of Richard Rosenthal regarding the technical assistance and support he received from Richard on the cheating allegations. A letter of commendation was provided to express his appreciation for contributing value and bringing credibility back to the testing process. After the investigation was concluded the officers were promoted with honor and pride as their colleagues, family, and friends attended the ceremony.

Use of Force Task Force

Rabbi Steven Foster and Jeff Walsh have been representing the COB at the meetings. There have been great presentations to gather important information. Representatives from a cross section of the community and system have presented as well as the ACLU. Deputy District Attorney Lamar Simms made a presentation to the group on criminal laws as they relate to law enforcement uses of force.

MATRIX

The Sheriff Department implemented the Matrix as of January 1, 2011 and it is working very well. Director Wilson has been working with Career Service Authority and is in support of keeping the recruitment and screening process between CSA and the Sheriff Department. The CSA has been successful in reaching out to protected classes and hiring a diverse staff is being accomplished.

Audit Report

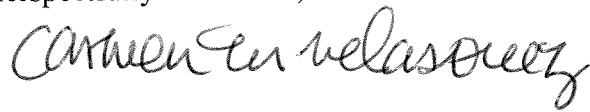
The members reviewed the DRAFT audit report and will be responding to the recommendations.

Executive Session

In accordance with D.R.M.C.2-34 (a) (3) the COB entered into Executive Session to discuss business matters.

The meeting adjourned at NOON.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carmen Messina Velasquez". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Carmen Messina Velasquez
Secretary

Citizen Oversight Board

August 5, 2011

Minutes

(Approved August 19, 2011)

Call to Order

Chairwoman Mary Davis called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Members Present

Mary Davis, Jeff Walsh, Rabbi Steven Foster, Pastor Paul Burleson, and Carmen Velasquez

Staff Present

Richard Rosenthal and Michele Wheeler

Approval of July 15, 2011 Minutes

Jeff Walsh made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Pastor Burleson seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Auditor's Office

The audit staff rescheduled their presentation for Friday, August 19, 2011 due to a conflict with schedules.

Report of Independent Monitor

Richard Rosenthal met with the new members of the City Council and provided them an overview of the Citizen Oversight Board roles and responsibilities. The meeting was timely and appreciated.

Richard attended the national NAACP conference in Los Angeles, California and his presentation was very well received. There is much interest in citizen oversight and the Denver model is being considered for replication. The time spent in Los Angeles was worthwhile and gave Richard an opportunity to network with colleagues and conference participants.

Release of Denver Police Department Use of Force Complaints

Judge Kane has ordered the release of all use of force records dating back to the inception of the COB. To gather this information will take an enormous amount of time and includes over 100,000 pages of print materials. Staff is working with the City Attorney to respond to this directive. Joseph has been working diligently to conduct data analysis and review allegations.

Motion to Enter into Executive Session

Rabbi Foster made a motion to enter into Executive Session and Pastor Burleson seconded the motion. In accordance with D.R.M.C.2-34(a) (3) the Citizens Oversight Board met in Executive Session to discuss confidential matters.

The meeting adjourned at Noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Davis, Chairperson
Carmen Messina Velasquez
Secretary

Citizens Oversight Board

July 21, 2011

Minutes

(Approved August 19, 2011)

Call to Order

Chairperson Mary Davis called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Members Present

Mary Davis, Cathy Reynolds, Steven Foster, and Jeff Walsh

Executive Session

In accordance with D.R.M.C.2-34 (a) (3) the COB entered into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,



Mary Davis
COB Chairperson

Citizens Oversight Board

July 15, 2011
(Approved August 5, 2011)

Minutes

Call to Order

Chairwoman Mary Davis called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Members Present

Mary Davis, Cathy Reynolds, Paul Burleson, Nita Gonzales, and Carmen Velasquez

Staff Present

Richard Rosenthal

Welcome Nita Gonzales

The Board was very pleased to welcome Nita as the new COB member. Nita will add much value and insight to the Board.

Approval of June 30, 2011 Minutes

Cathy Reynolds made a motion to approve the June minutes as presented. Paul Burleson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to accept the minutes.

Manager of Safety Presentation

Manager Charlie Garcia met with the COB and discussed the Denver Fire Department (DFD) discipline matrix process. The DFD Union has challenged the matrix and a temporary injunction was granted. Meanwhile Richard is researching and reviewing other state fire department disciplinary rules.

Manager Garcia and Richard Rosenthal discussed the need to update the current Discipline Matrix regarding multiple DUI offenses, attempts to obtain preferential treatment and aggravate discourtesy. The Matrix also needs to be updated to eliminate presumptive termination if an officer causes injury only to him or herself. Richard explained the discrepancies in the scale and the need for the new administration and manager to examine this issue.

DPD Deaf Population Concerns

Lorrie Kosinski and guests from the deaf community presented an overview of the challenges faced by citizens when they encounter police and do not understand the nature of the citation. Listed below are some issues that need to be addressed:

- Deaf citizens need access to phones
- The length of stay in the new jail has been extremely long (up to 3 months)
- Domestic Violence matters are often misinterpreted and misunderstood
- Citizens are reluctant to report crimes and fear retaliation from the police

- There is a mistrust of the system
- Although Lorrie conducts training at the Police and Sheriff Academy there is still a need for on-going work to improve communication between law enforcement and deaf citizens
- The average English language proficiency of many deaf citizens is at the fourth (4th) grade level and sign language is truly its own language that often does not translate into the written word
- Reading lips is not effective or accurate
- Writing the situation is also inaccurate when describing the situation
- Sign language is not the same as writing
- Police are often in a hurry to respond to other matters and do not have adequate time to spend with deaf citizens
- It takes time for translators to arrive although they are available upon request 24/7
- It is best to have the translators at the scene and not at the jail
- Chief Whitman has been very supportive and the new Chief needs to be informed of this matter
- Lorrie and citizens will attend future public meeting of the COB to better understand the role of the COB and how we can work more closely to address these concerns
- There are too many assumptions and stereotypes about deaf people
- Protocols are in place but not followed
- Under ADA rules deaf people are a protected class and there is much oversight and regulation regarding civil rights
- The miscommunication between police and citizens increase when there is discourtesy from the police
- There are some good officers who take the extra effort but not enough to make it a smooth process

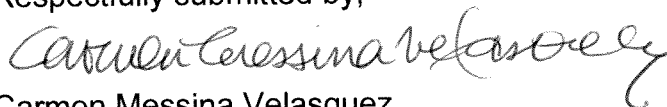
The COB is interested in working with Lorrie and the other staff to improve the relationship between the deaf community and law enforcement. A follow up meeting will be scheduled in the near future to find solutions to these problems. The COB was very pleased to have had the opportunity to learn more about how to work with special needs populations. The COB will strive to recommend improvements.

Executive Session

In accordance with D.R.M.C.2-34 (a) (3) the COB entered into Executive Session with the Manger of Safety to discuss personnel matters.

The meeting adjourned at NOON.

Respectfully submitted by,



Carmen Messina Velasquez
COB Secretary

Citizen Oversight Board Meeting

Friday, June 3, 2011

MINUTES

(Approved June 16, 2011)

Call to Order

Chairwoman Mary Davis called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Approval of May 20, 2011 Minutes

Cathy Reynolds made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Rev. Paul Burluson seconded the motion. Members voted unanimously to adopt the minutes.

Report from Richard Rosenthal, Independent Monitor

Richard reviewed the 2012 operating budget for the Office of the Independent Monitor. The City of Denver continues to experience budget shortages across all systems. The Budget Office has requested a reduction of \$25,000. The members reviewed the line items and made recommendations to propose reductions relating to the lines items involving the COB stipend (a savings of \$4,200), and COB-Professional Services (a savings of \$1,900). The Monitor will be proposing further reductions relating to Personnel Costs (a savings of \$15,000), Software (a savings of \$2,400), and training (as savings of \$1,500).

Board Training

Since the training budget is very low, Cathy Reynolds suggested inviting Subject Matter Experts to visit Denver and meet with COB members and staff on various law enforcement matters. All members agreed this was a great idea and good approach to deliver professional development classes in lieu of traveling out of town.

New Business

Rabbi Foster suggested that a meeting between the PPA and COB be schedule in the near future. Members discussed this idea and agreed it would be very beneficial to extend an invitation to the PPA for an agenda item.

Director Gary Wilson is requesting representation of the COB at the newly created Use of Force Task Force. Jeff Walsh and Rabbi Foster are both interested in serving.

The Denver Fire Department DAG process is going well. Richard will be assisting with the process of creating rules and regulations on the DFD disciplinary process and practice.


Mediation Cases

Rabbi Foster suggested inviting a few officers who have been through the mediation process to meet with the COB. It will be a good idea to learn how mediation was able to intervene and benefit both parties.

Executive Session

In accordance with D.R.M.C.2-34(a) (3), the Citizens Oversight Board entered into Executive Session to discuss on going investigations, disciplinary recommendations, and other matters.

Respectfully submitted,


Carmen Messina Velasquez

June 3, 2011

Citizen Oversight Board

May 20, 2011

Minutes

Approved June 3, 2011

Call to Order: Chairwoman Cathy Reynolds called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. All members were present.

Approval of April 15, 2011 Minutes: Rabbi Foster made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Rev. Burleson seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Election of COB Officers: Nominations for officers were as follows: Dr. Mary Davis, Chair; Jeff Walsh, Vice Chair; and Carmen M. Velasquez, Secretary. All three nominees accepted the responsibility and were voted unanimously to serve as the COB officers effective immediately. Ms. Reynolds was thanked for her outstanding leadership of the COB for the past two years.

Meeting with Police Chief Whitman: Chief Whitman was unable to attend the COB meeting and will reschedule in the near future.

Report from Independent Monitor: Richard Rosenthal introduced the newly hired Deputy Monitor, Nate Fehrmann. Nate has an impressive background in military services and as a prosecutor in the City Attorney's Office. He will be an excellent addition to the Office of the Independent Monitor and begins his new position on May 23, 2011. Welcome Nate!

Richard discussed the budget and the stipend for the COB members is under review. The 2011 stipend was reduced from \$100/per month to \$50/per month. The full stipend has been placed back into the base budget for 2012 but may need to be reduced again in order to make mandated budget cuts for that year. No stipends have been issued for 2011.

The members discussed the recent article in the Denver Post regarding a possible federal investigation of the Denver Police Department. The Sheriff Department will be forming a Work Group on Use of Force. The COB will need a representative who will be selected at a future

meeting. Meetings of this group will probably take place once a month.

The Denver Police Department DAG (disciplinary advisory group) will be making some amendments to the specifications on certain acts such as stealing property, courtesy, drinking while in possession of a firearm, and ensuring that untimely imposition of discipline will not be a mitigating factor in the adding the ordering of discipline. Second DUI charges will be a category F.

The members discussed the role of the Independent Monitor and the need for it to remain a non-political appointment.

The next Public Meeting is scheduled for June 16, 2011.

Executive Session and Annual Evaluation of Monitor: In accordance with D.R.M.C.2-34(a) (3), the Citizen Oversight Board entered Executive Session to discuss on going investigations, disciplinary recommendations, personnel issues, and the 2011 performance evaluation for Richard Rosenthal.

Respectfully submitted,

Carmen Messina Velasquez
Secretary

May 20, 2011

Citizen Oversight Board Minutes
April 15, 2011
Wellington Webb Municipal Building, 12th Floor
10:00 a.m.
Approved May 20, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 10 AM. Present were COB members Velasquez, Foster, Davis, Burleson, Walsh and Reynolds. Also present were Independent Monitor. The meeting was called to order at 10 AM. Present were COB members Velasquez, Foster, Davis, Burleson, Walsh and Reynolds. Also present were Independent Monitor Rosenthal and Ombudsman Wheeler.

The minutes of the March 31 working meeting and the April 6 Annual meeting were adopted.

Manager of Safety Charles Garcia joined the meeting. He requested support for the Police Cadet program. The COB expressed support for Manager Garcia's swift action in pending disciplines and the abandoning of the Discipline Review Board. The Manager outlined goals for his administration: Fine tune the DPD Discipline Matrix, begin work on a DFD Discipline Matrix, find ways to further shorten the discipline process, clear pending cases before mid July. The COB went into executive session with the MOS to discuss ongoing cases.

The Monitor reported that he is well on the way to hiring a new Deputy Monitor. Twelve candidates were interviewed, and five will be called back for further consideration. A decision should be made within two weeks. Assistant City Attorney Rick Stubbs has not yet issued a decision on the method for sharing citizen complaint information with the COB. The COB vacancy remains unfilled. The IM is hopeful the COB vacancy will be named soon.

Future meetings were discussed. The next quarterly meeting will be June 16 at Green Valley Ranch. Within the next 3-4 meetings, in addition to regular matters, the Board needs to conduct an evaluation meeting with Monitor Rosenthal, review the bylaws, and hold a leadership election.

In accordance with D.R.M.C.2-34(a) (3), the Board went into executive session to discuss ongoing investigations, disciplinary recommendations and personnel issues. The board was also advised regarding pending investigations.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Reynolds
Chair

Citizen Oversight Board Annual Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 6, 2011
Harvard Gulch Recreation Center
550 E. Iliff Avenue

(Approved April 15, 2011)

Citizen Oversight Board members present were: Velasquez, Davis, Reynolds, Burlison, and Foster. Tony Navarro was thanked for his service to the COB, as his term expired March 31. The Meeting convened at 7: 20 PM.

The Harvard Gulch Recreation Center staff was thanked for their cooperation in providing space for the meeting and Channel 8 was thanked for their coverage of the event.

Police District 4 Commander Joseph Montoya offered his welcome. He was accompanied by Lieutenant Jeff Martinez. They are looking forward to a successful Cinco de Mayo celebration next month.

Manager of Safety Charles Garcia spoke about his mission for Denver's safety operations. He reported that upon taking office he reviewed the Denver Police Departments Mission Statements and Core values. He was impressed by the weight given to honesty. He expressed that he will not tolerate dishonesty or excessive force. In his short tenure, he has terminated two officers for departing from the truth. He expressed great admiration and trust in the Denver Police Department. He said all departments have problems and that those must be weeded out. Absent those, Denver has an excellent Department.

In response to questions, Manager Garcia laid out his priorities: 1. Finalize high profile pending cases; 2. Assess the process for discipline; 3. Create a disciplinary matrix for the Fire Department; 4. Deal with tightening budgets; 5. Collaborate with the community to improve policing.

As required by ordinance, the Citizen Oversight Board and the Independent Monitor presented their Annual Reports. They are available on www.denvergov.org/cob and www.denvergov.org/oim respectively.

In the public comment section of the meeting, one person chose to speak. Mr. Lopez expressed his hope that the pro marijuana rally on April 20 would go well and expressed his appreciation for the DPD cooperation and asked for civil behavior from all participants. He expressed opposition to the Mediation program, concern that the Police discipline system is not readily available to the public, as well as other concerns. He offered an idea for a COB quarterly meeting venue, which will be explored. He expressed several commendations for individual members of the police force.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Reynolds

Citizen Oversight Board Minutes
Thursday, March 31, 2011

Approved 4/15/11

The meeting was called to order at 10 AM. Present were COB members Burleson, Foster, Davis, Navarro and Reynolds. Also present were Independent Monitor Rosenthal and Ombudsman Wheeler.

Five members of the Auditor's Office met with the Board in an exit interview for their audit of the operations of the COB.

They said they looked at the history and origins of the COB, its guidance per ordinance and internal rules, its roles and responsibilities to the community, and suggestions for improvement. It was a lively discussion including the issue of meeting attendance requirements. It was agreed that attendance reports would be circulated periodically to the Mayor and City Council. A draft of the Audit will be made available to the COB for comment before publication.

The Monitor reported that a law firm representing a police officer is subpoenaing him to testify to the Career Service Authority. The City Attorney's Office is handling the request. OIM analyst deAngelis is working on a clean up of the process for date entering to determine timeliness, better documentation of case interviews, and the In Custody Death Project. The OIM spoke of the Department of Justice audit of the New Orleans Police Department. They were quite positive on their record of termination for departing from the truth and quite critical of their lack of control over off duty private policing employment.

Ombudsman Wheeler reported that all is set for the Quarterly Meeting on April 6 at the Harvard Gulch Rec Center, 550 E. Iliff, at 7 PM. The Board agreed to have a special meeting in executive session to review a confidential matter on Friday, April 8.

The Board noted that Tony Navarro was with them for the final time as a board member. He was thanked for his valuable service and will be missed. We are hopeful his replacement will be appointed shortly. In March, members Burleson and Reynolds were reappointed to the Board.

Reynolds reported that a review of the COB by-laws revealed a need for some redrafting to meet the evolution of Board activities. She will pull together a report.

In accordance with D.R.M.C.2-34(a) (3), the Board went into executive session to discuss on going investigations, disciplinary recommendations and personnel issues. The board was also advised regarding pending investigations.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Reynolds
Chair

Citizen Oversight Board Minutes

March 18, 2011

Webb Building, 12th Floor

10 AM

Approved March 31, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM. Present were Citizen Oversight Boards members Reynolds, Burlison, Velasquez, Walsh, Foster, and Davis as well as Monitor Rosenthal and Liaison Wheeler. Also present to observe was Randy Marcove, who is interviewing for the vacant COB position. The minutes of March 4 were adopted.

Denver Police Chief Whitman spoke to the newest budget demands. The Department needs to cut more than 20 millions dollars for 2012. The Department is now far behind in new Academy classes and equipment. Further cuts will result in loss of personnel, sworn and civilian.

The Board expressed its support of Chief Whitman's recommendation of termination for Officer Sparks arising from the DeHerrera case, as reported in the Denver Post.

A discussion centered around the issue of timeliness and efficacy of disciplinary action, including the usefulness of Disciplinary Review Boards and the final authority for different types of sustained cases. Also discussed was the training, experience and effectiveness of IA investigators.

Monitor Rosenthal reported that he had 49 applications for the OIM office vacant position of Deputy Monitor. Those that meet the minimum qualifications will have their resumes forwarded to the screening group, which includes representatives from all vested groups, including the City Attorney, the Mayor's Office, the DPD, the DSD, the HRCR, the COB, et al.

Manager of Safety Malatesta worked on a clean up of the Disciplinary Matrix before she resigned. The changes she promoted are supported by the OIM and are being reviewed by the new Manager of Safety.

Citizen Oversight Board Members Burlison and Reynolds were forwarded by Mayor Vidal to the Denver City Council for reappointment. No word has been received about the third appointment.

Chair Reynolds reported on presenting the COB annual report to the City Council committee on 3/15. Vice Chair Davis also attended.

Liaison Wheeler distributed a list of future meeting dates and topics. The annual meeting has been moved to Wednesday, April 6, at 7 PM. Place to be determined.

In accordance with D.R.M.C.2-34(a)(3), the Board went into executive session to discuss ongoing investigations, disciplinary recommendations and personnel issues. The Board was also advised regarding pending investigations.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Reynolds, Chair

Citizen Oversight Board Minutes
March 4, 1011
Webb Building – 12th Floor

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM. Present were COB members Davis, Foster, Velasquez, Walsh and Reynolds. Also present were Independent Monitor Rosenthal and Liaison Wheeler.

The minutes of the 2/25/11 meeting were adopted.

The Independent Monitor reported that the resignation of Manager of Safety Mary Malatesta presents the great possibility of substantial further delays in finalizing a number of pending discipline actions. It also calls into question pending policy initiatives.

The OIM has received the go ahead from the Administration to fill the Deputy Monitor position that is currently vacant. The opening will be widely advertised. The Monitor hopes to convene an interview committee consisting of representatives from the COB, the Mayor's office, the City Attorney, the Sheriff Department, the Police Department, and Human Rights and Community Relations. It is hoped a new Deputy will be in place in 6 to 8 weeks.

The OIM continues to pursue options to change and improve the Discipline Review Board.

The decision process for appointing, or reappointing, members of the COB Board continues. The Mayor is interviewing candidates and should make his choices soon. The nominees will need to be approved by City Council by ordinance and be in place by March 31 to avoid an incomplete Board.

The annual reports of the OIM and the COB will be released on March 15, as required.

The COB annual meeting will be held March 28, 2011, at the Athmar Recreation Center, 2680 W. Mexico Avenue. Liaison Wheeler will contact the offices of the Chief of Police, the Director of Corrections, and the Manager of Safety to schedule their meetings with the COB for 2011.

The Board discussed the draft of their annual report and made several changes.

In accordance with D.R.M.C.2-34(a) (3), the Board went into executive session to discuss on going investigations, disciplinary recommendations made by the Monitor and personnel issues. The board was also advised regarding some pending investigations.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Reynolds
Chair

CITIZEN OVERSIGHT BOARD MINUTES

REVISED

9:30 AM

12TH FLOOR

WEBB BUILDING

FEB. 17, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM. Present were COB members Reynolds, Davis, Foster, Burluson, Walsh, Velasquez, Monitor Rosenthal and Liaison Wheeler. The February 4 minutes were adopted.

Discussion with City Attorney Rick Stubbs was postponed to accommodate Mr. Stubbs.

The Board met with Auditors Audrey Donovan and Dawn Hume regarding their performance audit of the OIM and the Cob. The COB felt it was very productive and we agreed to meet again in early April to review their draft report.

Ms. Wheeler confirmed the COB quarterly meeting will be Monday, March 28, at Athmar Park Recreation Center. A special meeting will be held February 25 to discuss the annual report and the OIM evaluation. The OIM evaluation will be in executive session.

The OIM reported that the selection process for replacing expired COB members is underway. Members Reynolds' and Burluson's terms have expired and will no longer be members as of April 1, unless reappointed.

* A 50% cut in the OIM annual report printing budget means fewer people will get a hard copy. The COB will get only the executive summary in hard copy. The full report will be available on line. The COB annual report will be reproduced in house.

* The Monitor reported that if the OIM is not allowed to fill the vacant Deputy Monitor position, he may have to restructure the case monitoring protocols and not automatically monitor declines. The Board thought this was a terrible way to deal with the missing position, but had no more palatable alternative to offer.

In accordance with D.R.M.C.2-34(a) (3), the Board went into executive session to discuss on going investigations, disciplinary recommendations made by the Monitor and personnel issues. The board was also advised regarding some pending investigations.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted,



Cathy Reynolds

Chair

Citizen Oversight Board

February 4, 1011
Webb Building, 12th Floor

Minutes

Approved February 17, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 10:00AM. Present were COB members Davis, Foster, Burluson, Walsh and Reynolds. Also present were Independent Monitor Rosenthal and Liaison Wheeler.

The minutes of January 21 were adopted.

The Board determined that they would meet with the auditor's staff at the next scheduled meeting, Feb. 17, 2011.

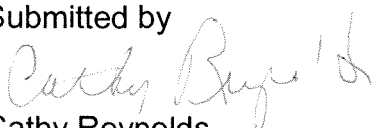
The Independent Monitor's Quarterly report was distributed. (Available on the OIM web site)

The Monitor noted that there are several new Sergeants in the DPD Internal Affairs Bureau without investigative experience who have not yet received training. OIM is working with IAB to ensure adequate investigations.

The COB agreed to move Friday meetings to Thursdays if the city furlough days fell on our meeting dates.

In accordance with D.R.M.C.2-34(a) (3), the Board went into executive session to discuss on going investigations, disciplinary recommendations, and personnel issues. The board was also advised regarding pending investigations.

Submitted by


Cathy Reynolds
COB Chair

Citizen Oversight Board Minutes

Minutes

January 21, 1011
Webb Building, 12th Floor
Approved February 4, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM. Present were COB members Davis, Foster, Burluson, Velasquez and Reynolds. Also present were Independent Monitor Rosenthal and Liaison Wheeler.

The OIM reported that the disciplinary matrix for the Sheriff Department has been adopted and in effect as of January first. The work on a disciplinary matrix for the Fire Department will begin shortly. The COB needs a volunteer member to work on this committee. The Monitor made a presentation for the HRC in Pueblo on Denver's oversight and mediation programs. He has received a preliminary request from Honolulu for a presentation on mediation. The Denver Post has contacted the Monitor regarding a story on timeliness of discipline on forces cases.

COB members Burluson and Reynolds have applied for reappointment to the Board. No interviews have been set.

The Board had a discussion about how to handle interface with the Auditor's Office regarding their request to attend an Executive Session to more fully understand how we receive information. After consultation with the City Attorney's office, it was decided that attendance at an Executive Session could well invalidate the confidentiality of the meeting, and should not occur. The Board would like to have the auditors attend a Board meeting with time on the agenda to discuss their concerns. That meeting has not yet been scheduled.

In accordance with D.R.M.C.2-34(a) (3), the Board went into Executive Session to discuss on going investigations, disciplinary recommendations made by the Monitor and personnel issues. The board was also advised regarding some pending investigations.

Submitted by


Cathy Reynolds
COB Chair

Citizen Oversight Board
January 7, 2011
Webb Building, 12th Floor
Approved January 21, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 10 AM. Present were COB Members Foster, Davis, Walsh, Burleson, Navarro and Reynolds. Also present were Independent Monitor Rosenthal the Community Liaison Wheeler.


The minutes of 11/18/10 and 12/17/10 were adopted.

Monitor Rosenthal reported that he was scheduled for an "exit" interview with the Auditor. He though all looked good. Vice chair Davis will also attend. Although the Sheriff had hoped to obtain grant to assist in developing an Early Intervention Program for deputies, it looks as if the staff will not be available to submit a timely application. The Department will continue to develop the program on its own, with help from other City agencies, including the OIM.

The COB Annual public meeting will be at 7 PM on March 28, 2011, at Athmar Park, 2680 W. Mexico Avenue.

In accordance with D.R.M.C.2-34(a) (3), the Board went into executive session to discuss on going investigations, disciplinary recommendations made by the Monitor and personnel issues. The board was also advised regarding some pending investigations.

Respectfully submitted,


Cathy Reynolds
Chair