



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

POLICE OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY TASK FORCE DRAFT MINUTES

Wednesday, November 4, 2020

Members:

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

Alternates:

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

Liaisons

Present: Jerry Gabrielto, Shannon Lee Erskine, Peter Mahuna, Adam Peterson, Elissa Preston, Bill Reylea, Jules Walters.

Facilitators

Present: Martine Coblentz, Erin Ruff

1. Call to Order

- a. Meeting was called to order at 6:07 pm by Martine Coblentz, Facilitator

2. Public Comment

- a. Abby Farber, West Linn resident and co-founder of Concerned Citizens of WL suggested the TF focus on creating a community law enforcement oversight entity. Her experience is that there would be broad support from the WL community.
- b. Jenny Koll, West Linn resident and member of Concerned Citizens of WL expressed support for a permanent community police oversight committee.
- c. Martha Boyce, Oregon City resident and member of Concerned Citizens of WL expressed that accountability for former Chief Kruger should be dealt with directly and soon.

3. Approval of Minutes from 10/21/2020

The Task Force approved the draft minutes

4. **Liaison Reports**

- a. City Council feedback about Task Force priorities and deadlines, Bill Relyea and Jules Walters.

Counselors described a two-prong approach – the short term Task Force and a permanent oversight entity. This Task Force will provide the community vision, and recommend a framework and structure for the ongoing group. City Council expects this (short-term) Task Force to look at things like police policies and procedures, police reform measures, and decision metrics, and use that to recommend the framework for the permanent entity.

- b. Public access to bargaining, Jerry Gabrielatos and Elissa Preston

City staff reported that members of the public or Task Force have not been included in bargaining in West Linn before. It is an item that would have to be bargained, and there would be pros and cons for both the city and the union.

5. **Data reports**

- a. STOPS data: Debbie Wong

The earliest West Linn data will be available on December 1. The group should review and discuss it then.

- b. Citizen complaints: Debbie Wong and Nikki Dawson

Reviewed 25 complaints from 2014 – 2020.

- 10 involved discourteous behavior
- 8 were frivolous complaints (resident disagreed with a valid law)
- 1 involved harassment
- 1 involved constitutional rights (warrant)
- 2 involved profiling.
- Most were found to be “unfounded”. 1 sustained. 1 exonerated. 2 without disposition.

Assessment:

- There is an average of one serious complaint per year.
- There were no profiling complaints in 2018-2019.
- Many did not have any evidence of why the investigator decided the way they did (why a traffic stop was made, why officers entered a home without a warrant, whether officers were asked about what they did or did not do during the encounter).
- ORS 131.920 requires police departments to submit all profiling complaints, regardless of outcome. Many complaints described profiling without using the word profiling, and Debbie wonders if those are being properly reported.

Recommendations:

- Complaints should be investigated by an independent third party.

c. WLPD Policies: Tim Mullin and Sharron Furno

Tim reviewed the policies that concerned him as [highlighted in this document](#). Key questions raised include:

- 208.2 What training is mandatory, what is encouraged?
- 208.6 What is the history of the training committee and training coordinator? Have they recommended or updated training based on incidents that have occurred or resident complaints?
- 208.8 How has the training budget changed, and how has training changed with budget changes?
- 300.8 How often is the “periodic” training on use of force required?
- 302.4 Use of force should be reviewed externally, not internally
- 328.8 How is the required annual training on discriminatory harassment delivered?
- 338.2 Does this put the responsibility for bias incidents on targets of bias? That doesn’t feel appropriate.
- 338.3.2 There are requirements to maintain data about bias crimes and incidents. Is that data used to make changes?
- 338.4 How often do officers take the required training on bias crime and bias incident recognition?
- 402.3 Why does the policy include “Nothing in this policy is intended to prohibit an officer from considering factors such as race or ethnicity in combination with other legitimate factors to establish reasonable suspicion...”
 - Shannon Lee Erskine, City Attorney, said that this could cover using race or ethnicity when it is used to describe someone.
- 402.5 Would like a copy of the Personnel Complaints Policy
- 402.7 Would like to see a copy of the training materials and records including how it has been modified over time.
- 436.5.1 Would like to see a copy of the Field Training Manual.
- Has the policy been reviewed through bias-identifying tools?
- What is Lexipol’s role? Why do we use their policies?
- How are officers trained on excited delirium?
- Are there any additional rules and regulations that the Task Force has not seen yet?

d. Case studies from other communities: Fred Groves

Fred created a [comparison spreadsheet available here](#).

Fred Groves and Lonny Webb provided the following resources for review:

- [Citizen Review of Police](#), US Department of Justice & National Institute of Justice
- [Getting it Right: Building Effective Civilian Review Boards to Oversee Police](#), Udi Ofer, Seton Hall Law Review.
- [Citizen Complaints Against the Police: An Eight City Examination](#), Police Quarterly
- [Oversight Models](#), NACOLE (National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement)
- [Police Oversight by Jurisdiction](#), NACOLE
- [Review of National Police Oversight Models](#), Police Assessment Resource Center
 - [Evanston, Illinois Overview of Police Oversight Models in the US](#)
(Summarizes the report above)
- [Community Oversight](#), Campaign Zero

e. CAHOOTS, Linda Hamel

There is a process to invite CAHOOTS to speak to the Task Force. Linda provided [information for review](#).

6. Discuss and prioritize next steps:

Task Force members will review this information and come back to the next meeting with a focus on how it applies to structuring a permanent entity.

7. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm.