

Civilian Police Oversight Agency Board

Patricia J. French, Chair *Jesse Crawford, Vice-Chair*

Chantal M. Galloway *Eric Nixon*

Michael Wartell

Diane McDermott, Interim Executive Director

Members Present:

Patricia French, Chair
Jesse Crawford, Vice-Chair
Chantal Galloway
Eric Nixon
Michael Wartell

Members Absent:

Others Present:

Diane McDermott, CPOA
Katrina Sigala, CPOA
Valerie Barela, CPOA
Lynn Mostoller, CPOA Legal Counsel
Lauren Keefe, City Atty
Beverly Samuels, City HR
Julia Coulloudon, City Council
Carlos Pacheco, Sr. Managing City Atty
Kelly Mensah, CPC
Marteessa Billy, CPC
Deirdre Ewing, Candidate
Ashley Schweizer, Candidate

Tuesday, March 22, 2022 - 3:00 p.m.

Attendance: In response to the Public Health Emergency, the Civilian Police Oversight Agency (CPOA) Board meeting on Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. will be held via Zoom video conference.

Viewing: Members of the public will have the ability to view the meeting through GOVTV on Comcast Channel 16, or to stream live on the GOVTV website at: <https://www.cabq.gov/culturalservices/govtv>, or on YouTube at: <https://www.cabq.gov/cpoa/events/cpoa-board-special-meeting-03-22-2022>. (Please note that the link for YouTube has not yet been generated, however, the link could easily be found on the link provided above prior to the start of the meeting). The GOVTV live stream can be accessed at these addresses from most smartphones, tablets, or computers.

The video recording of this and all past meetings of the CPOA Board will also remain available for viewing at any time on the CPOA's website. CPOA Staff is available to help members of the public access pre-recorded CPOA meetings on-line at any time during normal business hours. Please email CPOA@cabq.gov for assistance.

Public Comment: The agenda for the meeting will be posted on the CPOA website by 3:00 p.m., Friday, March 18, 2022 at www.cabq.gov/cpoa.

The CPOA Board will take general public comment and comment on the meeting's specific agenda items in written form via email through 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday,

March 22, 2022. Submit your public comments to: POB@cabq.gov. These comments will be distributed to all CPOA Board members for review.

Minutes

- I. Welcome and call to order.** Chair French called to order the special meeting of the Civilian Police Oversight Agency Board at 3:33 p.m.
 - II. Mission Statement.** Chair French read the Civilian Police Oversight Agency Board's mission statement.
 - III. Approval of the Agenda**
 - a. Motion.** Motion by Member Wartell to approve the agenda as amended to move agenda item V. *Approval of Status Letter to City Council on Executive Director Selection Process* to item XIII. Roll call vote taken. Motion passed.
- For: 5 – Crawford, French, Galloway, Nixon, Wartell**
- IV. Public Comments**
 - a.** None.
 - V. Interview of Candidates for Executive Director Position**
 - a.** Chair French advised that the Board will move forward with the interviews and asked Interim Director Diane McDermott to allow the two Candidates to join the zoom meeting.
 - b.** CPOA Board Legal Counsel Lynn Mostoller advised the candidates of a procedural issue and that the interviews would be broadcast live on GovTV. Lynn Mostoller asked that the candidate who is interviewed second not to watch the live broadcast to secure a fair and equal process for both candidates. Both Candidates agreed to the condition.
 - c.** Chair French advised the candidates that the interviews would take place in alphabetical order according to last name. Both candidates agreed to the process and the CPOA Board proceeded with the interviews.
 - d.** Ashley Schweizer was moved back into the waiting room.
 - e.** Chair French advised the Board that the candidates will be asked the same questions, and that Board Members may only ask for clarification on the pre-interview questions that the candidates submitted. And that

the Board is interviewing all the candidates that were received from City HR that met minimum qualifications and submitted their pre-interview questions.

- f. Member Galloway led the interviews and asked all interview questions for both candidates.
- g. Deirdre Ewing was interviewed first.

*****Ten-minute break began at 4:21 p.m. and the meeting reconvened at 4:31 p.m.*****

- h. Ashley Schweizer was interviewed second.

**VI. Meeting with Counsel re: Pending Litigation or Personnel Issues:
Closed Discussion and Possible Action re: Pending Litigation or
Personnel Issues**

- a. **Limited personnel matters pursuant to NMSA 1978,
Section 10-15-1(H)(2)**

1. Deliberate on Candidates

- i. **Motion.** A motion by Member Galloway French to move into closed session for the limited purpose of deliberate on candidates. Roll call vote taken. Motion passed.

For: 5 – Crawford, French, Galloway, Nixon, Wartell

******Meeting on Deliberate on Candidates began at 5:06 p.m. and the meeting Reconvened at 5:47 p.m.******

- ii. **Motion.** A motion by Member Nixon to reconvene into open session. Roll call vote taken. Motion passed.

For: 5 – Crawford, French, Galloway, Nixon, Wartell

VII. Selection of name(s) to forward to City Council for Review and Approval

- a. Motion.** Motion by Member Galloway to table agenda item VII. Selection of name(s) to forward to City Council for Review and Approval. Roll call vote taken. Motion passed.

For: 5 – Crawford, French, Galloway, Nixon, Wartell

VIII. Approval of Status Letter to City Council on Executive Director Selection Process

- a.** The Board discussed the draft letter and agreed to modify the letter to include that the Interim Director’s appointment may extend until another Director is selected and in place and that the Board Chair will work directly with City HR to expedite the circular and process.
- b. Motion.** A motion by Member Galloway to allow Chair French to amend the draft status letter to City Council on Executive Director Selection Process and have CPOA staff submit to City Council. Roll call vote taken. Motion passed.

For: 5 – Crawford, French, Galloway, Nixon, Wartell

IX. Other Business

- a.** Chair French noted that she was advised by City HR that the DOJ had requested the names and resumes of the applicants who applied for the CPOA Executive Director position.
- b.** Chair French inquired into the text messages Interim Director McDermott was receiving from persons inquiring about the meeting.


X. Adjournment.

- a. Motion.** A motion by Member Wartell to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote taken. Motion passed.

For: 5 – Crawford, French, Galloway, Nixon, Wartell

- b.** The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

APPROVED:

DocuSigned by:


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Patricia J. French, Chair
Civilian Police Oversight Agency Board

April 14, 2022

Date

CC: Julian Moya, City Council Staff
Ethan Watson, City Clerk
Isaac Benton, City Council President (via email)

Minutes drafted and submitted by:
Valerie Barela, Administrative Assistant

ATTACHMENT

CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE



CIVILIAN POLICE OVERSIGHT AGENCY

Civilian Police Oversight Agency Board

Patricia J. French, Chair

Jesse Crawford, Vice Chair

Chantal M. Galloway

Eric Nixon

Michael Wartell

Diane McDermott, Interim Executive Director

March 22, 2022

Dear Council President Benton,

First and foremost, the Civilian Police Oversight Agency Board (Board) wants to thank City Council for its hard work, time, and consideration of the recent amendments to the CPOA Ordinance. The Board appreciates the opportunities it was given to provide input, and further appreciates that this input was conscientiously considered. While all of City Council and its team had a role in this process, special thanks goes to the Ordinance Amendment sponsors, Councilors Bassan, Benton, and Davis.

Second, and importantly, this communication is to provide a status update about the Board's Executive Director selection process. The Board is moving forward with interviews of qualified candidates as expeditiously as possible. Still, given the process entailed in making this hiring decision, which includes City Council confirmation pursuant to the Ordinance, § 9-4-1-7(B)(1), it is likely that the current interim directors six-month term will expire before a permanent Executive Director is hired. Having the Executive Director position filled is of paramount importance to the CPOA's ability to operate effectively and timely. Accordingly, City Council may need to consider extending the interim position until another Director is hired and in place.

PO Box 1293

Albuquerque

NM 87103

In sum, the Board is actively and diligently working to fill the Executive Director position, additionally, the Chair will work directly with HR to expedite the circular and process.

Sincerely,

www.cabq.gov

DocuSigned by:

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Patricia J. French,

On Behalf of the Civilian Police Oversight Agency Board