

Draft Minutes Detroit Board of Police Commissioners
Date of Meeting: Thursday, August 31, 2023 – 3:00 PM
Location: Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third St., Detroit, Michigan 48226

- I. **Chairperson Quantez Pressley called the BOPC Board Meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.**
- II. **Invocation.** Commander Chaplain Shari Lowman provided the invocation.
- III. **Community Impact.**

Chief Investigator Jerome Warfield provided an update on OCI workplace issues; our building was in a minor state of this disrepair for the entire week, beginning on Monday. Sewage issues in our restrooms, and that caused us to have our investigators work from home, for three days. I do want to thank Resource Management who handles our building repairs. They worked as quickly as they could to resolve the issue, but it required some construction. And on Friday we had a massive power outage at the building, our workers sent home. However, today, the issue is of one our doors. Our access doors strike plate left the building unsecure. But they work primarily from home, and so we don't see a big interruption in them being able to process the complaints that they were able to do last week. In addition, want to also talk about process improvement. One of the things that our investigators were encountering how do we transfer our cases to internal controls in accordance to DPD Policy and SOP. I want to thank Captain William Sims, we came up with process and procedures, which both sides seems to be very happy with, and we put that in place. When OCI receives an allegation of impropriety on behalf of police and it seems to be criminal in nature. We preliminary assess to make sure that criminal allegation has merit. If we believed it has merit, we send it to Internal Affairs along with any other allegations in that particular case for investigation. Prior to this, we were going through too many different people, but we have simplified the process. We have one contact, and that seems to be working out really well. One of the issues that we deal with is the complaints that we get from citizens as relates to their criminal investigations, be it murder investigations or breaking and entering. As you all know, we do not do criminal investigations, nor are our investigators equipped to scrutinize criminal investigations. However, we do handle service complaints. So when citizens call and say, they have not received a call back, or they don't like the results. One of the things we have been able to do in the past is having a working relationship with the investigators. Whether it is PDU Investigators or Homicide Investigators, but we wanted to solidify that. So Commander Parish, Deputy Chief Hayes, Second Deputy Chief Ha, myself and Senior Investigator Hiller met this week. We are bringing together a process that will allow us to answer those complaints that comes into us from criminal investigations a lot quicker and faster. And again, it's the Chief's staff working with us. We all have the same customer and that is the citizens of the city. We want to make sure that we service them faster and certainly again kudos to the chief's staff for coming together and solving that issue, together with us.

IV. **Report from Board Secretary / Communications Submitted to BOPC as incoming information:**

1. Shea Howell CPTA Memorandum 08302023
2. Ronald Foster S.A.F.E. Program for all 1st Responders 08302023
3. 20230825_Letter from Chief White
4. Committee for FY 2023-2024_08242023_Final
5. Appointment Consideration Packet Jasmin Taylor
6. Shielded from Justice Police Brutality & Accountability in the United States

V. **Announcements.**

Chairperson Pressley announced the following:

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 7, 2023, at 3:00 p.m., at Detroit Public Safety Headquarters, 1301 Third St., Detroit, MI 48226.

Next Community Meeting: Thursday, September 14, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., hosted by the 4th Precinct at Kemeny Recreation Center, 2260 West Fort St., Detroit, MI 48217.

VI. **Oral Communications / Public Comments.**

Lieutenant Mark Young, Ms. Fredia Butler, Mr. Ronald Foster, Ms. Michelle George, Mr. Jeff Cowan, Mr. Robert

Carmack, Ms. Bernice Smith, Black Jesus, and Former Commissioner William Davis provided comments.

VII. Introduction of Police Commissioners. A roll call was held, and a quorum was declared.

Detroit Board of Police Commissioners' Membership / Attendance		
	In Attendance	Not-In Attendance
QuanTez Pressley, Chairperson	Yes	
Rev. Jim Holley, PhD.	Yes	
Linda D. Bernard, Esq.		Excused
Cedric Banks	Yes	
Willie E. Bell	Yes	
Willie E. Burton	Yes	
Lisa Carter	Yes	
Ricardo Moore		Excused
Jesus Hernandez		Excused
Annie Holt	Yes	
Quorum (Yes)	7	

VIII. Chairperson Pressley requested the approval of the Agenda for Thursday, August 31, 2023. The Agenda was amended to move DPD Promotions after the Chief of Police Report. The motion was accepted and adopted.

IX. Chairperson Pressley requested the approval of the Meeting Minutes for August 24, 2023, with any corrections. The minutes were adopted as presented. Chairperson Pressley requested the approval of the Closed Session Minutes for August 17, 2023 Administrative Leave without Pay, but with Medical Benefits regarding Police Officer David Apperson. The minutes were adopted as presented. Chairperson Pressley requested the approval of Closed Session Minutes for August 17, 2023, Administrative Leave without Pay, but with Medical Benefits regarding Police Officer Amy Szarafinski. The minutes were adopted as presented.

X. Introductions of Board administrative and investigative staff, the Chief of Police, Elected Officials or Representatives and Community Leaders.

XI. Chair's Report.

Chairperson Pressley reported on BOPC and DPD activities, updates, and reports for the Board and the community's awareness.

A. Recommendation to Appoint Administrative Assistant Jasmin Taylor

Board Secretary Shah reported five applicants were interviewed for the open Administrative Assistant position for the Board of Police Commissioners. Chief Investigator Warfield and I conducted the interviews, with the assistance of Mr. John Tipton from recruiting. In your package is Ms. Jasmin Taylor's application and resume. Ms. Taylor has a Bachelor's degree from Michigan State University and a master's of social work from the University of Michigan. She has held various positions throughout the community, supporting children and families in the social work and mental health fields. She has demonstrated to be a professional that is committed to the community and her score on the interview questions exceeded the other applicants. I anticipate Ms. Taylor will provide excellent support to commissioners and the community in the furtherance of civilian oversight. The salary range for Administrative Assistant position is \$42,172 to \$63,200. I recommend this honorable board, adopt a motion to make a contingent offer to Ms. Jasmin Taylor, and enter salary negotiations for the position of Administrative Assistant offering a salary of \$51,150.

Vice Chairperson Holley moved "to appoint Ms. Jasmin Taylor as Administrative Assistant with a proposed salary of

\$51,150 contingent on negotiations and background checks.” The motion was adopted.

XII. Chief of Police Report: Chief of Police’s Summary of CompStat Data and other Crime Information/DPD Information: Chief James E. White shared for the Board’s attention a huge tragedy for the department and colleagues at homicide regarding the loss of Sergeant Shannon Wright, dynamic person, she had a medical episode at work and lost her fight for battle this week. Chief White reported on current CompStat Crime/Statistical Data for Violent Crime and Property; and recent critical incidents impacting the DPD and the community. See the attached Meeting Transcripts and DPD Crime Reports for more information, which are also posted to the Board’s webpage.

Several inquiries require responses from the BOPC and/or DPD: **Commissioner Banks** inquired on the death of Sergeant Wright. **Vice Chairperson Holley** commented on the new James White Training Academy on WCCCD Campus. **Commissioner Holt** commented on DPD, WCCCD and Cleary University. **Chairperson Pressley** inquired on COVID reporting.

Chief of Police James E. White’s Recommendations for Appointment to the Ranks of Lieutenant, Sergeant, and Detective

Vice Chairperson Holley moved to “adopted Chief White’s recommendation for promotion from Sergeant to the rank of Lieutenant.” The motion was adopted.

Sergeant Erik Peterson
Sergeant Shaun Dunning
Sergeant Gayle Bowden
Sergeant Stephanie Smith
Sergeant Jon Gardner
Sergeant Terica Holston

Sergeant Kelly Slaughter
Sergeant Phillip Curtis
Sergeant Damion Manning
Sergeant Andre Brooks
Sergeant Sedrick Dunbar

Commissioner Bell moved to “accept Chief White’s recommendation for promotion of Sergeant James Wiencek to the rank of Lieutenant.” The motion was adopted.

VOTE: YES = 5 NO = 1 ABSTAIN = 1 MOTION: ADOPTED

Yes: Chairperson Pressley, Vice Chairperson Holley, Commissioners Bell, Carter, Holt

No: Commissioner Banks

Abstain: Commissioner Burton

Commissioner Carter moved to “accept Chief White’s recommendation for promotion of Sergeant Paul Brown to the rank of Lieutenant.” The motion was adopted.

VOTE: YES = 5 NO = 1 ABSTAIN = 1 MOTION: ADOPTED

Yes: Chairperson Pressley, Vice Chairperson Holley, Commissioners Bell, Carter, Holt

No: Commissioner Banks

Abstain: Commissioner Burton

Commissioner Carter moved to “accept Chief White’s recommendation for promotion of Sergeant Nathan Miller to the rank of Lieutenant.” The motion was adopted.

VOTE: YES = 5 NO = 1 ABSTAIN = 1 MOTION: ADOPTED

Yes: Chairperson Pressley, Vice Chairperson Holley, Commissioners Bell, Carter, Holt

No: Commissioner Banks

Abstain: Commissioner Burton

Commissioner Carter moved to “accept Chief White’s recommendation for promotion of Sergeant Justin Sampson to the rank of Lieutenant.” The motion was adopted.

VOTE: YES = 5 NO = 1 ABSTAIN = 1 MOTION: ADOPTED

Yes: Chairperson Pressley, Vice Chairperson Holley, Commissioners Bell, Carter, Holt

No: Commissioner Banks

Abstain: Commissioner Burton

Vice Chairperson Holley moved to “accept Chief White’s recommendation for promotion to the rank of Sergeant.” The motion was adopted.

Corporal Ladawn Russell
Corporal Eriberto Torres
Police Officer Ricky Mathis
Police Officer Marty Dara
Corporal William Vintevoghel
Police Officer Rhonda White
Police Officer Jacob Schmidt
Corporal Alyssa Vogel
Police Officer Michael Scott
Police Officer Mickayla Staten
Police Officer Nicholas Mose
Police Officer Nicholas Reno
Police Officer Rhonda Moore

Police Officer Timothy Oravetz
Police Officer Christopher Dodd
Police Officer Danielle Glass
Police Officer David Gonzalez
Police Officer Edward Davis
Police Officer Alex Smalley
Police Officer Andrea Kricak
Police Officer Heather Fitzpatrick
Police Officer Fabio Buscemi
Police Officer Ellen Brow
Police Officer David Soli
Detective Sandra Whitfield
Police Officer Ryan Pajakowski

VOTE: YES = 5 NO = 1 ABSTAIN = 1 MOTION: ADOPTED

Yes: Chairperson Pressley, Vice Chairperson Holley, Commissioners Bell, Carter, Holt

No: Commissioner Banks

Abstain: Commissioner Burton

Commissioner Holt moved to “accept Chief White’s recommendation for promotion of Police Officer Jordan Leavy to the rank of Sergeant.” The motion was adopted.

VOTE: YES = 5 NO = 1 ABSTAIN = 1 MOTION: ADOPTED

Yes: Chairperson Pressley, Vice Chairperson Holley, Commissioners Bell, Carter, Holt

No: Commissioner Banks

Abstain: Commissioner Burton

Commissioner Bell moved to “accept Chief White’s recommendation for promotion of Corporal Joseph Ceravolo to the rank of Sergeant.” The motion was adopted.

VOTE: YES = 5 NO = 1 ABSTAIN = 1 MOTION: ADOPTED

Yes: Chairperson Pressley, Vice Chairperson Holley, Commissioners Bell, Carter, Holt

No: Commissioner Banks

Abstain: Commissioner Burton

Vice Chairperson Holley moved to “accept Chief White’s recommendation for promotion of Police Officer Mahera Richardson to the rank of Sergeant.” The motion was adopted.

VOTE: YES = 5 NO = 1 ABSTAIN = 1 MOTION: ADOPTED

Yes: Chairperson Pressley, Vice Chairperson Holley, Commissioners Bell, Carter, Holt

No: Commissioner Banks

Abstain: Commissioner Burton

Vice Chairperson Holley moved to “accept Chief White’s recommendation for promotion of Police Officer Jason Lord to the rank of Sergeant.” The motion was adopted.

VOTE: YES = 5 NO = 1 ABSTAIN = 1 MOTION: ADOPTED

Yes: Chairperson Pressley, Vice Chairperson Holley, Commissioners Bell, Carter, Holt

No: Commissioner Banks

Abstain: Commissioner Burton

Vice Chairperson Holley moved to “accept Chief White’s recommendation for promotion to the rank of Detective.” The motion was adopted.

Police Officer Eric Brown
Police Officer Gregory Bentley
Police Officer Kimberly Cochran
Police Officer Reginald Dyas
Police Officer Kimberly Sterner
Police Officer Joshua Davis
Police Officer Hayley Genaw
Police Officer Edward Pawlowski

Police Officer Olando Harper
Police Officer Whitney Willis
Police Officer Alexis Campbell
Police Officer Danielle Noyse
Police Officer Hallie Mackson
Police Officer Julian Shanti
Police Officer Melinda Cook

VOTE: YES = 5 NO = 1 ABSTAIN = 1 MOTION: ADOPTED

Yes: Chairperson Pressley, Vice Chairperson Holley, Commissioners Bell, Carter, Holt

No: Commissioner Banks

Abstain: Commissioner Burton

XIII. Presentation to the Board – Missing Persons – Sergeant Shannon Jones, Homicide Missing Persons Unit.

- A. **Missing Persons – Sergeant Shannon Jones, Homicide Missing Persons Unit** reported the Missing Persons Unit falls under the Homicide Unit and is in charge of reviewing missing person cases daily. We work with the National Center for Missing and Exploratory Children, which assist us with juveniles. We ensure that all our missing that we believe are in danger or serious, or they are juveniles, are entered into the NCIC System or LEIN databases for other agencies. Unidentified Human Remains are also entered into VCAP, which is the Violent Criminal Apprehension Program that goes throughout the United States. So if we have a missing person or an unidentified person that can be shared throughout the network. If other states have someone missing or unidentified, that might match one of our cases. Sergeant Jones discussed Notification Criteria for Precincts consist of abductions and kidnappings, which would include amber alerts, we have citizens that are sometimes held for ransom, it may be a domestic, not letting their spouse out, or if a young child has wandered off, we will deploy as well. Children or persons of any age, with some type of mental or physical disability depending on the severity of that disability. Also providing the yearly comparison report and year to date cases statistics for Missing Persons. See the attached Meeting Transcripts posted to the Board’s webpage.

The following inquiries require responses from the BOPC and/or DPD: **Vice Chairperson Holley** inquired the number of individuals in the unit? He asked are there 400 people missing in Detroit? He also inquired on Trafficking. **Sergeant Jones** stated that number represent the total number of cases that are opened.

XIV. New Business.

Commander Parish expressed a point of clarification regarding the promotion of Detectives. The promotion to the rank of Detectives, like the promotions to Sergeants and Lieutenants, pursuant to the Charter require BOPC approval. There was a point of confusion on this issue, because the Detective rank was for a time an appointed rank. In such a case, when it was an appointed rank, it did not require BOPC approval, like other appointees. Point of clarification, Detective rank, being a promotional rank, currently does require BOPC approval.

Commissioner Bell addressed the August 17, 2023 meeting in which the Board of Police Commissioners promoted two staff members Ms. Cox and Ms. Phillips. It is my understanding that HR has not received their paperwork. Let us know when officially going in and make sure that their appointment date is effective in terms of their promotion.

Board Secretary Shah provided an update on both individuals. For Ms. Cox, the Board did approve for a special salary adjustment was not a promotion, and the paperwork is in HR. We are waiting for that approval. HR does not allow for any retroactive date, so we are pushing for that to finalize as soon as possible. So staff can receive those increases as soon as possible. For Ms. Phillips there were two points because there was an approval to adjust her title to Administrative Assistant. In order to do that, the Board first approved to convert one of the existing positions in the budget to Administrative Assistant. So that has to happen first. The request is in budget right now, and we are checking on that every couple of days to make sure that processes. Once that is final, then HR can move Ms. Phillips into that position, and the pay increase can be applied. Staff is working diligently with the Budget and Finance office as well as HR to get those processed as quickly as possible.

XV. Adjournment.

Chairperson Pressley adjourned the meeting at 4:59 p.m.