



OAKLAND POLICE COMMISSION

Regular Meeting Minutes

March 27, 2025

5:30 p.m.

Oakland City Hall, Council Chambers

Commissioners Present

- Chair Ricardo Garcia-Acosta
- Vice Chair Shawana Booker
- Commissioner Shane Williams
- Commissioner Wilson Riles
- Commissioner Samuel Dawit
- Alternate Commissioner Omar Farmer (Voting Member for Closed Session)

Commissioners Absent

- Commissioner Angela Jackson-Castain (Excused)

Staff Present

- Mykah Montgomery, Chief of Staff
- Deputy Chief Ausmus, Oakland Police Department
- Captain Dorham, Oakland Police Department
- Lieutenant Worcester, Oakland Police Department
- Inspector General Zurvan Maloof
- Interim Executive Director Antonio Lawson, CPRA

I. Call to Order, Welcome, Roll Call, and Determination of Quorum

Staff Report / Presentation

Chair Garcia-Acosta called the meeting to order, conducted roll call, and established a quorum. Alternate Commissioner Omar Farmer was elevated to voting status for Closed Session due to Commissioner Jackson-Castain's excused absence.

Public Comment

None.

II. Closed Session

The Commission adjourned to Closed Session to discuss existing litigation, public employee discipline and appointment matters. No reportable action was taken.

III. Redetermination of Quorum and Read-Out from Closed Session

Staff Report / Presentation

The Commission reconvened in Open Session. Chair Garcia-Acosta reported there were no reportable actions from Closed Session. Alternate Commissioner Farmer returned to Alternate Commissioner status for the remainder of the meeting.

IV. Open Forum Part 1

Public Comment

Speakers: Mr. Contreras, Ms. Mandal, Ms. Olugbala, and Mr. V. (E-Comment)

Public comments addressed Measure A litigation, Commission meeting procedures, Oakland's sanctuary city policies, public safety concerns, and CPRA complaint handling.

V. City Attorney Semi-Annual Report (Postponed)

Staff Report / Presentation

Chair Garcia-Acosta informed the Commission that the City Attorney's Office requested postponement of its Semi-Annual Report due to a scheduling emergency.

Commissioner Discussion

Commissioners supported postponing the item. Commissioner Riles requested the future presentation include information regarding reductions in OPD-related lawsuits attributable to civilian oversight, including historical comparisons and associated cost savings.

Public Comment

Speakers: Mr. Contreras, Ms. Olugbala, and Ms. Janks

Public comments focused on Measure X litigation, the impact of federal oversight on reductions in lawsuits, arbitration involving the Oakland Police Officers' Association, and Charter compliance.

Commission Action

Motion: Chair Garcia-Acosta

Second: Commissioner Riles

The Commission unanimously approved postponing the item to the April 13, 2025 Regular Meeting.

Vote: 5–0

Follow-Up Items

- City Attorney's Office to provide data regarding reductions in OPD-related lawsuits attributable to civilian oversight.
 - Include information regarding arbitration matters and Charter compliance.
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VI. Discussion on Proposed Changes to Special Order 9214 – Use of Force Investigation Timelines

Staff Report / Presentation

OPD presented proposed revisions to Special Order 9214 to update investigation timelines for use-of-force cases. Staff discussed increased investigative complexity, body-worn camera evidence, documentation requirements, and proposed accountability measures, including supervisory check-ins.

Commissioner Discussion

Commissioners discussed balancing timely investigations with thorough reviews, supervisory workload, staffing capacity, investigation timelines, and methods for evaluating implementation following adoption.

Public Comment

Speakers: Ms. Olugbala, Ms. Mandal, and Ms. Janks

Public comments generally supported thorough investigations while encouraging continued transparency regarding staffing, investigative workload, and accountability.

Commission Action

Motion: Commissioner Riles

Second: Commissioner Dawit

The Commission unanimously approved the proposed revisions to Special Order 9214.

Vote: 5–0

Follow-Up Items

- OPD to provide a written time study illustrating investigation timelines.
 - Clarify supervisory workload dedicated to investigations.
 - Provide IAB staffing information.
 - Return with an implementation update and performance measures.
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VII. Oakland Police Department Update

Staff Report / Presentation

Deputy Chief Ausmus provided updates regarding department staffing, officers on leave, open investigations, police academy planning, personnel changes, and MACRO program activity.

Commissioner Discussion

Commissioners discussed staffing reductions, academy timelines, administrative leave, attrition, and operational impacts on department resources.

Public Comment

Speakers: Ms. Mandal, Ms. Olugbala, and Mr. Contreras

Public comments focused on administrative leave practices, sanctuary ordinance implementation, officer wellness, hate crime reporting, juvenile justice, school interactions, and NSA implementation.

Follow-Up Items

- Provide updates regarding academy scheduling.

- Respond to community questions regarding sanctuary ordinance implementation, officer wellness, juvenile justice, and NSA implementation.
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VIII. Office of the Inspector General Report

Staff Report / Presentation

Inspector General Maloof provided updates regarding staffing, budget, internship opportunities, NSA inspections, recommendation tracking, community outreach, OPD database access, the City Auditor audit, and the OPD staffing study.

Commissioner Discussion

Commissioners discussed community engagement, internship opportunities, recommendation tracking, commissioner participation in inspections, and OPD database access necessary to support oversight responsibilities.

Public Comment

Speakers: Mr. Contreras

Public comments encouraged the Office of the Inspector General to prioritize continuous NSA compliance and consider recommendations previously developed by the Commission's NSA Ad Hoc Committee.

Follow-Up Items

- Continue efforts to obtain OPD database access.
 - Coordinate commissioner participation in NSA inspections.
 - Consider prioritizing Oakland residents for internship opportunities.
 - Continue implementation of recommendation tracking.
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IX. Community Police Review Agency Report

Staff Report / Presentation

Interim Executive Director Lawson presented updates regarding staffing shortages, budget impacts, investigative caseloads, the IAB transition project, mediation program implementation, and investigation timelines.

Commissioner Discussion

Commissioners discussed staffing capacity, case processing timelines, mediation implementation, and the impact of OPD investigation timelines on CPRA's ability to meet statutory deadlines.

Public Comment

Speakers: Councilmember Houston

Councilmember Houston emphasized the importance of prioritizing Oakland residents in hiring decisions and expressed support for CPRA's ongoing work.

Follow-Up Items

- Confirm pending caseload statistics.
 - Continue work on the IAB transition project.
 - Finalize mediation program agreements.
 - Monitor investigation timelines affecting statutory compliance.
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X. Ad Hoc Committee Reports

Staff Report / Presentation

Chair Garcia-Acosta provided updates regarding the Discipline Matrix, Militarized Equipment, Handcuffing and Restraint, and Enabling Ordinance Ad Hoc Committees, including ongoing work, anticipated reports, and future meetings.

Public Comment

None.

XI. Upcoming/Future Agenda Items

Staff Report / Presentation

Chief of Staff Montgomery reviewed upcoming agenda items, including the City Attorney Semi-Annual Report, follow-up regarding Special Order 9214, Civil Service training, and OPD budget discussions.

Commissioner Discussion

Commissioners requested future discussions regarding the Reimagining Public Safety Task Force recommendations and additional community feedback concerning policing policies.

Public Comment

None.

XII. Open Forum Part 2

Public Comment

No public comments were received.

XIII. Adjournment

Chair Garcia-Acosta adjourned the meeting at approximately **10:04 p.m.**