POLICE BOARD
CITY OF CHICAGO

PUBLIC MEETING

Chicago Public Safety Headquarters
3510 South Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Thursday, March 19, 2020
7:30 p.m.

(Via Audio Conference)

APPEARANCES:

POLICE BOARD MEMBERS
GHIAN FOREMAN, President
PAULA WOLFF, Vice President
MATTHEW CROWL
MICHAEL EADDY
STEVE FLORES
JORGE MONTES
JOHN P. O'MALLEY, JR.
RHODA D. SWEENEY
ANDREA L. ZOPP

ALSO PRESENT:
CHARLIE BECK, Interim Superintendent of Police;
DANA O'MALLEY, General Counsel to the
Superintendent of Police;
SYDNEY ROBERTS, Chief Administrator of the
Civilian Office of Police Accountability;
JOSEPH LIPARI, Deputy Inspector General for
Public Safety;
KAREN KONOW, Chief of the Bureau of Internal
Affairs, Chicago Police Department;
MAX A. CAPRONI, Executive Director, Police
Board.

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PRESIDENT FOREMAN: It's 7:30. My name is Ghian Foreman. I am the president of the Chicago Police Board, and I am calling the Board's March 19th public meeting to order.

To protect the public's health in response to the COVID-19 outbreak, and as permitted by Governor Pritzker's Executive Order 2020-07, Section 6, this meeting is taking place entirely via audio conference. This conference call is open to the public.

At this time, I ask members of the public to place their phones on mute so that we can cut down on background noise. Throughout this call, I will also be able to mute everyone on the call so that we can minimize noise. I will let you know when I am muting and unmuting all participants but myself. I will now mute participants now.

We have a court reporter on the phone so that we can have a transcript of this call. We are also recording this call. Because we are on the phone, I will take attendance so we know who is participating on this call. I will begin by reading the names
of the Board members. If you are on the call, please say here.

I have now unmuted the Board so they can -- so we can take attendance and other business. Police Board Vice President Paula Wolff.

VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Police Board member Matthew Crowl.

BOARD MEMBER CROWL: Here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Police Board member Michael Eaddy.

BOARD MEMBER EADDY: Here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Police Board member Steve Flores.

BOARD MEMBER FLORES: Here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Police Board member George Montes.

BOARD MEMBER MONTES: Here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Police Board member John O'Malley.

BOARD MEMBER O'MALLEY: Here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Police Board member Rhoda Sweeney.
BOARD MEMBER SWEENEY: Here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Police Board member Andrea Zopp.

BOARD MEMBER ZOPP: Here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thank you. I will now read the names of others who may be on the call. If you are on the call, please say "Here."

Interim Superintendent of Chicago Police Department Charlie Beck.

INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT BECK: Here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: General Counsel to the Superintendent Dana O'Malley.

MS. O'MALLEY: Here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Chief Administrator of the Civilian Office of Police Accountability Sidney Roberts.

MS. ROBERTS: Here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Chief of the Chicago Police Department Bureau of Internal Affairs Karen Konow.

MS. KONOW: Yes, I'm here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thank you.

Deputy Inspector General for
Public Safety Joseph Lipari.

MR. LIPARI: Here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Executive Director of Police Board Max Caproni.

MR. CAPRONI: I'm here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: We will now proceed to the items on the meeting agenda. We will have time at the end of this call for public comments. Until then, I ask all members of the public not to comment and to keep your phones on mute to reduce background noise.

First I will ask for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 20th public meeting.

BOARD MEMBER MOTES: So moved.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Can you please identify yourself when making a motion or second.

BOARD MEMBER MONTES: Jorge Montes. So moved.

BOARD MEMBER EADDY: Reverend Eaddy. Second.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: All in favor?

(CHAUS OF AYES.)

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Any opposed?
PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Any abstentions?

(NO RESPONSE).

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Motion passes.

The next regular public meeting will be held Thursday, April 16th, at 7:30 p.m.

Obviously, we will take into consideration at that point in time any special considerations we need to take as a result of social distancing, and we will indicate through the Board's website whether it will be held in person or conference call.

Is there a motion to close a series of executive sessions for purposes of considering personnel matters and litigation, as authorized by Sections 2(c)(1), (3), (4) and (11) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act?

VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: This is Paula Wolff. I would like to move that motion.

BOARD MEMBER EADDY: This is Michael Eaddy. Second.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: All in favor, please say aye.

(CHORUS OF AYES.)
PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Is there any opposed?

(NO RESPONSE.)

Any abstentions?

(NO RESPONSE.)

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Motion passes.

I will now put everyone on the call on mute again for this portion of the meeting.

One of the questions I know that is on the minds of a lot of people is the superintendent search.

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the Board cannot adhere to its original schedule for continuing with the search process.

All of the City's efforts at this time need to be focused on confronting the challenges of the COVID-19 outbreak. And the Board will make a public announcement when we are resuming the search process.

A report of disciplinary actions taken by the Board during the previous month has been made available at this evening's meeting and is posted on the Board's website.

The general orders issued by the
Superintendent during the previous month are listed in the blue books and posted on the Police Department's website.

Superintendent Beck, or designee, is there an oral report that you would like to provide?

INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT BECK: Yes. Just a couple of things that the Department has done due to the Coronavirus outbreak in Chicago. We have put all visible, sworn personnel in uniform. We cancelled all our in-service and recruit training and returned those people -- put those people into the field, in particular who are doing non-law enforcement functions in the districts or within headquarters. We've staffed our medical section staff 24/7. We even invite members -- people allowed to work from home, some non-sworn or at-risk sworn personnel. We closed all the department work-out gym facilities. We've taken headquarters' staff both that work in the main headquarters and put most of them in the field. That's over a hundred individuals. We've given direction to
members of the CPD to limit the booking of
misdemeanor suspects and to use citation
techniques whenever possible.

We limited the amount of
citations given, both traffic and parking, that
are not public safety issues.

We're dispensing some protective
equipment to the districts in order to keep our
officers as safe as we can. We've also
increased frequency of station lockup cleanings
for the personnel. And this morning we have
our first member as a confirmed individual with
COVID-19. And we have taken steps to ensure
that the contact -- the contacted members of
the organization are aware and are taking the
precautions that they need to to remain
healthy. That concludes my report.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thank you very much,
Superintendent. I will now -- members of the
Board are now going to take final action for
some of the disciplinary cases.

The Board as authorized by The
Open Meetings Act has considered in a closed
meeting two disciplinary cases.
The Board will now take final action on these cases. Regarding case number 18 PB 2949, is there a motion to find Police Officers Michael Coughlin and Jose Torres guilty of using deadly force in violation of the Police Department's rules and policy and guilty of other charges and to discharge each respondent from the Chicago Police Department?

VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: This is Paula Wolff.

So moved.

BOARD MEMBER EADDY: Reverend Eaddy.

Second.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: I will now call on the members of the Board for their votes.

Wolff?

VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Crowl?

BOARD MEMBER CROWL: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Eaddy?

BOARD MEMBER EADDY: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Flores?

BOARD MEMBER FLORES: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Montes?

BOARD MEMBER MONTES: I abstain. I did not
participate in this case.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: O'Malley?
BOARD MEMBER O'MALLEY: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Sweeney?
BOARD MEMBER SWEENEY: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Zopp?
BOARD MEMBER ZOPP: Aye.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: And I also vote in favor of the motion.

Voting in favor are Board Members Wolff, Crowl, Eaddy, Flores, O'Malley, Sweeney, Zopp and myself. The motion passes. As stated, Board Member Montes did not participate in this case.

Is there a motion to adopt the written findings and decisions that have been reviewed by all Board members who participated in the case?

VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: This is Paula Wolff. So moved.

BOARD MEMBER EADDY: Reverend Eaddy. Second.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: All in favor by saying aye.
(CHORUS OF AYES.)

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Any opposed?
(NO RESPONSE.)

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Any abstentions?
(NO RESPONSE.)

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: The motion passes.

Regarding case number 19 PB 2960, is there a motion to find Police Officer Ediberto Diaz guilty of discharging a firearm while intoxicated and off duty and guilty of other charges and to discharge him from the Chicago Police Department?

BOARD MEMBER MONTES: This is Jorge Montes. So moved.

BOARD MEMBER EADDY: Reverend Eaddy. Second.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: I will now call on the members of the Board for their votes. Wolff?

VICE PRESIDENT WOLFF: I abstain. I did not participate in the case.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Crowl?

BOARD MEMBER CROWL: I also abstain. I did not participate in the case.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Eaddy?
BOARD MEMBER EADDY: Aye.
PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Flores?
BOARD MEMBER FLORES: Aye.
PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Montes?
BOARD MEMBER MONTES: Aye.
PRESIDENT FOREMAN: O'Malley?
BOARD MEMBER O'MALLEY: Aye.
PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Sweeney?
BOARD MEMBER SWEENEY: Aye.
PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Zopp?
BOARD MEMBER ZOPP: Aye.
PRESIDENT FOREMAN: And I vote in favor of the motion.

Voting in favor are Board members Eaddy, Flores, Montes, O'Malley, Sweeney, Zopp and myself. The motion passes. Board members Wolff and Crowl did not participate in this case.

Is there a motion to adopt the written Findings and Decisions that have been reviewed by all Board members who participated in the case?

BOARD MEMBER MONTES: This is Jorge Montes. So moved.
BOARD MEMBER EADDY: Reverend Eaddy.
Second.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: All in favor?

(Chorus of Ayes.)
PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Any opposed?

(No response.)
PRESIDENT FOREMAN: The motion passes.

The decisions in the cases on which the Board took final action this evening will be entered as of today's date and will be issued to the parties and will be posted on the Board's website.

I will now call upon members of the public who signed in advance to speak. As I call your name, please unmute your phone.

This is going to be a really critical time for us to adhere to the rules of the two minutes. I will ask people to stop the two minutes. And if I need to, I will press mute. But let's be patient with each other and let's try to respect each other's time considering this is a new way that we're all conducting business right now.

First caller is Matt Brandon.
MR. BRANDON: Good evening, President Foreman and Board members. And thank you for having the meeting.

You know, as summer approaches, I'm apprehensive. Not much at all has been accomplished over the past months to reestablish the relationships that once existed between the community and Police Department. The underlying substance that led to an epidemic of violence in the communities of color still exists. Add to this, the pandemic sweeping the country, this state and our City and the underserved communities have a propensity for a total collapse of public safety. Our first responders are being ordered to work in unsafe, unhealthy surroundings. And I heard the Superintendent say they are getting the gear now. But up til that point, I hadn't heard that they had gotten it yet. So he needs to be applauded for that.

Community conversations held across the City and that we participated in CAPS meetings for the 3rd, 6th, 4th and 7th Districts, we found to be a little bit lacking.
When the communities that have
(inaudible), they were told it couldn't be
done. When we asked for putting more foot
patrol, it couldn't be guaranteed regularly.

Now, one of the problems that we
see in our communities is that our districts --
our main districts are being used as training
districts. That leaves us with unprepared
officers and situations that call for seasoned
veteran officers. Some of officers come from
the academy with a year or two years or even as
recruits and have to attend roll calls on basic
elements of community enforcement such as
enforcing the no-loitering affidavits that
exist in our business districts.

I think if community policing is
to be viable for the police department, there
needs to be a curriculum established in the
academy, and that hasn't been made system-wide
for the police department.

I thank you for your time and
appreciate the opportunity.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thank you very much.

The next speaker, Jennifer Edwards.
MS. EDWARDS: Good evening, everyone. I hope everyone is staying safe. I briefly want to report on our March 3rd interaction. I believe President Foreman mentioned it last month.

We have an interaction between our community and the 5th District with -- at 79th and Cottage Grove, one of our hot spots, under the direction of Commander Rahman Muhammad of the 6th District.

We had officers in plainclothes, community members on the corner, and we also had services at Leak Funeral Home. We have a station there. Services for jobs, mental health and other services that we felt the community at that area needed. We found it to be very successful. We were hoping to have another one today but because of the pandemic, we weren't able to do that.

I'd like to also state what Mr. Brandon said about having more officers and more seasoned officers -- excuse me. Because the police officers and the community were out on the corner, we had more
cleanliness, the drug dealers and the
problems at the -- the bus stations and all of
that seemed to kind of disappear. So it is
important that we have an officer bike patrol
or foot patrol or car stationed there most of
the days, if possible, at 79th and Cottage.

We also hope to have more
interaction. As I said, we wanted one today.
We want to have some in the 3rd District, and
in the 7th District and in the 4th District.

We'd like to take back our
community. The community is very interested in
doing this and working with the police.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thank you very much,
Ms. Edwards. And, again, I commend you and
your community to going out and being part of
the movement.

Next speaker, Zakiya Mohammad.

Ms. Mohammad.

(NO RESPONSE.)

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Next speaker, Mary
Hartfield.

MS. HARTFIELD: Hello. I'm here.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Hello.
MS. HARTFIELD: Thank you for allowing me to talk about the things that's going on in the community in the Austin neighborhood. I'm just very concerned about the killings that's going on in our community. It's so much going on. And we don't deal with -- and the people not trusting the police officers, that's another part of the -- the -- that's another part that needs to be dealt with. We got police officers that not following the rules, and then they want you to follow the rules. You know, how you going to have the respect? Police supposed to have respect for one another. Our children is being shot down dead in our community, you know, and they don't have anything to do now. You know, we look around our community. Our community don't have anything. You know, we got one restaurant in the Austin neighborhood and what else? We don't have anything else. We have no ma-and-pa stores like we used to have. I don't have anything that -- against Arabs, but we don't have African American community social stuff for our children to do. We don't have anything. We need to work on
getting money back into the community. They keep talking bringing money to the community. Where is the money? Where is the money and what is the police officers doing to take care of all these shootings? I hear shooting every night I go to sleep in the Austin community. And that's terrible. Where are these guns coming from? Who is allowing these guns to come into our community?

I just appreciate that -- I would appreciate that we work more with one another so we can, you know, trust one another.

If I don't trust you, I would not give you no information about nothing that's going on in the community, because some of the police officers tell on you and tell on the neighbors. So they don't trust you, you know, to bring your information to the police. I want you all to work on that.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thank you, Ms. Hartfield. I appreciate your comments.

Next speaker, Mr. George Blakemore.

MR. BLAKEMORE: Thank you, sir, for having
me. My problem is that the -- the consent
that's out for the police of racism is in the
police department. I was at Giordano's and
looked what happened, the manager came out and
attacked me, and then he -- I hit him after he
attacked me. A white hand. And he is a white
racist. Police would not let me sign a
complaint on him. I'm an old man and they say
you not -- they size up with him.

You know, racism is
still -- people don't want to bring the race
issue up. These police are racists in the 18th
District, all these districts, and now -- I
can't on a white man that hit me, but he can
sign a complaint on me when I struck him back.

Now, that's what I -- I want this
to be investigated. And I want those
policemen -- COPA to do something about that,
because black lives do not matter. White lives
matter.

I hit this white man but he hit
me. Nothing gonna happen. And I'm outraged,
though very articulate here, but the big
picture is black lives do not matter.
You'll never hear of a white --
a black policeman shooting a white man. He got
the uniform on, he gets the same pay, but he
know he better not never abuse a white person.

Now, I've been abused. And I
want you all to find out why you didn't let Mr.
Blakemore sign his complaint on this white man,
that manager at Giordano's on Rush and
Superior.

That's the big picture.

Institutional racism and white folks will do
whatever they want to a black man.

I hit that white man because that
white man attacked me.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thank you, Mr.
Blakemore.

MR. BLAKEMORE: He attacked me and I hit
him.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thank you, Mr.
Blakemore.

Mr. Blakemore, I can follow up
with you to get information to make sure that
you are getting in contact with the appropriate
person at COPA.
MR. BLAKEMORE: Thank you very -- COPA hasn't been doing any investigating on this incident. 18th District is racist. That's the big picture.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Okay. Mr. Blakemore, I'll --

MR. BLAKEMORE: Institutional racism.

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: All right. I'm going to unmute the phone now, and I'm going to call for Mr. Robert More. Mr. Robert More.

(NO RESPONSE.)

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: At this time, all members of the public who signed up in advance to speak have been called upon.

Is there a motion to adjourn?

BOARD MEMBER WOLFF: This is Paula. I move to adjourn this meeting.


PRESIDENT FOREMAN: All in favor?

(CHORUS OF AYES.)

PRESIDENT FOREMAN: Thank you very much.

The motion passes and the meeting is adjourned.

I appreciate everyone's patience with the telephone system and thank you for
participating in the Police Board meeting.
Thank you very much.

(WHEREUPON, the proceedings
were adjourned at 7:52 p.m.)
MAUREEN A. WOODMAN, C.S.R., being first duly sworn, says that she is a court reporter doing business in the City of Chicago; that she reported in shorthand the proceedings had at the hearing of said cause; that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of her shorthand notes, so taken as aforesaid, and contains all the proceedings of said hearing.

MAUREEN A. WOODMAN, CSR
License No. 084.002740