

Cleveland Community Police Commission

Full Commission Meeting

Minutes

June 14, 2023

6:00 PM – 7:45 PM

Cleveland CPC Offices, 3631 Perkins Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44114

Co-chair Ridgeway, presiding, gavels in at 6:01

Attendance roll call:

Adams – present
Benito – present
Chura – present
Donaldson – present
Earley – present (arrived after roll call)
Garrett-Ferguson – present
Kennedy – absent (excused)
Reaves – present
Ridgeway – present
Rodriguez – present
van Lier – present
Wang – present
Zayed – present

Staff in attendance:

Interim Executive Director Jason Goodrick
Community Engagement & Project Coordinator Shalenah Williams
Communications Specialist Sara Anderson
Senior Policy Analyst Ryan M. Walker

Guest speaker in attendance

Christopher Viland, Internal Affairs Director
Delante Spencer Thomas, Chief Ethics Officer

There was a discussion about modifying the agenda to include a motion dissolving the Hiring Committee and appointing Interim Executive Director Goodrick as the Commission's permanent Executive Director. There was a lengthy back and forth about this agenda item. Commissioners expressed disagreements over how agenda items were or were not added, and there was some confusion about which rules that such a motion would pass under.

Zayed moved to dissolve the Hiring Committee and appoint Interim Executive Director Jason Goodrick as the Commission's permanent Executive Director; van Lier seconded the motion.

**Adams – nay
Benito – aye**

Chura – aye
Donaldson – nay
Earley – aye
Garrett-Ferguson – nay
Kennedy – absent
Reaves – aye
Ridgeway – nay
Rodriguez – nay
van Lier – aye
Wang – aye
Zayed – aye

7 ayes, 5 nays, and one absent

At the moment, the Commission is unsure if the motion passed, as the rules are unclear whether a supermajority is required when undoing a previous motion that was not an agenda item.

Chief Ethics Officer Thomas clarified that he did not feel like he could adjudicate the differences in interpretation at that moment, and it would require more analysis.

During the debate over the motion, there was a lengthy back and forth over whether it was a good idea to dissolve the Hiring Committee or let it continue as was originally agreed to, or to appoint Interim ED Goodrick to be the permanent ED. During this discussion there was a verbal confrontation between Commissioner Garrett-Ferguson and a citizen attending the meeting, Brenda Bickerstaff. As a result there was a 15 minute recess to allow the Commissioners and citizens time to decompress. The above motion was voted on after the recess ended. Afterwards, several commissioners expressed concerns about the verbal confrontation.

Internal Affairs Director Viland had to leave before he was able to give his presentation.

Public Comments

Former Commissioner Dylan Sellers remarked that the conflict that was on display during this meeting was similar to the conflicts that caused problems with the original Commission. He also commented on the stress that personnel investigations can have on those not directly involved.

BLM Cleveland President LaTonya Goldsby expressed concern at the verbal confrontation. She also voiced her support for Interim ED Goodrick to remain in the position permanently. She brought with her a banner with the names of Cleveland citizens killed by police, and reminded the commissioners of their important work.

Ongoing verbal altercations, prior to Ms. Goldsby's remarks, resulted in several commissioners leaving the meeting and the Chair called for an early adjournment at 7:45. Several members of the public were unable to address the Commission.