



**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
REGULAR CALLED MEETING MINUTES
Monday, February 5, 2024**

The Public Safety Commission convened in a regular called meeting on Monday, February 5, 2024, at City Hall Building, Boards and Commissions Room, 301 W 2nd Street in Austin, Texas.

Chair Ramírez called the Public Safety Commission Meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

Commissioners in Attendance:

Nelly Paulina Ramírez, Chair
Cory Hall-Martin
Bernard Hermesmeyer
David Holmes
Lauren Peña
Timothy Ruttan

Commissioners in Attendance Remotely:

Pierre Nguyễn
Yasmine Smith

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

No speakers.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve the minutes of the PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING on January 8, 2024.

The minutes from the meeting of 01/08/2024, were approved on Commissioner Peña's motion, Commissioner Hermesmeyer's second on a 7-0 vote. Commissioner Nguyễn was off the dais. Commissioners Bernhardt and Orr were absent.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. Discussion on edit to APD's Virtual Magistration Pilot Program presented at January 8, 2024 meeting.

Chair Ramírez explained that Chief Greenwalt updated the APD Virtual Magistration Pilot Program slide deck on page 3 to reflect a correction on Travis County's proposal for the new annual Interlocal Agreement to read \$10.9 million.

3. Public Safety Quarterly Report, Austin Fire Department

Presentation was made by Chief Rob Vires, Austin Fire Department.

Commissioner Ruttan asked for clarification on AFD Recruiting's demographic numbers on slide 19.

4. Discussion of policing and disabilities with the Office of Police Oversight, Austin Police Department.

Presentation was made by Lindsay Southard, Community Engagement Specialist and Sara Peralta, Public Information and Marketing Manager, Office of Police Oversight, and Brienz Edwards, Training Specialist, APD Training Academy.

Chair Ramírez requested data on police encounters. Commissioner Holmes seconded request for data specifically around the percentage of individuals experiencing force who were perceived to be mentally impaired.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

5. Discussion of Public Safety Wellness Center and potential formation of working group.
(Sponsors: Commissioners Nguyễn & Peña)

Presentation was made by Heather Arispe, Public Safety Wellness Administrator, Department.

The motion to approve the formation of a working group to establish the needs of the Public Safety Wellness Center and potentially form recommendations was approved on Commissioner Nguyễn's motion, Commissioner Peña's second on an 8-0 vote. Commissioners Bernhardt and Orr were absent. Commissioners Nguyễn, Peña, Holmes and Ruttan volunteered to join the working group with Chair Ramírez's approval.

6. Discussion and potential formation of Budget Recommendations Working Group.
(Sponsors: Commissioners Ruttan and Peña)

The motion to approve the formation of a Fiscal Year 25 Budget Recommendations Working Group was approved on Chair Ramírez's motion, Commissioner Ruttan's second on an 8-0 vote. Commissioners Bernhardt and Orr were absent. Chair Ramírez, Commissioners Peña and Ruttan volunteered to join the working group.

WORKING GROUP UPDATES

7. Collective Sex Crimes Response Model (CSCRM) Joint Working Group with Commission for Women Update (Sponsors: Commissioners Ramírez and Orr)
No update given.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Smith requested communications protocols between 311 and 911 operators and first responders for addressing needs of the unhoused during inclement weather. Chair Ramírez seconded.

Chair Ramírez requested a fleet update with a focus on modernizing, fuel efficiency and reducing the carbon footprint. Commissioner Nguyễn seconded.

Commissioner Nguyễn requested an update on parental leave for employees in uniformed services/sworn duty as opposed to the same leave for regular City of Austin employees.

Commissioner Ruttan requested an update on opioid responses and a follow-up on the virtual magistration. Chair Ramírez confirmed.

Chair Ramírez requested an update on SB 4, cadet training at the Academy and from Interim Police Chief Henderson.

Chair Ramírez adjourned the meeting at 5:45 p.m. without objection.