

**MINNESOTA BOARD OF
PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING**

**Ensuring Police Excellence and Improving Community Relations Advisory Council
Electronic Meeting VIA Microsoft Teams
March 1, 2021 SPECIAL MEETING**

Members Present

Rep. Kaohly Her (Interim
Chair)
Biiftuu Ibrahim Adam
Dave Titus
Mike Tusken
Nick Muhammad
Sue Abderholden
Nikki Engel
Rep. Paul Novotny
Cathy Spann
Tsua Xiong
Sean Deringer
Anne Haines Holy Eagle
Julio Zelaya

Members Absent

Andrew Mathews

Staff Present

Erik Misselt
Abby Brown
Rebecca Gaspard
Angie Rohow

Others Present

Invitation to listen to the live meeting
was listed on the website.

Call to Order: Interim Chair Her called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Ms. Brown conducted roll call. An introduction was made for Councilmember Julio Zelaya. Councilmember Zelaya currently sits as the Chair for the Board of Directors for the MN Council on Latino Affairs.

Approval of the Agenda: The motion to approve the agenda was made by Councilmember Abderholden. The vote to approve the amended agenda was unanimous via a voice vote.

Approval of the December 15, 2020 Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes as distributed was made by Councilmember Adam. The vote was unanimously approved through a voice vote.

Approval of the February 19, 2021 Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes as distributed was made by Councilmember Abderholden. The vote was unanimously approved through a voice vote.

Discussion of letter submitted by the Council of Minnesotans of African Heritage (CMAH): There were five testifiers that were scheduled to testify regarding the letter. Executive Director Linda Sloan from CMAH spoke in support of the First Amendment Minimum Standard for Public Assembly Response. The three requested actions within the letter include:

1. Immediately require that police officers follow their own local policies for public assembly response or face licensure action (as a minimum standard) in preparation for the Derek Chauvin trial.

2. Require that the POST Board work with community organizations (and follow domestic and international best practices) this year to develop a model policy for public assembly response, which all state and local enforcement agencies must adopt by March 2022.
3. Require that the POST Board call an emergency special meeting to take place prior to the Chauvin trial in order to put the first recommendation into rule.

Angela Rose Myers, the President of the Minneapolis NAACP, testified that the CMAH recommendations are recommendations that communities have been requesting for a number of years and that the communities should have a seat at the table for these discussions.

Lars Negstad, Policy Director for a community group of congregations known as ISAIAH, spoke in support of the recommendations put forth by CMAH in light of the the community's violation of trust in regards to police response after the civil unrest in 2020.

Brian Fullman, Lead Organizer of the Barbershop & Black Congregation Cooperative, spoke regarding their "Listen and Lead" sessions that have been happening in 2020. These sessions revealed strong feedback of distrust, disrespect and lack of value felt by the disenfranchised communities of Minneapolis.

Councilmember Muhammad spoke as the Executive Director of the Black Civic Network and thanked the testifiers for taking the time to support the recommendations as put forth by CMAH. Councilmember Muhammad stated that CMAH's recommendations are the solution to the lack of confidence, consistency and accountability felt by the community. These recommendations would provide safer policing for the public and police, better informed public and better informed Licensees.

Discussion between the Councilmembers ensued. Many spoke in support of the recommendations however there was concern over the POST Board jurisdiction to enforce policies and the timing involved in making these recommendations prior to the Chauvin trial. Interim Chair Her requested that all Councilmembers refrain from assuming motive on any councilmembers part during council discussions.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Muhammad to the recommendations below:

1. Immediately require that police officers follow their own local policies for public assembly response or face licensure action (as a minimum standard) in preparation for the Derek Chauvin trial.
2. Require that the POST Board work with community organizations (and follow domestic and international best practices) this year to develop a model policy for public assembly response, which all state and local enforcement agencies must adopt by March 2022.
3. Require that the POST Board call an emergency special meeting to take place prior to the Chauvin trial in order to put the first recommendation into rule.

The motion was put to a vote and was approved by the majority.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Muhammad to convene a committee to approve specific language to forward to the POST Board as submitted for the February 19, 2021 meeting to include:

Section 2 of the A6 Amendment to H.F. 445

Model Policy required:

By December 15, 2021, the board, in consultation with the legislative councils of color, the American Civil Liberties Union, community organizations that lead direct action campaigns, the Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association, the Minnesota Sheriffs' Association and other interested parties, must develop a comprehensive model policy on responding to public assemblies. The policy must be based on best practices in public gathering management drawn from both domestic and international sources. The board must distribute the model policy to all chief law enforcement officers.

Agency polices required:

- (a) By March 15, 2022, the chief law enforcement officer of every state and local law enforcement agency must establish and enforce a written policy that is identical or substantially similar to the board's model policy described in subdivision 1.
- (b) Every state and local law enforcement agency must certify to the board that it has adopted a written policy in compliance with this subdivision.
- (c) The board must assist the chief law enforcement officer of each state and local law enforcement agency in developing and implementing policies under this subdivision.

The motion was put to a vote and was approved by the majority.

The council meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.

The Ensuring Police Excellence and Improving Community Relations Advisory Council approved the foregoing minutes when it met April 5, 2021.



Kaohly Her
Interim Council Chair



Erik Misselt
Executive Director