



**SHERIFF CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT COMMISSION
BUSINESS MEETING
ST. ANNE'S CONFERENCE CENTER
Thursday, July 18, 2024**



MEETING MINUTES

Attachment: [Video](#)

Commissioners Present:

Chair, Sean Kennedy
Vice Chair, Jamon Hicks
Robert Bonner
Irma Hagans Cooper
Luis S. Garcia
James Harris
Hans Johnson (**arrived at 9:16**)

Commissioners Absent:

Patricia Giggans

Staff Present:

Sharmaine Moseley, Executive Director
Bikila Ochoa, Deputy Executive Officer
Tracy Jordan, Principal Staff Analyst
Starlet Atkins, Management Secretary
Nune Petrosyan, Management Analyst
Amara Kirby, Deputy County Counsel

I. CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Chair Sean Kennedy called the Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission (Commission) meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. He advised that this will be his last meeting as Chair, provided an overview of the items on the meeting agenda, and briefly discussed the Commission's code of conduct.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT RULES: Commission staff member Tracy Jordan explained how the community can provide public comment on an item on the agenda during the meeting.

III. ROLL CALL: Staff member Tracy Jordan conducted the roll call. The quorum requirement was met.

IV. CONSENT CALENDAR:

The Commissioners reviewed the items on the consent calendar. There were no questions.

1. Commissioner Rob Bonner moved for the Commission to approve the consent calendar and June 20, 2024, meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Harris and unanimously carried by the following vote.

**Ayes: 6 – Chair Sean Kennedy, Vice Chair Jamon Hicks,
Commissioner Robert Bonner, Commissioner Irma
Cooper, Commissioner Luis Garcia, Commissioner
James Harris**

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Patti Giggans and Commissioner Hans Johnson

No members of the community signed up to comment on this item.

V. FAMILY IMPACT REMARKS:

Cynthia Nunez spoke about her brother, Francisco Nunez, who lost his life at the hands of LASD. She also mentioned her 14-year-old nephew, who was shot twice by a Sheriff Deputy from the East L.A. station, and the ongoing harassment her family is experiencing from LASD.

Chair Kennedy announced that Sheriff Luna has limited time and moved to item 3 on the agenda.

VI. COMMISSION/LASD REPORTS

1. Chair's Report

(53:17) Chair Kennedy addressed the Commission and summarized his and Executive Director (ED) Moseley's meeting at the Board of Supervisors Public Safety Cluster meeting. He expressed concern with the Commission's inability to fulfill its oversight role without access to pertinent information. Chair Kennedy stated that he mentioned a letter that was sent to LASD and the BOS outlining court cases and legal opinions regarding ad hoc committees receiving confidential information without violating the Brown Act. Chair Kennedy further highlighted his tenure as Chair and voiced concern with LASD not having an approved anti-gang policy after 2 ½ years despite Penal Code 13670 going into effect in 2022.

(1:01:15) Commissioner Johnson and Commissioner Bonner both shared their sentiments about Chair Kennedy's guidance and leadership during his tenure as Chair of the Commission and the need to rid the Sheriff's Department of deputy gangs.

Following the Chair's report, Chair Kennedy moved to public comment.

Public Comment

1. Racquel Derfler commented about holding LASD and Office of Constitutional Policing accountable as well as the Sheriff's failure to read the recent monitoring report for the settlement agreement in the Antelope Valley.
2. Ron Dowl acknowledged Chair Kennedy's work on Deputy Gangs and thanked him for his efforts.
3. Salena Coleman commented about LASD leadership, discrimination within LASD and holding LASD accountable for inappropriate conduct.
4. Stephanie Luna thanked Chair Kennedy for his leadership as Chair and for the progress made on Deputy Gangs because of his efforts.
5. Vanessa Perez expressed her gratitude to Chair Kennedy for his efforts in addressing the issue of Deputy Gangs and for taking the time to learn about her son, Joseph Perez.

2. Executive Director's Report

(45:03) Executive Director Sharmaine Moseley thanked Chair Kennedy for his dedication and leadership as Chair of the Civilian Oversight Commission.

A. Community Engagement Efforts

ED Moseley provided an update on staff activities that included attending various community events and townhalls throughout Los Angeles County. ED Moseley reported that a joint meeting was held with the Probation Oversight Commission regarding the School Resource Deputies (SRD) and LASD's complaint process. She announced upcoming meetings and solicited topics for

a future mini conference or town hall event. ED Moseley provided an update on Commission staffing, reported on billing inquiries from County Counsel, and advised that a request was made to the Executive Office to include a budget line item to cover Commission legal costs.

(52:09) Commissioner Bonner inquired about commissioners receiving training pertinent to the oversight role.

(52:55) ED Moseley responded that she will follow up on the training issue.

There was no public comment following ED Moseley's presentation.

3. Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

(14:41) Sheriff Robert Luna expressed appreciation for Chair Kennedy's leadership during his tenure as Chair of the Commission. Sheriff Luna provided a preliminary update on crime statistics for Los Angeles County covering June - July 2024, that included violent crimes, criminal homicide, rape, aggravated assault, robberies, property crimes, deputy-involved shootings and in-custody deaths. Sheriff Luna reported that 207 firearms were confiscated in June and that he is working to determine the number of arrests that are associated with that number. The Sheriff updated the Commission on the inmate population over the last year and provided a summary of arrests made compared with those booked into the system.

(27:02) Commissioner Bonner inquired about the differences in arrests made and the number of individuals booked into county jail and removing fire arms from off the streets.

(27:34) In response to Commissioner Bonner's inquiry, Sheriff Luna advised that individuals with lower level crimes are cited out, he then provided examples of when that occurs. Sheriff Luna went on to advise that he is researching multiple efforts across the country, such as buyback programs that are supported.

(30:52) Commissioner Cooper inquired about the number of arrests and the number booked into custody and requested that Sheriff Luna research how overbooking impacts individuals being arrested versus being booked.

(32:16) In response to Commissioner Cooper's inquiry, the Sheriff advised that LASD will work with staff to provide those statistics and briefly discussed a new program on pre-arraignment protocol that will prevent overbooking incidents from occurring.

(32:36) Commissioner Johnson expressed the need for Sheriff Luna to be more proactive with removing firearms from the streets and inquired if the Sheriff would consider informing the COC about in-custody deaths and deputy-involved shootings when they occur.

(35:52) Sheriff Luna responded to Commissioner Johnson's inquiry and advised that his team is developing a procedure to provide that information to the COC without violating any confidentiality rules.

(36:40) Commissioner Garcia shared his sentiments about the need to identify ways to reduce the number of in-custody deaths, and to hold responsible departments accountable for caring for incarcerated people.

(38:29) In response to Commissioner Garcia's concern, Sheriff Luna provided statistics for years 2023 and 2024. Sheriff Luna provided an explanation of LASD's in-custody death review board

and briefly summarized LASDs position regarding PC 13670. The Sheriff also summarized procedures for LASD investigations and noted, for the first time, investigations into deputy gangs and sub-groups are active and that some staff have been terminated. In conclusion, Sheriff Luna reported on pending LASD policies and noted that the Taser policy was approved. He anticipates that the deputy gang policy will be approved soon.

VII. COMMISSION AD HOC COMMITTEES & AGENCY REPORTS

1. Office of the Inspector General (OIG) Report

(1:17:05) Chief Deputy Dara Williams provided a summary of the OIG's report on SB 1421, an update on County Counsel's "Police Officer Records Division," and advised that the report is on the OIG's website. Chief Deputy Williams also updated the Commission on OIG's quarterly reports.

Following Ms. Williams presentation, Chair Kennedy moved to the next item.

2. Sybil Brand Commission

(1:21:28) Ray Regalado, Chair of the Sybil Brand Commission, provided a summary of the Sybil Brand Commission's (SBC) responsibilities. He highlighted participating in a future joint meeting with the COC in September and inquired if key information related to in-custody deaths can be provided to SBC.

(1:27:42) Commissioner Bonner inquired about SBC's access to the review board reports that are developed after an in-custody death occurs.

Chair Regalado responded that he has not seen any review board reports.

Commissioner Bonner re-directed his inquiry regarding the Commission's ability to access review board reports to Executive Director Moseley.

(1:27:57) Executive Director Moseley confirmed that COC is not privy to review board reports and advised that she will make a request to LASD for the COC to receive that information.

(1:29:02) Commissioner Bonner inquired if OIG could provide the Commission with the review board reports.

(1:29:21) Chief Deputy Williams responded to Commissioner Bonner's inquiry and recommended confidential information be provided to the Commission directly from LASD.

(1:30:37) ED Moseley advised that the Commission has been receiving a detailed preliminary report on in-custody deaths but due to confidentiality, it could not be shared with the Commission.

(1:31:10) Commissioner Harris also expressed concern with the Commission not receiving confidential information. He recommended including the facility and housing location of in-custody deaths when they occur.

(1:33:30) Chair Kennedy disagreed with Chief Deputy Williams' comment regarding retrieving confidential information directly from LASD and expressed concern with the COC requesting confidential information directly from the Sheriff's department due to a conflict of interest.

(1:35:35) Chief Deputy Williams agreed that the COC ad hoc committee should receive confidential information but voiced concern with OIG providing that information. Chief Deputy Williams restated her comment about the COC requesting confidential information directly from

LASD and advised that OIG is open to reviewing any confidential information that the COC receives from LASD with County Counsel's approval.

(1:41:35) Commissioner Johnson interjected and reiterated Sheriff Luna's comments about providing more information to the COC. Commissioner Johnson then inquired about follow-up evidence into LASD deputy's watching "pornography" while on duty.

(1:42:26) Chair Regalado responded to Commissioner Johnson's inquiry about deputy's watching pornography and stated that there has not been any follow-up on the report.

(1:44:21) Chair Kennedy and Commissioner Bonner discussed with County Counsel liaison, Amara Kirby, the progress of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) that would allow COC ad hocs access to confidential information. Ms. Kirby confirmed that the draft MOU had been sent to the relevant union entities for review.

3. Ad Hoc Committees Reports

(1:54:27) **Disciplinary Ad Hoc:** Commissioner Bonner reported that the ad hoc committee is still collecting information from subject matter experts and that he anticipates a presentation will be provided at the next meeting.

(1:55:09) **Governance Ad Hoc:** Commissioner Bonner reported that the ad hoc committee is reviewing and revising the Commission's charter to make it more effective in its oversight role.

(1:57:10) **Interview Panel:** Commissioner Garcia reported that the vacant Commission position nominee is awaiting appointment by the Board of Supervisors

(1:57:19) **Quality of Life Ad Hoc:** Commissioner Garcia reported that the ad hoc committee met with the LASD and was provided a detailed presentation on the homeless outreach services team.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Ron Dowell spoke about the LASD crime rate data outlining Compton and LASD's two Captain solution.
2. Berklee Donovan of the ACLU expressed approval with the joint SBC/COC meeting.
3. Mr. Gil expressed concern with OIG's refusal to provide the COC with confidential information.
4. Christopher Ige shared concerns about the limited number of dentists available to provide dental care to incarcerated people.
5. Michelle Infante commented about data that was provided by Dignity & Power on the deaths in Twin Towers, MCJ, Pitchess and Lynwood Women's facility.

(2:06:28) Chair Kennedy called for a 15-minute break at 11:15 a.m.

(2:31:54) Chair Kennedy call the meeting back to order at 11:30 a.m.

VIII. EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

(2:32:30) John Barkley, Assistant Director, Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Coordinator provided a brief background on LASD's PREA custody and patrol station standards and summarized a presentation outlining a June 12, 2024 report back to the Board of Supervisors on the status of PREA compliance in the Los Angeles County Sheriff Department Jails ([see attached](#)).

(2:50:32) Commissioner Bonner asked if all 45 PREA standards have been implemented.

(2:51:00) Assistant Director Barkley confirmed that all 45 standards have not been implemented.

(2:52:10) Commissioner Bonner requested clarification about 136 CCTV cameras in the jails.

(2:52:41) Assistant Director Barkley clarified that 136 cameras were additions and is not the total number of cameras.

(2:53:18) Commissioner Johnson referenced an incident involving Emmett Brock, a transgender person who was subjected to a genital inspection. He asked if there was PREA follow up on that case.

(2:54:24) Assistant Director Barkley responded to Commissioner Johnson's inquiry and reported that LASD created PREA signage following that case and posted it in all LASD patrol stations. He agreed to send a copy to the commission.

(3:02:37) Chair Kennedy inquired about statistics on inmate sexual abuse and sexual harassment complaints against staff and expressed concern with none of the complaints being substantiated.

(3:04:02) Assistant Director Barkley advised that the statistics reported do not include pending investigations.

(3:04:23) Commissioner Bonner inquired if sexual abuse and sexual harassment complaints investigations are audited.

(3:04:50) Assistant Director Barkley confirmed that all investigations are audited.

(3:05:21) ED Moseley inquired about the timeframe for Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) and Internal Criminal Investigations Bureau investigations (ICIB).

(3:06:18) Assistant Director Barkley responded that this information is determined on a case-by-case basis.

(3:06:32) Chief Director Williams also responded to ED Moseley's inquiry and noted a 1-year investigation time frame for IAB and that ICIB has a statute of limitations. She shared that OIG reports refer to investigations conducted by LASD on sexual harassment complaints and provides feedback.

(3:07:15) Commissioner Harris requested Assistant Director Barkley forward a copy of the PREA poster to the Commission. He also stated that IAB investigations sometimes take more than one year to complete, and that civil litigation could delay the completion of investigations.

(3:08:05) Chief Deputy Williams reported that one sexual harassment incident was founded in the station jails.

(3:08:45) Chair Kennedy reiterated his concern with the statistical data on unfounded sexual harassment complaints.

Public Comment

1. Raquel Derfler commented about PREA data and founded and unfounded allegations and the validity of complaints being made by incarcerated people.
2. Michelle Infante's comments were inaudible as she appeared virtually.
3. Melissa Camacho commented about unsubstantiated PREA complaints and strip searches that led to unfounded sexual harassment allegations.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – NONE

X. NEW BUSINESS

1. Election of Commission Officer for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

(3:17:00) Commissioner Cooper shared a brief overview of the duties of the Chair's position. She announced that since Commissioner Hicks withdrew his name as a candidate, Commissioner Bonner is the only nominee for the position of Chair.

(3:19:35) Commissioner Bonner commented and noted that he prefers the position of Vice Chair but will accept the position as Chair.

There were no public comments made on this item.

Vote to select Commissioner Bonner as Chair for Fiscal Year 2024-2025:

**Ayes: 6 – Chair Kennedy, Vice Chair Hicks,
Commissioner Cooper, Commissioner
Garcia, Commissioner Harris, Commissioner
Johnson**

Abstention: 1 – Commissioner Bonner

Absent: 1 – Commissioner Patti Giggans

The vote passed 6 ayes – 1 Abstention 0 nays votes. Absent/Excused: Commissioner Patti Giggans.

(3:23:16) Commissioner Cooper provided an overview of the Vice Chair's duties and announced Commissioners Johnson and Garcia as the nominees for Vice Chairs.

(3:24:39) Commissioner Johnson briefly shared his background as a Commission member and shared his vision as Co-Vice Chair of the Commission.

(3:26:15) Commissioner Garcia shared his goals as Co-Vice Chair of the Commission.

Vote to select Commissioner Hans Johnson as Co-Vice Chair for Fiscal Year 2024-2025:

**Ayes: 7 – Chair Kennedy, Vice Chair Hicks,
Commissioner Bonner, Commissioner Cooper,
Commissioner Harris, Commissioner Johnson
Commissioner Garcia**

Absent: 1 – Commissioner Patti Giggans

The vote passed 7 Ayes – 0 nays votes 1 Absent/Excused: Commissioner Patti Giggans.

Vote to select Commissioner Luis Garcia as Co-Vice Chair for Fiscal Year 2024-2025:

**Ayes: 6 – Chair Kennedy, Vice Chair Hicks,
Commissioner Bonner, Commissioner Cooper,
Commissioner Harris, Commissioner Johnson**

Abstention: 1 – Commissioner Garcia

Absent: 1 – Commissioner Patti Giggans

The vote passed 6 Ayes – 1 Abstention – 0 nays votes 1 Absent/Excused: Commissioner Patti Giggans.

2. Dissolution of the Nomination Ad Hoc Committee

This item was considered under agenda item XI.

3. (3:30:09) Motion to withdraw the previous authorization to subpoena Max Fernandez and re-authorize the Chair to issue a subpoena for Max Fernandez to appear and testify before the Commission on September 19, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

Commissioner Bonner moved for the Commission to withdraw the previous motion to subpoena Max Fernandez and re-authorize the Chair to issue a subpoena requiring Max Fernandez to appear and testify before the Commission on September 19, 2024, at 9 a.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cooper.

There were no public comments on this item.

Ayes: 7 – Chair Kennedy, Vice Chair Hicks, Commissioner Bonner, Commissioner Cooper, Commissioner Garcia, Commissioner Harris, Commissioner Johnson

Absent: 1 – Commissioner Patti Giggans

The motion passed with 7 ayes – 0 nays votes 1 Absent/Excused: Commissioner Patti Giggans.

4. Reestablish the PREA Ad Hoc Committee

Commissioner Johnson moved for the Commission to reestablish the PREA ad hoc committee to comply with the attached BOS March 19, 2024, [motion](#) and for the Chair to appoint Commissioners to serve on the committee. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bonner.

There was no public comment on this item.

Ayes: 7 – Chair Kennedy, Vice Chair Hicks, Commissioner Bonner, Commissioner Cooper, Commissioner Garcia, Commissioner Harris, Commissioner Johnson

Absent: 1 – Commissioner Patti Giggans

The motion passed with 7 ayes – 0 nays votes 1 Absent/Excused: Commissioner Patti Giggans.

5. Assignment of the motions adopted by the Board of Supervisors to the Conditions of Confinement: [BOS Motion 1](#); [BOS Motion 2](#); [BOS Motion 3](#); [BOS Motion 4](#).

Commissioner Harris moved for the Commission to assign to the Conditions of Confinement Ad Hoc Committee various motions adopted by the BOS. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion.

There was no public comment on this item.

Ayes: 7 – Chair Kennedy, Vice Chair Hicks, Commissioner Bonner, Commissioner Cooper,

**Commissioner Garcia, Commissioner Harris,
Commissioner Johnson**

Absent: 1 – Commissioner Patti Giggans

The motion passed with 7 ayes – 0 nays votes. 1 Absent/Excused: Commissioner Patti Giggans.

6. Motion to assign the Quality-of-Life Ad Hoc Committee to work with Commission staff to complete the [Board motion on Street Takeovers](#) on behalf of the Commission.

(3:39:29) Chair Kennedy called for a motion on the item and stated that the BOS request on the Street Takeover issue is not related to the Commission’s oversight of LASD.

(3:40:39) Commissioner Bonner requested more information on the BOS request regarding Street Takeovers.

(3:41:17) Staff member Tracy Jordan summarized the BOS request for a report back on Street Takeovers.

(3:45:51) Chair Kennedy advised that he Street Takeovers is not an issue for the Commission to address.

(3:47:15) Commissioner Bonner agreed with Chair Kennedy and requested the Executive Director to appear on behalf of the commission. He then moved, for the Chair to designate a commissioner or commission staff to make a presentation on July 30, 2024, to the BOS on Street Takeovers. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Johnson.

There was no public comment on the item.

**Ayes: 5 – Commissioner Bonner, Commissioner Cooper,
Commissioner Garcia, Commissioner Harris,
Commissioner Johnson**

**Nays: 1 – Chair Kennedy
Abstention: 1 – Vice Chair Hicks
Absent: 1 – Commissioner Patti Giggans**

The motion passed 5 votes – 1 Nay, 1 Abstention, 1 Absent/Excused: Commissioner Patti Giggans.

7. **Update on the Commission’s 2024 Strategic Plan of Goals and Priorities**

This item was tabled until the September Commission meeting.

XI. STATUS ON COMMISSION REQUESTS & UPDATES NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Dissolution of the Nominations Ad Hoc Committee

(3:50:35) Commissioner Harris moved for the Commission to approve the dissolution of the Nominations Ad Hoc Committee. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bonner.

Chair Kennedy called for a voice vote.

**Ayes: 7 – Chair Kennedy, Vice Chair Hicks,
Commissioner Bonner, Commissioner Cooper,**

**Commissioner Garcia, Commissioner Harris,
Commissioner Johnson**

Absent: 1 – Commissioner Patti Giggans

The motion passed with 7 ayes – 0 nays votes. 1 Absent/Excused: Commissioner Patti Giggans.

XII. NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Raquel Derfler commented about the language in the SRD contract between LASD, School Districts and LA County.
2. Kassandra Hernandez commented about LASD deputy gangs and her uncle Francisco Nunez who allegedly died at the hands of LASD.
3. Vanessa Perez commented about her son Joseph Perez and SRD Paul Saldana.
4. Michelle Infante commented about LASD's unsubstantiated data and lack of transparency.

XIII. UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Kennedy announced that the next regular meeting will be held on September 19, 2024, at St. Anne's Conference Center and a joint meeting with SBC will be held in September. The meeting adjourned at 1:15p.m.