



**POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2026  
6:30 P.M.**

**Board Members**

Joshua Cayetano (Chair)  
Randy Wells

Leah Wilson (Vice-Chair)  
Joshua Buswell-Charkow

**MEETING LOCATION**

Office of the Director of Police Accountability  
1900 Addison Street, Floor 3  
Berkeley, CA 94704

**MEETING MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL AT 6:35 PM**

**Present:** Board Member Leah Wilson (Vice Chair)  
Board Member Buswell-Charkow  
Board Member Randy Wells

**Absent:** Board Member Joshua Cayetano (Chair)<sup>1</sup>

**ODPA Staff:** Jose Murillo, Acting Director of Police Accountability (DPA)  
Syed Mehdi, Data Analyst  
Daniel Weinberg, Investigator

**BPD Staff:** Lt. Coats  
Arlo Malmberg, Strategic Planning and Accountability Manager

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<sup>1</sup> Chair Cayetano was granted a leave of Absence

## **2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion to approve the agenda as amended to hear Item 7 (Chief of Police Report), followed by Items 9A and 9B, after Item 4.**

Moved/Second (Wilson/Wells) Motion carried.

Ayes: Wells, Buswell-Charkow, Wilson.

Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Cayetano.

## **3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

*1 Physically Present Speakers*

*1 Virtually Present Speakers*

## **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. Minutes for the Regular Meeting of February 11, 2026.

**Motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting of February 11, 2026.**

Moved/Second (Buswell-Charkow/Wilson) Motion carried.

Ayes: Wells, Buswell-Charkow, Wilson.

Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Cayetano.

## **5. ODPa STAFF REPORT**

Acting Director Murillo reported that City Council met in closed session to discuss the appointment of an Interim Director and the initiation of recruitment for a permanent DPA. He stated that an Interim Director has been identified, with an anticipated start date in April, pending completion of administrative steps. He further reported that a Council subcommittee will oversee the recruitment process for the permanent DPA, and that the City is in the process of retaining a recruiter to assist with stakeholder outreach and candidate selection.

## **6. CHAIR AND BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS**

No activities have been reported since the last PAB meeting on February 11, 2026

## **7. CHIEF OF POLICE'S REPORT**

Lt. Coats provided updates on recent incidents, including an arrest related to a robbery and arson investigation, a felony DUI collision, and a series of commercial burglaries under regional investigation. Arlo Malmberg presented an overview of the Department's public safety technology proposals scheduled for City Council consideration, including automated license plate readers, fixed cameras, DFR, and community video streams. He stated that the Department is proposing to fund certain technology acquisitions through the permanent reduction of six sworn positions.

## **8. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

Subcommittees report on their activities since the last PAB meeting on February 11, 2026.

## 9. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

- a. Discussion and action on the FY 2027 and 2028 Budget Process (ODPA)

**No action was taken.** The City Budget Manager presented an overview of the Fiscal Year 2026 mid-year budget update and the projected Fiscal Years 2027–2028 baseline budget.

- b. Discussion and action on the proposed policies and acquisition reports for unmanned aerial systems and drones as first responders (Wells)

**Review Deadline:** March 11, 2026 (PAB meeting); the item will be presented to the City Council on March 24, 2026.

- i. Presentation by the UC Berkeley Law Criminal Law & Justice Center
- ii. Review of BPD’s Proposed UAS and DFR Policies

**No action was taken.** Representatives from the UC Berkeley Criminal Law and Justice Center presented findings from their independent review of the proposed Drone as First Responder program.

- c. Discussion and action on new Policy Complaint 2025-PR-0007 in accordance with Section G “Policy Complaints and Reviews” of the PAB’s Standing Rules (ODPA)
- i. Preliminary Review Report
  - ii. Complainant’s Statement
  - iii. Public Comment
  - iv. BPD Statement

**Motion to approve the staff’s recommendation and decline to initiate policy review.**

Moved/Second (Wilson/Wells) Motion carried.

Ayes: Wells, Buswell-Charkow, Wilson.

Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Cayetano.

- d. Presentation of the ODPA 2026 Workplan and Preliminary Calendar of Events (ODPA)

**No action was taken.** Acting Director Murillo presented an overview of ODPA’s 2026 priorities and preliminary calendar.

- e. Discussion and action on the proposed updated to BPD Policy 351 “External Fixed Video Surveillance Cameras” (ODPA)

**Review Deadline:** March 11, 2026 (PAB meeting); the item will be presented to the City Council on March 24, 2026.

**No action was taken.** Acting Director Murillo summarized proposed revisions to Policy 351.

- f. Discussion and action on the proposed resolution rescinding Resolution No. 51,408-N.S. restricting the use of air support and canine units and updating mutual aid policies (Cayetano)

**Review Deadline:** March 11, 2026 (PAB meeting); the item will be presented to the PSPC in late March. Exact date to be determined.

**No action was taken.** Acting Director Murillo summarized the proposed resolution.

- g. Recap of the PAB's 2026 Annual Retreat (Wilson)

**No action was taken.** Board Members discussed the need to refine and narrow priorities and agreed to revisit the workplan at a future meeting.

## 10. PUBLIC COMMENT

1 *Physically Present Speakers*

1 *Virtually Present Speakers*

## 11. CLOSED SESSION

### CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

Pursuant to the Court's order in *Berkeley Police Association v. City of Berkeley, et al.*, Alameda County Superior Court Case No. 2002-057569, the Board will recess into closed session to discuss and act on the following matter(s):

- a. Conference With Labor Negotiators; Government Code § 54957.6  
Designated representatives: Leah Wilson, Designated PAB Representative;  
Jose Murillo, Acting Director of Police Accountability  
Employee organization: Berkeley Police Association

**No action taken.**

- b. Case Updates and Recommendations Regarding Complaints Received by the ODPa:

The PAB took the following actions on the cases listed below:

ODPA Case No. 2025-CI-0040

**Motion to accept the ODPa's recommendations in ODPa Complaint 2025-CI-0040.**

Moved/Second (Wilson/Wells) Motion carried.

Ayes: Wells, Wilson, and Buswell-Charkow.

Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Cayetano.

ODPA Case No. 2025-CI-0029

**Motion to accept the ODPa's recommendations, with modifications, in ODPa Complaint 2025-CI-0029.** Moved/Second (Wells/Wilson) Motion carried.

Ayes: Wells, Wilson, Cayetano and Buswell-Charkow.

Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

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**END OF CLOSED SESSION**

**12. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS**

Vice Chair Wilson Announced the closed session actions.

**13. ADJOURNMENT AT 9:38 PM**

Motion to adjourn. Moved/Second (Wilson/Wells). The meeting was adjourned at 9:38 PM by unanimous consent.

Minutes Approved On: 03/11/2026  
Jose Murillo, Commission Secretary

