

# MINUTES - Community Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: May 15, 2025

*Chairman: Jon Reaud*

*Vice-Chairman: Shawn Javed*

*Members:*

*Dwight Benoit, John Dean, Carlos Hernandez, Sohaib Jabbar, Shawn Javed, Glen Johnson, Will Landry, Roy McGrath, Lashon Proctor, Jon Reaud, Rodney Robichau, Frances Graham, William "Bill" Sam, Thomas Sige*

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**Call to order by Community Advisory Committee:** Chairperson Jon Reaud

**May 15, 2025 - 1:00 p.m:** A normal meeting of the Police Community Advisory Committee was held in the Beaumont Police Conference Room

**Members in attendance:**

Carlos Hernandez, Shawn Javed, Glen Johnson, Roy McGrath, Lashon Proctor, Bill Sam, Jon Reaud, Rodney Robichau, Thomas Sige

**Members not in attendance:** Dwight Benoit, John Dean, Frances Graham, Sohaib Jabbar, Will Landry,

**Members of the Police Department in attendance:**

Chief Ocnaschek, Chief Jeffcoat, Capt. Schuldt, Capt. Laird, Capt. Tyler, Judi Rawls, Emma Nelson

**Guests in Attendance:**

Mayor Roy West, Councilman Williams, Councilman Hilliard, Councilman Crenshaw, Councilwoman Sherwood, Vicki Johnson

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Invocation** - Reaud

**Moment of Silence for fallen officers**

**Roll Call** – Vice-Chairman Javed

Chairman Reaud began with presenting the resignation of Brian Nepveux from the committee. See attached document.

The meeting began with a discussion about the changes to city council and the policies of how the council chooses representatives. He asked Bill Sam, a founding member, about the origins of the committee. It was established in 2010 and effective January 2011.

The discussion shifted to some of the criteria and policies within the committee. One of these is the necessity of going through the 16 week long Citizens Police Academy. Prospective committee members should be made aware of this requirement before accepting the role. Chairman Reaud emphasized the desire of the committee to reflect on the bylaws and begin adhering to them more closely.

Bill Sam asked if these were new rules. He was concerned that the committee had not made suggestions. Chairman Reaud assured him that these were the rules that had always been in place, however the committee has not always held closely to them. Bill Sam also asked for clarification on if the council members were going to let the current committee members serve out their term. Chairman Reaud said that this would be up to the council person.

Councilman Crenshaw stated that he did not intend to make any changes in his appointment. Chairman Reaud then turned the meeting over to Chief Ocnaschek who began covering some current pertinent topics. He covered the reduction of crime and the 100% homicide clearance rate. The department has been working to get prolific offenders off the street. There has been success recently with the DA's office, the US Attorney, and the imbedded ATF agent. The increasing use of technology has also been invaluable in recent years and only improving each day. He then turned it over to Chief Jeffcoat to speak on the efficiency plan.

Chief Jeffcoat emphasized that the cheapest way to improve the department is to utilize more civilians in roles and tasks that do not require a badge. There are now 6 civilian case specialists, one sex offender registrar, and a civilian investigator. The sex offender registrar and civilian investigator prep cases, they just do not interview any of the suspects. This takes a full case load of simple cases off their respective departments. There are 6 civilian ID techs who can use technology that keeps the department from needing to call out 3 or 4 sworn officers. This is why the department is requesting more civilians in the upcoming budget, not more officers. He also spoke about Axon approaching the department about the ability to bundle a record management software with other technologies already in use – with the promise of access to new technologies as well. Chief Ocnaschek pointed out that it is more affordable and easier to hire and train civilians than officers.

Bill Sam complimented our officers, saying that he was currently on a grand jury. He was impressed with the thoroughness of BPD officers reports. Lashon Proctor asked if the civilians receive civil service credit. Chief Jeffcoat explained that civilians and sworn both have the same retirement. Civil service law is moreso to protect hiring, firing, and disciplinary practices. Chief Ocnaschek pointed out that this isn't civilians doing police work, it is civilians doing work that does not require police. Chief Ocnaschek spoke about the ordinance and bylaws of the committee and his intention to have a brief moment to make comments and bring information in each meeting.

**Meeting Ended:** 2:20

**Next Meeting:** June 19, 2025 at 1:00 pm in the BPD Training Classroom

**Minutes Taken by:** by Emma Nelson/Community Outreach Specialist/Beaumont Police Department/Administration Division