

DULUTH CITIZEN REVIEW BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The monthly Citizen Review Board meeting was held October 22, 2025. The following people were present:

Marsha Lue	Human Rights Officer
Erik Franklin	Board Member/President
Mel Holshouser-Derosier	Board Member
Bobbie Underthun	Board Member/Recorder
Mike Ceynowa	Chief- Duluth Police Department
Lt. Joel Olejnicak	Duluth Police Department (taking over for Lt. Ring)
Janet Kennedy	Duluth City Council -Liason to the board
Betty Greene	Citizen
Kathleen Spencer	Citizen

1. Call to Order and introductions: The meeting was called to order at 1732 PM by board member Franklin.

2. Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes was made by board member Holshouser-Derosier, and seconded by board member Underthun.

3. Public Comments:

* Citizen Greene noted the oddness of internal complaints 074, 089, and 090 not including any information. Lt. Olejnicak noted these complaints are currently active, and the data cannot be released yet, but he will see if any are resolved by the time of the next meeting.

* Board Member Franklin asked what are the boundaries, why would these complaints come through here if active. Chief Ceynowa stated all complaints are sent to the board for transparency and review. Franklin asked if there were 3 separate internal complaints? Chief Ceynowa reported there could be one complaint that is attached to multiple allegations, and these still fall under

4. Police Liaison Report

* Since last July DPD has hired 8 officers. All have completed the first initial phase of the academy. By the end of October 3 more recruits will be starting 11/3.

* The department is working with HR to finalize some details for hiring next year.

* 4 people are currently locked into the March academy.

* Lt. Olejnicak mentioned approval to increase class sizes. Chief Ceynowa stated the department does get some lateral hires, but it is hard to get people from the cities. He mentions the department could hire 26 people when looking at numbers, but the previous administration would only let the department hire if there were actual openings. The last time the department was fully staffed was January 2020. Right now, every city around the state is sitting at 30% because policing is portable. Some other factors that come into play are lack of housing and day care.

* Chief Ceynowa said the department is launching Draft One, an AI assist, which transcribes the audio from body worn cameras (BWC). The officers will still need to review the report for accuracy because this is a 2D image of a 3D world and they need to be able to attest the accuracy. This is a closed AI platform. Citizen Greene asked, if there would be scrutiny as to if these are working as intended without adding extra information? Chief Ceynowa stated there is not much difference from what they do now, because we are still relying on the officer's memory. The live launch is in January. Officers and supervisors are currently being trained on this.

* Chief Ceynowa stated DPD is slated to be the first agency to get an R10 drone.

* 60 cars have auto license plate readers. The data the officer receives from the plate can be any kind of alert, then the officer has to go into the NCIC database to make sure the plate and vehicle match. A warrant is needed to obtain certain data, and regular quality audits are being completed.

* By 2028 the Drone First Responder Program will be increasing to 5 to give better coverage, and a response time of 120 seconds or less. We will see a 40% reduction in calls needing an officer response. The drones have a forward-facing dashboard, they do not have facial recognition, and they do not start to capture data until they have arrived on scene.

* Citizen Greene asked why the need for 2 spreadsheets for drone reports? Lt. Olejnicak reported the data goes into the spreadsheet as it downloads. It was difficult to get that information to the board, but is now being modernized.

5. Other Business: none

6. Announcements and Community Correspondence: none.

7. Additional Public Comments:

* Citizen Spencer stated her neighborhood was hopping with people shooting each other, and there is an area on 3rd St. where people cannot behave themselves.

* Board member Franklin reported if random complaints are heard, then to please do the follow up steps and report it because misinformation does not get stopped without questions.

8. Board Member Questions:

* Board member Underthun asked about the "Duluth Vigilante", character who keeps showing up on social media, and is taking video on top of buildings, etc?

* Chief Ceynowa mentioned, this is actually a national problem, and not just in Duluth.

* Board member Franklin asked where are we at with homeless encampments? Chief Ceynowa reported they haven't had any large encampments for awhile and people are disbursing into neighborhoods. There has also been a lot less incidence since people being moved to Domiano.

* Warming shelters are scheduled to open, with shuttles running to avoid bus service disruptions. People can be dropped off at Union Gospel Mission, Domiano Center, and Chum.

9. Adjourn: A motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:22 pm by board member Underthun, and seconded by board member Holshouser-DeRosier .