



**CITY OF OAKLAND  
POLICE COMMISSION SELECTION PANEL  
(SPECIAL MEETING)**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, August 4, 2020**  
Via Teleconference

Selection Panel Members: Gay Plair Cobb (At Large), Don Link (District 1), James Chanin (District 2), *Vacant* (District 3), Lorelei Bosserman (District 4), Mary Vail (District 5), Braunz Courtney (District 6), Bill Thomasson (District 7), and Brendalynn Goodall (Mayor).

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**1. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum**

Quorum was determined and the meeting started at 5:16 pm.

Members present: Lorelei Bosserman (arrived at 5:25 pm), James Chanin, Gay Plair Cobb, Brendalynn Goodall, Don Link, Bill Thomasson and Mary Vail.

Members absent: Braunz Courtney

Staff present: Richard J. Luna

City Attorney Staff present: Allison Dibley

**2. Open Forum**

Public comments were provided by the following speakers:

Michelle Anzanello  
Gene Hazzard  
Joseph Mente  
Assata Olugbala  
Saleem Bey  
Tasha Mente  
Megan Steffen  
John Bey  
Jose Dorado  
Sala Bandabila  
Kevin Cantu

There were no written comments submitted to the Selection Panel.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**3. Approval of Selection Panel Meeting Minutes**

No action was taken on this item as the meeting minutes for July 22, 2020, were approved on July 30, 2020.

**CITY OF OAKLAND  
POLICE COMMISSION SELECTION PANEL  
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**Meeting Minutes (Continued)**

**Tuesday, August 4, 2020**  
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**4. Selection Panel Interviews and Deliberations of Police Commission Applicants**

Selection Panel Members reported on the reference checks completed for the applicants interviewing with the Selection Panel for Tuesday, August 4, 2020, and reference checks completed for prior interview applicants.

The Selection Panel interviewed Police Commission applicants Tyfahra Singleton, Kumar Vedantham, Omar Farmer and Cristina Cross.

The Selection Panel recessed from 7:59 pm to 8:15 pm.

The Selection Panel then discussed its process for selecting finalists to participate in the second round of interviews. Chairperson James Chanin offered a proposal that he and Vice Chairperson Brendalynn Goodall developed, which includes that each Member submit six nominations through email to City staff member Richard J. Luna by Thursday, August 6, 2020; that City staff tabulate results; that the six applicants receiving the most votes be invited to the second round of interviews; and that after the second round of interviews, the Selection Panel would nominate two candidates and the remaining four applicants would form the Reserve Pool.

The Selection Panel discussed the proposal and offered additional edits, including a deadline on when to submit nominations, and that the Selection Panel interview three candidates each evening on August 10, 2020, and August 12, 2020.

A motion was made by Gay Plair Cobb, seconded by Mary Vail, to move forward with the plan outlined by the Chair and Vice Chair including how the Selection Panel submits and by when they submit the individual ratings of their top six candidates, and that the Selection Panel plans to schedule final interviews of the six in two sessions as opposed to one session. The motion passed with six ayes (Cobb, Chanin, Goodall, Link, Thomasson, Vail) and one no (Bosserman). Chairperson James Chanin clarified that the Selection Panel Members will each vote for six candidates by 8:00 am on Thursday, August 6, 2020, with the top six applicants being invited to the final interviews.

The Selection Panel then discussed the proposed final interview questions. The Selection Panel stated more questions were needed and that questions should be sent to City staff member Richard J. Luna to compile and include in the next Agenda. Chairperson James Chanin recommended starting the meeting on August 10, 2020, at 5:30 pm to allow the Selection Panel time to review and select the finalist interview questions. Additional recommendations included to start the first interview at 7:00 pm, and for all interviews to be 45 minutes each.

A second motion was made by Don Link, seconded by Mary Vail, to submit proposed finalist interview questions to City staff by 8:00 am on Thursday, August 6, 2020; for staff to publish all proposed questions in the Agenda; for the meeting on August 10,

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2020, to start at 5:30 pm; for the first Agenda item to allow for discussion and to finalize the interview questions; for the first interview to start at 7:00 pm; and to have three interviews on Monday and three on Wednesday. The motion passed with seven ayes (Bosserman, Cobb, Chanin, Goodall, Link, Thomasson, Vail).

Chairperson James Chanin stated the meeting on August 12, 2020, would start at 6:00 pm.

The Selection Panel then discussed and made comments on all applicants interviewed during the first round of interviews.

Public comments were provided by the following speakers:  
Assata Olugbala  
Megan Steffen  
John Jones III

**5. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:32 pm.