

# CITY OF LEON VALLEY CITIZEN POLICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Leon Valley Conference Center 6421 Evers Rd, Leon Valley, Texas 78238 Wednesday, January 29, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

#### **MINUTES**

The Citizen Police Advisory Committee met on the 29th day of January 2025, at the Leon Valley Conference Center located at 6421 Evers Rd, Leon Valley, Texas 78238 for the purpose of the following business:

### Agenda Item #1 Call to Order and Announcement of a Quorum

Manuel Rubio called the Police Advisory Committee Meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. Committee Members present included Darby Riley, Erick Matta, Olen Yarnell, Vera "Anne Sawyer,Kim Crawford, Bill Stannard, Frank Gonzalez, Tina Chasan, Ronnie Morgan, and City Council member Rey Orozco. Andrea Roofe arrived late at 6:51 p.m.

Absent members included Michelle Rawls and Joshua Stevens.

Documented staff present were City Manager Crystal Caldera, Police Chief David Gonzalez, and Police Lieutenant Kasey Tucker.

Agenda Item #2 Discussion and Possible Action on the Approval of the Following Minutes:

- a. October 23, 2024, Citizens Police Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes.
- b. November 13, 2024, Citizens Police Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes.
- c. January 15, 2025, Citizens Police Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes.

Agenda Item 2(a) was postponed and will be added to the next agenda. Agenda Item 2(b) Committee Member Tina Chasan made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, which was seconded by committee member Bill Stannard. Agenda Item 2(c) Committee Member Tina Chasan made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, which was seconded by committee member Darby Riley. The motions carried unanimously.

Agenda Item #3 Discussion regarding the tour of the Leon Valley Police Department and Impound Lot on December 17th and December 18th by the Mayor, Council Members, and Citizen's Police Advisory Committee Members. Chairman Manual Rubio discussed the recent tour offered of the Police Department and the Impound lot. He stated that during his tour, he was able to see all the processes and how the Police staff work to effectively use the limited space. He appreciated the service provided to citizens, businesses, and visitors of the city by the department.

Agenda Item #4 Discussion Regarding Police Department Concerns: Public Safety, Traffic Flow Improvements, Departmental Challenges, Crime Prevention, Technology and Initiatives, Training and Staffing Issues.

Chief Gonzalez was asked to address general public safety measures. Chief Gonzalez advised the committee and attendees that main roadways are controlled by TXDOT. Challenges always include funding issues and surround training and mandates. Committee members were advised that Police Department staff can schedule citizen presentations or classes regarding crime prevention measures they can employ, as these have been put on at intervals when requested. When discussing technological advancements and initiatives, an investigative tool, security camera systems, was discussed to address crime and identify criminals more effectively. GIS Mapping was discussed, and Chief Gonzalez stated systems were extremely expensive and that currently, Lt. Tucker is the departmental GIS system. Chief Gonzalez has been in discussion with the IT director, as he has stated he has a solution to purchase GIS software. A discussion regarding purchasing bulletproof windshields for patrol cars was brought up to the Chief. Chief Gonzalez was able to contact a 501(c)(3), and the department was placed on a waitlist for bulletproof windshields. Chief Gonzalez is proceeding in this direction to save taxpayer dollars. Training was discussed with a focus on the elements that affect training, which include reallocation of manpower, cost, and locations of training. Texas-mandated training for cycles by TCOLE, certification Training, and Texas Best Practices mandates, as that is the direction that the department is moving. Chief Gonzalez discussed staffing levels, as we have been hiring over the last year to meet basic staffing levels. A discussion of the needed staff for both normal daily operational needs and the increased staffing needed for special events. such as July 4th Additional concerns discussed were regarding Property Room storage and the need for future expansion.

Agenda Item #5 Discussion of Police Activity and Crime with Highlights of the Police Annual Report, Comparison rates for Residential and Vehicle Burglary Rates.

Chief Gonzalez discussed highlights of the Annual Report (Full report available on the City Website).

He additionally discussed residential home burglaries and vehicle burglaries with comparisons between 2022, 2023, and 2024.

	Residential	Vehicle
2022	39	141
2023	38	159
2024	22	142

He presented safety tips that included locking vehicle doors and closing garages while not leaving any valuables visible.

Mail theft, credit card abuse, fraud, and forgery were discussed along with safety measures that can be employed. The informed delivery service available at the Post Office is a great tool to identify if your mail has been tampered with or stolen.

### Agenda Item #6 Discussion regarding dog bites and animal control concerns.

Chief Gonzalez advised that there had been 10 dog bites, 2 cat bites, and 2 euthanasia's of dogs for a city cost of \$400.00. He further discussed that we are not the only city facing these types of issues. Attendee Betty Heyl discussed that irresponsible pet ownership is part of this problem. A discussion regarding Pet stores in Leon Valley and surrounding areas perpetuates the problem. City Manager Crystal Caldera discussed that many animals are rehomed and that many staff members, including those present, such as herself, Chief Gonzalez, and Lt Tucker, have all adopted abandoned animals located in the city. Committee members Olen Yarnell and Erick Matta both extended a call to arms for citizens to step up in adopting animals, as city staff have done. Tina Chasan recommended that, after possession, an email be sent to Rescue groups to attempt to rehome the abandoned animals.

Chief Gonzalez and City Manager Crystal Caldera discussed the transfer of Animal Control and Code Compliance Management to Economic Development under supervision by Director Roque Salinas (possibly in February 2025).

## Agenda Item #7 Discussion and Possible Action on Future Agenda Items

Updates regarding the following: Cameras, Training and TCOLE Provider Status, GIS Mapping, Neighborhood Watch, and Property Room Funding. There was also a request for a discussion regarding white collar crime data.

#### Agenda Item #8 Citizens to be Heard

A citizen advised the committee that they had concerns over street racing on Huebner near Evers and motorcycles on Evers.

Agenda Item #7 Adjournment at 8:06 pm CT on 01/29/2025.

These minutes were approved by the Leon Valley Police Advisory Committee on the 16<sup>th</sup> of April, 2025.