

Minutes

Greater Cleveland RTA Civilian Oversight Committee Special Meeting
4:33 p.m., Wednesday, April 29, 2026

Civilian Oversight Committee Members: Michael Blake, David Morris, Jakolya Gordon, Rebecca Wharton

Not present: Jonathan England

GCRTA BOT: Mayor Gallo

Staff: Bailey, Caver, Darden, Degraffinried, Flachbart, Gettings, Schreiner, Sulik, Wilson

Public: None

The meeting was called to order at 4:33 p.m. There were four (4) Committee members present.

It was advised that notice of this meeting had been posted more than twenty-four hours in advance of the meeting, that the usual notification had been given to the news media and other interested persons, and that all requirements of the Ohio Revised Code and Rules and Bylaws of the Board of Trustees regarding notice of meeting had been complied with.

Introduction of Complaint Number C25-008, Complaint Number C26-004 and Complaint Number C26-005.

Executive Session Requested

4:34 p.m. – It was moved by Ms. Wharton and seconded by Ms. Gordon that the Committee enter executive session to enable the COC to consider the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee or regulated individual. A roll call vote was taken; Mr. Morris – Yes, Mr. Blake – Yes, Ms. Gordon – Yes, Ms. Wharton – Yes. The motion carries.

6:44 p.m. – It was moved by Mr. Morris and seconded by Ms. Wharton to come out of executive session. A roll call vote was taken; Mr. Morris – Yes, Mr. Blake – Yes, Ms. Gordon – Yes, Ms. Wharton – Yes. The motion carries.

Discussion / Action regarding Complaint Number C25-008, Complaint Number C26-004 and Complaint Number C26-005.

For Complaint Number C25-008 there were three (3) issues identified.

Issue 1

Did the TP Officers walk away from the Complainant in the elevator?

Ms. Wharton made a motion seconded by Ms. Gordon that the Committee find Issue One to be “Unfounded”. There were four (4) ayes and none opposed. The motion carries.

Issue 2

Did the TP Officers assault the Complainant in the elevator?

Ms. Wharton made a motion seconded by Mr. Blake that the Committee find Issue Two to be “Unfounded”. There were four (4) ayes and none opposed. The motion carries.

Issue 3

Did the TP Officers punch the Complainant?

Ms. Wharton made a motion seconded by Ms. Gordon that the Committee find Issue Three to be "Not Sustained". There were four (4) ayes and none opposed. The motion carries.

For Complaint Number C26-004 there were three (3) issues identified.

Issue 1

Did Officer Cannavino identify himself to the Complainant?

Ms. Wharton made a motion seconded by Ms. Gordon that the Committee find Issue One to be "Exonerated". There were four (4) ayes and none opposed. The motion carries.

Issue 2

Did Officer Cannavino behave in an aggressive manner towards the Complainant?

Ms. Wharton made a motion seconded by Mr. Blake that the Committee find Issue Two to be "Unfounded". There were four (4) ayes and none opposed. The motion carries.

Issue 3

Were the TP Officers unprofessional and dismissive of the Complainant's manager?

Ms. Wharton made a motion seconded by Mr. Morris that the Committee find Issue Three to be "Unfounded". There were four (4) ayes and none opposed. The motion carries.

For Complaint Number C26-005 there were eight (8) issues identified.

Issue 1

Did the TP Officers cause harm to the Complainant's left arm?

Ms. Wharton made a motion seconded by Ms. Gordon that the Committee find Issue One to be "Unfounded". There were four (4) ayes and none opposed. The motion carries.

Issue 2

Did the TP Officers arrest the Complainant for no reason?

Ms. Wharton made a motion seconded by Mr. Blake that the Committee find Issue Two to be "Unfounded". There were four (4) ayes and none opposed. The motion carries.

Issue 3

Were the TP Officers overly aggressive with the Complainant during the detention?

Ms. Wharton made a motion seconded by Mr. Blake that the Committee find Issue Three to be "Exonerated". There were four (4) ayes and none opposed. The motion carries.

Issue 4

Did the TP Officers improperly search the Complainant?

Ms. Wharton made a motion seconded by Mr. Morris that the Committee find Issue Four to be “Unfounded”. There were four (4) ayes and none opposed. The motion carries.

Issue 5

Did the TP Officers damage the Complainant’s property?

Ms. Wharton made a motion seconded by Mr. Blake that the Committee find Issue Five to be “Exonerated”. There were four (4) ayes and none opposed. The motion carries.

Issue 6

Did the TP Officers threaten the female who was attempting to assist the Complainant?

Ms. Wharton made a motion seconded by Ms. Gordon that the Committee find Issue Six to be “Unfounded”. There were four (4) ayes and none opposed. The motion carries.

Issue 7

Did the TP Officers delete video from the Complainant’s phone?

Ms. Wharton made a motion seconded by Mr. Morris that the Committee find Issue Seven to be “Unfounded”. There were four (4) ayes and none opposed. The motion carries.

Issue 8

Did the TP Officers refuse to request a supervisor?

Ms. Wharton made a motion seconded by Mr. Blake that the Committee find Issue Eight to be “Unfounded”. There were four (4) ayes and none opposed. The motion carries.

Adjourn

6:50 p.m. – It was moved by Ms. Wharton and seconded by Mr. Morris that the special meeting be adjourned. There were four (4) ayes, and none opposed. The meeting was adjourned.