

COUNTY OF MARIN
CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT COMMISSION MEETING
Draft Action Minutes – Regular Meeting

Monday, July 13, 2026, 6:00 pm
Marin County Civic Center
3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 143D. San Rafael, CA 94903

Commissioners Present: Lee, McNerney, McEvoy, Cieslak-Sandoval, Chan, Dr. Fromer, Oldham-Robinett, Gaston.

Commissioner Absent: Echevarria.

1. Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dr. Fromer at 6:00 PM.

Opening Remarks:

Land and Labor Acknowledgement by Commissioner McEvoy.

2. Public Open Time.

Eight members of the public addressed the Commission on items not on the agenda.

3. Approval of the Minutes of June 8, 2026.

The Commission considered approval of the June 8, 2026, meeting minutes.

Motion: Approve the minutes.

Moved/Seconded: McNerney/McEvoy.

Abstained: Oldham-Robinett.

June meeting minutes approved unanimously.

No public commented on this agenda item.

4. Overview of Sheriff's Office, introduction of MCSO Liaison, and discussion of Commission/Sheriff collaboration and topics of interest.

Sheriff's presentation:

- Sheriff Scardina introduced Lt. Baker (Commission Liaison, 35+ years of service) and Undersheriff Moir.
- First in-person introduction of Marin County Sheriff's Office senior staff to the Commission.
- Sheriff appreciated that Inspector General and liaison were in place to build dialogue.

Organization Overview:

- Staffing: ~300 total (200 sworn deputies, 100 professional/support staff).
- Leadership: Sheriff, Undersheriff, three Captains (oversee main bureaus).

Bureau Overviews:

- Administrative Services: Dispatch, coroner, records, fiscal, technology, property/evidence, jail cooks, standards.
- Detention Services: Jail administration, court security, re-entry programming, collaboration with County Health.
 - Jail owned by County, not Sheriff; current population low (175-220).
 - Focus on reducing recidivism.
- Field Services: Patrols (four substations), investigative division (all major crimes), service area from Golden Gate to Petaluma and West Marin to Dillon Beach.
- Budget: \$85M, majority to salaries/benefits.
- Communications: Encouraged commission and public to sign up for quarterly newsletter and follow social media for outreach.

Seven members of the public and several commissioners commented on this item.

5. Updates and Scheduling.

A. Update on the Commission's Adopted Workplan:

- Inspector General John Alden welcomed.
- Bylaws and code of conduct draft completed; to Board of Supervisors by August 18.
- Community Outreach and Engagement Plan under subcommittee review; commission approval expected in August.
- Training curriculum drafted; pending review with IG and Sheriff's Office.
- Complaint procedure starts after the operational agreement is completed.
- Surveillance Technology Ad Hoc subcommittee active (ALPR, Flock Safety, policy review).
- Future priorities: immigration policy, jail operations, RIPA data, body-worn cameras, use of force.
- Annual report draft to be prepared in fall (September-October) summarizing first year's work.

B. Subcommittee Updates:

Surveillance Technology Ad Hoc:

- Held first meeting July 6.
- Clarifying scope and questions about Sheriff's technology use.
- Ongoing data gathering by IG; more meetings planned.

Community Outreach & Engagement Subcommittee:

- Drafted introductory letter to build community trust and explain commission's role.
- Targeting August review and approval.

C. Consider moving the Commission's August 10 meeting:

- Original August date conflicted with Inspector General schedule.
- Rescheduled to Monday, August 24 (quorum assured, no overlap).

- September meeting remains as normally scheduled for three weeks later (September 14).

Motion: Move the Commission's August 10th meeting to August 24th.

Moved/Seconded: Lee/McEvoy.

Reschedule the August 10th meeting for August 24th approved unanimously.

Three members of the public commented on this item.

6. NACOLE Training: Conducting Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement: Review of the Ordinance and Applicable Authorities – 30 min, part 1.

Context:

- Acknowledged the intensive, gradual foundational phase common to new oversight commissions.
- Emphasis on understanding the ordinance's precise powers, duties, and limitations.

Key Points in Ordinance:

- Commission's roles: oversight, complaint review, community engagement, policy feedback, annual reporting, and subpoena powers.
- Ordinance requires the commission and IG to jointly develop bylaws, complaint procedures, and communication protocols.
- Legally mandated operational agreement (between IG and Sheriff) needed for complaint handling, investigation review, and information-sharing.
- Procedures must address anonymous complaints and access for detained individuals and their representatives.
- Ongoing evaluation and refinement of intake and complaint processes recommended.

Operational Challenges:

- State labor law "meet and confer" process required for policies impacting working conditions (including IG jail access).
- Developing a comprehensive, legally sound operational agreement is time-intensive but essential.
- Until finalized, commission is limited from acting on individual officer performance or personnel matters.
- Non-personnel policy, training, and systemic reviews may proceed.
- Commissioners encouraged to study best practices from comparable counties in preparation for future complaint intake.

Q&A Highlights

- Commissioners asked questions about unannounced jail visits as described in the ordinance.
- Possibility of commissioners touring the jail as part of training (may require advance arrangement).

- Urgency expressed to expedite the operational agreement.
- Desire for more in-person community engagement by IG and commissioners.

Two members of the public commented on this item.

7. Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm.