



# LANSING POLICE DEPARTMENT

120 W. MICHIGAN AVENUE, LANSING MI 48933

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Andy Schor, Mayor

## Board of Police Commissioners Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 21, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

Lansing Fire Department – Station #4, Community Room  
1435 E Miller Rd, Lansing, MI 48911

The Board of Police Commissioners met in regular session and the meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chair Jones.

**Present at Rollcall:** Commission Members: Brewster, Cotton, Farhat, Jones, Milton, Watkins

Also present: Chief Backus, Elizabeth O’Leary, Fire Chief Edwards-Clemons, Julie Browne, Matthew Staples, Keith Goodwin and Jacqueline Lutz

Public Attendees: 2

Rollcall was taken and quorum was present.

Commissioner Hernandez arrived at 5:45 pm after roll call and vote on items was taken.

Commissioner Bitely arrived at 5:50 pm after roll call and vote on items was taken.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Lead by Commissioner Jones

**Correspondence Sent and Received:** Commissioner Jones received correspondence from Ali Peeler.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items:** None

**Additions To the Agenda:** None

**Approval Of Agenda:** Chair Jones moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Watkins made the motion to approve with Commissioner Farhat seconding the motion.

By Vote: Yeas: 6  
Nays: 0

**Consent Agenda:** Chair Jones moved for approval of agenda items:

- a) Approval of Meeting Minutes: March 17, 2026.
- b) Approval of March Departmental Reports.

Chair Jones moved to approve the minutes and department reports. Commissioners Farhat made the motion. Commissioner Brewster seconding the motion.

By Vote: Yeas: 6  
Nays: 0

**EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION:** Fire Chief Carrie Edwards-Clemons

- Emergency Management, New Trainings, the future of LFD

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT** – Chief Backus

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- Increase in numbers in March reports, New Summer Shift beginning in May, second homicide of the year. May 4<sup>th</sup> MI Cops at the Capitol at 7pm, May 5<sup>th</sup> Ingham County Law Enforcement Memorial at 10 am, May 8<sup>th</sup> Mid-Michigan Police Academy 6pm at DART (7 Grads), Event for 29 possible recruits, CIT training class.

**LEGAL UPDATE** – Assistant City Attorney Matthew Staples

- No legal update. Introducing Keith Goodwin, new attorney in office.

**HUMAN RESOURCES** – Director Elizabeth O’Leary

- Lateral position posted, 1 lateral starting in May, 12 recruits in background phase, 17 awaiting MCOLEs. Cadet position posted Friday. Central Records Specialist posted.

**COMMISSION INVESTIGATOR REPORT:**

- Julie Browne, Commission Investigator
  - 3 opened, 5 closed, and 0 to the Chief

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None as of today.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** None.

**BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- Budget – No new information to share
- Government/Community Liaison Committee – Nothing
- Awards and Incentives Committee – May 20<sup>th</sup> Awards Ceremony
- Ad Hoc Committee – No report
- Citizen Complaint Oversight Committee – Met this afternoon, appreciate the CI’s work alongside IA. Former Ofc. Wilcox case was handled by the Department with integrity.
- Recruitment and Hiring – Nothing

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS** – (Informational)

- Farhat – Nothing, thank you.
- Watkins – Nothing
- Cotton – Concerned about the Car Wash on Cedar St. Concerned about the uptick in gun violence. K North incident a few weeks ago
- Hernandez – None
- Milton – Law Enforcement Sunday at his church, for more information see him
- Brewster – Noticed youths on offroad mini-bikes, motorized on sidewalks
- Jones – No comments
- Bitely – Spring Officers downtown more, seeing more on patrol

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** 1

**ADJOURNMENT:** Chair Jones moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:21 pm. Commissioner Bitely made the motion with Commissioner Farhat seconding.

By Vote: Yeas: 6  
Nays: 0

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