UNOFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES POLICE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE SEPTEMBER 24, 2025

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Present (4):

Committee Member Lizbeth Camacho Committee Member Patsy Gasca Committee Member Yolanda Hayes Committee Chair Leo De La Rosa

Absent (3)

Committee Member Asya Guillory Committee Member Leah Miller Committee Member Shanice Virrueta

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Received public comment from a member of the public in attendance.

CONSENT AGENDA #25-414 Approval of Minutes of August 27, 2025

MOTION

Upon the motion by Committee Member Gasca, seconded by Committee Member Hayes, the Minutes of August 27, 2025, were approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: 4 - Committee Member Camacho, Committee Member Gasca, Committee Member Hayes, Chair De La Rosa

Absent: 3 - Committee Member Guillory, Committee Member Miller, Committee Member Virrueta

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Chief Acosta stated that committee members received via email the answers to the questions from the last meeting, as well as two attached documents, the Salinas Police Department Command Map and the Community Guide Brochure. The Command Map includes Patrol Commander's contact information. The Community Guide Brochure shows the Salinas Police Department contact information, as well as community resources. Chief Acosta stated he anticipates a future presentation regarding dispatch services, priority calls, and online reports.

Chief Acosta announced that the department will go to City Council on October 14th for the approval to purchase ammunition for use with precision rifles. These rifles are only used by the specialty team and are subject to Assembly Bill 481.

Chief Acosta invited the committee members to the State of the City, which will take place on Thursday, September 25, 2025, from 6:00 to 8:00pm at Sherwood Hall.

During the meeting, Chief Acosta addressed questions raised by the committee members.

Received public comment from a member of the public in attendance.

PRESENTATION: Recruitment and Staffing

Commander Brian Johnson gave a presentation on the department's recruitment efforts and current staffing levels. He compared sworn staffing levels from January 2020 to September 2025. In 2025, the department hired 7 lateral officers, and 12 recruits graduated. There are currently 145 sworn positions filled, of which 21 are female officers. There are 70 Spanish speaking Officers/Recruits. The new professional positions are: Forensic Specialist I, Management Analyst, Communication Specialist, and Public Safety Recruitment Coordinator.

In efforts to attract applicants, the department continues to offer hiring incentives. The recruitment website provides important information about the recruitment process. The department provides educational workshops, attends community events, gives presentations, and has increased advertising through different media sources.

The department had also focus on staff retention by reducing the mandatory overtime, providing resources, wellness trainings, and revitalizing the peer support team.

Commander Johnson addressed questions from the Committee Members.

Public comments were received.

No action required.

COMMITTEE MEMBER'S REPORTS

Committee Member Camacho expressed her gratitude to the Police Department for their efforts in keeping the community safe. She requested a presentation on school zone safety, parking enforcement, community engagement, and who oversees police complaints and recognitions.

Committee Member Hayes requested training pertaining to unhoused population and the role of the police. She shared her point of view regarding the "Next Door" application.

Chair De La Rosa stated he attended the 9-11 ceremony at Salinas City Hall. He also attended a community meeting at Sherwood Elementary School regarding prostitution. Committee Member Chair De La Rosa suggested that City Department Heads have a monthly meeting to discuss/address issues impacting the city and the community.

Committee Member Gasca expressed interest in receiving a presentation on ShotSpotter.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting, Wednesday, October 22, 2025.

ADJOURNAMENT

Meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.