

**POCONO MOUNTAIN REGIONAL POLICE COMMISSION
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
8 August 2023**

PRESENT:

DAVID W MOYER	-TOBYHANNA TOWNSHIP	-CHAIRMAN
FRANCIS DePIANO	-TUNKHANNOCK TOWNSHIP	-VICE CHAIRMAN
JOHN SEESE	-BARRETT TOWNSHIP	-SECRETARY
TRACY FOX	-COOLBAUGH TOWNSHIP	-MEMBER
BRENDON CARROLL	-TOBYHANNA TOWNSHIP	-MEMBER
CRAYSON CHEUNG	-TUNKHANNOCK TOWNSHIP	-MEMBER
RANDY ALTEMOSE	-MOUNT POCONO BOROUGH	-MEMBER
DON STRUCKLE	-MOUNT POCONO BOROUGH	-MEMBER
CHRIS WAGNER		-CHIEF OF POLICE
HARRY COLEMAN		-HARRY COLEMAN
LAW		

ABSENT:

WILLIAM WEIMER	-COOLBAUGH TOWNSHIP	-TREASURER
KURT CUMMINGS	-COOLBAUGH TOWNSHIP	-MEMBER
DAVID CARBONE	-TOBYHANNA TOWNSHIP	-MEMBER

CALL TO ORDER:

The Regular Business Meeting of the Pocono Mountain Regional Police Commission was held at the Pocono Mountain Regional Police Building, called to order on August 8, 2023, at 7:03 p.m. by Chairman Moyer and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

APPROVE MINUTES:

Motion:

Fran DePiano made a motion to adopt the minutes of 11 July 2023. Referring to the Public Participation section of the July 2023 minutes, Commissioner Altemose requested the Commission to identify the Commission member involved in an alleged verbal altercation in Pocono Pines. It was agreed upon to let the July 2023 minutes reflect that information.

Crayson Cheung seconded the motion to approve and it passed unanimously.

APPROVE BILLS:

Motion:

Fran DePiano made a motion to approve the Bill-pack of 11 July 2023 in the amount of \$373,687.71, seconded by Tracy Fox. The motion passed unanimously.

POLICE REPORT:

Total calls for the month of July were 1385, consisting of 1303 Complaints and 82 Accidents. There was a total of 83 Criminal Arrests, 261 Traffic Arrests, 211 Traffic Warnings and 9 Ordinance Arrests.

Motion:

Fran DePiano made a motion to accept the July Police Report, seconded by Crayson Chueng. The motion passed unanimously.

VEHICLE REPORT:

The Chief went over the high and low mileages of fleet vehicles. Chief Wagner advised that New Holland said they have one (1) unmarked vehicle in line for production but Ford is behind on production for the marked patrol vehicles.

Motion:

Fran DePiano made a motion to accept the July Vehicle Report, seconded by Brendan Carroll. The motion passed unanimously.

2022 INDEPENDENT AUDIT:

The 2022 Financial Audit was presented by Carl Hogan of BBD, LLC. The examination of the financial report of the department was favorable with no outstanding issues. Mr. Hogan reviewed the history of the Department's expenses and debits as well as the trends, adding that the market right now is unpredictable.

Motion:

Fran DiPiano made a motion to accept the 2022 Independent Financial Audit, seconded by Crayson Cheung. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **2nd Quarter Budget to Actual**

Chief Wagner presented and reviewed various line items of the 2nd Quarter Budget vs Actual report with explanations where needed. Chief Wagner is considering adding a consulting line item for the 2024 budget.

Motion:

Fran DePiano made a motion to accept the 2nd Quarter Budget to Actual, seconded by Crayson Chueng.

- **2nd Quarter Treasurer's Report**

General Fund-\$4,936,305.09, Prescription Fund-\$30,894.88 Capital Projects Fund-\$14,939.32, Asset Forfeiture Fund-\$409,271.71, Capital Reserve Fund-\$405,943.76, Police Pension Fund-\$27,022,183.13, Non-Uniform Pension Fund-\$265,461.59.

Motion:

Fran DePiano made a motion to accept the 2nd Quarter Treasurer's Report, seconded by Crayson Cheung. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Personnel**

Chief Wagner presented the retirement resignation letter received from Sr. Data Entry Clerk, Laura Deane. Ms. Deane has worked for the department since June 2006 and has been an incredible asset and will be missed. Her last day of employment will be September 1, 2023.

Motion:

Fran DePiano made a motion to accept the resignation of Laura Deane. Member, Kurt Cummings, asked if there was a required period of notice before resignation. Chief Wagner said that the standard is two weeks but was not certain if that is in the employment manual. The motion was seconded by Tracy Fox and passed unanimously.

- **2024 Budget**

The 2024 Budget process is approaching and the first order of business is to form a Budget Committee. With the understanding that the Police Commission is comprised of eleven (11) members, a quorum is six (6), Chief Wagner requested a maximum of five (5) members on the Budget Committee. The Chief requested the Commission form the Budget Committee and suggested one member from each municipality participate.

The following members elected to be on the Budget Committee for 2024:

Tobyhanna Township	David Carbone
Tunkhannock Township	Fran DePiano
Mt Pocono Borough	Randy Altemose
Coolbaugh Township	Bill Weimer
Barrett Township	John Seese

UPDATE:

- **Member Municipality Concerns**

Tobyhanna Township - Crime is down and they are very grateful – thank you.

Tunkhannock Township – All positive feedback – great job!

Coolbaugh Township –

Mount Pocono Borough – Thank you for the coverage at the carnival – it went very well. The Borough would like to continue to receive the crime reports.

Barrett Township – The community is very appreciative.

- **American Recovery Act Grant**

Chief Wagner advised that the department recently received an updated quote from SSI and in the interim sought out two additional vendors due to the excessive delays. Chief Wagner is hoping to receive the two other quotes in the next few weeks. Once the IT quotes are received, all other quotes for the grant will have to be updated. The hope is that by the September 2023 meeting, the department can move the grant process forward.

- **2023 Hiring Process**

Cadets approved for hiring last month, Cody Peters, Ryan Thomas and Adam Bond, have started the Act 120 program. The fourth approved new hire, Michael Sebastianelli, graduates the Act 120 program at the end of July and Chief Wagner anticipates his start date to be mid-August 2023.

- **Pension**

There is no information update to the pension. The next meeting is August 15, 2023.

Chief Wagner presented the application of Officer Robert Sheranko to enter the DROP effective October 1, 2023. He has met the age requirement and 25 years of service. His resignation date would be October 1, 2026.

Motion:

Fran DePiano made a motion to accept Officer Robert Sheranko's application to enter the DROP. The motion was seconded by Crayson Cheung and passed unanimously.

- **Community Events**

7/1/23 – Officer Rzeszewski attended Field Day at Pocono Country Place.

7/4/23 – Officer Michaels and Officer Wile attended the Buck Hill 4th of July parade.

7/11/23 – Corporal Derek Chaffee attended the Barrett Rotary Concert in the Park.

7/11-23 -7/15/23 – Officer Wile was a counselor at the PA State Police Troop N Camp Cadet.

7/25/23 - Detective Scarfo, Officer Dunlap, Officer Ksepka and Officer Apgar performed as the PMRPD Honor Guard at the PA Chief's Conference and banquet dinner at Kalahari. Special thanks to Greg Ross for playing the bagpipes and to Mackenzie Lum Chan (??ph) for playing the drums.

7/26/23 – Sergeant Posluszny and Corporal Chaffee met with the Committee Chair at B'nai Harim for a site visit and to review safety standards.

- **Letters of Support**

7/27/23 – Letter of appreciation from the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges' Commission for the time and assistance from Det. Sgt. Bray during their site visit on July 27, 2023. The Commission commends PMRPD for their full compliance with the core protections identified within the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 2002.

8/1/23 – Letter from the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission that they unanimously voted to re-accredit PMRPD. Only a small percentage of law enforcement agencies in Pennsylvania have completed this rigorous program.

8/8/23 – Letter of appreciation from Mount Pocono Borough for outstanding service provided by PMRPD at the annual Mount Pocono Carnival.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Janice Smith-Hughes thanked the department for their service at Pocono Farms East on the 4th of July. Ms. Smith-Hughes asked Chief Wagner for information on pets that are menacing.

Carl Hamilton expressed his gratitude for arresting the individual that robbed a bank earlier this month.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion:

Fran DePiano made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Crayson Cheung. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



John Seese
Pocono Mountain Regional Police
Commission Secretary