



CAROLINE COUNTY
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CAROLINE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OFFICE

Police Accountability Board
John Bartlett, Chairman
Mary Berneski, Paralegal
Kim Raeder, Administrator
411 Franklin Street
Denton, Maryland 21629

Police Accountability Board
Denton, MD 21629
Open Meeting Minutes

An advertised public hearing and meeting of the Police Accountability Board was held on Wednesday, February 22, 2023.

Board Members Present	John Bartlett Nancy Nagel Phil Clark Todd Lord Ed Smith Brandy James Daniel Towers Darron Johns Marty Hudson
Board Members Absent	Dave Whaley - Excused absence
Police Departments	Chief George Bacorn - Denton Captain James Henning - Sheriff's Office Sheriff Donnie Baker - Sheriff's Office Chief Michael McDermott - Federalsburg Chief Jeff Ekrich - Ridgely
ACC Appointees	Vadim Stakeeff Greg Turnell
IT Department	Chris Rice Don Reed
Staff Members Present	Mary Berneski - Law Office Paralegal Kim Raeder - PAB/ACC Administrator
Public	5 citizens were present

Chairperson Bartlett called the open meeting to order at 7:05pm.

OFFICE OF LAW
Stewart Barroll, County Attorney **Mary Berneski, County Paralegal**
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1. Confidentiality Agreements were signed by all PAB Members; Collected by Kim Raeder, PAB Administrator.
2. The PAB annual report was read and discussed; No questions posed.
3. PAB Rules of Procedure were presented; Brandy James noted numerical errors on page 2 of 6.
4. Brief case discussion of the number of complaints received and status.
5. Mary Berneski & Kim Raeder discussed My Gov software demonstration to track and organize citizen complaints and who will have access. Brief overview of the software was given. Discussed grant money allocation for such software.
6. Mary Berneski invited Officers time to speak from each Municipality & Sherriff's Office.
 - a. Captain Henning, of the Sheriff's Office, invited the Chairman, Paralegal and Administrator to attend upcoming IA Pro Software demonstration. This software will be used as a tracking system for the Sheriff's Office and possibly surrounding Municipalities in the County. Posed question for possible use of PAB software grant money.
 - b. Chief McDermott, of Federalsburg, introduced Lt. Gasser. They have been effectively working since July on internal audits, safety issues, report taking, and fundamentals.
 - c. Chief Bacorn, of Denton, spoke regarding problems with recruiting and retention of Police Officers.
 - d. Chief Eckrich had no comment at this time.
 - e. Sheriff Baker spoke regarding the 100% cooperation between all departments to thoroughly invest complaints. March 16th a new Chief will be appointed to the Greensboro Police Department. Greensboro will be a two-man department. Informed attendees there are over 2,000 Police Officer positions available in MD.
7. Mary Berneski Invited ideas for how to spend the grant money. Laptop bag/Mouse will be bought for each PAB member.
8. Kim Raeder reviewed contents of resource binder distributed to all PAB. Discussed moving these contents to electronic form with a file all members can access. This way all up-to-date versions are handy at any time using their designated laptops.
9. Mary Berneski informed all attending the status of the ACC formation and the importance of this board. The County currently have 3 ACC members appointed and the PAB will go into closed session this evening to discuss the appointment of the last 2.
10. John Bartlett spoke about possible training options for the PAB and the appropriate use of social media.
11. Brandy James, from the PAB, requested an addendum to the Resolution #2022-015 regarding the terminology of PAB duties. It was suggested that page 3 (B) 4 should read "forwards complaints to PAB Administrator" INSTEAD of just "receiving complaints". In addition, include "ACC doesn't receive until after internal investigation is completed". Mary Berneski responded that this would be further addressed with the PAB Lawyer and added to the next Agenda.

Chairperson Bartlett called for a Closed Session at 8:30pm for the Police Accountability Board and Administrative Charging Committee members present. Open Meeting adjourned.

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NOTE: A part, or all, of a meeting may be conducted in closed session. The Committee may start in an open session, pursuant to its Rules of Procedure and in accordance with the Maryland Open Meetings Act, Md. Code Ann., General Provisions §3-305, to go into closed session for any enumerated purpose.

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