

**Regular Board Meeting
Police Accountability Board
April 4, 2024 at 6:30 PM**

245 E. Main Street, Rochester, NY

Livestreamed on Facebook (facebook.com/rocpab) & YouTube
(youtube.com/rochesterpab) & Twitter

Attendees

Board Members: Lawrence Knox (Chair), Arlene Brown (Vice Chair), Rabbi Drorah Setel, Rev. Keith Patterson, Yvonne Wilson

Absent/Excused: William Clark, Mary E. Wambach, Daniel Cadet

Staff: Sherry Walker-Cowart, Interim Executive Director, Benjamin Wittwer, Deputy Executive Director/General Counsel, Victoria Harmon, Secretary to the PAB, De'Jon Hall, Director of Policy and Oversight

ASL Interpreters: Heather Feinman and Shannon Tracy

Item	Details	Vote	Time
Start of Meeting	<p><u>Welcome & Introductions:</u> Chair Knox called the meeting to order and requested self-introductions. Board members, the Interim Executive Director and the Deputy Executive Director introduced themselves.</p>		6:31 PM
Approval of Prior Minutes	<p><u>Minutes:</u> March 7. Motion to approve the minutes made by K. Patterson, with a second by A. Brown. Motion carried.</p>	Unanimous	6:32 PM
Staff Report	<p><u>Operations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benjamin Wittwer has been hired as the Deputy Executive Director/General Counsel for the PAB. • The Executive Director commended the PAB Board Secretary, Victoria Harmon, for filling in and assisting with numerous tasks during the absence of the Director of Operations. • There are plans to have a backup position for the Director of Operations to maintain the daily operations required. 		6:33 PM

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	<p><u>Case Management:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Case Management is working on the extensive quarterly report.• A Bilingual Case Manager has been hired, and another bilingual position is anticipated to be filled after all applications from HR have been received.• Case Managers will undergo a PEACE training at the end of April/early May. <p><u>Policy and Oversight & Public Affairs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A town hall meeting was held on March 28th for a panel discussion of the Juvenile Use of Force report.• The town hall drew a significant turnout, with over 50 individuals in attendance, including a significant number of young people.• The Interim Executive Director commended the Policy and Oversight team and the Public Affairs and Community Engagement team for the success of the meeting. <p><u>Investigations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elizabeth Beltran has resigned from her role as Director of Investigations. The new Deputy Executive Director, who currently serves as the general counsel, will also be stepping in for this position temporarily.• A potential candidate has been identified for the Director of Investigation position. However, the agency is currently awaiting the progression of the internal hiring process before proceeding with the appointment.		
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<p>Chair's Report</p>	<p><u>Chair's Report:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The search for a permanent Executive Director is ongoing, and the deadline for applications is next week (Week of April 8). • The WBCP search firm has been engaging with the public, stakeholders, board members, and staff for input on the search. • The Chair encouraged anyone interested in the position to visit the PAB's website for details of the application process. • The interviews with the finalists will be conducted in May. • The Chair thanked the Interim Executive Director for working with the PAB longer than expected. • The Chair attended the 2024 SOMOS Conference in Albany, which focused on police accountability. • During the conference, there were discussions about disciplinary power, funding barriers, and supporting the legislation for disciplinary power statewide. • The Chair emphasized the importance of collaborating with other accountability boards in the state. Participation in this conference is part of the PAB's effort to strengthen its ties with other accountability boards. • The PAB staff has submitted a proposal regarding serving on a panel at the next NACOLE (National Association of Civilian Oversight and Law Enforcement) conference. PAB hopes to be selected. The Chair commended the staff for generating the idea. 		<p>6:40 PM</p>
<p>Committee Reports</p>	<p><u>Committee Reports:</u></p> <p><u>Training Committee:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The position of the Training Director is being modified to include operational functions and 		<p>6:46 PM</p>

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	<p style="text-align: center;">support for professional development, as well as other functions that will be beneficial for the PAB as a whole.</p> <p><u>Search Committee:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates on the search for a new Executive Director discussed in the Chair’s report. 		
Old Business	<u>Old Business:</u> No report		6:48 PM
New Business	<p><u>New Business:</u></p> <p>Y. Wilson acknowledged and commended RPD for their efforts in re-establishing the police department's outreach to the community. She also urged the community to support them (RPD) in their endeavors and encounters.</p>		6:48 PM
Executive Session	<p>ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION – Motion made by L. Knox with a second by D. Setel to adjourn to executive session.</p> <p>During the executive session, the board held one vote on a legal matter regarding subpoenas. The unanimous vote on the matter was 5-0.</p> <p>End of meeting</p> <p style="background-color: yellow; text-align: center;">NEXT BOARD MEETING: May 2, 2024</p>		6:49 PM