

Police Accountability Board - Regular Board Meeting**Date:** August 7, 2025**Time:** 6:00 PM**Location:** 245 E. Main Street, Rochester, NY**Livestreamed on:** YouTube
(youtube.com/rochesterpab)**Police Accountability Board Meeting Minutes****Date:** August 7, 2025**Start Time:** 6:05 PM**End Time:** 8:59 PM**Attendees**

- **Board Members:**
 - William Clark (Chair)
 - Lwam Tecleab (Vice Chair)
 - Lawrence Knox
 - Rabbi Drorah Setel
 - Rev. Keith Patterson
 - Yvonne Wilson
 - Arlene Brown (Joined at 6:11 PM)
- **Absent/Excused:** None
- **Staff:**
 - Dr. Lesli C. Myers-Small, Executive Director
 - Brittaney Wells, Director of Public Affairs and Community Engagement
 - Victoria Harmon, Secretary to the PAB
 - Will Cleveland, Policy Data Analyst
 - Casey Asprooth-Jackson, Digital Forensic Analyst
 - Brianna Milon, Communications Manager
 - Hannah Ferguson, Intern
- **ASL Interpreters:** Madisen Baldwin, James Brown

Welcome & Introductions (6:05 PM)

- Chair Clark called the meeting to order and requested introductions. Board members and the Executive Director, introduced themselves.

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(youtube.com/rochesterpab)**1. Approval of Prior Minutes (6:06 PM)**

- **July 10 Minutes:** Motion was made by Yvonne Wilson to approve the minutes, seconded by Rabbi Drorah Setel. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Presentation: RPD Budget Analysis, FY2014-2023 (Will Cleveland, Policy Data Analyst)

- The analysis compared approved budgets to actual spending.
- It examined staffing levels, overtime spending, and divisional spending trends.
- Key findings:
 - Consistent overtime overages each year.
 - Staffing levels unchanged for over 20 years without a comprehensive analysis.
 - Notable growth in certain budget categories, such as Special Events.

3. Presentation: Body Worn Camera Manual (Casey Asprooth-Jackson, Digital Forensic Analyst)

- The presentation outlined current policies on camera assignment, required and prohibited recording scenarios, and public interaction protocols.
- Key issues identified included inconsistent manual updates, questions around buffer-time settings, privacy concerns, and activation/non-activation trends.

4. Staff Reports (7:02 PM)

- **Legal & Compliance Updates**
 - The PAB continues to operate under legal restrictions from the Locust Club II court ruling and remain compliant in ensuring oversight remains at the policy level.
 - Working with PAB's legal counsel and with Corporation Counsel to ensure shared understanding and maintain alignment across all city entities.
 - A new protocol effective July 2025 requiring a PAB representative to attend city press conferences following any death caused by a police officer to provide a visible and symbolic presence in moments of tragedy. Our role is not only to observe, but also to demonstrate accountability, empathy, and civic responsibility.

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- **Complaint Intake & Oversight Activity (July, 2025)**

- 18 complaints received in July (despite legal limitations).
- 3 complaints tied to systemic issues identified during policy research.
- 17 in English, 1 in American Sign Language (ASL).
- Allegations categorized into patterns (e.g., abuse of authority, use of force) to identify trends.

- **Policy & Oversight**

The division continues to dig into complex issues that directly affect the public

Current review areas:

- Body-Worn Camera policy
- Calls for service
- Transport practices
- Officer trauma response procedures

- **Community Engagement**

- The division attended multiple July events distributing materials, answering questions, and connecting with residents.
- About 12 events are scheduled for August including Jordan Health Front Porch Festival, Dominican Day, SNUG Day, Rock the Plaza, Clarissa Street Reunion, International Salsa Day, Back-to-School Drive, etc.
- A list of upcoming event are available on the website and board members encouraged to attend events in their districts.

- **Website Update**

- Website analytics show high engagement with:
 - “Submit a Complaint” page
 - Reports section
 - Plans underway to increase promotion of board meeting material such as agendas, minutes, and recordings.

- **Statewide Civilian Oversight Consortium (Brittaney Wells, Director of Public Affairs and Community Engagement**

- **Date:** Tentatively scheduled for September 30, 2025 (virtual via Zoom, hosted by Rochester PAB).

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- **Goals:**
 - Designed for civilian oversight agencies all across New York State.
 - To collaboratively draft a governance structure for the consortium and establish a working group focused on deliverables such as a shared legislative agenda and best practices.
- **Participants:**
 - 8 NY agencies (Albany, Syracuse, Schenectady, Newburgh, NYC, Clarkstown, Ossining; Buffalo as observer).
- **Features:**
 - Breakout rooms, live captions, ASL interpreters.
- **Next Steps:**
 - Send out invitations by mid-August,
 - Confirm keynote speaker by end of August,
 - Finalize agenda.

5. Chair Report (7:28 PM)

- Appreciated the ASL interpreters, James Brown and Madisen Baldwin, for their outstanding work.
- Interviews for the Northwest seat have been completed by the council and an appointment is expected next month.
- Expressed condolences to Mayor Malik Evans for the loss of his sister, Stacy, and to Reverend Ricky Harvey for the death of his 21-year-old son.
- Noted that Reverend Harvey's church has created a scholarship fund in his son's name and encouraged donations.
- Flowers were sent to Mayor Evans on behalf of the Board.
- Reaffirmed the PAB's support for the Albany Community Police Review Board in its efforts to maintain independent legal counsel and warned that civilian oversight in New York State appears to be under political attack.
- Addressed the recent death caused by RPD officers on Thurston Road, offering condolences to the family and emphasizing the necessity of independent oversight to ensure accountability.

7. Committee Reports (7:36 PM)

- **Committee Leadership Appointments:**
 - Chair to lead Training Committee (with Larry Knox assisting).

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- Vice Chair to lead Youth & Community Engagement (with Yvonne Wilson assisting).

8. Vote Taken (7:37 PM)

- Motion: To approve the RPD Budget Analysis oversight investigation presented earlier in the meeting.
- Made by: Larry.
- Seconded by: Arlene Brown
- Vote: Passed unanimously.

8. Old Business (7:37 PM) - None**9. New Business (7:37 PM) - None****10. Executive Session (7:40 PM)**

- Motion moved by Rabbi Drorah Setel to enter executive session, seconded by Larry Knox. Motion carried unanimously.
- No votes taken during the executive session.

11. Adjournment (8:59 PM)

- Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Larry Knox and seconded by Rabbi Drorah Setel. The motion carried unanimously.

Next Meeting: September 4, 2025, at 6:00 PM