

**Regular Board Meeting
Police Accountability Board
May 4, 2023 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, Daniel Cadet, Rev. Keith Patterson, Mary E. Wambach

Absent/Excused: William Clark

Staff: Sherry Walker-Cowart, Vanessa Cheeks

ASL Interpreters: DiMatteo, Wendy, Walton, Anna

Item	Details	Vote	Time
Start of Meeting	<p><u>Welcome & Introductions:</u></p> <p>Chairperson Knox called the meeting to order and requested self-introductions. William (Bill) Clark is the Mayor's appointee and is out of town for this meeting. New members welcomed.</p>		6:35PM
Moment of Silence	<p>L. Knox called for a moment of silence for the passing of our PAB board member, Dr. Robert Harrison. Dr. Harrison was a long time member of the PAB Board. S. Setel, the longest serving member of the PAB, offered words of memory and cherished moments. His time and efforts devoted to this Board and mission were greatly appreciated. He will be missed.</p> <p>A. Brown shared moments and memories noting Dr. Harrison had an odd sense of humor. He challenged thinking and made sure all the basis were covered on a particular topic or subject. Dr. Harrison was sincere and dedicated.</p> <p>D. Cadet shared that Dr. Harrison was direct with his opinion. He was a strong voice worthy of emulation.</p> <p>L. Knox asked to keep Dr. Harrison's wife, and their family in your prayers and thoughts. He noted Dr. Harrison would often say "I don't know if I should say this..." He kept us from the dangers of "group think". It forced us to think in a different direction. When considering his health, Dr. Harrison still put a lot of time and energy into this mission. Dr. Harrison, and his family are greatly appreciated. He will be remembered for years to come.</p>		
Approval of Prior Minutes	<p><u>Minutes:</u></p> <p>April 20, 2023. Motion to approve the minutes made by L. Knox, with a second by D. Setel. Motion carried.</p>	Unanimous	6:45PM

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	<p><u>Staff Report:</u></p> <p>Staff had several meetings with Council member Smith to provide updates on the PAB. These meetings provided the impetus to request, and schedule a meeting with the City Council workgroup Monday, May 1st. Based on question asked by Council members it appeared the presentation provided information and clarity on the work being completed. KUDOS to the PAB staff for their efforts in putting the PPT presentation together that was shared with Council.</p> <p>Operational Division Updates For the month of May, staff is participating in mandatory trainings set by the Charter. This week’s topics included: History of policing in Rochester; Racism and antiracism; History of accountability in Rochester.</p> <p>Public Affairs – Community Engagement Updates Listen for Radio ads. They are out. Billboard ads are up. Some are walking billboards (street-level) in addition to high/elevated placement billboards. They are located at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Street and Portland Ave (532 North Street) • St. Paul Street and Central (195 St. Paul Street) • Innerloop (west of River) (4 Commercial Street) • State Street @ Innerloop (173 State Street) • Hudson Avenue and Cleveland Street (334 Hudson Avenue) • St. Paul and Upper Falls Boulevard (691 St. Paul Street) <p>Investigations Updates Appreciation to Cpt. Swetman for setting up the ride-along May 2nd. Cpt. Swetman and Lt. Ince, chief of staff, were the drivers. They provided a plethora of information and answered questions about police procedures and practices.</p> <p>Investigators continue their work of receiving and reviewing information and evidence. We currently have cases ready for Panel review and anticipate that happening this month.</p>		<p>6:55PM</p>
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	<p>A request was made by D. Setel for a case status update. That information was provided to the board. See page 6.</p> <p>Policy and Oversight Updates The community input data analysis has been completed for the Disciplinary Matrix. It is being presented to the Board today for a vote.</p> <p><u>Chairs Report</u></p> <p>L. Knox attended the presentation to the City Council workgroup on May1, 2023. The presentation went well.</p> <p>Welcome extended again, to the two new board members present. We are happy you are here. Unfortunately, there is now a need to fill Dr. Harrison’s seat on the Board. The south district is also in the process of being filled. We will need a full board as we begin the process of reviewing cases.</p> <p>It is important to be clear on the staff positions being asked for in the new budget year, and that the PAB is funded at the same rate as last year. Ensuring there is room for growth and expansion in the budget is imperative.</p> <p>L. Knox asked for comments from Board members on their experience with the recent ride-along with RPD.</p> <p>D. Setel expressed appreciation for the opportunity to have a substantive conversation. The conversation with Lt. Ince also indicated a need for more conversations.</p> <p>A. Brown became more knowledgeable about the RPD and what they contend with on patrol. The first half of the ride was in an unmarked car with Lt. Ince. This provided a perspective from that vantage point. An incident occurred during that time involving teenagers and a stolen vehicle. The young men were caught by RPD officers. We observed how that encounter too place.</p> <p>Riding with Cpt. Swetman provided for a better understanding of the multi-taking officers do in the vehicle with much more</p>		<p>7:10PM</p>
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	<p>equipment. During the ride, we observed a traffic stop when a vehicle sped down the street and through a red light. Learning why there may be two cars at a scene shed light on safety protocol the police may follow.</p> <p>It is good to know the good job some of the officers are doing on a day to day basis to keep our city safe. More communication is needed so we all can reimagine a safer Rochester.</p> <p>L. Knox reiterated the importance of, and requirement, for Board members to do ride-alongs with RPD to help with perspective in doing the work we are charged to do.</p> <p><u>Committee Reports:</u> Training: L. Knox met with Council regarding trainings for the Board. The request is training requirements for the Board be focused specifically on the work of the Board.</p> <p><u>New Business</u></p> <p>None</p> <p><u>Old Business:</u> The Board was asked to vote on closing the following cases from Policy and Oversight:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PTN #2022-0151, PTN #2022-0182, PTN #2022-0192. <p>A question was raised regarding PTN #2022-0151. The case notes indicated PAB staff made several attempts to contact the reporter, but, to no avail. Could Board members make attempts to reach out and contact the reporter since the person is known to many of them? Staff indicated confidence in the efforts made by staff to reach the reporter. Board members reaching out to reporters impacts their position as impartial review panel members.</p> <p>Motion made by L. Knox with a second by D. Cadet to close PTN #2022-0182. Motion carried.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">7:15PM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Unanimous</p>	
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	<p>Motion made by A. Brown with a second by D. Cadet to close PTN #2022-0192. Motion carried.</p> <p>Motion made by L. Knox with a second by A. Brown to close PTN #2022-0151. Motion carried.</p> <p>Disciplinary Matrix (Matrix) - Data analysis for the community input session has been completed. This information was shared at a recent training session of the Board.</p> <p>A. Brown noted the letters CBA, on page 4 of the Disciplinary Matrix are unclear. Request made for that to be explained.</p> <p>D. Setel noted that not every constituency has been involved in the Matrix at this point. When additional information is received, it will be reviewed and the Matrix can be amended. It was also mentioned the Matrix puts the PAB in a unique position. Not only potentially involving discipline, but also a restorative process.</p> <p>Question raised regarding the Locust Club’s written responses. The Locust Club did provide a written response to items they would like included. Those comments were included in the recent analysis.</p> <p>The Police Chief indicated responses may come from the police department once an MOU is completed.</p> <p>Acknowledgment given to the staff who have worked on the Matrix for many months. It is clearer than a previous effort, that left room for a lot of interpretation. The Board now has something to consider when reviewing cases.</p> <p>Motion made by D. Setel with a second by L. Knox to approve the Disciplinary Matrix. Motion carried.</p> <p>ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION – Motion made by L. Knox</p> <p>End of meeting</p>	<p>Unanimous</p> <p>Unanimous</p> <p>Unanimous</p> <p>Unanimous</p> <p>Unanimous</p> <p>Unanimous</p> <p>Unanimous</p>	<p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p></p> <p>7:32PM</p> <p>8:35PM</p>
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i-SIGHT CASE STATUS




PAB Report Dispositions
As of April 28, 2023

Case Status	Reports to Date
Case Management Review	11
Investigations Review	167
Policy and Oversight Review	5
Pending Close – Board Review	59
Closed – Lack of Jurisdiction	45
Closed – Non-investigable	25
Total Reports	313

Number of **complaints** received from June 2022 through April 28, 2023:

313

COMPLAINTS BEING INVESTIGATED



PAB Investigative Statuses
As of April 28, 2023

Case Status	Reports To Date
Initial Review	30
Investigative Plan	25
Request for Information (including 2 nd Request)	53
Evidence Review	58
Investigative Report	1
Total Reports	167

Number of complaints currently under **investigations** review as of April 28, 2023:

167