Police Accountability Board - Regular Board Meeting
Date: November 5, 2026
Time: 6:00 PM
Location: 30 Church Street, Rochester, NY
Livestreamed on: YouTube
(youtube.com/rochesterpab.org)

Police Accountability Board Meeting Minutes

Date: November 5, 2026

Start Time: 6:19 PM

End Time: 8:41 PM

- **Board Members Present:**
  - A.J. Durwin, Chair
  - Lwam Tecleab, Vice Chair
  - William G. Clark
  - Larry Knox (joined meeting later)
  - Reverend Keith Patterson
  - Catherine Thomas, Board Member
  - Yvonne Wilson, Board Member

- **Board Members Absent/Excused:**
  - None
- **Staff Members Present:**
  - Dr. Lesli C. Myers-Small, Executive Director
  - Dr. Ashley Campbell, Policy and Oversight Director
  - Kevin Rambold, General Counsel
  - Hojin Choi, Staff Attorney
  - Leslie Green, Executive Assistant
  - Brianna Milon, Communications Manager

- **Staff Members Absent/Excused:**
  - Brittaney Wells, Deputy Executive Director
  - Delores Ivey-Paige, Operations Director

- **ASL Interpreters:**
  - Jim Brown – Sign Language Connection (SLC)
  - Anna Walton – Sign Language Connection (SLC)

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I. Call to Order & Welcome (6:19 PM)

After a quorum was established, Board Chair Durwin called the meeting to order at 6:19 p.m. He conducted the roll call and invited Board members to introduce themselves.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes (6:20 PM)

The Board reviewed the minutes of its October 1, 2026 meeting. Board Member William Clark moved to approve the minutes, and Board Chair AJ Durwin seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Executive Director's Report: Dr. Lesli C. Myers-Small (6:21 PM)

Executive Director Dr. Lesli C. Myers-Small highlighted the PAB's October activities, describing the month as one of organizational progress and continued commitment to systemic oversight. The PAB received and documented four community complaints and reached 748 community members through 11 outreach and engagement activities.

The Policy and Oversight Division completed a comprehensive, 12-page issue brief on automated license plate readers (ALPRs). The brief addresses privacy and constitutional considerations, data collection and retention, potential errors, and the need for appropriate governance and oversight.

Other areas of progress included:

- Advancing policy research
- Strengthening institutional relationships
- Continuing to modernize the complaint intake process
- Engaging with Rochester residents
- Continuing discussions with RPD leadership about data access, complaint referrals, and information sharing
- Laying the groundwork for a statewide civilian oversight initiative

Board Discussion

- **Community Communication:** Board Member Wilson asked if we could explain to the public that even though we don't have investigatory power, we still have

their best interest at heart. Executive Director Myers-Small assured the board member, the public is and has been made aware.

- **Discussions with RPD:** Board Member Wilson also asked about the details in the conversations with Chief Smith of RPDS. E.D. explained the biggest part of the conversations with Chief Smith is accessing data to be able to de trend analysis and look for patterns.

- **Statewide Consortium:** Board Member Clark noted that Syracuse was not part of the consortium. Dr. Myers-Small said the PAB had made multiple attempts to contact Syracuse but had received no response. Chair Durwin asked whether the PAB knew who was working with the Syracuse Review Board. Dr. Myers-Small said her online outreach had redirected without providing a clear contact. Chair Durwin offered to reach out through his contacts.

- **ALPR issue brief:** Board Member Knox asked about the License Plate Reader report and whether we have a draft that can be reviewed. ED Myers-Small says it can be sent in the Friday Letter. BM Knox then asked if the complaints information include a look back from where we first stated after the loss. ED noted RPD is aware we want a look back from the beginning and they will but currently they are going to concentrate on recent complaints.

  Chair Durwin asked what steps would follow the Friday Letter and whether the Board would vote to release the brief. Dr. Myers-Small explained that issue briefs do not require Board approval and are available on the PAB website. Recommendations to Chief or RPD would require Board approval.

- **Support for complainants:** Board Member Patterson asked whether PAB staff or Board members maintain contact with complainants to offer support, and how that outreach is recorded. Dr. Myers-Small said the PAB clearly communicates the limits of its authority while emphasizing that complaints remain important.

- **Response Timelines:** Board Member Thomas asked whether the PAB tracks the time between receiving a complaint and a response. Dr. Myers-Small said the PAB could track timelines when it had investigatory authority, but now avoids promising timelines it cannot ensure. Chair Durwin asked whether staff response times to calls and questions from complainants are tracked. Dr. Myers-Small confirmed that calls are handled in real time and tracked in the Case IQ database.

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IV. Divisional Updates and Reports (7:28 PM)

First Quarter FY2026-2027 Updates and Reports

Case Management Division

Hojin Choi presented the case management database, comparing the number of cases received during the first quarter of the current year with the number received during the first quarter of the previous year.

Policy & Oversight Division

Dr. Ashley Campbell introduced the PAB's policy assessment framework, which includes four types of assessments designed to align with key performance indicators (KPIs):

- **The Breakdown:** A quick overview
- **The 411:** A detailed topic overview
- **Oversight Inquiries:** In-depth research
- **Proposals for Equitable Change:** Recommendations

Public Affairs and Community Engagement Division

Dr. Lesli Myers-Small reported that the summer quarter included 36 community events, 12 partnership meetings, and four door-to-door outreach efforts. These activities resulted in more than 4,000 community connections.

The Board reviewed outreach efforts, including distributing "Know Your Rights" coloring books and other materials designed to be accessible at a fifth-grade reading level, as well as using social media to share information with the community.

Legal Division

Kevin Rambold reported that the division continues to monitor appellate litigation and related legislative work. The Court of Appeals decision is anticipated, and the division is planning for potential outcomes.

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He also reported that, following the litigation, the division continues to clarify the distinction between individual investigations and the PAB's broader systemic oversight responsibilities.

Operations Division

Dr. Lesli Myers-Small reported that the division is on track with its responsibilities for 30 KPIs. A training dashboard has been created for staff and Board use.

The quarterly report documented 12 trainings, including presentations by the OVP and PIC offices. Several divisions have moved to PAB Suite #2 on the LiRo side of the building.

V. Chairperson's Report (8:30 PM)

The Chairperson's Report was presented in conjunction with the Legislative Affairs update.

VI. Committee Reports (8:37 PM)

Legislative Affairs Committee

The Committee met to discuss strategies for promoting legislation to restore the PAB's mandate. One strategy involved seeking support from the consortium and the Attorney General's Office to encourage the state delegation to support the effort.

Tyler Nims, who leads the Law Enforcement Misconduct Investigatory Office (LEMIO) in the Attorney General's Office, requested copies of the proposed legislation and the PAB's supporting memorandum.

The Committee's application form has been finalized, and members of the public may now apply to join.

Board Member Larry Knox will follow up about arranging a panel with members of the state delegation during caucus weekend.

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The Committee's next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 18, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the downstairs conference room at City Hall.

Training Committee

Board Member Clark commended Director of Operations Delores Ivey-Paige for her excellent work coordinating the training.

Youth & Community Engagement Committee

Vice Chair Lwam Tecleab reported that Brittaney Wells is finalizing conference-room availability for the first two weeks of December.

VII. Old Business (8:39 PM)

There was no old business to discuss.

VIII. New Business (8:39 PM)

There was no new business to discuss.

IX. Executive Session (8:41 PM)

Chair Durwin called for a motion to enter Executive Session pursuant to section 18-6(C)(5) of the City Charter for the purpose of discussing the annual evaluation of the Executive Director. Board member Yvonne Wilson seconded the motion, and the Board entered Executive Session.

X. Meeting Close (9:38 PM)

Upon returning from executive session, Chair Durwin reported that the Board had unanimously voted to authorize him and Vice Chair Lwam Tecleab to finalize the Executive Director's performance evaluation. Board Member Yvonne Wilson made the motion, and Board Member Catherine Thomas seconded it.

Chair Durwin then called for a motion to adjourn. Board Member Catherine Thomas seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 9:39 p.m.

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Next Regular Board Meeting

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, December 3, 2026**. Because City Council Chambers are unavailable at the regularly scheduled date and time, the meeting will be held at:

Police Accountability Board
57 Saint Paul Street
Rochester, NY 14604

Regular Board Meetings are livestreamed on the Rochester City Council YouTube channel

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