

**POCONO MOUNTAIN REGIONAL POLICE COMMISSION
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
12 JANUARY 2021**

PRESENT:

DAVID W MOYER	-TOBYHANNA TOWNSHIP	-CHAIRMAN
FRANCIS DePIANO	-TUNKHANNOCK TOWNSHIP	-VICE CHAIRMAN
CLAUDETTE WILLIAMS	-BOROUGH OF MOUNT POCONO	-SECRETARY
KURT CUMMINGS	-COOLBAUGH TOWNSHIP	-TREASURER
BRENDON CARROLL	-TOBYHANNA TOWNSHIP	-MEMBER
MIKE PENN	-BOROUGH OF MOUNT POCONO	-MEMBER
CRAYSON CHEUNG	-TUNKHANNOCK TOWNSHIP	-MEMBER
WILLIAM WEIMER	-COOLBAUGH TOWNSHIP	-MEMBER
TONY LAMANTIA	-COOLBAUGH TOWNSHIP	-MEMBER
JOHN SEESE	-BARRETT TOWNSHIP	-MEMBER
CHRIS WAGNER		-CHIEF OF POLICE
HARRY COLEMAN		-HARRY COLEMAN LAW

ABSENT:

DAVID CARBONE	-TOBYHANNA TOWNSHIP	-MEMBER
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CALL TO ORDER:

The Reorganization Meeting of the Pocono Mountain Regional Police Commission was held at the Pocono Mountain Regional Police Building and called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Chief Chris Wagner with the Pledge of Allegiance. Chief Wagner welcomed Bill Weimer representative for Coolbaugh Township.

REORGANIZATION:

Nominations for Chairman:

Chief Wagner opened the floor for nominations for the position of Chairman of the Pocono Mountain Regional Police Commission for 2021.

Brendon Carroll made a motion to nominate Dave Moyer for Chairman, seconded by Francis DePiano.

The motion to appoint Dave Moyer as Chairman passed unanimously.

The meeting was then turned over to Chairman Moyer.

Nominations for Vice-Chairman:

Brendon Carroll made a motion to keep the Executive Board the same with Francis DePiano Vice-Chairman, Claudette Williams Secretary and Kurt Cummings Treasurer, seconded by Crayson Cheung.

The motion to appoint Francis DePiano as Vice-Chairman, Claudette Williams as Secretary and Kurt Cummings as Treasurer passed unanimously.

Appoint Solicitor:

Brendon Carroll made a motion to appoint Harry Coleman as Solicitor, seconded by Kurt Cummings.

The motion to appoint Harry Coleman Solicitor passed unanimously.

Appoint for Labor Counsel:

Francis DePiano made a motion to appoint Gretchen Love as Labor Counsel, seconded by Brendon Carroll.

The motion to appoint Gretchen Love as Labor Counsel, passed unanimously.

Appoint Non-Uniform Pension Trustees:

Brendon Carroll made a motion to appoint the Executive Board and Chief Wagner as Non-Uniform Pension Plan Trustees, seconded by Francis DePiano.

The motion to appoint the Executive Board and Chief Wagner as Non-Uniform Pension Plan Trustees passed unanimously.

Close Reorganization Meeting

Francis DePiano made a motion to close the Reorganization meeting, seconded by Brendon Carroll. The motion passed unanimously.

OPEN REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING @ 7:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL

EXECUTIVE SESSION: There was an Executive Session from 6:30 p.m. – 7:05 p.m. on Personnel and Legal.

APPROVE MINUTES:

Motion:

Francis DePiano made a motion to adopt the minutes of 8 December 2020 Regular Business Meeting, seconded by Kurt Cummings. The motion passed with Bill Weimer and Tony Lamantia abstaining.

APPROVE BILLS:

Motion:

Francis DePiano made a motion to approve the Bill-pack of 12 January 2021 in the amount of \$334,377.50, seconded by Brendon Carroll. The motion passed unanimously.

POLICE REPORT:

Total calls for the month of December were 1049 consisting of 945 Complaints and 104 Accidents. There were a total of 70 Criminal Arrests, 96 Traffic Arrests, 93 Traffic Warnings and 12 Ordinance Arrests. Chief Wagner also compared the year to date totals to 2019.

Chief Wagner went over the monthly and year to date activity numbers per municipality as well as the UCR Crime Stats.

Motion:

Francis DePiano made a motion to accept the December Police Report, seconded by Brendon Carroll. The motion passed unanimously.

VEHICLE REPORT:

Chief Wagner updated the commission on the purchase of the 2021 budgeted vehicles plus the accident replacement vehicle indicating that all have been ordered with the upgraded EcoBoost engine. He then reviewed the mileage and expense report for December.

Motion:

Francis DePiano made a motion to accept the December Vehicle Report, seconded by Brendon Carroll. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Personnel**

Chief Wagner read the resignation letter from Officer Nathaniel Edmonds with an effective date of 1/9/2021.

Motion:

Francis DePiano made a motion to accept the resignation of Nathaniel Edmonds, seconded by Brendon Carroll. The motion passed unanimously.

- **2021 / 2022 Hiring Process**

Chief stated that since there was such a lengthy delay in the 2020 / 2021 process due to the COVID shutdowns we ended up losing a lot of candidates and only 17 moving through to the first round of interview process. He is looking for approval to start the new 2021 / 2022 Hiring Process.

Motion:

Brendon Carroll made a motion to start the 2021 / 2022 Hiring Process, seconded by Francis DePiano.

Chairman Moyer asked how many we are looking to hire. Chief stated two - we have one current open position and one retirement coming up in July

With no additional comments or questions the motion passed unanimously.

- **New Policy 13-15 Media Disposal Policy**

We will be presenting a series of Electronic Data Policies pertaining to how we dispose of, maintain, store electronic media with the first being Media Disposal Policy. These policies are necessary to keep us in compliance with the Criminal Justice Information Act and the Criminal History Records Information Act which are mandated by the Federal Department of Justice.

Motion:

Francis DePiano made a motion to adopt 13-15 Media Disposal Policy, seconded by Brendon Carroll.

Mike Penn asked if the term under section II – Policy “no longer useable” is too vague? Chief stated he will check into it but that normally these are templates that the department of justice puts out so if this is the language they prefer then we usually follow those guidelines.

With no additional comment or questions the motion passed unanimously

- **Policy Amendment 6-3 Weapons Qualification Policy**

Chief stated this is a Confidential Policy and the only change is adding a different manufacturer weapon to the inventory.

Motion:

Claudette Williams made a motion to adopt the Amendment to 6-3 Weapons Qualification Policy, seconded by Brendon Carroll. The motion passed unanimously

UPDATE:

- **Member Municipality Concerns**

Tobyhanna Township – None

Tunkhannock Township – None

Coolbaugh – None

Mount Pocono – None

Barrett Township – Asked if Barrett Township should have another representative on the board should he not be able to make a meeting. Chief indicated that the number of representatives per municipality is stated in the Municipal Agreement and Barrett Township has one.

- **2020 / 2021 Hiring Process**

Chief stated the second round of interviews are complete and the top ten candidates have been ranked. There have been three Conditional Offers of Employment made to the top 3 candidates and the background investigations have been started.

- **Building Capital Projects**

Nothing new to report.

- **COVID Response Plan**

Chief stated that we have followed suit with the State on COVID and on January 4 have again open up the lobby and officers are back on a pro-active approach to handling calls. Last month there were several officers that have tested positive and have been cleared to return to work and any officers that were quarantined have also returned to work.

- **Pension**

Next quarterly meeting will be in February.

- **Community Events / Letters of Support**

Chief brief the board that the Association has selected a child with cancer to receive the No Shave November donation. The family did send a letter of gratitude thanking everyone from the bottom of their hearts.

Mike Penn asked the Commissions position on hybrid meeting attendance due to COVID. Discussion on Commission calling into meeting if they would be more comfortable. We will check into other options to put a conference call type of phone for better audio.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Carl Hamilton – Stillwater Estates raised his concerns with the situation in Washington last week and if our officers have enough resources to handle a situation should it arise in this area.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion:

Francis DePiano made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Brandon Carroll. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned approximately 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Claudette Williams
Pocono Mountain Regional Police
Commission Secretary