Washington County Police Accountability Board (PAB) Law Enforcement Officers Quarterly Meeting Open Minutes

May 17, 2023 3:00 P.M.

Members Present: Chair Steve McCarty, Ronald Humbel, Danielle Weaver, Amber Smart and Tim Hafer

Members Absent: Robert Bowman and Brett McKoy

<u>County Staff Present</u>: Assistant County Attorney, Zachary J. Kieffer, Legal Secretary Dawn L. Marcus

<u>Law Enforcement Officers (LEOs) Present</u>: Washington County Sheriff, Brian Albert; Washington County Sheriff's Office Attorney, Andrew Bright; Smithsburg Chief of Police, Rob Marker; Hagerstown City Chief of Police, Joey Kifer, Director of Public Safety at Hagerstown Community College, Eric Byers.

<u>Call to Order</u>: Mr. McCarty called the PAB's quarterly meeting with LEOs to order at 3:02 P.M. in the Second Floor Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, 100 W. Washington St., Hagerstown, MD 21740.

<u>New Business</u>: Following introductions, Mr. McCarty addressed the status of the Administrative Charging Committee. They have completed all training hours. Mr. Kieffer confirms equipment is ready and will be delivered to the ACC members once Mr. Downey approves.

Summary of LEO Discussion:

Chief Kifer went through his departments process and procedure before turning over documents to the ACC. He asked what the ACC would need or want from his department to ensure a thorough investigation.

Sheriff Albert, addressed concerns over how body camera footage would be shared and insured that the SharePoint database had enough space to support. He also pressed urgency on getting the ACC up and running.

Officer Byers, agreed with the ACC having access to Axion in order to view body camera footage as needed. He noted changes to his department's policies and procedures in order to comply with the new PAB Act. He also expressed concern with moving forward in establishing a Trial Board and getting a judge appointed for a trial board, if needed.

Chief Marker brough up concerns over the cost of the Administrative Law Judge for smaller towns, HCC, etc.

<u>ACC Discussion</u>: Scott Matheny, Chair for the ACC took questions from the LEOs and addressed any concerns they may have over the ACC process and procedures. Mr. Matheny confirmed that the ACC would start reviewing cases at their next meeting, scheduled June 12, 2023.

<u>Citizen Police Academy</u>: Ms. Smart addressed the LEOs about her attendance to the Hagerstown City Police Citizens Police Academy. She praised the HPD for their thoroughness and thanked the Officers involved for their great teaching abilities.

Other Business: Mr. McCarty expressed his concern over all LEOs regarding their mental health. He stressed mindfulness of Officers. LEOs responded with making sure their officers had resources to help them and evaluations were offered if needed.

<u>Next Quarterly LEOs Meeting</u>: The PAB scheduled the next quarterly LEOs meeting for Monday, August 2, 2023, at 3:00 P.M. and every three months thereafter. The meetings will be in the County Administration Building.

<u>Adjournment</u>: Ms. Smart, seconded by Mr. Hafer, moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 3:50 P.M.