

December 6, 2023

A meeting of the Kent County Police Accountability Board was called to order at 3:00p.m. with the following present: Barry Byers, Chair, Valerie H. Jones (PAB Admin), Thomas Davis, Bill Dempsey (Chief of Police Rock Hall), Gary Di Vito, Pastor Leon Frison, Kay Pritzlaff Ronald Dixon (Chief of Police Chestertown), Nancy Grahamer, Joan Horsey, Severn E. S. Miller Dennis Hickman, (Sheriff Kent County), Johnnie A. Jones III, Esq., Valerie Jones (Administrative Assistant) and Pete Landon (Director Kent County OES).

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Barry Byers called the meeting to order. The November 1, minutes were read. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed to approve the minutes.

### **RULES AND PROCEDURES**

### **STAFF REPORT**

The Accountability Officer Consultant position was discussed, and is in the hiring processes by Kent County HR.

### **GENERAL DISCUSSION**

The next meeting will be both a PAB and ACC meeting on January 3. Quarterly meetings will follow.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Police ride-alongs were discussed. Barry reiterated the process of each member contacting the law enforcement agencies directly and scheduling their ride-along. Pete Landon reminded the board of the need for all information regarding ride-alongs to be forwarded to Val Jones, for record retention.
2. Sherrif Hickman (Kent County), Bill Dempsey (Chief of Police Rock Hall), and Ronald Dixon (Chief of Police Chestertown) confirmed the implementation of the new PAB Complaint form.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Pete Landon asked the board and law enforcement representatives to think about how transparency can be further improved with the community and to present those ideas to the board. Nancy Grahamer mentioned the positive results of the "National Night Out" campaign, that was stopped during covid.
2. Gary Divito mentioned his discussion with a member of the Queen Anne's County ACC regarding the rules and resolutions they have implemented and suggested Kent County do the same. Pete Landon mentioned Kent County ACC already has rules and resolutions that are currently available to view on the PAB webpage. The ACC may discuss if changes are needed to Kent County resolutions with the caveat, the Kent County Commissioners would need to approve any changes.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

1. Johnnie Jones expressed his thanks for the support law enforcement provided on Halloween, especially in the community of Coventry Farms.
2. Nancy Grahmer shared her ride-along experience with the board. She was very happy with her experience and very complimentary of D/S Griffiths knowledge and professionalism.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER DISCUSSION**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

A was motion made, seconded, and unanimously passed by all members present to adjourn the December 6, 2023, Kent County Police Accountability Board meeting at 3:32pm.

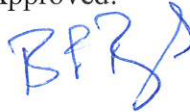
Respectfully submitted.



Valerie H. Jones

Administrative Assistant

Approved:



Barry Byers, Chairperson

Kent County Police Accountability Board