
Minutes of the Organizational Meeting of Eastern Regional Mon Valley Police Commission

Eastern Regional Mon Valley Police (ERMVP) Commission minutes for meeting scheduled for August 17, 2023 @ 7:30 pm in council chambers of the North Braddock Borough Building 600 Anderson St North Braddock, PA 15104

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at approximately 7:30 pm by Gerald Simpson, former chief of police for the Southern Chester County Regional Police Force and Consultant from the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED), in service for the Eastern Regional Mon Valley Police Commission/Department. This meeting was recorded. Mr. Simpson called the roll of appointed commissioners from each member community:

East Pittsburgh:

Markus Adams

Chad Nicholson

Edward Ruane

North Braddock:

Lisa Franklin-Robinson

Juanita Giles

Cletus Lee

Rankin

Joelisa McDonald

Bill Pfoff

William Price, III

All appointed commissioners were present

Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Administering of Oath of Office

The following oath was administered by the Honorable Lisa G. Middleman, Court of Common Pleas, Allegheny County: *I, (name) do solemnly swear or affirm that I will support, obey, and defend the Constitution of the United States of America and the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and that I will discharge the duties of Commissioner for the Eastern Regional Mon Valley Police Commission for the partner communities of East Pittsburgh Borough, North Braddock Borough and Rankin Borough, in the County of Allegheny, with fidelity.*

Commissioners were sworn in this order: Commissioner Markus Adams, Commissioner Chad Nicholson, Commissioner Edward Ruane, Commissioner Lisa Franklin-Robinson, Commissioner Juanita Giles, Commissioner Cletus Lee, Commissioner Joelisa McDonald, Commissioner William Pfoff, And Commissioner William Price, III

Judge Lisa G Middleman closed with an African Proverb, *"If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."*

Appointment of Administrative Offices


The following persons were hereby sworn as officers of the Eastern Regional Mon Valley Police Commission for the term beginning August 17, 2023 to December 31, 2023.

A motion to appoint Commissioner William Price, III to serve as Chairperson, was made by Commissioner Ruane and seconded by Commissioner Lee. Roll was called and motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion to appoint Commissioner Chad Nicholson to serve as Vice Chairperson, was made by Commissioner Franklin-Robinson and seconded by Commissioner Giles. Roll was called and motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion to appoint Commissioner Lisa Franklin-Robinson to serve as Commission Secretary, was made by Commissioner Pfoff and seconded by Commissioner Lee. Roll was called and motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion to appoint Commissioner Bill Pfoff to serve as Chairperson of the Budget and Finance Committee, was made by Commissioner Nicholson and seconded by Commissioner Franklin-Robinson. Roll was called and motion carried by unanimous vote.



A motion to appoint Commissioner Edward Ruane to serve as Chairperson of the Personnel Committee, was made by Commissioner Giles and seconded by Commissioner Pfoff. Roll was called and motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion to appoint Commissioner Cletus Lee to serve as Chairperson of the Community Relations Outreach Committee, was made by Commissioner McDonald and seconded by Commissioner Adams. Roll was called and motion carried by unanimous vote.

Establish Meeting dates and Meeting Rotation for 2023

A motion to conduct meetings on the third Wednesday of every month at 6:30 pm was made by Commissioner Franklin-Robinson and seconded by Commissioner Giles. Roll was called and motion carried by unanimous vote.

A motion to rotate the meeting site from North Braddock, to Rankin and then on to East Pittsburgh and then to continue on in that order was made by Commissioner McDonald and seconded by Commissioner Lee. Roll was called and motion carried by unanimous vote.

Announcements


An executive session was held on August 2, 2023 at 6:00 pm to discuss personnel and contract matters

An executive session was held tonight (August 17, 2023) at 7:00 pm to discuss personnel matters.

Public Comment

Mary Carey who claims residence in all four boroughs asked about communication of meetings to the communities. Will we do mailings? How will the public be informed? Discussion about the mailer being too expensive since the commission does not have any money. The Commission Chair stated that information would be posted on social media and advertised in the paper. Commissioner Giles asked if we could post the meeting dates at each borough building of the partner communities. Discussion ensued and Chairperson Price moved on.

George Newsom for the Department of Community and Economic Development offered congratulations to the Commission. The Commission thanked him.



Mary Carol Kennedy, President of East Pittsburgh Borough Council offered congratulations and thanks for her personal participation in establishing this ERMVP Commission. The Commission thanked her.

Commissioner Franklin-Robinson thanked Councilwoman Mary Carol Kennedy from East Pittsburgh, Councilmembers from North Braddock John Vahosky, Vicki Vargo, Charles Nigro, Terri Parker and a big thank you to Borough Manager Nathan Bish. County Councilmember Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis was thanked for her support. Commissioner Nicholson thanked Gerald Simpson from DCED. Mr. Simpson offered commentary and returned the thank you. Commissioner Price complimented Mr. Simpson for his exemplary effort in keeping things on track.

County Councilmember Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis congratulated the Commission for being a role model and demonstrating good leadership.

New Business

A motion to approve a contract between the ERMVP Commission and the PA Chiefs Association for the search and selection of a Police Chief in the amount of \$5,500.00 plus travel expenses not to exceed \$1800.00 was made by Commissioner Ruane and seconded by Commissioner Giles. Roll was called and motion carried by unanimous vote with comments by Commissioner McDonald who states, "I think that just coming from a recruiter standpoint for one of the largest organizations in Allegheny County, it is a hefty investment for one person, for a new organization, but I still give my yes."

A motion to approve contract between the ERMVP Commission and the PA Chiefs Association for a 90-day advertisement for Police Officer employment process in the amount of \$200.00 was made by Commissioner Ruane and seconded by Commissioner Franklin-Robinson. Roll was called and motion carried by unanimous vote.

Gerald Simpson, Consultant commented that he reached out to the Pennsylvania State Police to obtain the ORI, an identifying number for the ERMVP Department. He has the paperwork.

Old Business

No old business

Committee Reports

Budget and Finance: No Report

Personnel: No Report

Community Relations: Commissioner Lee reports that they are working on securing dates for a Town Hall meeting in September (potentially September 28, 2023) and another event called Coffee with Commissioners on October 7, 2023 from 10: 00 am to 12:00 pm.

Commissioner Pfoff asked about the press release/ public announcement. Mr. Simpson stated that once the Outreach Committee has their date set for the town hall and other things are worked out, then the press release can be worked on.

Approval of Disbursements

No report of disbursements was presented

Revenue Reports

No report was presented

Approval of the Minutes (Audio Tape the Meeting)

No previous meeting or reports presented

General Discussion

Commissioner Pfoff asked if County Councilmember Naccarati-Chapkis represented Plum Borough. She said yes. Commissioner Pfoff expressed sorrow about the tragedy (house explosion.) He stated that he knew the late Mike Thomas. He felt like something should be said or done (like a moment of silence) to acknowledge this tragedy.

Adjournment

So moved by Commissioner Giles and seconded by Commissioner Pfoff @ 8:15 pm

Date of Submission:	Name of Corporate Secretary:	Signature of Commission Secretary:
September 20, 2023	Commissioner Lisa Franklin-Robinson	

