

**Regional Police Development Committee
North Cornwall Township & North Lebanon Township
December 13, 2023**

Call to Order:

The December 13, 2023, meeting of the Regional Police Development Committee was called to order at 3:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. In attendance were Daniel Bost, District Director for Senator Gebhard; Tom Long, NCT Manager; Justin Thompson, NCT Assistant Manager; Chief Harry Ward, NCT Police Department; Mike Wahmann, NCT Supervisor, Ron Sell, NCT Supervisor; Lori Books, NLT Manager, Chief Timothy Knight, NLT Police Department, and Arden Snook, NLT Supervisor. Absent was Gary Heisey, NLT Supervisor.

Others in attendance are listed on the sign-in sheet.

Discussion:

The Committee reviewed the meeting minutes from the November 16, 2023, meeting. Mr. Sell made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as written. Mr. Snook seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Charter Agreement:

The Committee began the review of the first draft of the charter agreement, written by Chief Knight.

All agreed on the name “Lebanon County Regional Police Department.”

Article 1- Definitions- There were no concerns regarding the definitions for commission, department/regional department, charter municipalities, contracting municipalities and participating municipalities.

Article 2 – Purpose- All agreed on the purpose of the agreement- to establish the Regional Department.

Article 3 - Jurisdiction and Authority- The Committee reviewed Sections A through E which center around the structure of authority and supervision of the commission and police department. Mr. Long suggested this section be discussed with a labor attorney after Mrs. Books raised a question over a married couple potentially working in the same department.

Article 4 – Police District Boundaries – In discussing this article, Mr. Long said it would be wise for the participating municipalities to make some of their ordinances consistent (noise, overgrowth, etc.) to aid the officers in enforcement. Mrs. Books added that one municipality should notify the other if something new is added to their ordinances as well.

Article 5 – Regional Police Commission – The Commission will be the governing body of the Police Department. Two Supervisors from each Township and 1(one) resident that alternates

every year between the two Townships will make up the Commission. Discussion about staggering the terms of Commission members followed. No one had concerns about the citizen-at-large position having no limits on the number of times he/she can hold that position. It was mentioned that this person should not hold any other position at the municipal level. The Committee prefers to fill a vacant seat on the Commission within 60 days of vacancy. Also discussed was wording for Section J.

Article 6 – Meetings – The Police Chief of the Department or a designated representative shall attend the monthly meetings at North Lebanon and North Cornwall Townships.

Article 7 – Apportionment Formula – Committee members discussed budgeting the regionalized police department by per capita vs. per call/unit. Mr. Long asked Chief Ward and Chief Knight to compile numbers of total calls per zone in their respective townships.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting is January 25, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. at the North Cornwall Township Administrative Building, 330 S. 18th Street, Lebanon PA 17042.

Public Comment: None.

Adjournment:

The meeting concluded at 4:05 p.m.