**ATTENDING:** Chairman Gary Hadden-Ontelaunee Commissioner, Heidi Fiedler-Maidencreek Township Commissioner, Granville Sandridge-Leesport Commissioner, Charles Berger-Leesport Alternate, Diane Hollenbach - Maidencreek Township Alternate, William Klein-Ontelaunee Township Alternate, Chief Brian Horner, Ruth Manmiller-Secretary, and James Thomas of Blakinger/Thomas -Solicitor.

**GUESTS:** Francis A. Scott, Diana Rollins – DaBrian Marketing, Vince Rollins, Kim Berger, Kenneth Stoudt, David Reichlein, Donna Culp, Captain James Cecchini, Joan Campbell, Bryan & Susan Althouse, Mark DeBlasi, Melissa Vaka, Sean Showalter, Robert Wood, Jr.,Scott & Breand Eaken, Joe Kelly, Dane Miller.

**Call to Order:** Commissioner Hadden called the August 12, 2019 Northern Berks Regional Police Commission meeting to order at 6:30PM.

**Pledge to the Flag**

**Moment of Silence**

**Executive Sessions conducted** 7/16/2019, 7/29/2019, and 8/7/2019

**MINUTES**

**July 8, 2019 Commission Meeting Minutes** Commissioner Fiedler made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sandridge approving July 8, 2019 Commission Meeting with the following corrections/additions requested by Commissioner Fielder: Add two sentences to the end of paragraph2 : *“Heidi Fiedler requested Whitney Rahman to check whether the department followed the proper procedures while investigating the Reichlein citizen complain. Ms. Rahman indicated that she would follow up.”* All Commissioners voted, “Aye.” Motion carried.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**  Ruth Manmiller presented the July 2019 Treasurer’s report that included the fund balances, year to date budget report, and documentation of all transactions and payments throughout the month. Commissioner Fiedler made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sandridge approving the July 2019 Treasurer’s report. All Commissioners voted, “Aye.” Motion carried.

**CHIEFS REPORT**

Chief Horner read the July 2019 Department Activity Report and addressed other department activities.

**CALLS CITATIONS WARNINGS CONTACTS ARRESTS HOURS OF SERVICE**

Maidencreek 401 99 104 167 6 29.53 per day

Ontelaunee 209 104 74 152 7 19.37 per day

Leesport 98 88 68 137 4 11.50 per day

Administrative 22

**TOTAL 730 291 246 456 17**

**Fuel 1099.741 MILEAGE 10503**

**Fines Collected**

**Maidencreek $3261.32 Ontelaunee $2417.45 Leesport $2,589.56**

**JULY/AUGUST**

1. All officers currently working on their Firearms Qualifications. Training was provided by the PA Game Commission and Officer Barry Althouse- Laureldale Borough Police Department.
2. NNO was a huge success. Numerous thank you notes and emails were read. Chief will attend the Schuylkill Valley School Board Meeting at the end of the month to thank them as well as secure their campus for 2020.
3. A NNO follow up meeting is in the planning stages to prepare for next year.
4. Speed details are being conducted with grant funds that are available through North Central Highway Safety
5. Sgt. Wood and Officer Drazenovich visited YMCA Daycare Tiny Thinks
6. Officer Shinkus received a thank you letter from an individual who was impressed with his professionalism while he was stopped and cited.
7. Qualifications have been taking place at the make shift range at New Enterprise quarry.
8. Website is up and running
9. NBRPD jurisdiction ranked 60th is safest communities in Pennsylvania. Thanks to Sgt. Showalter and Det. Sgt. Wood maintaining the UCR stats.
10. Chief and several officers attended Leesport Borough Bridge dedication on Saturday.
11. Pole Barn has been organized. – Old bikes given to Wood to Wonderful – Reading PA
12. Would like to trade old guns found in the armory towards purchase of new guns.
13. Some radio work will be forwarded to RMI in the future.
14. Chief Horner will conduct a Press Conference with North Central Hwy regarding DUI awareness at Ozzy’s Fun Center.

Commissioner Hadden congratulated and thanked everyone who participated in the planning of National Night Out. He added that there were countless donated hours from the NNO committee and businesses that helped make this event a huge success.

Commissioner Sandridge thanked the Chief for a successful evening as well.

Commissioner Fiedler congratulated the Chief on a successful event but due to illness she could not attend.

Commissioner Fiedler asked the Chief if he planned to continue to use New Enterprise quarry as a shooting range. Maidencreek Township is working towards an ordinance to address shooting ranges through proper zoning and planning.

Chief commented, the Police will continue to use New Enterprise quarry, until Maidencreek Township decides to work with the Zwicky and the Police for a new shooting range.

Commissioner Fiedler suggested attending then next Maidencreek Township Planning Commission to provide input towards the project.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Ruth Manmiller read a Right-to-Know received on 8/9/2019 received requesting the following **1.)** Copy of audit RFP and list of firms the RFP was sent to, **2.)** June & July 2019 National Night Account Statements, **3.)** Signature Cards w/authorized signatories for the National Night Account,

**4.)** Copies of all bills and checks issues from the 2019 National Night Out Account, **5.)** Copies of all donations received and deposits made to 2019 to the National Night Out account.

Ruth Manmiller provided and read her response letter to all Commissioners, Diane Hollenbach and all Maidencreek Township Board of Supervisors requesting a 30-day extension; as the extensive list of information requested will not be accomplished with in the 5-day limit.

Chief Horner questioned why Commissioner Fiedler is so interested in the National Night Account because it is a totally separate account funded by donations, not tax payer funds.

Commissioner Fiedler wants accountability for Northern Berks Regional Police accounts, which she has the right to know.

**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

David Reichlein, Centre Township thanked the Chief for the leading the department in a positive direction and the successful National Night Out. That is the positive note!

On 5/25/2019 I delivered a complaint to the Northern Berks Regional Police Department. I would like to know how my complaint is common knowledge to other individuals. During a previous Commission Meeting, Francis Scott mentioned that I was a murderer, cop shooter and I should be locked up. Since he frequents the police station, he must have viewed my letter.

Chief Horner made no comment, only referring to the Solicitor that this subject should not be discussed during a public meeting. The Solicitor agreed this is not a discussion for a public meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Resolution 2019-2 – Commission Meeting Policy/Conduct**

Commission tabled, due to too many issues that needed to be addressed.

**Audit Proposals**

Ruth Manmiller provided each Commissioner with an informational packet which included, a copy of the RFP notice for an Audit, List of Certified Public Accounts who received engagement letters, Reading Eagle advertising notice for $472.35, (2) proposals and an explanation from the Certified Public Account who conducts agreed upon review of NBRPD accounts. Commission Fiedler was disappointed that the information was not received prior to the Commission Meeting. She wants a certified accountant to provide a General Accepted Auditing Standard of accounts for true transparency for the operations of the police department’s 2.5 millon budget.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Billing Procedures**

Commissioner Hadden made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sandridge; There shall be no action taken by the Commission Solicitor without prior approval by a quorum of the Commission. The Solicitor shall not perform any investigation, research or other items for individual municipalities with authorization by the quorum of the Commissioners. In addition, all invoices submitted by the Commission Solicitor shall be as descriptive as possible and identify the person to whom the Solicitor is speaking to and the matter it is pertaining to. Fees contained in the invoices for items that were not authorized by a quorum of the Commission shall not be paid. Commissioners Hadden & Commissioner Sandridge voted, “Aye.” Commissioner Fiedler ”No Comment” Motion carried.

**Executive Session 7:14 PM – 7:44 PM Litigation**

**Retirement Agreement**

Commissioner Hadden made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sandridge authorizing the Chairman to sign the retirement agreement as presented. All Commissioners voted, “Aye.” Motion Carried. Solicitor approved.

**Resignation Letter**

Commissioner Hadden made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sandridge to accept the letter of resignation as presented. All Commissioners voted, “Aye.” Motion Carried.

**Solicitor Appointment**

Commissioner Hadden made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sandridge to appoint the Law Firm of Siana Bellwoar-Christopher Gerber for legal services for the Northern Berks Regional Police Commission and with that being said, effective immediately terminate the Commission’s legal services with Blakinger Thomas. Blakinger Thomas shall forward all Northern Berks Regional Police Commission files to Siana Bellwoar-Christopher Gerber and bill the Commission accordingly for fees associated with closing this account. Blakinger Thomas will be retained for the Federal Law Suit. Commissioners Hadden and Commissioner Sandridge voted, “Aye.” Comment on the motion; Commissioner Fiedler wanted additional proposals to review prior to making a decision for the Solicitor’s position and felt there should have been additional discussion on this matter. Commissioner Fiedler, “Opposed.” Motion carried.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Dane Miller, Schuylkill Valley School Board member congratulated the Chief on a successful

National Night Out and apologized for the outlet glitch

**ADJOURNED**

Meeting adjourned 7:50 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth M. Manmiller

NBRPD Secretary

CC:

Diane Hollenbach, Maidencreek Township Secretary to distribute to Supervisors

Kim Berger, Ontelaunee Township Secretary to distribute to Supervisors

Sandra Weiser, Leesport Borough Secretary to distribute to Council

Christopher Gerber, Siana Bellwoar