

**NORTHERN BERKS REGIONAL POLICE  
COMMISSION MEETING  
MARCH 10, 2025**

**ATTENDING:** Josh Meck – Maidencreek Commissioner, Ronald Strause – Leesport Commissioner, Chuck Grebloski – Ontelaunee Commissioner, Dave Franke – Maidencreek Alternate, Martin Goetz – Leesport Alternate, Chief Jim Keiser, Solicitor Colin Macfarlane, Administrative Assistant Alysia Fredericks

**GUESTS:** Donna Culp, Robert Wood, William Dillman

Commissioner Grebloski called the March 10, 2025 Commission Meeting to order at 6:01 PM, followed by the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Commissioner Strause made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Meck to approve the agenda. All commissioners voted, "Aye". Motion carried.

**FOR THE RECORD:** There was an executive session held after the adjournment of the February 10 commission meeting to discuss public safety re: SVSD.

**COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES:** Commissioner Strause made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Meck to approve the February 10, 2025 Commission Meeting minutes. All commissioners voted, "Aye". Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The February 2025 Treasurer's report was given by Alysia Fredericks –  
 Money Market = \$298,012.57                      Tompkins VIST = \$65,047.43  
 Checking = \$14,736.91                              NNO = \$9,406.46  
Payroll = \$2,643.05  
 Total Budgeted Balance = \$315,392.53

Commissioner Strause made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Meck to approve the February 2025 Treasurer's Report as presented. All commissioners voted, "Aye". Motion carried.

**DEPARTMENT REPORT:** Det. Sgt. Robert Wood read the February 2025 activity report.

TOWNSHIP	CALLS	CITATIONS	WARNINGS	CONTACTS	ARRESTS	HOURS OF SERVICE
Maidencreek	351	54	24	68	4	34 Per Day
Ontelaunee	275	54	32	65	6	24 Per Day
Leesport	86	20	5	19	1	5 Per Day
Administrative	22					
Other	17					
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>751</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>11</b>	
FUEL: 1,037 gallons		MILEAGE: 8,932 miles				
CRASHES: 46 - Maidencreek: 17 (4 reportable, 9 non-reportable, 4 hit and run)						
Ontelaunee: 23 (7 reportable, 14 non-reportable, 2 hit and run)						
Leesport: 6 (2 reportable, 2 non-reportable, 2 hit and run)						

Det. Sgt. Wood then discussed the following topics:

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- The department got access to VIPR (Vehicle Intelligence and Automatic License Plate Recognition), which gives NBRPD access to the Berks County LPR (License Plate Reader) network. This aided in finding the striking vehicle that was involved in a hit and run incident with an NBRPD fleet vehicle. The female involved has charges against her, a warrant has been placed and a wanted poster has been shared.
- We are getting quotes from the 3 main LPR contenders in the area (Flock, VIPR, Motorola). There is a pressing need for this technology, especially to aid with hit and run incidents.
- The Moshe Notis case ended with a felony conviction.
- Officer Venegas was involved in a crash while responding to a roll over crash. This fleet vehicle is a total loss.
- There was a bomb threat at Schuylkill Valley School District that officers responded to.
- Overtime shifts at the school will begin 3/24/25. This will enable officers to have a presence in the schools multiple days a week as part of an MOU with the district.
- Leesport had incidents with juveniles kicking doors overnight. There were similar issues that occurred in Bern Township and Centre Township. The juveniles were quickly stopped and identified.

Maidencreek Alternate Dave Franke asked if anyone had contacted the District Attorney's office to see if there are funds available to offset the costs of the LPRs. Det. Sgt. Wood said that we will ask the DA's office, look for grants and possibly approach local businesses to contribute to the payment, as the LPR technology will benefit them as well.

**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:** Nothing

**OLD BUSINESS:** Nothing

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Officer Vaillant – Referral of the Officers' Appeal of the Dual Employment Grievance Denial to Arbitration – Solicitor Macfarlane stated that the Police Union filed an appeal of the officer grievance after the Commission denied Officer Vaillants' request for dual employment **Commissioner Strause** made a motion, seconded by **Commissioner Meck** to authorize Kozloff Stoult to take any and all steps necessary to initiate arbitration. All commissioners voted, "Aye". Motion carried.

Schuylkill Valley School District – Execution of Memorandum of Understanding for Patrol of Schuylkill Valley High School during Remainder of '24-'25 School Year – Solicitor Macfarlane brought the proposed MOU, which states that the NBRPD will make a good faith effort to staff the school with an officer with the expectation that the commission will be reimbursed for these overtime shifts plus the cost of benefits. Macfarlane said that there were some questions as to what would happen when the Chief is not present. Section 8 now states that when the Chief is not available, Alysia Fredericks (Secretary of the Commission) has the right to communicate with the school designated representative in regards to scheduling and issues involving the policing of the school grounds. **Commissioner Strause** made a motion, seconded by **Commissioner Meck** to

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authorize the commissions' execution of the MOU subject to final review and approval by both solicitors. All commissioners voted, "Aye". Motion carried.

Supervisor Vehicle – Consider motion to spend up to \$10,000 to repair and complete the up-fitting – Alysia Fredericks explained that this is the black Explorer that had gone to First Response Emergency Lighting, but was never completed. We will need to purchase and install the cage and the pre-emptor. However, this is also the vehicle that was just involved in the hit and run incident, so we need to wait to hear from the insurance company. **Commissioner Meck** made a motion, seconded by **Commissioner Strause** to spend up to \$10,000.00 to finish the supervisor vehicle, contingent upon the ruling of the insurance. All commissioners voted, "Aye". Motion carried.

New Vehicle – Consider motion to purchase 2025 Police Interceptor Utility vehicle not to exceed \$50,000 (upfitting and decal costs to be approved at a later date – Alysia Fredericks said that 3 quotes were provided for different versions of the vehicle – gas, hybrid and eco boost. The current Interceptors in the fleet are eco-boosts. Officer Dillman has now been put in charge of all the fleet responsibilities, to include purchasing, upfitting and selling of vehicles. He explained that we will be listing 2 of our out of service vehicles for sale on Municibid within the next week. The commission questioned whether or not cars are assigned to officers. Officer Dillman said that once the fleet is up to full capacity, vehicles will be assigned to ensure that all cars are being utilized equally. **Commissioner Meck** made a motion, seconded by **Commissioner Strause** to approve the purchase of a 2025 Police Interceptor Utility vehicle not to exceed \$50,000. All commissioners voted, "Aye". Motion carried.

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

Leesport Alternate Marty Goetz asked if we have a safe spot in the police department lot for people to meet to exchange goods purchased at online marketplaces. We do not advertise a spot to do so, but people can do so as it is a public space. Det. Sgt. Wood suggested that if people need a space to conduct custody exchanges, they can contact the police department.

Commissioner Strause thanked the commission for the sympathy gift.

**ADJOURN:** **Commissioner Strause** made a motion, seconded by **Commissioner Meck** to adjourn the meeting. All commissioners voted, "Aye". Motion carried and meeting was adjourned at 7:26 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Alysia Fredericks*

NBRPD Administrative Assistant

CC: NBRPD Commission & Alternates  
Diane Hollenbach, Maidencreek Township Manager  
Kim Berger, Ontelaunee Township Secretary  
Sandra Weiser, Leesport Borough Secretary  
Colin Macfarlane, Solicitor