

PINGREE GROVE POLICE DEPARTMENT

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS



ANNUAL REPORT 2024

**Village of Pingree Grove
Board of Police Commissioners
Annual Report 2024**

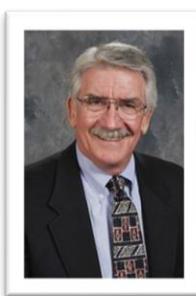
The Village of Pingree Grove Board of Police Commissioners consists of three (3) members as ordained by Illinois Compiled Statutes and the Village of Pingree Grove Code. The commissioners are unpaid representatives of the Village of Pingree Grove. They are appointed by the Village President and approved by the Village Board of Trustees for an alternating three (3) year term.

Two past police commissioners resigned this year due to other commitments. Past Chairperson, Hanover Park Police Officer Kevin Pini, took a position as a Village Trustee in May 2024. Past Commissioner, Retired Rockford Chief of Police Daniel O'Shea took a position as Chief of Police of the Metra Police Department and resigned in August 2024. Both played a vital role in the implementation of the police commission in 2022.

Current Chief of Police Dennis Walker chairs the commission, along with retired leadership consulting trainer Joseph Stevens as a Commissioner, and Waukegan Police Officer Barry Grabert II as a Commissioner. The Board of Police Commissioners holds regular quarterly board meetings and special meetings upon the needs of the Police Department. Meetings are open to the public, except when specific personnel matters are discussed. Most meetings are held at the Pingree Grove Municipal Center 2nd Floor Conference Room.



Chairperson
Dennis Walker



Commissioner
Joseph Stevens



Commissioner
Barry Grabert II



Past Chairperson
Kevin Pini



Past Commissioner
Daniel O'Shea

Responsibilities of the Commission Include:

- Overseeing initial testing for fire and police applicants.
- Overseeing promotional examinations for police Sergeants.
- Maintaining eligibility lists for police hiring and promotions. All based upon competitive testing.
- Hiring police officers from current eligibility lists
- Promote police Sergeants from current eligibility lists.
- Conducting hearings for police personnel who request an appeal in a disciplinary matter.

Prior to being offered employment, police candidates must pass written examinations, physical fitness testing, a polygraph, psychological and medical evaluations, and extensive background investigation and relevant interviews conducted by the police commission.

In 2024, the police commission did not operate on a specific budget, but funds were set aside for official apparel and meals during the oral interviews. Another budget of \$7,000.00 was used for written testing examinations, polygraphs, psychological and medical examinations, promotional testing for police sergeant advertisements for future testing dates. Future budget amendments will apply funds for appropriate classifications and memberships to the Illinois Fire and Police Commission Association.

Retired Police Officers in 2024

- None

New Hires for Police Officers and Promotions in 2024



Officer Connor Charbonneau
07/09/2024

Officer Christopher Macko
08/19/2024

Sergeant Daniel Charal
09/03/2024

Commission Meeting Highlights for 2024

February 7, 2024

- Commissioner Daniel O’Shea was absent.
- Chairperson Pini made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Walker to approve the commissioner meeting minutes from November 17, 2023, as presented with no further discussion held.
- Chief Harris advised that the COPSANDFIRE Testing Service will be holding the next entry-level police applicant testing with a posting date of March 13, 2024 on www.theblueline.com. Applications must be submitted by April 10, 2024. Applicants need to have the Peace Officer Wellness Evaluation Report (P.O.W.E.R.) and submit all necessary paperwork requested by COPSANDFIRE Testing prior to the required Orientation and the written examination set for Saturday, April 27, 2024, at 9:00 am. With the approval from the Village Board, the Police Department will be seeking to hire FOUR (4) from the entry-level testing list and ONE (1) lateral officer from the active lateral officer list.
- With the approval of the Board of Commissioners, Chief Harris added the optional testing service of polygraph testing back into the hiring process. The polygraph testing was removed by the past Chief of Police as an unnecessary testing format.
- The Board of Commissioners were also advised that the current promotional level testing for the rank of Sergeant will expire in January 2026. Testing for this will be added to the FY25/26 budget.

May 8, 2024

- All police commissioners were present.
- Due to the resignation of Chairperson Pini in April of 2024, the Board elected Commissioner Walker to the position of Chairperson, seconded by Commissioner O’Shea. Commissioner Walker accepted.
- Commissioner O’Shea motioned to approve the meeting minutes from February 7, 2024, seconded by Chairperson Wlaker with no further discussion held.
- Chief Harris provided a status update on the current entry-level police applicant testing. A total of twenty-one (21) applications were purchased, fifteen (15) were turned in, twelve (12) attended and ten (10) passed the written examination.
- Oral interviews for the remaining TEN (10) applicants were set for May 22nd and May 23rd starting at 5:00 pm. All commissioners reviewed the questions which will be asked during the oral interviews.

- All commissioners reported that they had completed training in the Open Meetings Act (OMA).

August 7, 2024

- Commissioner Daniel O’Shea was absent.
- Commissioner Stevens motioned to approve the meeting minutes from May 8, 2024, seconded by Chairperson Walker with no further discussion held.
- The Board of Commissioners approved the swearing-in of newly hired entry-level police officer Christopher Macko. Commissioner Stevens stated that he would be available to swear-in Officer Macko at the August 19th Village Board Meeting.
- Chief Harris explained that due to the exhaustion of the prior entry-level testing list, COPSANDFIRE Testing Service will be holding the next entry-level police applicant testing with a posting date of August 14, 2024, on www.theblueline.com. Applications must be submitted by September 11, 2024. Applicants need to have the Peace Officer Wellness Evaluation Report (P.O.W.E.R.) and submit all necessary paperwork requested by COPSANDFIRE Testing prior to the required Orientation and the written examination set for Saturday, September 28, 2024, at 9:00 am. With the approval from the Village Board, the Police Department will be seeking to hire THREE (3) from the entry-level testing list.
- All commissioners reviewed and approved the questions which will be asked during the oral interviews. Projected oral interview dates are to be determined after the written examination results are published.
- Chief Harris provided the Rules and Regulations for the Board of Commissioners along with updates. Once approved, the Rules and Regulations will be sent to legal for final approval

November 7, 2024

- Meeting cancelled and rescheduled for 2025

The year of 2024 was a remarkably busy one for the Village of Pingree Grove Board of Police Commissioners. Yet, the commissioners continue their commitment to ensuring that the residents of Pingree Grove receive the finest police services possible by hiring the best possible people for these positions. Also, the commissioners sincerely appreciate the hard work and tireless efforts of the Pingree Grove recording Secretary Sherry Miscevich. The board also thanks President Kubiak and the Village Board of Trustees for allowing us the opportunity to be of service to the citizens of this great Village of Pingree Grove.

C: President Amber Kubiak

Village Manager Andrew Ferrini

Village Board of Trustees

Chief Christopher Harris