

Cape Breton Regional Municipality

Board of Police Commissioners Minutes

June 18, 2025

10:00 a.m. at City Hall Council Chambers

Commission Members

Commissioner Glenn Paruch, Chair

Commissioner Paul Nickituk

Commissioner Ken Tracey, Citizen Appointee

Commissioner Matthew Conner, Citizen Appointee

Commissioner Tom Vickers, Citizen Appointee

Staff

Cecil P. Clarke, Mayor

Demetri Kachafanas, KC, Interim Chief Administrative Officer

Christa Dicks, Director of Corporate Information Services / Municipal Clerk

Robert Walsh, Chief of Police

Stephen MacKinnon, Deputy Chief of Police

Reginald Hutchings, Superintendent

Keith Power, Staff Sergeant

Erin Donovan, Staff Sergeant

Gary Fraser, CBRPS Constable

Logan Aucoin, CBRPS Constable

Dallas Symes, CBRPS Constable

Olivia Boudreau, Corporate Business Manager

Desiree Magnus, Communications / Public Relations Advisor

Alex MacAulay, Communications Center Manager

Gordon MacDonald, Councillor District One

Eldon MacDonald, Deputy Mayor / Councillor District Five

Steven MacNeil, Councillor District Eight

Sean Tobin, Chief of Staff

Jenna MacQueen, Communications Advisor

Spencer Merrill, Information Technology Technician

Yuecong Cao, Administrative Assistant

Aidan Connors, Public Policy Intern

Kelly McDonald, Recording Secretary

Absent

Commissioner Kim Sheppard-Campbell, Vice-Chair (regrets)

The following does not represent a word for word record of the proceedings of this meeting. The agenda, reports, supporting documents, information items circulated, and video (if available) are online at www.cbrm.ns.ca.

The CBRM Board of Police Commissioners met in camera in accordance with Section 22(2)(c) of the *Municipal Government Act* for item number six point one.

Commissioner Glenn Paruch, Chair, called the meeting to order.

Land Acknowledgment

1. Administration of the Oaths of Office for Newly Appointed Commissioners – Paul Nickituk

The Municipal Clerk administered the Oaths of Office for the newly appointed member, Paul Nickituk, of the CBRM Board of Police Commissioners.

2. Roll Call

Kelly McDonald, Recording Secretary, conducted the roll call attendance.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion

Moved by Commissioner Tracey, seconded by Commissioner Vickers, to approve the June 18, 2025, CBRM Board of Police Commissioners agenda as presented.

Motion Carried

4. Approval of Minutes

Motion

Moved by Commissioner Nickituk, seconded by Commissioner Conner, to approve the CBRM Board of Police Commissioners minutes from:

➤ March 5, 2025

Motion Carried

5. Impaired Driving Enforcement Recognition Awards

Chief Walsh mentioned it was an honor to be joined by the President and Vice-President of the Cape Breton Chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Canada. Deputy MacKinnon informed these awards are named in honor of Constable Heidi Stevenson who is a twenty-three-year veteran of the RCMP. These awards recognize members of police services across Nova Scotia who remove impaired drivers from roads and highways to ensure public safety. Gold coin awards are given to officers who annually remove twenty-four or more impaired drivers from roads and highways, silver coin awards are given to officers who annually remove between fifteen and twenty-three impaired drivers from roads and highways, bronze coin awards are given to officers who annually remove between six and fourteen impaired drivers from roads and highways.

The President and Vice President of MADD Cape Breton Chapter, presented the following Cape Breton Regional Police Services (CBRPS) members with bronze coin award certificates:

- Constable Logan Aucoin
- Constable Dallas Symes

Constable Ron Popwell also received a bronze coin award certificate but was unable to attend this meeting.

The CBRM Board of Police Commission recessed to go in camera at 10:09 a.m.

6. Presentations

6.1 In Camera - Wellness Survey

This item was addressed in camera in accordance with Section 22(2)(c) of the *Municipal Government Act*.

The CBRM Board of Police Commission reconvened to go in open session at 11:25 a.m.

6.2 Downtown Cameras

Chief Walsh introduced Brad MacConnell, Chief Administrative Officer / Retired Charlottetown Chief of Police. Chief Walsh informed that cameras will be used in all areas of CBRM and for investigation purposes only. CAO MacConnell provided a presentation discussing topics regarding current challenges, innovation benefits, E-Watch program, population increases, costs and funding opportunities, leadership, partnerships, public safety, and benefits of camera use.

For Information Only

The CBRM Board of Police Commission recessed at 12:11 p.m.

The CBRM Board of Police Commission reconvened at 12:15 p.m.

6.3 Senior Safety Navigator

Barry Gordon, retired CBRPS Sergeant, provided a presentation titled, "Senior Safety Navigator". Barry's presentation included topics regarding what the program does, events that the organization hosts to raise awareness of the senior safety navigator program throughout the municipality, community partnerships, benefits to the CBRPS, and benefits to the community. Discussion included topics regarding transportation and senior's vulnerability to fraud.

For Information Only

7. Police Services Updates

7.1 Progress Update – Body Worn, In-Car, and Stationary Cameras

Chief Walsh reviewed the staff report, included in the agenda package, to provide an update on the ongoing development and implementation of the body-worn camera, in-car camera, and stationary camera programs.

Discussion took place regarding officer and public safety, the camera ecosystem, policies and legislation, and evidence opportunities.

For Information Only

7.2 Strategic Plan Review

Desiree Magnus, Communications / Public Relations Advisor, provided an overview of the CBRPS 2022 – 2025 strategic plan, included in the agenda package, noting that the strategic plan process was formalized in 2012 and strategic plans are for a three-year period. Desiree informed on topics regarding commissioners' roles involved in the strategic planning process, efficiency, activity measurement, community partners, surveys, and environmental scans. Desiree noted for safe and healthy communities, the CBRPS focuses energy and effort in four priority areas including delivering services to the community, valued human resources, ensuring effective partnerships, and pursuing financial stability.

For Information Only

The CBRM Board of Police Commission recessed at 12:54 p.m.

The CBRM Board of Police Commission reconvened at 1:22 p.m.

7.3 Collision Reporting Center Opening

Chief Walsh reviewed the staff report and then introduced Olivia Boudreau, Corporate Business Manager, to provide an overview of how the Collision Reporting Centre operates. Olivia informed about the collision workflow, towing boundaries, benefits to police, and benefits to the public. Discussion took place regarding driver training courses, dispatching process clarification, public awareness, and insurance policies and processes.

For Information Only

8. Safer CBRM Initiatives

8.1 Road Safety

Chief Walsh provided an update on road safety measures and initiatives including patrols within the community, downtown areas, and motor vehicle uses and components. Discussion took place regarding traffic enforcement, fine issuances, public awareness campaigns, importance of reporting, officer training, policing pressures, and the selection and recruitment processes.

For Information Only

9. Reports

9.1 Divisional Report

Staff Sergeant Erin Donovan presented the following sections of the report:

- Highlights and Initiatives
- Training
- Patrols
- Prisoner Care Facility
- Membertou
- K-9 Unit
- School Liaison Officers
- Community Officer
- Senior Safety Navigator

For Information Only

9.2 Operational Support

Staff Sergeant Keith Power presented the following sections of the report:

- Traffic Safety Unit
- Street Crime / Drug Unit
- Community Safety Enforcement Unit
- Major Crime / Domestic Violence Unit
- General Investigation Section / Arson Investigator
- Internet Child Exploitation Unit (ICE) / Computer Forensic Unit
- Forensic Identification Unit
- Marine Unit
- Solid Waste
- Mental Health Liaison Officer
- Polygraph

For Information Only

9.3 Communications Center

Alex MacAulay, Communications Center Manager, reviewed the staff report included in the agenda package. Discussion took place regarding dispatcher training.

For Information Only

10. Commissioner Agenda Requests

10.1 Expansion of Alcohol Sales

Chair Paruch reviewed the commission agenda request form included in the agenda package. Paruch introduced this item informing that the Government of Nova Scotia launched a public consultation to explore broadening the retail availability of alcohol. Chief Walsh informed that further consultation is scheduled for decision making regarding the potential of broadening the retail availability of alcohol.

For Information Only

11. Correspondence:

11.1 Noelle Gouthro – CBRM Board of Police Commission Term

**11.2 CBRM Board of Police Commissioners – Provincial
Appointee**

11.3 Adapting the Additional Officer Program

For Information Only

Adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

**Commissioner Glenn Paruch
Chair**

**Christa Dicks
Municipal Clerk
/km**