

**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](http://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.**

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**Commissioner Glenn Paruch  
Chair**

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**Christa Dicks  
Municipal Clerk  
/km**