

Cape Breton Regional Municipality

Board of Police Commissioners Minutes

December 11, 2023

10:01 a.m. at City Hall Council Chambers

Commission Members

Commissioner Eldon MacDonald, Chair

Commissioner Lorne Green

Commissioner Dale Deering-Bert, Citizen Appointee, Vice Chair

Commissioner Tom Vickers, Citizen Appointee

Commissioner Noelle Gouthro, Provincial Appointee

Staff

Robert Walsh, Chief of Police

Christa Dicks, Municipal Clerk

Marie Walsh, Chief Administrative Officer

Stephen MacKinnon, Deputy Chief of Police

Reginald Hutchings, Superintendent

Joe Farrell, Staff Sergeant

Erin Donovan, Staff Sergeant

Wayne MacDonald, Director of Engineering and Public Works

Desiree Magnus, Communications / Public Relations Advisor

Councillor Gordon MacDonald

Sharon MacSween, Senior Administrative Assistant

Kelly McDonald, Recording Secretary

Absent

Commissioner Ken Tracey (Regrets)

Commissioner Helen Luedee, Citizen Appointee (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.

Commissioner Eldon MacDonald, Chair, called the meeting to order.

Land Acknowledgement

Roll Call

1. Approval of Agenda

Motion

Moved by Commissioner Deering-Bert, seconded by Commissioner Vickers, to approve the December 11, 2023, CBRM Board of Police Commissioners Agenda and Addendum as presented.

Motion Carried

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion

Moved by Commissioner Green, seconded by Commissioner Vickers, to approve the CBRM Board of Police Commissioners Minutes from:

- September 11, 2023

Motion Carried

3. Business Arising

3.1 Police Commission – September 11, 2023

a) Quantity of Missing Persons

Staff Sergeant Joe Farrell informed of the process when a report is made about a missing person and the number of missing persons in the CBRM from the year 2010 to present date. Staff and Commissioners discussed the importance of any information being brought to the attention of the Police regarding missing persons.

b) Recommendations of Traffic Calming Devices for Consideration

Staff Sergeant Joe Farrell informed that traffic calming mitigation is a multi-department approach including CBRM Police, the Engineering and Public Works Department, and the Planning Department. Staff Sergeant Farrell informed that the traffic calming study has begun by analyzing collision data, indicating problem areas within the CBRM, indicating problem areas covered by The Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (TIR), and hosted a meeting with involved departments.

c) Past Collisions at the Intersection of Church Street and Lingan Road

Staff Sergeant Farrell informed of the quantity and types of motor vehicle accidents that occurred in the past 5 years at the intersection of Victoria Road and East Broadway. Staff Sergeant Farrell informed there is currently a traffic study being conducted. Commissioner Green indicated that this item on the agenda refers to the intersection of Church Street and Lingan Road and expressed the need for traffic calming devices at the Church Street and Lingan Road intersection. Wayne MacDonald, Director of Engineering and Public Works, informed that investigations regarding traffic calming is currently being done in Whitney Pier, jurisdictional scans with municipalities regarding traffic calming has been completed, and how traffic calming devices must be suitable to accommodate the winter season.

d) Work with Engineering and Public Works for Accident Prevention Solutions at Victoria Road and East Broadway

This item was combined with the Past Collisions at the Intersection of Church Street and Lingan Road item for discussion.

4. Response to Vandalism

Commission Deering-Bert asked if there has been an increase in volume of vandalism reported in the CBRM and asked what the process is when the police receive a report of vandalism. Chief Walsh has indicated that the volume of vandalism has increased in some areas. Deputy Chief MacKinnon informed of the process used to minimize the volume of vandalism.

Addendum

- **Establishment of Citizen's Portal**

Commissioner Vickers discussed how other Board of Police Commissions in areas of Nova Scotia implemented a Citizen's Portal. Chief Walsh indicated that if the CBRM Board of Police Commissioners agree to implement a Citizen's Portal that collaboration with the Information Technology (IT) Department can occur to discuss opportunities.

- **Mass Casualty**

Commissioner Vickers requested an update regarding mass casualty incidents (MCI) and what the process is when an MCI occurs. Chief Walsh informed that significant work has been done on this topic including public alerting, training, and implementation of *Police Identity Management Act (PIMA)*, police standards, and conflict management.

- **Lockup Staffing**

Commissioner Vickers requested an update on the status of Lockup Staffing. Chief Walsh informed that recruitment efforts are still ongoing and that recently interviews have been conducted and candidates are still in the hiring process. Chief Walsh informed that when needed private security is hired.

- **Letter to Minister of Justice**

Commissioner Vickers expressed the importance of inclusivity and having the language in the *Nova Scotia Police Act* updated to reflect inclusivity. The following motion was then put forward:

Motion

Moved by Commissioner Vickers, seconded by Commissioner Green, that a letter be written to the Minister of Justice requesting the *Nova Scotia Police Act* be updated to reflect more modern language and inclusivity.

Motion Carried

5. Divisional Reports

Staff Sergeant Donovan presented the following sections of the Report:

- Highlights and Initiatives
- Training
- Patrols
- Membertou
- K-9 Unit
- School Liaison Officers
- Community Officer

For Information Only

Staff Sergeant Farrell presented the following sections of the Report:

- Operational Support
- Traffic Safety Unit
- Street Crime/Drug Unit
- Community Safety Enforcement Unit
- Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods (SCAN)
- Major Crime/Domestic Violence Unit
- General Investigation Section/Arson Investigator
- Internet Child Exploitation Unit (ICE)/Computer Forensic Unit

- Forensic Identification Unit
- Solid Waste
- Mental Health Liaison Officer
- Polygraph

For Information Only

Meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

Commissioner Eldon MacDonald
Chair

Christa Dicks
Municipal Clerk
/km