

**Cape Breton Regional Municipality  
Board of Police Commissioners Minutes**

**Monday,  
November 8, 2021  
10:01 a.m.  
Council Chambers  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, City Hall  
320 Esplanade Sydney, NS**

**The Chair Called the Meeting to Order.**

**Present:** Commissioner Eldon MacDonald, Chair  
Commissioner Steve Gillespie  
Commissioner James Edwards  
Commissioner Lloyd Bailey, Citizen Appointee

**Staff:** Marie Walsh, Chief Administrative Officer  
Police Chief Robert Walsh  
Deborah Campbell Ryan, Municipal Clerk  
Deputy Chief Steve MacKinnon  
Acting Superintendent Reg Hutchings  
Staff Sergeant Gil Boone  
Staff Sergeant Ken Routledge  
Sergeant David MacGillivray  
Desiree Magnus, Communications / PR Advisor  
Sharon MacSween, Senior Administrative Assistant  
Tanya Nicholson, Recording Secretary

**Also:** Councillor Gordon MacDonald

**Attending:**

**Absent:** Commissioner Dale Deering-Bert (Regrets)  
Commissioner Helen Luedee (Regrets)

**Board of Police Commissioners**

**Summary of Decisions**

**Roll Call**

**Moment of Silent Reflection**

**1. Approval of Minutes:**

➤ **June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021**

**Motion to approve. Carried.**

**2. Approval of Agenda:**

**Motion to approve the agenda. Carried.**

**3. Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods:**

The Department of Justice provided a presentation on Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods.

**For information only.**

**4. Strategic Plan:**

The Communications/PR Advisor presented a report to the Community on 2018-2021 accomplishments and the proposed Strategic Plan for 2021-2024.

**For information only.**

**5. Member Recognition: - Mi'kmaq History Month:**

The Police Chief recognized CBRM Mi'kmaq Officers and Mi'kmaq History Month.

**For information only.**

**Continued...**

**Board of Police Commissioners**

**Summary of Decisions (Cont'd)**

**6. CBRPS Flag:**

The Deputy Police Chief provided a presentation on the new CBRPS Flag.

**For information only.**

**7. Divisional Reports (Report on file in Clerk's Office):**

**For information only.**

**Adjournment**

## **Roll Call**

Chair Eldon MacDonald recognized the passing of former Police Chief Dave Wilson with a Moment of Silence.

### 1. **Approval of Minutes:** (previously distributed)

**Motion:**

Moved by Commissioner Gillespie, seconded by Commissioner Edwards, to approve the CBRM Board of Police Commissioners Minutes of:

➤ **June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021**

**Motion Carried.**

### 2. **Approval of Agenda:**

**Motion:**

Moved by Commissioner Bailey, seconded by Commissioner Edwards, to approve the November 8, 2021 CBRM Board of Police Commissioners Agenda.

**Motion Carried.**

### 3. **Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods:**

Allison Dolhanty, Department of Justice, provided a presentation on Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods, highlighting the following:

- *The Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act*
- Public Safety Investigation Section
- Confidential Complaint
- Options of the Director for Public Safety
- Court Process
- Options of the Court
- The Penalty
- Complaint Reporting

Continued...

**Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods (Cont'd):**

Following the presentation, the Commission discussed the following:

- Investigations are complaint driven (i.e. Police, Sheriff Department, Department of Community Services, Children's Aid, and Community Citizens)
- Interoperability with the Police Drug Unit and information sharing
- Community Safety Orders:
  - Supersedes a tenancy hearing
  - Can take up to 30 days to evict tenant
  - Eviction of a property owner can take 3-4 weeks
  - Court can take ownership of a property for 90 days
  - No jail penalty was issued in CBRM under the *Act*

The Chair thanked Ms. Dolhanty for her presentation.

**For information only.**

**4. Strategic Plan:**

Desiree Magnus, Communications/PR Advisor, advised that every three years the Cape Breton Regional Police Service undertakes a strategic planning process, which is a collaborative process with several community stakeholders in the CBRM. Ms. Magnus updated the Commissioners on the upcoming process for the next Strategic Plan, highlighting the following key processes:

- Environmental and situational analysis
- Small group stakeholder sessions with the Police Commission, Mayor and Council, Nova Scotia Health Authority, Regional Center for Education, Downtown Business Communities, Ally Center of Cape Breton, and Port of Sydney
- Priorities within the communities
- Public survey
- Determine goals and objectives in consultation with a strategic planning facilitator
- Completion of planning process is targeted for end of December 2021

Ms. Magnus then reported a high-level overview of some accomplishments from the 2018-2021 Plan including the following:

- Snapshot
- Valued human resources
- Delivering Services to the Community
- Ensuring Effective Partnerships
- Pursuing Financial Stability

**Continued...**

**STRATEGIC PLAN (Cont'd):**

Following the presentation, the Commissioners discussed the following:

- Situation analysis for the next strategic plan will be largely guided by the organizational review
- Staffing is not at full complement
- Increase of police call volumes
- Recruitment process

**5. Member Recognition – Mi'kmaq History Month:**

Police Chief Robert Walsh recognized four Mi'kmaq officers with the Cape Breton Regional Police Service who are active members in Membertou First Nation: Constable Tamara Christmas, Constable Lawrence Doucette, Constable Kalolin Francis, and Constable Roddy Christmas.

Chief Walsh advised that the Cape Breton Regional Police Service is grateful for their service and the impact they make in the community as advocates for the Mi'kmaq people and their history, culture, and traditions for continued success in our community-based model of policing.

**For information only.**

**6. CBRPS Flag:**

Deputy Chief Steve MacKinnon provided background information on the creation of the Official Cape Breton Regional Police Services Flag. The Deputy Chief noted that the emblem is an important symbol representing the CBRPS identity and provides pride for the Police Service, particularly during ceremonial events.

**For information only.**

**7. Divisional Reports (Report on file in the Clerk's Office):**

Chair Eldon MacDonald introduced Staff Sergeant Ken Routledge and Staff Sergeant Gil Boone to present the CBRPS Divisional Reports for the period June 15, 2021 – October 31, 2021.

**Continued...**

**DIVISIONAL REPORTS (Cont'd):**

Staff Sergeant Ken Routledge reported on the following:

**Highlights and Initiatives**

- Identified and charged a 44-year-old Sydney woman connected with 4 August robberies (22 charges for Robbery, Theft, Weapons and Breaches of Court-ordered conditions), as well as a 34-year-old man from New Waterford for seven incidents of break, enter and theft in September (7 charges for Break & Enter, Theft and Drugs).
- Through a Memorandum of Agreement with Parks Canada, the CBRPS provided an officer to patrol Parks Canada properties, ensure visitor safety, enforce applicable laws and liaise with the community, beginning in June and continuing through to October.
- Through the Cops Against Cancer Committee and Police Boys and Girls Club, hosted a Floor Hockey Tournament in honour of Constable Tara Morgan and Constable Mark Royal.
- Participated in Operation Impact – A national enforcement campaign targeting impaired, distracted, and aggressive driving. Officers stopped and checked a total of 1500 vehicles across the CBRM and issued 61 summary offence tickets for speeding, driving without required insurance, registration and inspection
- Members attended the Nova Scotia Fallen Peace Officers Memorial at Grand Parade, Halifax to honor Peace Officers who lost their lives in the line of duty.
- Hosted Cadet Constables from the Atlantic Police Academy for On-the-Job-Training, each assigned to a CBRPS Coach Officer for mentoring. The APA Cadets provide service to the CBRM community at zero cost, conducting foot patrols in our communities as well as general duties.

**Divisions: North/Central/East**

- Training
- Patrols
- Lockup
- Membertou Division
- K-9 Unit
- School Liaison Officers

Continued...

**DIVISIONAL REPORTS (Cont'd):**

Following the report, the Commission discussed the following:

- Fluctuation of call volumes
- Speeding in residential neighbourhoods
- Suggestion re: Muffler Bylaw
- MADD Cape Breton
- Annual requalification on weapons
- Use of non-lethal weapons (i.e., pepper spray and baton)

Staff Sergeant Gil Boone reported on the following:

**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 Unit

Following the report, the Commission discussed the following:

- Educating school-aged children on illegal dumping
- Homicide investigation updates
- Speed preventative tools
- Needle kiosks
- Drug enforcement unit
- Year-round Police Office in Louisbourg

**For information only.**

**Adjourned at 11:18 a.m.**

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**Commissioner Eldon MacDonald**  
**Chair**

/tcn

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**Deborah Campbell Ryan**  
**Municipal Clerk**