

MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF LUNENBURG  
Minutes of a Meeting of the  
**POLICE ADVISORY BOARD**  
Held in the Council Chambers, 210 Aberdeen Road, Bridgewater, NS  
**Wednesday, July 24, 2019 – 9:00 a.m.**

**ATTENDANCE**

Councillor Lee Nauss, Chair  
Mayor Carolyn Bolivar-Getson (arrived 9.15 a.m.)  
Councillor Wade Carver  
David Rafuse, Member-at-Large  
Timothy Sleigh, Member-at-Large  
Ivan Christensen, Member-at-Large  
Ken Zwicker, Ministerial Appointment  
Staff Sergeant Paul Coughlin, District Commander

Regrets: Councillor John Veinot, Vice Chair

Staff: Chris Kennedy, Fire Services Coordinator  
Sandra Challis, Administrative Assistant

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Councillor Nauss called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

The new District Commander, Paul Coughlin, introduced himself and explained that his role began in May 2019, but he is familiar with the County having spent number of years in Chester. Previous to this position, he was based in New Minas and welcomed the opportunity to come back to the County.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Councillor Nauss requested two additional items to be added to the agenda;

- 1) Membership of Police Advisory Board
- 2) Erection of Signage at Fancy Lake

**Moved by Ken Zwicker, seconded by David Rafuse that the agenda be approved with the above added items. Carried Unanimously.**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 24, 2019**

**Moved by David Rafuse, seconded by Tim Sleigh that the Minutes of the April 24, 2019, Police Advisory Board meeting be approved as circulated. Carried Unanimously.**

#### **4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

##### **4.1 Blockhouse Speed Study Pending Update**

To date, no information on the Blockhouse Speed Study has been received from TIR, but it was agreed to keep this item on the agenda.

It was commented that the short stretch of 70km speed limit, with 50kms limit either side, could be a contributing factor to speeding in this area.

##### **4.2 Request for Deer Crossing Signs, Northwest Rd**

The Board was provided a copy of the letter (circulated with the agenda) from the Mayor to the Department of Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal requesting Deer Warning signs to be installed on the Northwest Road. To date, no reply had been received.

**Moved by David Rafuse, seconded by Councillor Carver that Staff escalate the request for the installation of Deer Crossing Signage with the Department of Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal. Carried Unanimously.**

##### **4.3 Speed Trailer**

Staff Sergeant Coughlin was advised that the Municipality had previously purchased a speed trailer, which was stored at the Chester Detachment, due to space. However, the unit had not been utilized a great deal.

Staff Sgt. Coughlin explained that his detachment fully intends to get the unit serviced and put into action as soon as possible, with the thought to leave it on location for a few days at a time. He invited Board members to suggest locations where speeding is an issue.

Both sides of the LaHave from Bridgewater were identified, in particular, a section in Conquerall Bank, Highway 331, near Shore Drive. It was reported that Councillor Bell had indicated he was prepared to allow the trailer to be sited on his property. Also, the area on Highway 325 in Blockhouse between Mahone Bay and the 4-Way Stop.

#### **5. RCMP REPORTS**

##### **5.1 Receipt of RCMP Reports**

**Moved by Ken Zwicker, seconded by Tim Sleight that the Police Advisory Board receive the Quarterly Police Report (as circulated). Carried Unanimously.**

Staff Sgt. Coughlin reviewed his report and advised that he could tailor the report to the Board's requirements.

## **5.2 Board Questions pertaining to RCMP Reports**

It was asked how long Sgt Mark McPherson would be absent for. The Board was advised that he was providing coverage in Yarmouth, and although the original term had been extended, he is expected to return.

A question was raised over the number of Mental Health Calls, and the process involved. Staff Sgt. Coughlin advised that not all calls transpired to be true mental health calls and intervention was not always necessary. However, should the subject voluntarily agree to be taken to hospital, the RCMP would transport them, if involuntary, the RCMP would contact relevant bodies, transport them to hospital and stay until the subject can be handed over to the appropriate people.

A question was asked that of the five incidents relating to cannabis, one was stated as unfounded and one as charged... what of the other three incidents? The Board was told that Officers have and use discretion in laying charges.

The Board was advised that the Annual Performance Report would soon be ready for signing by the Chair. This report is based on priorities set down by the Province and include Road Safety and Crime Reduction amongst others.

It was asked if RCMP Members were still being measured on “contacts” i.e. interactions with drivers that may or may not result in a ticket being issued. Staff Sgt. Coughlin replied that would still be the case, and added that with a goal of road safety, this is a much better way than setting quotas for tickets issued.

It was asked if it was possible to know the amount of time unmarked vehicles spend on Highway 103. Staff Sgt. Coughlin replied that these vehicles fall under Traffic Services and not the detachment, so he would be unable to answer.

## **6. BOARD MEMBER MATTERS**

### **6.1 Three Churches Photo Spot, Oakland Road**

Mr. Christensen reported concerns with regard to an area on a bend on the Oakland Road which people were using as a photo opportunity for the Three Churches. Someone had placed boulders on this area and a small no-parking sign, however, neither were effective in preventing people from stopping. The area is not wide enough for cars to be completely off the road, causing a hazard. Staff were asked to check ownership and ask TIR if they had any jurisdiction over it.

### **6.2 Fire Station Ahead Sign – Blockhouse Fire Department**

Mr. Christensen reported that signs had recently been installed. Mr. Kennedy confirmed that TIR are responsible for their location and installation.

## **7. ADDED ITEMS**

### **7.1 Membership**

Chris Kennedy reported that terms of office were up for Mr. Christensen (January 2019) and Mr. Rafuse (October 2019) and, as such, this would be their last meeting. The Board was advised that advertisements for replacements would be in the local paper and these out-going members were able to re-apply for positions, however their application would only be considered if no other applications were received. In this situation, the out-going members would be permitted to apply after a year of absence from the Board. Received nominations would be then considered by Council's Nominating Committee.

It was also reported that Mr. Zwicker, the Provincial Appointee to the Committee, term had also ended. The Province would be advertising vacant positions in the Fall, and Mr. Zwicker had agreed to continue with the Board until a replacement is found.

The Mayor thanked these members for their time and dedication in being members of this Board.

Mr. Rafuse and Mr. Christensen thanked members of the Board and expressed interest to serve on the Board in the future.

### **7.2 Fancy Lake**

It was reported that an unofficial "no wake" sign had been placed in a cove in Fancy Lake. This sign was not illuminated, and a group of residents had raised their concerns over legality, safety and liability.

It was believed the jurisdiction for inland lakes falls under the Department of Lands and Forestry (previously Dept. of Natural Resources), but there was a question about enforcement. Staff Sgt. Coughlin agreed to check to see if this responsibility lies with the RCMP and Staff were directed to check other avenues.

## **8. NEXT MEETING – October 23, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.**

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

**There being no further business at 10:24 a.m., it was moved by Ken Zwicker, that the meeting adjourn.**

**Carried Unanimously.**