

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, January 22, 2020 – 9:00 a.m.**

**ATTENDANCE**      Councillor Lee Nauss, Chair  
                         Councillor John Veinot, Vice Chair  
                         Councillor Wade Carver  
                         Timothy Sleigh, Member-at-Large  
                         Wendy Oickle, Member-at-Large  
                         David Rafuse, Member-at-Large  
                         Ken Zwicker, Ministerial Appointment  
                         Sergeant Mark MacPherson

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

**1.      CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Kennedy called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**2.      NOMINATION AND ELECTION – CHAIR & VICE CHAIR**

In accordance with the By-law respecting the Membership and Responsibilities of the Police Advisory Board, Section 3.3, Mr. Kennedy called for nominations, by ballot, for the position of Chair. Those nominated by ballot were Cllrs. Lee Nauss and John Veinot

Cllr. Veinot declined the nomination and Cllr. Nauss was appointed to the position of Chair by acclamation.

Cllr. Nauss called for nominations, by ballot, for the position of Vice Chair. Those nominated by ballot were Cllr. John Veinot and Timothy Sleigh.

Cllr. Veinot was appointed to the position of Vice Chair through ballot.

**Moved by Mr. Zwicker, seconded by Mr. Sleigh that all ballots be destroyed.**  
**Carried Unanimously.**

**3.      APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Moved by Cllr. Veinot, seconded by Mr. Rafuse that the agenda be approved as circulated.**  
**Carried Unanimously.**

#### **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 23, 2019 (as circulated)**

**Moved by Mr Zwicker, seconded by Ms. Oickle that the Minutes of the October 23, 2019, Police Advisory Board meeting be approved as circulated. Carried Unanimously.**

#### **5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

##### **5.1 Blockhouse Speed Study**

A letter to Nova Scotia Department of Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal (TIR) requesting written results of the Blockhouse Speed Study carried out in Summer/Fall of 2018 was circulated with the agenda. To date, no response had been received. It was agreed to leave it on the agenda for the next meeting.

It was noted that the RCMP had reported previously spending time in this location and had not found speeding to be an issue. If more complaints were received in the future, perhaps the Speed Trailer could be located there.

##### **5.2 Speed Trailer**

Sgt. MacPherson reported that the speed trailer had been deployed to various locations since the previous meeting including Highway 10, New Germany, Oakhill and Italy Cross; in all locations it was effective in curbing speeding. He advised that the unit is currently in storage, as during the winter months it can be harder to situate, and adverse weather may affect its operation. Sgt. MacPherson reported that stationary patrols with radar had also been used in other areas, particularly Hirtle Road, and this had also been effective.

It was noted that the Board would like to see either the speed trailer or increased police presence in Conquerall Bank, and that this request had been made on previous occasions. Speeding was reported as being a real issue along this section of Highway 331 and entering the highway from Shore Drive can be particularly hazardous.

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

Copies of letters to both TIR and Nova Scotia Tourism requesting consideration for a formal pull-off area for photograph opportunities on the Oakland Road were circulated with the agenda. A reply had been received from Nova Scotia Tourism (circulated with agenda), supporting the request, but deferring any action to TIR. To date, no response had been received from TIR.

It was noted that the Board had carried out due diligence in following up on this complaint, and the matter was in the hands of TIR. Sgt. MacPherson urged the public/members to contact the RCMP directly should a tour bus be seen using the spot and causing an obstruction on the road.

#### **5.4 Signage – Fancy Lake**

An email received from Transport Canada regarding unofficial signage on lakes (circulated with agenda) advised that enforcement may be carried out by Department of Natural Resources. Damage resulting from wake, property or otherwise, would become a civil matter. There appeared to be no regulation of private signage, unless it was impersonating official signs. Sgt. MacPherson requested that community complaints could be dealt with at a community level in the first instance, and that a non-confrontational conversation by the aggrieved may bring the situation to a conclusion. Understanding that sometimes people want to go through proper channels, he suggested that they make contact with RCMP should the issue continue.

### **6. RCMP REPORTS**

#### **6.1 Receipt of RCMP Reports**

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

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

Sgt. MacPherson advised that he had changed the format of the report, to break down incidents by month. He added that the analytic comparison reporting system had been altered and he was waiting to receive this information, specifically for Lunenburg County, and would circulate as it when received. It was noted that the purpose of receiving the reports was to be informed that the RCMP resources in place were sufficient for the needs of the region.

A number of items in the report were highlighted, in addition, the following matters were discussed:

- The SANE program has proved to be a great resource to officers.
- Overt surveillance is being conducted on a person in Queens County, the RCMP are aware of the community's concerns and are acting accordingly.
- It is becoming the norm for disclosure statements to include radio transcripts in addition to the usual emails, videos and written statements. Obtaining and screening radio recordings for private, irrelevant information is very time consuming. A working group to come up with new work practices, and to investigate if support staff are necessary, has recently been created.
- There is no pattern to suicides in the area; they are individual in nature, primarily depression related, and generally there is a history of substance abuse.

### **7. BOARD MEMBER MATTERS**

#### **7.1 Walden Fire Department's stolen Generator**

Following direction from Council on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019, Mr. Kennedy had requested an update from RCMP on the investigation surrounding Walden Fire Department's Stolen Generator

(correspondence circulated with agenda). It was reported that investigations had been held up due to no serial number for the generator being known. Following this information, this matter had been communicated to all of the region's fire departments that they should keep a written record of serial numbers of portable equipment. Sgt. MacPherson added that departments would be vigilant to have a unique mark on pieces of equipment and a record of all the property that's kept with a secondary organization; the Municipality perhaps.

### **7.2 12-month notice – MGA & Police Act**

A letter detailing upcoming changes to the *Police Act* to extend the timeframe for filing a public complaint against municipal police from 6 months to one year, aligning with the *Royal Canadian Mounted Police Act* was received for information purposes.

### **7.3 Engraving of Fire Department Equipment (for security purposes)**

At a recent meeting of the Fire & Emergency Services Committee, it had been asked if the RCMP still provide the service of engraving equipment with unique numbers for security purposes for Fire Departments. Sgt. MacPherson explained that Operation Identification was no longer in effect, but suggested Fire Departments could make unique marks on their portable equipment themselves to help RCMP in the event of future thefts.

## **8. ADDED ITEMS**

Cllr. Nauss had been requested by a member of Council for additional reports from the RCMP. It was noted that Council members receive copies of the RCMP report together with copies of approved minutes from the Police Advisory Board. Cllr. Nauss would follow-up to find out what information was perceived to be missing.

## **9. NEXT MEETING – April 22, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.**

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

**There being no further business at 10:27 a.m., it was moved by Councillor Carver, seconded by Mr. Rafuse that the meeting adjourn. Carried Unanimously.**