



**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
December 11, 2017**

PRESENT: Commissioner Steve Craig, Chair
Commissioner Steve Graham, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Tony Mancini
Commissioner Waye Mason
Commissioner Carlos Beals
Commissioner Carole McDougall
Commissioner Sylvia Parris

STAFF: Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer
Chief Jean-Michel Blais, Halifax Regional Police
Chief Superintendent Lee Bergerman, Halifax District Detachment, RCMP
Deputy Chief Robin McNeil, Halifax Regional Police
Inspector Robert Doyle, Halifax District Detachment, RCMP
Superintendent Colleen Kelly, Halifax Regional Police
Dr. Christopher Giacomantonio, Research Coordinator, Halifax Regional Police
Kathleen Patterson, Policy and Business Initiatives Coordinator, Halifax Regional Police
Martin Ward, Q.C., General Counsel, HRM Legal Services
Katherine Salsman, Solicitor, HRM Legal Services
Jennifer Weagle, Legislative Assistant
David Perusse, Legislative Assistant

The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.

The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to the Board are available online:
<https://www.halifax.ca/city-hall/boards-committees-commissions/december-11-2017-board-police-commissioners>

The meeting was called to order at 12:32 p.m., and the Board adjourned at 3:12 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:32 p.m.

Roundtable introductions were held for the benefit of new staff members.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 20, 2017

MOVED by Commissioner Mancini, seconded by Commissioner Beals.

THAT the minutes of November 20, 2017 be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

MOVED by Commissioner Beals, seconded by Commissioner Mason.

THAT the agenda be approved as distributed.

Two-third majority vote required.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - NONE

5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS - NONE

6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

7.1 Correspondence - None

7.2 Petitions - None

7.3 Presentations

7.3.1 Formula for Costing of the RCMP in HRM – Wanda Fletcher, Financial Director, Department of Justice, presentation from Lee Bergerman, Chief Superintendent, RCMP

The following was before the Board:

- Presentation titled “Department of Justice RCMP Financial Overview,” dated December 2017.

Chief Superintendent Lee Bergerman introduced Wanda Fletcher, Financial Director of the Department of Justice. Wanda Fletcher addressed the Board of Police Commissioners, providing a presentation on the annual budget planning process for the RCMP, Halifax District. The presentation included an overview of the average costing per officer to the RCMP, Halifax District.

The Chair thanked Wanda Fletcher for the presentation.

7.3.2 Street Check Investigation – Update – Christine Hanson, Director and CEO, Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission.

The following was before the Board:

- Letter from Dr. Scot Wortley dated November 13, 2017.

Christine Hanson, Director and CEO of the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission, and Kimberley Franklin, Legal Counsel for Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission, provided the Board with an update on the progress of Dr. Scot Wortley's review of street check data in the Municipality, as well as other developments in the Street Check Investigation.

Franklin informed the Board that to date, there have been three community meetings focussed on gaining insight into the community perspective on the issue of street checks. These three meetings took place at the Cornwallis Baptist Church, in North Preston, and in Cherrybrook.

For the benefit of the Board and those in attendance, Franklin recounted some of the stories of interactions with police which were shared at these community engagement meetings.

Responding to questions from the Board concerning the data being used to prepare the upcoming report on street checks, it was noted that it included data from both the HRP, as well as the RCMP, Halifax District, among other sources.

The Chair thanked Hanson and Franklin for their update and for working with Halifax Regional Police and the Board on the issue of street checks.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD

8.1.1 Body Worn Video (BWV) – Information Report & Staff Presentation

The following was before the Board:

- Information Report on Body-Worn Video (BWV) originally before the Board on November 20th, 2017, as Information Item No. 6.
- Presentation titled "Body-Worn Video (BWV): A review of Evidence, costs and implications for HRP."

Chief Jean-Michel Blais, Halifax Regional Police, and Dr. Christopher Giacomantonio, Research Coordinator for the Halifax Regional Police, provided the Board with a presentation on the topic of Body Worn Video. The presentation touched upon the research and available evidence from other jurisdictions concerning Body Worn Video. It also outlined the cost and practical implications that Body Worn Video would have for the HRP.

The Chair thanked Chief Jean-Michel Blais and Dr. Christopher Giacomantonio for their presentation.

9. REPORTS

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 Review of Halifax Regional Police Operating Budget 2018/19

The following was before the Board:

- Operating Budget Work Paper (2017/18 to 2018/19 Budget Comparison);
- Operating Budget Work Paper (2018/19 Proposed Budget including 3 Year Financial History);
- Proposed Halifax Regional Police 2018/19 Operating Budget Situation (Summary);
- Information item: Criminal Records Checks- addendum to Item 9.1.2 from February 27, 2017.

The Chair explained that the Board of Police Commissioners is required to present a budget proposal for the Halifax Regional Police to Halifax Regional Council for approval. The objective at the present meeting was to examine the proposed operating budget documents submitted to the Board, and to have a discussion around those items.

The Chair noted that there were two key budget items that were not included in the items submitted under 9.1.1, being:

- The costs of criminal records checks; and
- Addition of two Crime Analysts positions.

The Chair further noted that there will be an additional meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners on Monday, December 18, 2017, to more thoroughly review the operating budget before submitting to Regional Council.

Chief Jean-Michel Blais proceeded to review the itemized proposed operating budget documents with the Board. With regards to the addition of two Crime Analyst positions, Chief Blais noted that this amount had been figured into the proposed operating budget at B.(10). of item 9.1.1 "Proposed Halifax Regional Police 2018/19 Operating Budget Situation (Summary)."

Chief Blais further indicated that line A. (9) of item 9.1.1 "Proposed Halifax Regional Police 2018/19 Operating Budget Situation (Summary)" has been left blank as staff of the HRP are still awaiting a final report on the budget implications of a decrease in criminal record check fees.

Deputy Chief Robin McNeil provided the Board and attending staff with a report listed as item 9.1.1, titled "Criminal Records Checks - addendum to Item 9.1.2 from February 27, 2017," which focused on the budget implications of different criminal record check fee scenarios.

Deputy Chief McNeil guided the Board and attending staff through the different costing options for criminal record checks, as well as the projected budget implications for each option. He further noted that an important factor not captured in the report is the impact of \$25.00 finger print checks.

A discussion ensued on the desirability of charging no fee when criminal record checks are required for volunteering opportunities as a matter of public policy.

MOVED by Commissioner Mason, seconded by Commissioner Mancini

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners

Adopts "Option B" from "Table 2" of item 9.1.1, report entitled "Criminal Records Checks-addendum to Item 9.1.2 from February 27, 2017," inputting the amount of -\$252,156.52 into the itemised table shown in item 9.1.1 "Proposed Halifax Regional Police 2018/19 Operating Budget Situation (Summary)" and further stipulating that the rate charged by the HRP for criminal record checks for employment purposes be set at \$50.00, while criminal record checks for volunteers be free of charge.

Deputy Chief McNeil further indicated to the Board that the revenue for criminal record checks completed by Halifax District RCMP does not come to HRP, but rather is submitted directly to HRM. The RCMP, Halifax District's adoption of the same fee structure for criminal record checks outlined in "Option B" on "Table 2" will have an impact on the general revenue associated with the production of criminal record checks by the RCMP. Deputy Chief McNeil suggested that the motion be amended to take account of this, as the report itself only reflects the impact on the HRP.

The Chair noted that the budget implications to the general revenue of the HRM should be further considered by the CAO's Office.

Commissioner Craig proposed the following amendment:

THAT the motion be amended to add following:

Recommends to Regional Council that they set the rate charged by the RCMP, Halifax District, for criminal record checks for employment purposes at \$50.00, while criminal record checks for volunteers be free of charge.

The amendment was considered by the Board as friendly.

The motion now reads as follows:

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners

- a. Adopts “Option B” from “Table 2” of item 9.1.1, report entitled “Criminal Records Checks- addendum to Item 9.1.2 from February 27, 2017,” inputting the amount of - \$252,156.52 into the itemised table shown in item 9.1.1 “Proposed Halifax Regional Police 2018/19 Operating Budget Situation (Summary),” which stipulates that the rate charged by the HRP for criminal record checks for employment purposes be set at \$50.00, while criminal record checks for volunteers be free of charge.**
- b. Recommends to Regional Council that they set the rate charged by the RCMP, Halifax District, for criminal record checks for employment purposes at \$50.00, while criminal record checks for volunteers be free of charge.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Members of the Board further reviewed item 9.1.1, “Proposed Halifax Regional Police 2018/19 Operating Budget Situation (Summary).” Chief Blais indicated that HRP staff would be submitting revised budget documents to the Board prior to the meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners on December 18, 2017, which reflect the changes resulting from the addition of outstanding amounts such as revenue from criminal record checks as well as further information received from HRM fiscal.

The Chair indicated that the Board of Police Commissioners intends to pursue greater community engagement in the coming year in both the HRP districts as well as those districts covered by the RCMP, Halifax District. The Chair indicated to HRP staff that these engagement endeavours would be funded through the HRP operating budget, and as such, he would like to see that reflected in the revised operating budget proposal for discussion at the meeting of the Board on December 18th.

MOVED by Commissioner McDougall, seconded by Commissioner Mason

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners recommend that the Halifax Regional Police prepare the Halifax Regional Police 2018/19 Operating Budget, as discussed at the December 11, 2017 meeting, and return December 18, 2017.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.1.2 Drug Exhibit Audit Update – Chief Jean-Michel Blais

The following was before the Board:

- A report titled “Estimated Timeline - Follow-up from Drug Exhibit Inventory,” dated December 7th, 2017.

Chief Jean-Michel Blais indicated that HRP staff will be attending for the January 15, 2018 meeting to provide the Board with a final review of the Drug Exhibit Audit.

The Chair thanked Chief Jean-Michel Blais for the update.

9.1.3 Introduction of HRP New Wellness Coordinator & Overview of Health and Wellness Program
– presentation from Melanie Bower

Chief Jean-Michel Blais introduced Melanie Bower, the HRP's new Health and Wellness Coordinator. Melanie Bower gave the Board a presentation on the HRP's Health and Wellness program.

The Chair welcomed Melanie Bower to her new position and thanked her for her presentation.

9.2 MEMBERS OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

9.3 COMMISSIONER UPDATES

9.3.1 Board of Police Commissioners Work Plan Update – Commissioner Steve Graham

The following was before the Board:

- Draft Board of Police Commissioners Policy Manual.

MOVED by Commissioner Graham, seconded by Commissioner Mason

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners waive the requirement for a notice of motion in accordance with s. 49 of Administrative Order Number One, the Procedures of the Council Administrative Order.

Two-third majority vote required.

MOTION PUT AND PAST.

Commissioner Graham noted that there have been five separate policies created under the draft policy manual, being:

- Policy Adoption Policy;
- Board Procedures Policy;
- Role of Chair, Meetings, Procedures Policy;
- Communications and Community Outreach Policy; and
- Accountability and Reporting Policy.

MOVED by Commissioner Graham, seconded by Commissioner Mason

THAT the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners request:

- a. Legal service review of the proposed policy for legislative compliance with the *Police Act*, By-Law P-100, and return to the Commission with comments for the January 2018 meeting.**
- b. The Chief of Police HRP and Chief Superintendent RCMP Halifax Division review and provide written comment for the Commissions consideration during the January 2018 meeting in order that the Board may consider the comments and make amendments to allow final adoption of the policies in February 2018.**

MOTION PUT AND PAST.

The Chair thanked the Commissioners involved in preparing the draft policy manual.

9.4 HRP/RCMP CHIEF UPDATES

Chief Superintendent Lee Bergerman, RCMP, Halifax District, updated the Board that there was a documentary filmed in the community of North Preston focusing on the RCMP's positive involvement in the community. The production of the film should be complete in early spring, 2018.

The Chair thanked Chief Superintendent Lee Bergerman for the update.

10. ADDED ITEMS

11. IN CAMERA (In Private) – None

12. NOTICES OF MOTION - None

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – December 18, 2017

14. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:12 p.m.

David Perusse
Legislative Assistant