



**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
April 24, 2017**

PRESENT: Commissioner Steve Craig, Chair
Commissioner Tony Mancini
Commissioner Wayne Mason
Commissioner Sylvia Parris
Commissioner Carole McDougall

REGRETS: Commissioner Steve Graham, Vice-Chair
Carlos Beals (not yet sworn as Commissioner)

STAFF: Chief Jean-Michel Blais, Halifax Regional Police
Chief Superintendent Lee Bergerman, Halifax District Detachment, RCMP
Deputy Chief Bill Moore, Halifax Regional Police
Superintendent Colleen Kelly, Halifax Regional Police
Dr. Christopher Giacomantonio, Research Coordinator, Halifax Regional Police
Martin Ward, Q.C., General Counsel, HRM Legal Services
Jennifer Weagle, 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:
<http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/bpc/170424bopc-agenda.php>*

The meeting was called to order at 12:33 p.m., and the Board moved into an In Camera (In Private) session at 2:02 p.m. and reconvened at 2:57 p.m. The Board adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:33 p.m.

The Chair, Chief Blais, and Chief Superintendent Bergerman presented former Commissioners Jeff Mitchell and Ed MacMaster each with a certificate of appreciation, Retired Commissioners badges and a framed RCMP print, in thanks for their years of service on the Board.

Carole MacDougall was sworn-in as Commissioner of the Board of Police Commissioners.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 20, 2017

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Mancini

THAT the minutes of March 20, 2017 be approved as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Mancini

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

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

6.1 HRM Police Diversity Advisory Committee – Constable Amit Parasram

The following was before the Board:

- Staff recommendation report dated March 14, 2017
- Binder – Chief's Diversity Advisory Committee (2004)

The Chair spoke of repositioning the HRM Police Diversity Advisory Committee as a committee of the Board, instead of a committee of staff.

MOVED by Councillor Mason, seconded by Councillor Mancini

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners refer this matter back to staff with the request to reconfigure the proposed HRM Police Diversity Advisory Committee into a committee of the Board of Police Commissioners.

The Chair noted the following suggestions for the Committee:

- That administrative support be provided through the Clerk's Office.
- That the Committee be supported by HRP and RCMP staff.
- Appointment of citizen members would follow the HRM Public Appointment Policy.
- That the Committee include a minimum of 3 members of the Board of Police Commissioners, as non-voting members.

The Chair thanked Ahmad for the good work on the Terms of Reference.

Councillor Mason requested that the Clerk's Office be involved in the redevelopment of the committee Terms of Reference.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

7.1 Correspondence - None

7.2 Petitions - None

7.3 Presentation

7.3.1 Overview of the Office of the Police Complaints Commissioner - *Judith A. McPhee QC, Police Complaints Commissioner & Jeff Garber, Manager of Investigations and Public Outreach*

The following was before the Board:

- A presentation dated April 2017 – Presentation to Municipal Board of Police Commissioners

Judith A. McPhee QC, Police Complaints Commissioner & Jeff Garber, Manager of Investigations and Public Outreach, provided an overview of the Office of the Police Complaints Commissioner (OPCC), reviewing:

- the role of the Office of the Police Complaints Commissioner
- the role of the Police Review Board
- the difference between public complaints and internal disciplinary matters
- the public complaints process, and
- the role of the Board of Police Commissioners in terms of dealing with complaints against the Chief Officer and that process.

They indicated that the OPCC will be making recommendations for changes regarding the complaints process, and will be conferring with the Board of Police Commissioners and the Police Review Board about these changes.

Judith McPhee and Jeff Garber responded to questions from the Board, clarifying that the OPCC only deals with complaints regarding municipal police forces, and the RCMP has a separate process for complaints.

Sylvia Parris joined the meeting at 1:10 p.m.

Councillor Mancini indicated that at some point he would be interested in reviewing data specific to HRM from the past few years.

The Chair asked the Legislative Assistant to forward to the Board electronically the annual report produced by the OPCC.

At the request of the Board, Chief Superintendent Bergerman advised that the complaints process for RCMP is very similar, through a civilian oversight board.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

9. REPORTS

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 Employee & Family Assistance Program Overview – Wendy Boyd, Halifax Regional Police Employee & Family Assistance Program Coordinator

The following information was before the Board:

- Line of Duty Death and/or Serious Injury form

Chief Blais introduced Wendy Boyd, Halifax Regional Police Employee & Family Assistance Program Coordinator.

Wendy Boyd presented an overview of the HRP Employee & Family Assistance Program. A copy of the presentation is available on file and online.

Wendy Boyd also presented an overview of the Line of Duty Death and/or Serious Injury form, which is available to HRP staff and members of the Board. A copy of the presentation is available on file and online.

Chief Blais indicated that Wendy will be retiring shortly, and offered thanks for her years of service.

9.1.2 Update – Drug Exhibit Audit – Chief Blais

The following information was before the Board:

- Estimated Timeline – Follow-up from Drug Exhibit Inventory dated April 21, 2017

Chief Blais circulated and reviewed an update on the drug exhibit inventory.

Chief Blais responded to questions from Board members, noting:

- Cash exhibits not accounted for are due to discrepancies between evidence and Versadex reporting. Further unreported cash has been identified through the inventory process due to reporting discrepancies.
- The inventory has an expected completion date of January 1, 2018.
- Policies have been updated and implemented.
- No code of conduct issues have arisen through the inventory process.

9.1.3 Correspondence from Human Rights Commission on Street Checks

The following information was before the Board:

- Staff recommendation report dated April 19, 2017

MOVED by Commissioner Mason, seconded by Commissioner Mancini

THAT the Halifax Regional Municipality Board of Police Commissioners support the offer from the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission to have the Halifax Regional Police participate in a collaborative effort to open a discussion on the use of street checks and direct staff to return with a report on the scope of the collaboration and any other details concerning an approach regarding street checks.

Chief Blais responded to questions from Board members, noting that HRP staff, including Dr. Christopher Giacomantonio, HRP Research Coordinator, will work with the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission, and may be able to report back to the Board as early as June.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The Chair acknowledged Christine Hanson, CEO, Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission, in the audience.

9.2 MEMBERS OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS - NONE

9.3 COMMISSIONER UPDATES

9.3.1 Work Plan Update – Commissioner Mancini

Commissioner Mancini advised that, further to the two half-day work plan workshops held by the Board earlier in the year, former Commissioners Fred Honsberger and Michael Moreash, along with Kathleen Patterson, HRP Policy and Business Initiatives Coordinator, have been working to review the work objectives identified with the previous work plan from 2014 and the recommendations from the governance report. The work plan will be brought before the Board for input and ultimately adoption.

9.4 HRP/RCMP CHIEF UPDATES

No further updates to the information submitted in Information Item No. 3 and No. 4 were provided.

10. ADDED ITEMS - NONE

11. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

11.1 Approval of In Camera Minutes – March 20, 2017

MOVED by Commissioner Parris, seconded by Commissioner Mancini

THAT the In Camera minutes of the March 20th Board of Police Commissioners be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED by Commissioner Mancini, seconded by Commissioner Parris

THAT the Board move In Camera (In Private) to address In Camera personnel items 11.2.1 and 11.2.2.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The Board recessed to an In Camera session at 2:02 p.m.

11.2 Personnel Matters

11.2.1 Senior Officer Staffing

This matter was discussed In Camera.

11.2.2 Chief of Police Performance Evaluation Process

This matter was discussed In Camera.

The Board reconvened from an In Camera session at 2:57 p.m.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – May 15, 2017

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

Jennifer Weagle
Legislative Assistant