



**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
November 20, 2017**

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

REGRETS: Commissioner Waye Mason
Commissioner Carlos Beals

STAFF: Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer
Chief Jean-Michel Blais, Halifax Regional Police
Inspector Robert Doyle, Halifax District Detachment, RCMP
Deputy Chief Robin McNeil, Halifax Regional Police
Superintendent Colleen Kelly, Halifax Regional Police
Dr. Christopher Giacomantonio, Research Coordinator, Halifax Regional Police
Craig Horton, Financial Coordinator, Halifax Regional Police
Katherine Salsman, Solicitor, 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:
halifax.ca.*

The meeting was called to order at 12:03 p.m., and the Board adjourned at 1:48 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:03 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 16, 2017

MOVED by Commissioner Mancini, seconded by Commissioner McDougall

THAT the minutes of October 16, 2017 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

MOVED by Commissioner Graham, seconded by Commissioner McDougall

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 – NONE

7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

7.1 Correspondence - None

7.2 Petitions - None

7.3 Presentation - None

8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

9. REPORTS

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 HRM Budget Planning Process and Parameters for 2018/19 – *Jerry Blackwood, Acting Chief Financial Officer*

The following was before the Board:

- Staff presentation “Year 2 of the Multi-Year Budget – Halifax Police Commission” dated November 20, 2017

The Chair introduced Jerry Blackwood, Acting Chief Financial Officer.

Jerry Blackwood, Acting Chief Financial Officer presented an overview of the HRM Budget Planning Process and Parameters for 2018/19.

Responding to questions from the Board, Jerry Blackwood advised that an increase in servicing costs for the RCMP contact have been incorporated into the HRM budget.

With regard to a new headquarters for Halifax Regional Police, Jerry Blackwood indicated that costs for this facility would not be a part of the HRP budget considered by the Board, but would be reviewed by the capital steering committee and senior business unit leaders before going to Council for approval.

At the request of the Chair, Bruce Fisher, Manager, Financial Policy and Planning, indicated that taxation specific performance evaluations are available that compare municipalities. The Chair asked for this information specific to policing services.

The Chair thanked staff for the presentation.

9.1.2 Review of Halifax Regional Police Operating Budget 2018/19

The following was before the Board:

- Approved HRP 2017/18 & 2018/19 Operating Budget Situation (Summary) (9.1.2 i)
- Proposed HRP 2018/19 Operating Budget Situation (Summary) (9.1.2 ii)

Chief Blais circulated two documents to the Board, the Approved HRP 2017/18 & 2018/19 Operating Budget Situation (Summary) (labeled 9.1.2 i), which is the final approved budget from last year, and the Proposed HRP 2018/19 Operating Budget Situation (Summary) (labeled 9.1.2 ii), which will be the working document for Board approval this budget year.

Chief Blais reviewed the Proposed HRP 2018/19 Operating Budget (9.1.2 ii) with the Board.

Chief Blais also referred the Board to agenda item no. 9.1.7, a staff report “Criminal Record Checks Costing for 2018/19” dated February 22, 2017, noting that if it is the Board’s intention to make changes to fee structure, the cost will need to be incorporated into the Proposed HRP 2018/19 Operating Budget.

Chair encouraged members to raise any issues to be brought forward for the next meeting, and asked that the documents be circulated well in advance of the next meeting for thorough review.

Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer, reviewed budget pressures outlined in section A2 of the Proposed HRP 2018/19 Operating Budget (9.1.2 ii), with regard to compensation resulting from HRP contract negotiations. The CAO advised that the overall HRM budget for 2018/19 included a contingency amount to allow for these compensation pressures.

In response to questions, Deputy Chief MacNeil advised that work is ongoing to determine back pay for compensation increases, which will come out of corporate fiscal, not the HRP budget.

Deputy Chief McNeil reviewed the breakdown of fees received for Criminal Record Checks in HRM, and the three options for waiving fees in full or partially with financial implications, as outlined in agenda item no. 9.1.7, a staff report “Criminal Record Checks Costing for 2018/19” dated February 22, 2017.

Following discussion on the options, Deputy Chief McNeil advised that staff will come back to the December 11th meeting with the option for no fees for volunteer criminal record checks, noting that this will reduce the HRP budget.

Chief Blais further discussed the Proposed HRP 2018/19 Operating Budget (9.1.2 ii) with the Board, responding to questions.

At the request of the Board, Chief Blais advised that HRP staff will aim to have budget documents to the Board for review 10 days prior to the next meeting.

9.1.3 Crime Analyst Positions (2) – Updated Business Case - *Inspector Robert Doyle*

The following was before the Board:

- Funding Request 2018/2019 Criminal Analysts

Inspector Robert Doyle, Halifax District Detachment, RCMP, advised that two crime analyst positions were approved two years ago with the budget, however with changes in senior level personnel at the time, the positions were overlooked. The purpose of bringing this matter before the Board prior to budget approval is to reinstate these two positions. Inspector Doyle indicated that the question is whether the two positions should be municipal employees or RCMP civilian employees, noting that the preference is for two HRP employees, as outlined in the document.

The Board discussed with staff the merits of each scenario, and the current staffing situation.

MOVED by Commissioner Graham, seconded by Commissioner Mancini

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners recommend the establishment of two (2) permanent Crime Analysts beginning in 2018-19.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Chief Blais advised that the incorporation of the two positions will come back as a part of the December 11, 2017 HRP budget review.

9.1.4 Halifax Division RCMP - 2017/18 2nd Quarter Financial Report – Inspector Robert Doyle

The following was before the Board:

- 2017/18 Halifax District RCMP Budget (based on 6 of 12 months as of September 30, 2017)

Inspector Robert Doyle, Halifax District Detachment, RCMP, reviewed the 2017/18 2nd quarter financial report for the Halifax Division RCMP, noting that they are coming in on budget for overtime, as well as operating and maintenance. Inspector Doyle indicated that summer season overtime costs were alleviated after the summer vacation season.

9.1.5 Drug Exhibit Audit Update – Chief Blais

The following was before the Board:

- Estimated Timeline-Follow up from Drug Exhibit Inventory dated November 13, 2017

Chief Blais advised that the drug exhibit audit will be concluded for the end of 2017, with a final report to the Board in January 2018, noting that on an ongoing basis HRP can provide an annual report. Chief Blais advised that currently the 2017 inventory is being processed, and will be completed before the end of November 2017 and that the current unreconciled balance is at \$8,083.87.

9.1.6 Update of Research Activities -- Street Check Investigation

The following was before the Board:

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

The Chair noted that the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission will be attending the December 11, 2017 meeting to provide further update on the street checks investigation.

Responding to questions from members, Dr. Christopher Giacomantonio, Research Coordinator, Halifax Regional Police, advised that the study will encompass all of HRM, and include both HRP and RCMP activities.

In response to questions, the Chair further clarified that First Nations were not specifically included in the study parameters. The Chair indicated that a better idea of the completion date will be known in December, and that early estimates are for the fall of 2018.

9.1.7 Criminal Record Checks Costing for 2018/19 – Deputy Chief MacNeil

The following was before the Board:

- A staff information report dated February 22, 2017

This matter was addressed during agenda item no. 9.1.2 Review of Halifax Regional Police Operating Budget 2018/19. Refer to page 3.

9.1.8 Board of Police Commissioners 2018 Meeting Schedule

The following was before the Board:

- A staff recommendation report dated November 14, 2017

MOVED by Commissioner McDougall, seconded by Commissioner Parris

THAT the meeting schedule be approved.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.2 MEMBERS OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

9.2.1 Commissioner Mancini

The following was before the Board:

- A request for consideration form from Commissioner Mancini

MOVED by Commissioner Mancini, seconded by Commissioner Graham

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners request a staff report outlining the current method of monitoring HRM waterways for safe boating practices, and; to consider requesting that Halifax Regional Police periodically monitor Lake Micmac and Lake Charles to ensure safe boating practices are being followed and enforced.

Commissioner Mancini indicated that with increased water activity on HRM waterways including boats, canoes, kayaks, paddle boarding, increased monitoring and enforcement of safe boating practices would be helpful.

Deputy Chief McNeil advised that HRP have a contract in place for monitoring of Lakes Banook and Micmac. The contract does have the ability to move services to other areas as needed. Deputy Chief McNeil clarified that the harbour patrols are for port protection.

The Chair requested that the report be prepared by HRP with input from RCMP.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.3 COMMISSIONER UPDATES

9.3.1 Board of Police Commissioners Work Plan Update – Commissioner Graham

Commissioner Graham indicated that work is ongoing with the development of the Board of Police Commissioners work plan. The Board of Police Commissioners Work Plan working group decided on December 4th at 9:00 am for their next meeting. The Legislative Assistant will email details to members.

9.4 HRP/RCMP CHIEF UPDATES

Inspector Robert Doyle reviewed updates on behalf of the Chief Superintendent Bergerman, Halifax District Detachment, RCMP, as outlined in Information Item no. 5, Information Report – Officer in Charge (OIC) Halifax District RCMP – November 20, 2017.

Chief Blais reviewed updates as outlined in Information Item no. 4., Information Report – Chief of Halifax Regional Police – November 20, 2017.

Commissioner Mancini asked for information on speeding statistics, particularly whether speeding offenses are up or down, and the number of summary offense tickets written for speeding. The Chief advised that staff would get these figures to the Board.

Commissioner McDougall asked that a link to the Police Diversity Working Group be included on the Board of Police Commissioners webpage. The Commissioner advised that at the next meeting of the Police Diversity Working Group, to be held at the Mi'kmaq Native Friendship Centre on January 10th, a blanket ceremony will be held. All Board members are encouraged to attend.

10. ADDED ITEMS - NONE

11. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

11.1 Approval of In Camera (In Private) Minutes – October 16, 2017

MOVED by Commissioner Mancini, seconded by Commissioner McDougall,

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners approve the October 16, 2017 In Camera minutes as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – December 11, 2018

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:48 p.m.

Jennifer Weagle
Legislative Assistant