



**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
January 15, 2018**

PRESENT: Commissioner Steve Craig, Chair
Commissioner Tony Mancini
Commissioner Wayne 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
Inspector Kevin O'Blenis, Halifax District Detachment, RCMP
Katherine Salsman, Solicitor, HRM Legal Services
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:
www.halifax.ca*

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 Legislative Assistant called the meeting to order at 12:33 p.m.

1.1 Annual Election of Chair and Vice Chair

The Legislative Assistant called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Board of Police Commissioners.

Commissioner Mancini, seconded by Commissioner Mason, nominated Commissioner Craig as Chair of the Board of Police Commissioners.

The Legislative Assistant called three times for any further nominations. There being none, Commissioner Craig was declared Chair of the Board of Police Commissioners.

Commissioner Craig took the Chair at this time.

The Chair called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Board of Police Commissioners.

Commissioner Mason, seconded by Commissioner Mancini, nominated Commissioner McDougall as Vice Chair of the Board of Police Commissioners.

The Chair called three times for any further nominations. There being none, Commissioner McDougall was declared Vice Chair of the Board of Police Commissioners.

Chief Superintendent Lee Bergerman, Halifax District Detachment, RCMP, introduced Inspector Kevin O'Brien, who has recently transferred to the Criminal Investigation Division.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 11, 2017 and December 18, 2017

MOVED by Commissioner Parris, seconded by Commissioner Beals.

THAT the minutes of December 11, 2017, and December 18, 2017 be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Commissioner Craig noted that in the last regular meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners, the Board has asked for legal feedback on the draft policy manual. The Halifax *Charter* indicates that all legal advice is brought forward In Camera (In Private). However, upon discussion with Katherine Salsman, HRM Solicitor, it was agreed that there is no need for item 11.3 to be kept In Camera (In Private).

MOVED by Commissioner McDougall, seconded by Commissioner Mason.

THAT the agenda be approved, with the exception that item 11.3 “Legal Matter – Private and Confidential Information Report” be dealt with in public session under item 9.1.3, with the Private and Confidential information report being declassified and released to the public.

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 - None

8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD - NONE

9. REPORTS

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 Drug Exhibit Audit Update –*Supt. Jim Perrin, Halifax Regional Police*

The following was before the Board:

- *Drug Exhibit Audit Final Report dated January 12, 2018;*
- *Drug Exhibit Audit: Final Report Presentation, Dated January 15, 2018.*

Chief Jean-Michel Blais provided the background for the HRP's Drug Exhibit Audit and introduced Supt. Jim Perrin to provide the Board with a presentation on the Drug Exhibit Audit.

The presentation outlined the trends relating to audited exhibits, which were broken down into three categories; including cash, large drug exhibits, small drug, paraphernalia and non-drug exhibits.

Perrin proceeded to overview the key changes and progress resulting from the audit. There has been an implementation of an enhanced tracking system that is now mandatory to track the movement of each exhibit and maintain continuity and accountability. Oversight on storage and destruction of exhibits has been significantly tightened. Additionally, a new exhibit custodian has been hired, and an annual internal review has been implemented.

Responding to questions from the Board, Chief Jean-Michel Blais and Supt. Jim Perrin provided the following responses:

- There was only one instance, in which criminal legal proceedings were withdrawn due to missing or unaccounted exhibits.
- Chief Blais noted that this audit reviewed a period of over 25 years, covering about 100,000 exhibits which have gone through multiple police institutions over the years and several different information platforms.
- Of the 34 recommendations outlined in the report, to date, 30 have been implemented. The implementation of the remaining recommendations is ongoing.

The Chair thanked Chief Jean-Michel Blais and Supt. Jim Perrin for the update.

9.1.2 Halifax District Funding Request – Regular Member Resource – *Inspector Robert Doyle, Halifax District Detachment, RCMP*

The following was before the Board:

- Halifax District Funding Request – Regular Member Resources Report dated January 15, 2018.

Chief Superintendent Lee Bergerman introduced Inspector Robert Doyle to provide an overview of the RCMP, Halifax District, regular member funding report.

Inspector Doyle outlined that the RCMP, Halifax District Detachment, are proposing an increase of six additional regular members to meet their current operational demands. Inspector Doyle outlined some of these pressures currently faced by the RCMP, Halifax District Detachment:

- Despite a growing municipality, the RCMP, Halifax District Detachment, has not had an increase in frontline officers for the past seven years.
- New subdivisions in the Municipality provide new areas for crime to occur.
- The prolific growth of Outlaw Motorcycle Gang (OMG) representation embedded in RCMP areas.
- Homeowners in these areas have an expectation that service delivery response times should be the same or similar regardless of where they live in the HRM.
- The *Jordan* Supreme Court Decision is applying further pressure on existing resources to ensure more timely, efficient and effective investigations.
- Mental health calls, mobile mental health assistance, cybercrime calls and complaints related to social media have increased exponentially.
- The pressures that the impending legalisation of cannabis will have on frontline resources.
- The issue of Human Trafficking is a growing problem within the HRM.

Inspector Doyle noted that these pressures have a negative impact on the police force both financially and in terms of their member's wellbeing. To cover the increased responsibilities and pressures, significantly more overtime is required, with the RCMP, Halifax District Detachment, regularly going over budget in this regard.

Responding to questions from the Board, Inspector Doyle provided the following responses:

- If the RCMP, Halifax District Detachment, does not receive the requested increases in regular members, then they will continue to do the best with what they have. However, it will almost certainly result in continued over expenditures on overtime, the cutting back of policing programs, and the negative wellbeing implications for current members.
- Different policing services throughout the region sometimes share officers, typically in the form of a secondment. Officers are also deployed to cover different jurisdictions on an event-by-event basis.
- The overtime expenditures for regular members comes directly from the RCMP, Halifax District Detachment, operating budget. It was noted that projections for the current fiscal year have overtime expenditures at approximately 123% of the allocated approved budget for overtime.

The Board engaged in further discussion regarding identifying appropriate measurements and Key Performance Indicators ("KPIs") so as to be able to assess staffing and other policing resource requests when crafting more detailed future budgets.

MOVED by Commissioner Mancini, seconded by Commissioner McDougall

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners request a staff report regarding an increase of six officers for the RCMP, Halifax District Detachment, as set out in the report dated January 15, 2018, for inclusion in the 18/19 budget.

Commissioner Craig suggested the following friendly amendment, being that the words "request a staff report..." be amended to read: "accept this report..."

Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer, advised against the amendment on the basis that the information contained in the report before the Board is incomplete/insufficient for the purposes of allowing the Board, or Council, to make an informed evidence-based decision on the request. As an example, he noted that the report does not set out phase-in options or scenarios, nor does it outline the actual amount of overtime currently being paid.

Commissioner Mason noted that the Board needs to address the issue of whether they are treating the RCMP, Halifax District Detachment, as an arms-length entity, or one that is able to submit staff reports to the Board and Council.

Commissioner Craig noted that the RCMP report currently before the Board was prepared in consultation with the HRM's Finance Department. He added that if the Board is going to request a new staff report, then the Board should look at making an incremental budget built from the ground up. The question being whether the Board is going to do that for the current budget year, or if they will do it for the next budget.

Commissioner McDougall noted that the proposed HRP operating budget is complete and scheduled to come before Council on January 31st. As such, there does not appear to be sufficient time to redo the budget from the ground up for the current year.

Commissioner Mason suggested that the Board consider the original motion as listed on the agenda, as their main goal is to be able to have something before Council during the current budget process, but there is also the need to have all the information necessary to make an informed decision.

Commissioner Craig withdrew the proposed amendment.

Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer, noted that to accommodate the proposed staff report, the BOPC budget presentation to the Budget Committee could be pushed back from the January 31, 2018 meeting of the Budget Committee. A special meeting of the BOPC would be needed in the intervening time to consider the staff report.

The motion being voted on by the Board was as follows:

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners request a staff report regarding an increase of six officers for the RCMP, Halifax District Detachment, as set out in the report dated January 15, 2018, for inclusion in the 18/19 budget.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.1.3 Board of Police Commissioners Policy Manual Staff Review - *Chief Jean-Michel Blais*

The following was before the Board:

- Staff Review Report of Draft Board of Police Commissioners Policies Manual; and
- Legal Review Report of Draft Board of Police Commissioners Policies Manual.

Commissioner Craig explained that the Board has received input on the Draft Board of Police Commissioners Policies Manual from staff of both the HRP and the RCMP, Halifax District Detachment, as well as from HRM Legal Services.

MOVED by Commissioner Mason, seconded by Commissioner McDougall

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners refer both the "Review Report of Draft Board of Police Commissioners Policies," dated January 12, 2018, as well as the "Legal Review of Board Policy Manual," dated January 10, 2015, to the Board's Policy Committee for consideration and review.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

9.2 MEMBERS OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS - None

9.3 COMMISSIONER UPDATES - None

9.4 HRP/RCMP CHIEF UPDATES

Chief Jean-Michel Blais provided an update on the Halifax Regional Police Business Plan/Budget Events Timeline, indicating that the HRP is currently projecting a light surplus of \$478,700.00.

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

10. ADDED ITEMS - None

11. IN CAMERA (In Private)

The Board of Police Commissioners may rise and go into an In Camera (In Private) session, in accordance with Section 51 of the Nova Scotia Police Act.

MOVED by Commissioner McDougall, seconded by Commissioner Mason

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners convene In Camera.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

The Board convened into an In Camera (In Private) session at 2:18 p.m. and reconvened to public session at 2:26 p.m.

11.1 Approval of In Camera Minutes – December 18, 2017

MOVED by Commissioner Mason, seconded by Commissioner McDougall

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners approve the December 18, 2017 In Camera Minutes, as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11.2 Personnel Matters – *Private and Confidential Correspondence*

A matter pertaining to an identifiable individual or group.

This matter was considered in the in camera session and ratified in public session as follows:

MOVED by Commissioner McDougall, seconded by Commissioner Mason

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners approve the request set out in the correspondence dated December 20, 2018, as discussed in the In Camera (In Private) meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners of January 15, 2018.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11.3 Legal Matter – *Private and Confidential Information Report*

A matter pertaining to legal advice subject to solicitor-client privilege.

This item was dealt with in public session under Item 9.1.3. "Board of Police Commissioners Policy Manual Staff Review," as per the motion passed by the Board.

11.4 In Camera Information Items - *Private and Confidential Correspondence*

The Board reconvened to public session at 2:26 p.m.

12. NOTICES OF MOTION - None

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – February 26, 2018

14. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:29 p.m.

David Perusse
Legislative Assistant