

**MINUTES**  
**BRIDGEWATER BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS**  
**May 4<sup>th</sup> , 2023**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Bridgewater Board of Police Commissioners held on Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at the Bridgewater Police Service, 45 Exhibition Drive, Bridgewater, NS, commencing at 5:30PM with Board Chair Darren Lipsett presiding.

Those in attendance: Commissioners Fay Patey, Cheryl Fougere, Diane Spencer, Andrew Tanner, Mike Conklin and David Walker.

Also present: Chief Scott Feener and Commission Recording Secretary, Patty Sleep.

Guest: Lisa Bennet, Senior Safety Coordinator

Regrets: Deputy Chief Danny MacPhee, CAO Tammy Crowder

## **ORDER**

Call to order at 5:35pm

## **ADDITIONS/DELETIONS**

### **Additions**

- NSAPG/CAPG Update – David Walker
- RCMP Report – Chief Feener

## **DECLARATION OF Conflict of Interest**

Bridgewater Board of Police Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
May 4<sup>th</sup> , 2023

## **TRAINING**

### **Lisa Bennett, Senior Safety Coordinator- Program Overview**

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Chief Feener introduced Lisa Bennett, Senior Safety Coordinator who attended the meeting to discuss the senior's program and how it serves the community.

Lisa began her role in October 2022. She explained how the program deals with a variety of seniors' issues in Lunenburg County such as elder abuse, financial abuse, food and health insecurities. Lisa works closely with police to try and find gaps and provide resources where needed.

The scope of Lisa's job includes emotional safety, physical safety as well as financial and spiritual support.

Another large component of this program is crime prevention. Lisa hosts presentations and offers pop-up displays throughout the county. This helps to educate seniors and their families on what programs and resources are available, as well as creates awareness of current fraud scams, etc.

Referrals can be made by themselves, a family member, caregiver, neighbor or friend. Senior Housing has been making many referrals as well. Quite often they encounter seniors who may be struggling and in need of assistance.

A grant has been received to fund a program called Senior's Mental Health Tool Kit. It is designed to provide wellness tools and strategies for those not doing well. It is still in the early development stages.

Questions asked as to the funding if Lisa needs support. Chief Feener advised, there is money allotted for support. Our part time communication technicians are assisting Lisa on their days off which gives Lisa the help she needs and provides the part timers with extra hours.

BPS commitment to the program is \$25k and we are seeking sustainability.

## **MINUTES**

**22-011** Moved by Commissioner Patey and seconded by Commissioner Walker to approve the Minutes of the April 6<sup>th</sup> , 2023 regular meeting as circulated.  
MOTION CARRIED.

Bridgewater Board of Police Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## **CORRESPONDENCE & INFORMATION**

### **NSAPG Update – Commissioner Walker**

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Commissioner Walker updated the group of NSAPG and CAPG matters.

The CAPG Annual General Meeting is scheduled for July 19<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. This is a three-hour, virtual meeting.

The 35<sup>th</sup> Annual CAPG Conference is being held in St John's, Newfoundland August 14-18<sup>th</sup>, 2023. It will be held both in-person and virtual. Three of the Bridgewater Police Board Commissioners have expressed interest in attending. Chief Feener will review budget allotment and share results. This will be further discussed in June, meanwhile, three guest rooms will be reserved.

The NSAPG Annual General Meeting was held on Tuesday past. It was both in-person and virtual with attendance low, due to illness. As no one put their name forward, the entire executive has been re-elected for another one-year term. Commissioner Walker will circulate a reports pertaining to this meeting via email.

Commissioner Walker attended the NSAPG Workshop, held on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. A few of the topics discussed included the Mass Casualty Report, the Wortley Report, Additional Officer Program and Provincial Standards.

### **NSCPA & NSAPG Fall Conference Sept 13-15<sup>th</sup>**

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It was decided by the NSCPA Executive, the the NSCPA & NSAPG 2023 fall conference will be held in Bridgewater September 13-15<sup>th</sup>. The venue will be the Best Western, Cookville with a golf tournament to kick things off on Wednesday the 13<sup>th</sup> at Osprey Ridge.

Thursday, September the 14<sup>th</sup> will be a full day of discussion/presentations followed by a formal gala in the evening. A half day of presentations on Friday the 15<sup>th</sup> will conclude the event.

Registration forms will be completed and circulated in the month of May.

Commissioner Walker advised, typically a representative from the NSAPG sits on the conference organizing committee to assist.

Bridgewater Board of Police Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Letter of Thanks - Cst S. Norwood and Comm. Tech. Katie Foley** ***doc# 23-015***

A letter was sent to BPS from an individual who lives in this area for half of the year.

She had two positive interactions with our service, one with Cst Scott Norwood and the second with Communication Technician, Katie Foley.

**Email of Recognition – Comm. Tech. Susan LeBlanc** ***doc# 23-016***

An email was submitted to recognize Communication Technician, Susan LeBlanc in her professionalism dealing with a situation.

The call was for assistance as students were out of control and Sue was able to calm the students and situation down.

**UNFINISHED/OLD Business**

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**NEW BUSINESS**

**RCMP report**

Chief Feener shared the results of an RCMP/BPS joint operation with the focus on organized crime effecting the South Shore and New Minas areas of the Province.

It was decided at the Provincial Executive Committee (PEC) to start a two month pilot project, which is comprised of nine members from various agencies.

The document captures the results of the first 30 days (of this 60 day project) the total number of arrests, charges, amounts of drugs seized as well as firearms seized, etc.

The project is a solid example of how effective joint operations are when they function as a team and solidifies the need to continue the Additional Officer Program and funding.

Bridgewater Board of Police Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**April Month End Report**

**doc# 23-017**

The April Month-End Report was circulated to Board members, which led to a lengthy discussion about parking issues near the Elementary and Jr/Sr High schools during school hours.

Although Cst Creamer speaks to those stopping in no parking zones, it continues to be a problem.

There are five entrances in which students use to enter and exit the schools, which has compounded the parking problems around the school. Crosswalks/crossing guards remain an issue-hopefully a second crossing guard will be hired this week.,

More discussion is necessary around this subject, particularly at the beginning of the school year. Child safety is a major concern.

**South Shore Big Ex-2023**

**doc# 23-014**

A letter requesting support was received from South Shore Exhibition in relation to the operation of the Beer Barn and Exhibitors Lounge at this year's Big Ex.

Chief Feener had a meeting with Exhibition Manager, Liquor Board and Fivestar Security company. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the significant changes necessary to the operation of the Beer Barn, including hours of operation, maximum drink purchase, security expectations, etc.

Chef Feener has a meeting scheduled with Regional Liquor Enforcement in late May to discuss the event further. A letter of support will be considered after this meeting. All rules and expectations will be outlined clearly.

Additional discussions at the June PC meeting.

**Bridgewater Hotel – High Street**

**doc# 23-018**

Due to a number of concerns expressed from the public to Board members regarding the activity at the Bridgewater Hotel, Chief Feener pulled statistics and circulated the results.

A total of 97 calls for service were dispatched to this location from January 2020 to present.

Chief Feener explained, this location is used to place individuals released from the Correctional Center as well, used to place low income individuals and families by Department of Community

Bridgewater Board of Police Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
May 4<sup>th</sup> , 2023

Services as they have a financial agreement with the hotel.

There appears to be no community support for the most vulnerable individuals and families in our community. Commissioners agreed, an attempt should be made to provide assistance to these people, so they can transition from, what should be, a temporary placement.

Additional discussion with Department of Community Services, Correctional Services as well as Regional School Office to discuss ways to assist will be organized.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup> , 2023.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**23-012**      Motion to adjourn regular meeting by Commissioner Walker at 7:25 pm.  
Meeting adjourned.

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Patty Sleep  
Recording Secretary

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Darren Lipsett  
Board Chair