

MINUTES
BRIDGEWATER BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
December 5th, 2024

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Bridgewater Board of Police Commissioners held on December 5th, 2024 at the Bridgewater Police Service, 45 Exhibition Drive, Bridgewater, NS commencing at 5:30 pm with Board Chair Darren Lipsett presiding.

In attendance: Commissioners Palma Champoux, Fay Patey, Diane Spencer, Cheryl Fougere, Mike Conklin and David Mitchell.

Also present: Chief Scott Feener, Deputy Chief Danny MacPhee, Deputy CAO Mark Flint and Recording Secretary Patty Sleep.

Regrets: Fay Patey

ORDER

Call to order at 5:30PM

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS

Operational Budget – SOT
Old/Unfinished Business – DOJ Training/Orientation date

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

AGENDA

24-029 Moved by Commissioner Conklin and second by Commissioner Mitchell to approve the December agenda. Motion Carried.

TRAINING

Body Cam

Chief Feener shared a portion of a Motorola power point presentation on body cameras with Board members.

He explained the improvements in the new model, the price point and noted the components which are of interest to BPS.

Auto License Recognition

This technology offers license plate recognition which can be mounted or remain in patrol cars. The plates are scanned and information of interest is immediately recognized, such as prohibited drivers, expired plates, etc.

Body Worn Cameras

Body Worn cameras are of interest to BPS as the cameras provide protection for both members and the public. The new models offer a reasonable price point as well as an excellent warranty.

Electronic Records Management

This provides hardware and software, unlimited storage for all Motorola devices, in Canada. All training and configuration, as well as advisory services are included. This would streamline the existing technology by importing data to one location

Chief and Deputy are travelling to Charlottetown, PEI to look into these devices further and will provide additional information at the next meeting.

MINUTES

24-030 Moved by Commissioner Mitchell and seconded by Commissioner Fougere to approve the Minutes of the November 7th, 2024 regular meeting, as amended MOTION CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE & INFORMATION

Drone – Standard Operating Procedure **doc # 24-044**

Newly created *Drone* Standard Operating Procedure circulated to the Board for information

Prisoner Care & Control – Standard Operating Procedure **doc # 24-045**

Revised *Prisoner Care and Control* Standard Operating Procedure circulated to the Board for information.

As a result of a police act investigation, a recommendation was made and policy was developed and has been implemented.

OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ORIENTATION BOOKLET

doc# 24-037

Tabled until the January 2025 meeting.

Fay has updated this booklet and it will be discussed at the January meeting.

POLICING STANDARDS AUDIT UPDATE

Chief and Deputy met with the DOJ Audit team to discuss the release of policing standards as well as the audit process.

This audit team are prepared to attend a Police Commission meeting to discuss these topics, as perhaps, a training opportunity. This would provide the board with information moving forward as well as a chance to ask questions about the process.

BPS and the commission have approximately one year to prepare. Chief Feener advised, the policies and MOU's currently under review and are in good standing with only a few topics which need attention and implementation.

- 24-031** Moved by Commissioner Spencer and seconded by Commissioner Conklin directing the chief to provide information document in February, outlining where BPS is in terms of policies and policing standards. Motion Carried.

Deputy CAO, Mark Flint discussed an Orientation Presentation with the Department of Justice as a training opportunity.

It was decided, the March meeting would be the best option. Date to be secured with DOJ for March.

NEW BUSINESS

Meeting & Document Directive

It had been brought to the attention of the Board, the meeting date and time on the BPS website was incorrect. This error has since been corrected

Since the recent interest from the public in the meetings, this led to discussions of disclosing meeting documents for those interested in upcoming topics and supporting documentation.

Board members decided, in the interest of transparency, it would be best practice to post the Commission's Agenda, Minutes and documentation on the website for members of the public to view.

Communication Officer, Patrick Hirtle will manage these posts on the website monthly.

Meeting Location

The PC meeting location was discussed as it was suggested, the BPS Community Room was not the most welcoming venue.

While other locations were considered, it was decided to reconfigure the existing room to accommodate public attendees to provide a more comfortable atmosphere and not change locations at this point. If there is additional public interest moving forward, this topic will be re-visited.

It was further suggested the Board Chair could, perhaps, say a quick 'welcome' to attending guests. If a member of the public would like to speak on a topic, without prior notice, a 2- minute time slot would be permitted. If an agenda item is added prior to meeting, a 10- minute time slot would be provided.

Capital & Operating Budgets 25/26

Budget discussions will begin in mid to late December. Chief Feener is seeking direction and input from board members.

In staying on track with the 10-year Capital Budget plan, this budget year requires the replacement of 2 patrol cars.

A few potential operational budget items are being considered; body worn cameras for patrol members as well as an additional part time salary for Human Resource Services from MODL. Details on these items to be further researched and discussed.

The Additional Officer Program remains in the discussion phase. Chief Feener is unsure how this will impact the operational budget at this time.

November Month End

doc # 24-046

In terms of the SSRO's portion of the November Month end, Commissioner Champoux asked for clarification on the outcome and penalties imposed on the students committing crimes.

Deputy Chief MacPhee briefly discussed the variety of scenarios involved, including third party complaints and Crown Prosecutor's input, etc.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for January 2, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

- 24-032** Moved by Commissioner Conklin and seconded by Commissioner Champoux to move to In Camera. Motion Carried
- 24-033** Moved by Commissioner Mitchell and seconded by Commissioner Conklin, to Rise and Report. Motion carried.
- 24-034** Moved by Commissioner Mitchell and seconded by Commissioner Conklin to adjourn meeting. MOTION CARRIED.

Patty Sleep
Recording Secretary

Darren Lipsett
Board Chair