

HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES

June 13, 2011

PRESENT: Commissioner Earl Gosse, Chair
Commissioner Michael Moreash
Commissioner Phillip Read
Commissioner Sue Uteck
Commissioner Peter Kelly
Commissioner Steve Streach

REGRETS: Commissioner Micki Ruth, Vice Chair

STAFF: Chief Frank Beazley, Halifax Regional Police
Deputy Chief Tony Burbridge, Halifax Regional Police
Superintendent Don Spicer, Halifax Regional Police
Superintendent Darrell Beaton, RCMP
Inspector Joanne Crampton, RCMP
Mr. Richard Butts, Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Shawnee Gregory, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m. at the Lower Sackville RCMP Detachment.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 16, 2011

Amendment:

Item 6.1:

- Comments under Objective 1 will be amended to state *“He suggested the Commissioner attending the upcoming conference in Regina, Saskatchewan could observe how the conference was run and be involved with the coordination if HRM was to host the conference in 2014.”*
- Inspector Jeff Dowling rather than Daleh

MOVED by Commissioner Moreash, seconded by Commissioner Read that the minutes of May 16, 2011 be approved as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

- 8.1 Review of 2011 Board Objectives - Chair
- 8.2 HRP Overview and Budget Presentation

It was agreed that Item 8.3.1 Idle Free for our Kids - Mr. Ron Zima, Founder/Chair, be moved immediately following item 3.

MOVED by Commissioner Uteck, seconded by Commissioner Moreash that the agenda be accepted as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

6.3.1 Idle Free for our Kids - Mr. Ron Zima, Founder/Chair

A presentation was before the Board.

Commissioner Uteck indicated that HRM's Sustainable Environmental Management Office was always discussing idle free initiatives so she thought Mr. Zima's presentation would be of interest to the Board.

Mr. Ron Zima, Founder/Chair, provided his presentation on Idle Free for our Kids and played three videos.

Commissioner Uteck requested a report regarding this matter to see if this was a feasible pilot project for both the HRP and RCMP.

Deputy Chief Burbridge, HRP, advised that staff have discussed idle free initiatives; however, one obstacle was the technology in the police cars as it was not currently possible to shut off the cars and still maintain lights, audio and computers. He indicated that a year ago there was a presentation for all HRM staff at the director's level and that he would have further information at the next meeting.

8.1 Review of 2011 Board Objectives

Objective 1: Prepare a positive bid to host the 2014 Canadian Association of Police Boards (CAPB) Conference

It was noted that HRP could fund one Commissioner to attend the upcoming CAPB conference in Regina.

The Board agreed that Commissioner Ruth, who expressed an interest in attending at the last meeting, be chosen to attend the conference.

The Chair requested that Chief Beazley let him know if it would be at all possible to fund a second Commissioner to attend the conference.

Objective 7: Establishment of a Municipal Court

Chief Beazley stated that the Municipal Court Committee held its first meeting and were fortunate that the legal department was able to hire a student from Dalhousie Law School to conduct research on municipal courts across Canada. He indicated that a report would be prepared on this research which would be presented to the Board for review.

Objective 4: Have new Board members attend Board training

The Chair stated that he would conduct further follow up on this objective to see if the Department of Justice would be offering training again this year.

Objective 3: Ensure Suitable Representation at Conferences

It was noted that the Chief's Office had received expressions of interest to attend the upcoming NSAPB conference in Bridgewater from three members, which the HRP would be able to fund.

It was noted that some of the Commissioners had attended the Domestic Violence Action Plan presentation which had been provided by the Department of Justice that morning.

It was requested that this presentation be circulated to the Board for further review and consideration.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

4.1 HRP Policy – Extra Duty Employment and Off Duty Employment

A copy of the HRP Standard Operational Policy and Procedure Manual, Items 14 & 16, were before the Board.

Chief Beazley advised that he circulated the Extra Duty Employment and Off Duty Employment policies for the benefit of new members and for the Board's endorsement as per past practice. He provided background on the policies.

A discussion ensued on the policies.

Chief Beazley noted that approximately 40 to 50 officers go in this direction each year at no additional cost to the HRP; noting that they did take an administrative fee of 3% to process the job.

Superintendent Beaton advised that the RCMP has a similar policy.

It was noted that these earnings for extra or off duty employment were pensionable with the employee paying the pension costs.

This item will be added to the next agenda for approval.

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - NONE

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

6.1 Correspondence - None

6.2 Petitions - None

6.3 Presentations

6.3.1 Idle Free for our Kids - Mr. Ron Zima, Founder/Chair

This item was dealt with earlier in the meeting. Please see page 3.

7. REPORTS

7.1 RCMP Reports

The May 2011 RCMP Reports were before the Board.

Superintendent Beaton indicated that the May 2011 RCMP Reports were as submitted. He indicated that two unique training sessions had recently occurred regarding aggressive dogs and a human trafficking workshop.

7.2 HRP Reports

The May 2011 HRP Reports were before the Board.

Chief Beazley indicated that the May 2011 HRP Reports were as submitted with the amendment that the traffic report should read that June's theme was speeding.

7.2.1 Citizen Satisfaction Survey Results – HRP & RCMP

A memorandum dated June 8, 2011 containing the 2011 Citizen Satisfaction Survey Results was submitted.

Chief Beazley advised that the citizen satisfaction survey was conducted each year by Corporate Research Associates and both the HRP and RCMP were pleased with the outcome of the most recent survey; noting there was an 83% satisfaction rate. Chief Beazley reviewed the survey results; noting that the overall sense of safety by the public was good and that the public does not, in fact, feel unsafe when spikes in crime occur.

At Commissioner Streach's request, Chief Beazley will follow up to see what numbers were dialled by Corporate Research Associates to ensure rural HRM residents, with long distance numbers, had been included in the survey.

7.3 Public Safety Update – Superintendent Don Spicer

The Spotlight on Public Safety Newsletter Volume 3, Issue 6 was submitted.

Superintendent Spicer advised that he had attended two national meetings held in Halifax in the past month; the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP) Crime Prevention Committee and the National Crime Prevention Network. He indicated that he presented the Public Safety Strategic plan which was met with a favourable response and was able to exchange best practices; noting that the meetings showed that HRM was on par or slightly ahead of bigger players in Canada.

Superintendent Spicer indicated that the first session of the Crime Prevention Series was held on June 8, 2011 regarding home safety, personal property and personal safety; noting 32 people attended and the session was a success. He stated that the next session would be held on June 15, 2011 regarding fraud, scams, cyber bullying and internet scams.

The meeting recessed at 1:38 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 1:48 p.m.

8. ADDED ITEMS

8.1 Review of 2011 Board Objectives

This item was dealt with earlier in the meeting. Please see page 4.

8.2 HRP Overview and Budget Presentation

The HRP Overview presentation was submitted.

The line by line SAP salary budget was submitted.

A Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Police Administration Survey was submitted.

Chief Beazley provided the HRP Overview presentation.

Deputy Chief Burbridge provided the HRP Budget presentation and requested that Commissioners email him any follow up questions they may have and that he would respond to the entire Board prior to the next meeting.

A discussion on the presentation ensued.

Chief Beazley explained the Personal Development Process (PDP) and wage model for non-union employees.

Deputy Chief Burbridge reviewed the police union wage model; noting they were coming up to the last remaining three years of the current collective agreement and that the contract, which was up for renewal, was currently in an open period and would expire on March 31, 2015.

It was noted that it costs the HRP approximately \$500,000 per year for night court and that they would not pay overtime to officers when slips were turned in after 30 days; noting this saves approximately \$30,000 each year.

It was requested that the RCMP provide a budget presentation at the next meeting.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE – July 11, 2011

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:36 p.m.

Shawnee Gregory
Legislative Assistant