

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
February 13, 2006

PRESENT: Commissioner Greg North, Chair
Commissioner Ernestine Gouthro
Commissioner Gloria McCluskey
Commissioner James Perrin
Commissioner Linda Mosher
Commissioner Trevor Johnson

REGRETS: Commissioner Brad Johns

STAFF: Chief Frank Beazley, HPP
Supt. Gordon Barnett, RCMP
Asst. Commissioner Ian Atkins, RCMP
Ms. Julia Horncastle, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m.

At this time Assistant Commissioner Ian Atkins, RCMP, presented Cst. Gregg Richardson, HRP with a Commanding Officers Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of the assistance provided by him and his K-9 dog Dusty with the investigation of a double homicide on August 7, 2005 in Tantallon.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - December 12, 2005 and January 9, 2006

MOVED by Commissioner McCluskey, seconded by Commissioner Perrin, that the minutes of December 12, 2005 and January 9, 2006 be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

MOVED by Commissioner Commissioner Gouthro, seconded by Commissioner McCluskey that the Order of Business be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. CONFLICT DECLARATIONS - NONE

5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

5.1 STATUS SHEET ITEMS

5.1.1 Governance

No update at this time, to remain on status sheet.

Commissioner North advised the Board will be reporting to Council on long term resources and funding expectations as well as expectations as to what is an expected level of policing for HRM in the long term. He stated that discussion had been held to encourage the establishment of a committee that would involve some members of the Board as well as HRM staff to provide financial as well as operational input. He advised he had contacted the CAO and once a response is received, he will bring the matter back to the Board.

Chief Beazley advised the budget and business plans are expected to go to Council on May 9th and he will provide these to the Board for the next meeting.

5.1.2 Rewards for Major Unsolved Crimes

Chief Beazley advised this is an ongoing matter. He advised the province has decided that they will not be part of the regulations and no response has been received to a query regarding a policy perspective.

6. ADDED ITEMS

Chief Beazley advised the 4th Quarter Stats indicates that overall there has been a slight decrease of almost 5% in crime in 2005 over 2004. He advised the initiative "Operation Breach" which addresses issues regarding repeat offenders is having an impact. He advised the task force on breach, auto theft and robberies has resulted in keeping the crime rate fairly steady. He advised in December and January he met with the Ministers of Justice, African Nova Scotian Affairs and Community Development and Housing which resulted in a study group being put together under the direction of the Deputy Ministers of Justice and Housing to look at crime, housing, community programming.

Supt. Barnett advised they are seeing a decrease over 2004 with a 15% reduction in criminal code as well as a decrease in stolen vehicles and property crimes. Violent crimes decreased by approximately 11%. Overall there is a reduction in the number of reported offences.

Chief Beazley advised the citizen police academy is starting on February 22nd. He further advised investigation is underway for a location to establish a peace officers memorial.

7. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2006.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned into the In Camera session at 1:25 p.m.

Julia Horncastle
Legislative Assistant