



## **Brockton Police Services Board Minutes**

**Thursday, June 18, 2020 at 4:15 p.m.**

**Electronic Meeting on Zoom Video Conferencing**

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### **Board Members:**

Chair, Brian Read	Present
Councillor, Steve Adams	Present
Councillor, Tim Elphick	Present
Provincial Appointee, Heather Froom	Absent
Jr. Deputy Clerk (Recording Secretary), Sarah Johnson	Present
Detachment Commander, Krista Miller	Present
Sgt. Keegan Wilcox	Present

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### **1. Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:18 p.m.

### **2. Acceptance of Agenda**

Moved By: Steve Adams                      Seconded By: Tim Elphick

That the Agenda for the June 18, 2020 meeting of the Brockton Police Services Board be accepted as presented.

Carried.

### **3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof**

None.

### **4. Adoption of the Minutes – February 20, 2020**

Moved By: Tim Elphick                      Seconded By: Steve Adams

That the minutes of the February 20, 2020 meeting of the Brockton Police Services Board be accepted.

Carried.

### **5. Business Arising from the Minutes**

### **5.1 Run 4 Health**

Sgt. Keegan Wilcox reported that Sgt Dave Hackney has corresponded with the event coordinator the O.P.P.'s concerns with residents crossing Bruce Road 3. The event is still planned to occur September 27, 2020.

### **5.2 Police Services Board Training from Duane Sprague, Police Services Advisor**

Duane Sprague, Police Services Advisor is available to train the Board electronically, or can postpone training until the PSB reconvenes regular in-person meetings. The Board discussed the limitations on having in-person meetings and stated their preference for in-person training.

### **5.3 Road Safety Sideroad 5 and Concession 4 – Update from Council**

Councillor Adams reported that the Road Supervisor visited the area, and a stop sign has been included in the new Consolidated Traffic and Parking By-Law and will be installed. Councillor Adams advised that another accident occurred at the intersection, and Detachment Commander Krista Miller reminded that residents must notify the O.P.P.

### **5.4 Property Theft Incidents**

The Board discussed recent property thefts, and stressed the importance of contacting the O.P.P. and reporting crimes, either as they occur, after the fact using the non-emergency O.P.P. number, or using the online reporting tool. Ms. Miller advised that the O.P.P. issues media releases and advertisements regarding online reporting, and can reissue the statements to remind the public.

## **6. Accounts**

<b>6.1</b>	<b>Police Accounts - Dates: 02/06/20 to 03/05/20</b>	<b>\$205,391.16</b>
<b>6.2</b>	<b>Police Accounts - Dates: 03/06/20 to 04/23/20</b>	<b>\$134,955.27</b>
<b>6.3</b>	<b>Police Accounts - Dates: 04/24/20 to 05/07/20</b>	<b>\$1,123.99</b>
<b>6.4</b>	<b>Police Accounts - Dates: 05/08/20 to 05/21/20</b>	<b>\$1,124.33</b>
<b>6.5</b>	<b>Police Accounts - Dates: 05/22/20 to 06/04/20</b>	<b>\$62.16</b>

Moved By: Tim Elphick    Seconded By: Steve Adams

That the accounts be paid as follows:

Dates: 02/06/20 to 03/05/20	\$205,391.16
Dates: 03/06/20 to 04/23/20	\$134,955.27
Dates: 04/24/20 to 05/07/20	\$1,123.99
Dates: 05/08/20 to 05/21/20	\$1,124.33

Dates: 05/22/20 to 06/04/20      \$62.16

Carried.

## **7. Items Carried Forward**

### **7.1 Black Cat Radar**

Municipal staff were trained by Northline on June 16, 2020 and Sgt. Dave Hackney is the O.P.P. Officer trained on the system. Jr. Deputy Clerk, Sarah Johnson presented the Board with the Installation Form which is required by the Operations Department in order to appropriately install the radar and obtain the best data.

Councillor Adams has compiled a spreadsheet of roads that the Board wishes to install the radar on and will forward the spreadsheet to the Jr. Deputy Clerk.

### **7.2 Court Security**

Detachment Commander Miller reported that the courthouses are not operating in-person at this time, but had announced that certain rooms opening for in person matters on July 6, 2020. The Walkerton Courthouse should be open by September 15, 2020. Ms. Miller advised that ongoing conversations have been held on single point entry, and entrance screening due to COVID-19.

### **7.3 Community Safety and Well-Being Plan**

Ms. Miller advised that the Steering and Advisory Committees continue to meet on Skype. The survey ended in February and the results will be used to identify the perceptions of risk in community. Survey results will be collated for each municipality; but the top concerns in Grey Bruce Counties are mental health, addiction and homelessness/poverty.

The Board discussed the impact of COVID-19 on the community, and awareness it will bring to the community, specifically vulnerable populations and financial hardships. The CSWBP Committees will continue to address the issues, identify risks and put strategies and actions in place.

The Board discussed the funding of police forces, noting recent media attention on defunding policing.

Ms. Miller advised that the O.P.P. have mental health programs, and partner with the Canadian Mental Health Agency.

#### **7.4 Human Trafficking Grant**

Detachment Commander Krista Miller reported that the event held on March 5, 2020 was successful with standing room only attendance. The Committee will continue to meet via teleconference, and plan to focus on youth in the next year. The Committee was approached by trustees of the Bruce Grey Catholic District School Board and Bluewater District School Board to bring the presentation into schools. Sgt Barfoot made virtual presentation to Catholic Board; and both Boards have provided liaison/mental health staff to assist with a videotaped presentation which can be displayed in the schools in the Fall. The Committee will inquire with neighbouring police services boards to determine their interest in being part of the video.

### **8. Information**

#### **8.1 Annual Department Budget vs. Actual Comparison Report - February 2020**

#### **8.2 Annual Department Budget vs. Actual Comparison Report – March 2020**

#### **8.3 Annual Department Budget vs. Actual Comparison Report – April 2020**

#### **8.4 Annual Department Budget vs. Actual Comparison Report – May 2020**

The Board discussed the remaining \$4,000 in the training budget, and the impacts of COVID-19 affecting training opportunities. The Board noted that there may be a cost to be trained by the Province.

### **9. New Business Brought Forward**

#### **9.1 South Bruce O.P.P. 2019 Year End Report**

Detachment Commander Krista Miller presented the 2019 Year End South Bruce O.P.P. Report to the Board.

Ms. Miller responded to questions about trafficking, noting the decrease, but advised that drugs such as marijuana, meth, and fentanyl are still being seized.

Ms. Miller responded to questions on sexual assault, advising that cases stay open and do not have a time restriction as long as the victim wishes to proceed.

The Board discussed charges being laid in court, including failure to attend court, and how the cases are calculated or reported in neighbouring municipalities.

Ms. Miller responded to questions on the Mental Health Act, advising that officers must remain with the individual until the hospital takes responsibility, or else officers must remain with the individual if requested by the hospital. If the individual chooses to leave the hospital and officers determine that the individual would harm themselves or others, the officer can return them to the hospital under the Mental Health Act.

Ms. Miller reported that the Police Hospital Committee continues to meet virtually to complete their Terms of Reference and Memorandum of Understanding. The Committee is working with the Canadian Mental Health Association and the hospital to provide virtual training. The goal is to improve communication and transition of apprehended persons under the Mental Health Act. Safe rooms are being implemented in the E.R. and communication protocol between police and hospital staff will be improved in order to lessen the amount of time the individual remains in hospital and ensure they receive proper care.

Inspector Miller will attend the August 11, 2020 Council Meeting to present the report to Brockton Council.

## **9.2 Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce Inc. Donation Request**

Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce Inc. sent a letter to the Brockton Police Services Board on May 28, 2020, requesting a donation of \$2,000 per year for the next two (2) years from every Police Services Board in Grey and Bruce Counties. The Board discussed the donation request.

The Brockton Police Services Board do not have an account that would be eligible to donate funds to Crime Stoppers. Despite the Board's willingness to donate to Crime Stoppers, Brockton Council must complete the donation. The Board suggested donating for the 2020 year, and reevaluating during 2021 budget deliberations.

Detachment Commander Krista Miller advised that the O.P.P. does not receive data from Crime Stoppers, but that officers report information to Crime Stoppers if a tip leads to successful investigations.

Moved By: Steve Adams

Seconded by: Tim Elphick

That the Brockton Police Services Board hereby support the donation request made by Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce Inc. and further support

bringing forward the donation request to the Council of the Municipality of Brockton for consideration at the June 23, 2020 Council Meeting regarding a donation to Crime Stoppers for the 2020 calendar year.

Carried.

### **9.3 Municipal Policing Bureau Financial Services Unit - Revenue Distribution Processes Change**

The Board received a letter from the Municipal Policing Bureau Financial Services Unit stating that the O.P.P. adopted a new procedure for processing emergent security checks which reduces the risk to applicants and improves efficiencies.

### **9.4 Memorandum from O.P.P. Commissioner - Recent Protest Activity**

The Board received a memorandum from the O.P.P. Commissioner stating that racism and racial discrimination have no place in policing. The memorandum referenced the event that occurred in Minneapolis with George Floyd, and reiterated the O.P.P.'s stance on equal values and respect for all. The O.P.P. are mindful of their bias and will work towards a truly inclusive, authentic workplace and community with equal freedoms and treatment for all.

Ms. Miller advised that a rally was held in Kincardine which was peaceful and well attended.

### **9.5 Community Watch**

The Board discussed the importance of having the community report crime as it takes place, and advocated for increased advertising to remind the public how to report a crime online, or contact the non-emergency O.P.P. number. The Board suggested using the Brockton Buzz Newsletter, East Ridge Business Park Sign, and encouraging more advertising to engage the public.

## **10. O.P.P. Detachment Commander's Reports**

### **10.1 February 2020 Report**

Krista Miller, Detachment Commander presented her report:

- We continue on a good trend with no Sexual Assaults reported Year to Date.
- The number of Assault complaints continue to remain status quo compared to February 2019.

- Break and Enters are down slightly.
- Theft Over and Under complaints continue to be down from last year at this time.
- Frauds are down significantly thus far this year. March is Fraud Prevention Month. Our Community Safety Officer has increased our messaging and education around frauds and scams.
- Mischief reports are up slightly. One was due to a vehicle being entered, one was a broken window, one involved damage to a lighting sensor. Mischief charges were also laid against a prisoner who damaged police equipment while in custody.
- Personal injury collisions are down for the month of February.
- Property damage collisions were up for the month of February although we are still down Year to Date.
- The third Human Trafficking Awareness Session took place at the Davidson Centre in Kincardine on March 5th. There was standing room only with 135 people in attendance.
- All three sessions have been extremely well received by the community. The Committee will be meeting in April to establish our plan for the 2nd year of the grant.
- The Community Safety and Well Being (CSWB) Committee has launched a website, [cswbp-brucegreyc.ca](http://cswbp-brucegreyc.ca). This website will provide community members with information about the CSWB planning process and progress. Community Engagement has started with the additional launch of the Community Safety and Well Being survey. This survey can be accessed via the website and is open until March 22nd. Two Community Engagement Sessions are planned for Brockton on the following dates:
  - April 29th, 5 pm - Walkerton Community Centre
  - April 29th , 7 pm - Cargill Community Centre

## **10.2 March-May 2020 Report**

Krista Miller, Detachment Commander presented her report:

- We continue to have less Sexual Assaults Year to Date compared to 2019.
- The number of Assault complaints continue to remain status quo. 50% were Domestic related.
- Other Crimes Against a Person have increased. A majority of these incidents involved
- Threatening allegations and are three of them were Domestic related.

- Break and Enters increased during this time period. The B&Es were split evenly between occurring in Brant or Walkerton. Three of the occurrences were B&E's to the empty premises of Bodgon & Gross.
- Theft Over complaints continue to be down but Theft Under complaints increased slightly. Nineteen of these calls occurred in Walkerton. Seven of them involved unlocked vehicles. One male suspect was arrested and charged in April.
- Frauds increased during this time period but we still see only a slight increase Year to Date. The fraud occurrences range widely from two Power of Attorney frauds, to on line, phone and cheque frauds.
- Mischief reports are up slightly. One involved graffiti on the Bell Mobility Tower for which suspects have been identified. Three involve a more complex ongoing Criminal Harassment investigation.
- Both Property Damage and Personal Injury Collisions have decreased during this time period, significantly in the case of Property Damage collisions. This may be attributed to less people being out and about due to the Covid-19 restrictions.
- Tragically we investigated one fatality involving a youth on an ATV in the Saugeen River.
- Focused Patrols of businesses, both open and closed, were conducted at all hours to ensure an increased police presence and feeling of security during these past months of uncertainty. We received positive feedback regarding our visibility.
- Officers from South Bruce OPP partnered with members from Highway Safety Division and the Ministry of Transportation on June 3rd to conduct a Commercial Motor Vehicle blitz. Throughout the day they achieved the following results: 8 Level One inspections, 9 Level Two inspections, 14 Provincial Offences served and 5 Commercial Motor Vehicles taken out of service.
  - Council thanked the O.P.P. for their initiative and engagement in rural areas.
- South Bruce Community Street Crimes Unit assisted London Police by conducting a CDSA warrant in the Town of Hanover. They were assisted by Hanover PS officers. Over \$20,000.00 of methamphetamine was seized in the warrant along with a prohibited weapon. Simultaneous investigation by London PS was successful in seizing a kilo of meth that was destined for the Grey-Bruce area.
- The Community Safety and Well Being (CSWB) Committee had to cancel their planned Community Engagement Sessions due to Covid-19. The Ministry has advised that the deadline from the plan will be extended but have not announced a new date. The Committee is

continuing to meet virtually. The survey results are currently being compiled from which the identified risks will be captured.

- Ms. Miller advised that the survey results will be collated and compared with other agency data and then a plan will be drafted and receive input from the public. The Committee is considering advertising a subsequent survey later in the Fall to see if there is a change in responses due to COVID-19.
- Insp Miller and A/S/Sgt Wilcox have met regularly with the Brockton Emergency Control Group over the past few months regarding response to the Covid-19 Pandemic.
- Insp Miller and A/S/Sgt Wilcox met virtually with employees of Grey-Bruce YMCA and Safe'n Sound regarding Unsheltered people and available resources. Plans to complete proactive outreach in partnership have been delayed due to Covid-19 but we hope to continue to plan for future.
- The Walkerton Courthouse has been closed to in person hearings or trials. Bails hearings have been held via audio. Some courthouses in Ontario are scheduled to open to some degree as of July 6<sup>th</sup>
- The Walkerton office of South Bruce OPP continues to be closed to the public due to Covid-19. Criminal Records Checks are being accepted through on-line application through OPP.ca -for now being limited to essential workers.
  - Ms. Miller advised that visitor must use the phone, and if they are let into the building they will be COVID-19 screened. One administrative staff member is in the office each day to answer the phone.

## **11. Other Business**

### **11.1 Officer Visibility**

Councillor Adams noted the increased visibility and presence of O.P.P. Officers, and discussed possible foot patrols in downtown Walkerton. Detachment Commander Miller advised that officers participate in foot patrols when they have the time to do so, and a bike patrol has been set up along the Saugeen River Trail in Walkerton.

### **11.2 COVID-19 Impact**

Councillor Adams inquired if the O.P.P. had recorded the impacts of COVID-19 and lessons learned, such as whether or not there was an increase in mental health issues, and if there were challenges enforcing emergency orders.

Detachment Commander Miller advised it was too early to come to conclusions, but there would be a financial loss for the entire population. Studies are being conducted by organizations monitoring anxiety levels. Ms. Miller reported that the O.P.P. continues to enforce emergency orders and educates residents first prior to charging. Only one charge has been laid under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act.

Ms. Miller responded to questions on officer staffing levels, advising that visibility has increased since officers are not attending meetings, courts, or schools.

### **11.3 Walkerton Courthouse**

Councillor Elphick discussed the courthouses being shut down, and operating virtually, and the impact on officer availability. Detachment Commander Miller advised that discussions have been started, but the reliance falls to the Ministry of the Attorney General to make final decisions and inform the O.P.P. The goal is to resume court services in Walkerton by September 15, 2020. The Board discussed concerns with the courthouse entryway and reopening process. Ms. Miller reported that the Attorney General is conducting a risk assessment.

### **11.4 Canada Day Celebrations**

Chair Brian Read reported that he was interviewed for the Municipality of Brockton's Canada Day video and included greetings from the Brockton Police Services Board. Detachment Commander Miller reported that the O.P.P. also included greetings in the video.

## **12. Next Meeting**

Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 4:15 p.m.

## **13. Adjournment**

Moved By: Steve Adams

Seconded by: Tim Elphick

That we do now adjourn at 6:52 p.m. to meet again on September 17, 2020 at 4:15 p.m., or at the call of the Chair.

Carried.