

Minutes
ELGIN GROUP POLICE SERVICES BOARD
April 13, 2017

The Elgin Group Police Services Board met at the County Administration Building, 450 Sunset Drive, St. Thomas, with the following in attendance:

Dave Marr, Chair
Bonnie Vowel, Vice Chair, Provincial Appointee
Jim Jenkins, Board Member
Douglas Gunn, Board Member
Brad Fishleigh, Elgin OPP Detachment Commander
Mike Butler, Staff Sergeant
Mark McDonald, Secretary Administrator
Marie Findlay, Recording Secretary

The Secretary Administrator called the meeting to order at 3:00pm

Oath of Office – Jim Jenkins

The Secretary Administrator administered the Oath of Office to Board Member Jenkins, who was recently appointed to represent Malahide / Bayham following the passing of Mike Wolfe.

Nomination for Chair

Bonnie Vowel nominated Dave Marr and Douglas Gunn seconds.

Dave Marr allows his name to stand. There being no further nominations the following recommendation was introduced.

Moved by Jim Jenkins
Seconded by Bonnie Vowel

THAT Dave Marr be appointed as Chair of the Elgin Group Police Services Board for 2017.

- Carried

Nomination for Vice-Chair

Dave Marr nominated Jim Jenkins and Douglas Gunn seconds

Jim Jenkins allows his name to stand. There being no further nominations the following recommendation was introduced.

Moved by Dave Marr
Seconded by Bonnie Vowel

THAT Jim Jenkins be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Elgin Group Police Services Board for 2017.

- Carried

Dave Marr assumes the chair.

Adoption of Minutes:

Moved by Bonnie Vowel
Seconded by Douglas Gunn

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on December 7, 2016 be adopted.

- Carried.

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest: None

Correspondence:

- 1) Minister Marie-France Lalonde, Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services re: Policing Effectiveness and Modernization Grants

Correspondence is in regards to the new Policing Effectiveness and Modernization (PEM) Grants. It offers the option of applying for this grant or continuing with the traditional grants. It was discussed that there is no guarantee that we would receive the same amount as the current grants. It was recommended that we stay with the traditional grants but monitor the new program noting that the PEM grant could be applied for later if deemed beneficial.

Moved by Douglas Gunn
Seconded by Bonnie Vowel

THAT the correspondence regarding the PEM Grant be received and filed

- Carried

- 2) OAPSB Zone 6 – Notice of Meeting April 19th, 2017

The Notice of Meeting to the OAPSB Zone 6 meeting was discussed and it was decided that Jim Jenkins will attend.

Moved by Jim Jenkins
Seconded by Douglas Gunn

THAT the correspondence be received and filed; and

THAT Jim Jenkins attend the OAPSB Zone 6 Meeting on behalf of the Elgin Group Police Services Board.

- Carried.

Reports:

OAPSB Final Report re: Police Services Act Re-write

Moved by Douglas Gunn
Seconded by Bonnie Vowel

THAT the OAPSB Final Report re: Police Services Act Re-write be received and filed.

- Carried

Portable Weigh Scales Report from Clayton Watters, Director of Engineering

Clayton Watters, Director of Engineering presented the report – Portable Weigh Scales to the board. The information within the report supports the need to purchase the weigh scales. Highlights of the supporting information are:

- Weigh scales are easy to carry and can be stored effectively in the trunk of police cruisers
- On the road 365 days a year – used primarily in the spring
- If we want to check a half load vehicle they need to contact MTO and they don't know if they will be available and while the MTO can be accommodating at times, they usually state that their weigh scales are for use only on provincial highways

During the discussion Detachment Commander Fishleigh stated that there are officers who have been trained to do minor commercial inspections and the portable weigh scales would be a great asset to their work. He also stated that Hwy #3 is a heavily trafficked area with commercial vehicles which travels directly through Elgin County. The OPP have already conducted a recent inspection blitz of commercial vehicles and laid 114 charges in 4 days. The greatest concern to the OPP is that extra attention is needed to the commercial industry vehicles in regards to accidents. Overweight vehicles have a higher rate of severe injury and death when involved in motor vehicle collisions.

Clayton expressed that the County's other concerns are the damage to the roads that occur with the overweight commercial vehicles.

Moved by Douglas Gunn
Seconded by Jim Jenkins

THAT the Elgin Group Police Services Board concur with the purchase of the Portable Weigh Scales as Officers are already trained to conduct such inspections.

- Carried

Detachment Commander's Quarterly Report – October to December 2016

Detachment Commander Fishleigh presented the following from this report:

- 1) Staffing Change - Introductions were made to Staff Sergeant Mike Butler who has moved into the position recently vacated by Staff Sergeant Greg Dafoe.
- 2) 1 Public Complaint - neighbor dispute went awry with several officers involved. The incident has been dealt with informally and was resolved. There is a secondary human rights complaint that is moving forward.

Commander Fishleigh noted that there could be a discrepancy of patrol hours due to the change over from Directed Patrol program to the Focused Patrol program.

Moved by Jim Jenkins

Seconded by Bonnie Vowel

THAT the Detachment Commander's Quarterly Report – October to December 2016 be received and filed.

- Carried

Elgin County OPP 2016 Year End Report

Detachment Commander Fishleigh presented the year end report and highlighted the following:

- a) Elgin Auxillary Unit consists of volunteer / non-paid officers who attend many community events such as food / toy drives, public school open houses, community fairs etc. Over 2900 hours have been spent by this group throughout 2016.
- b) Strategic Plan – the current plan has come to an end (2014 – 2016). The focus of this plan was:
 - Crime – reducing victimization from Domestic Violence; reduction in property crimes; and reducing victimization from cyber crimes
 - Drugs – continued emphasis on drug investigations focusing on trafficking and drugs in schools
 - Traffic – concentrating on impaired driving; speeding / aggressive driving; inattentive / distracted driving; seat belt use and animal related collisions. It was noted that 40% of all collisions are deer / vehicle collisions and that distracted driving is on the rise as cause of vehicle collisions

New discussions are required to design and implement the next three year Strategic Plan.

- c) Marijuana Legalization: The concerns regarding legalization of Marijuana are: drug impairment while driving and higher rate of possession but officers will be diverting their attention to the “big fish” (production and selling) as opposed to minor possession. There is also consideration of implementing special training to officers for detecting drug impairment in regards to traffic incidents.

Moved by Douglas Gunn
Seconded by Bonnie Vowel

THAT the Elgin County OPP 2016 Year End Report be received and filed.

- Carried

Detachment Commander's Quarterly Report – January to March 2017

Detachment Commander Fishleigh noted the following from his report:

- 1) Crime and Traffic Campaigns / Initiatives that have been conducted are: Festive RIDE campaign has concluded in January; the Provincial Distracted Driving Campaign occurred in early March; Half Load Initiative was conducted in conjunction with CMV enforcement in late March – early April. There were 6 focused patrols for specific traffic complaints / collision reduction. Also, there were 5 focused patrols for crime initiatives including impaired driving, break & enter patrols and theft from vehicles patrol.
- 2) Safeguard Ontario: Elgin Auxiliary Officers are in the process of updating their training in Safeguard Ontario so they can assist with follow up contacts with victims of Break & Enters.
- 3) Lock It or Lose It: Community Policing Committees continue to promote the Lock It or Lose It Campaign in our municipalities. This campaign focuses on informing the community to lock their vehicles to prevent theft.

Moved by Bonnie Vowel
Seconded by Jim Jenkins

THAT the Detachment Commander's Quarterly Report – January to March 2017 be received and filed.

- Carried

2017 Draft Board Budget Report

Moved by Douglas Gunn
Seconded by Bonnie Vowel

THAT the 2017 Draft Board Budget Report be approved and circulated to the municipalities.

- Carried

Other Items:

- 1) OAPSB Spring Conference 2017 – June 21st – 24th at Blue Mountain Resort - Donation Requested

Elgin Group Board Members were invited to participate in the Spring OAPSB Conference. Anyone wishing to attend has been directed to contact the Secretary Administrator. The

board has also been requested to support the conference with a donation. Will the board continue to support the conference with a \$200.00 donation in keeping with past practice?

Moved by Bonnie Vowel
Seconded by Jim Jenkins

THAT the Board continue to support the conference with a \$200.00 donation which is contained in the budget.

- Carried

New Business:

- None

Closed Meeting:

Moved by Bonnie Vowel
Seconded by Douglas Gunn

THAT we move into closed session to discuss a personal matter about an identifiable individual.

- Carried

Moved by Jim Jenkins
Seconded by Douglas Gunn

THAT the Detachment Commander's confidential verbal report regarding a personal matter about an identifiable individual be received for information.

- Carried

Adjournment:

Moved by Douglas Gunn
Seconded by Jim Jenkins

THAT we now adjourn at 4:20 pm with the board to meet, Wednesday, June 28, 2017, at 3:00 p.m. noting that the Chair could call a meeting earlier if required.

- Carried

M. G. McDonald,
Secretary / Administrator

Dave Marr,
Chair