

**Minutes**  
**ELGIN GROUP POLICE SERVICES BOARD**  
**September 6, 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  
Jim Jenkins, Vice-Chair  
Bonnie Vowel, Provincial Member  
Joanne Ferguson, Provincial Member  
Douglas Gunn, Board Member  
Mike Butler, Staff Sergeant OPP  
Julie Gonyou, Secretary Administrator  
Marie Findlay, Recording Secretary

Regrets – Brad Fishleigh, Elgin OPP Detachment Commander

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:00pm

Welcome back to Joanne and Bonnie. Joanne and Bonnie's Provincial appointments have been renewed for a further 3 years. Welcome to Julie Gonyou, new County CAO.

**Adoption of Minutes:**

Moved by Douglas Gunn  
Seconded by Jim Jenkins

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on June 28, 2017 be adopted.

- Carried.

**Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest:** None

**Correspondence:**

1) Frank Cowan Company – 2017-2018 Insurance Program

Mr. Jenkins inquired if the insurance covers only the Police Services Board.

- Insurance covers the Police Services Board, RIDE Program, 1000 Officer Safe Communities Program, and the Community Policing Program.

Moved by Joanne Ferguson  
Seconded by Bonnie Vowel

THAT the 2017 – 2018 Insurance Program with Frank Cowan Company in the amount of \$6,142.00 plus applicable taxes be renewed.

- Carried

## Reports:

### Detachment Commander's Quarterly Report – June to August 2017

Staff Sergeant Mike Butler presented the Detachment Commander's report in Commander Fishleigh's absence. He noted the following from the report:

- 1) No public complaints
- 2) 2581.5 patrol hours (includes cruiser, marine, foot and school patrols)
- 3) Staffing Update: PC Jeff McNorgan promoted to Sgt and transferred to Chatham; DC Pete Caslick promoted to Sgt and transferred to London; PC Jeff Bell completed 30 years of service and retired
- 4) Criminal Code / Traffic Charges for this quarter – 1461 offences
- 5) Property Crime (Break and Enter) – year to date has seen 31 offences which is a 14.8% increase from the same period last year

### Board Discussion following Report

Jenkins questioned / asked for a definition of: What is Intelligence Led Policing?

- Policing that is performed based on intelligence such as check ups on high risk offenders.

Staff Sergeant Butler advised there is a new Street Crime team with members from both Elgin County and London detachments. The focus of this team is to increase patrols on break and enters, alcohol and drug related offences, and noise complaints. Two weekends in Port Stanley patrols were performed concluding in 56 liquor licence violations (mostly open alcohol on beach) which also resulted in 5 arrests. This team is proving to be very successful with high police presence showing that Port Stanley is a safe tourist destination.

Police have been promoting the Motorcycle Safety Program. In the current quarter only 5 vehicle crashes involving motorcycles have occurred and no fatalities resulted from those collisions. Education goes a long way.

Family Day Event Update:

OPP Family Day occurred on September 4, 2017. This event in previous years was only for internal detachment officers but this year was opened to the public. Rated the most successful day in the 13 years this event has been running. Approximately 2000 – 2500 in attendance. Great representation from all municipal, county and emergency services and approximately \$3700 was raised to be split between St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital and Stable Grounds (organizations in support of mental health). Members expressed how well organized the event was.

Moved by Douglas Gunn  
Seconded by Jim Jenkins

THAT the Detachment Commander's Quarterly Report be received and filed.

- Carried

## OPP 2017 – 2019 Action Plan and 2016 Progress Report

Staff Sergeant Mike Butler presented highlights from the OPP 2017 – 2018 Action Plan and 2016 Progress Report.

A Community Satisfaction Survey was conducted which provides information regarding how the people served by the OPP rate that service, rate of public concern about crime and policing issues, indicators for making improvements to police services and means to measure how Ontarians view the OPP's service delivery. The following statistics were recorded:

- a) 98.4% responders felt very safe or safe in their community
- b) 88.9% responders felt very satisfied or satisfied with the ease of contacting the OPP
- c) 93.4% responders were very satisfied or satisfied with the quality of police service provided by the OPP
- d) 83.8% responders were very satisfied or satisfied with visibility of OPP in the community
- e) 91.9% responders were very satisfied or satisfied with the OPP's ability to work with the communities to solve local problems

### Crime Progress Results:

#### Violent Crime – Domestic Violence

- Observed an overall 23.18% reduction in overall violent crimes from 2014 – 2016 when compared to 2011 – 2013
- Observed an overall 50.0% reduction in overall crime domestics from 2014 – 2016 when compared to 2011 – 2013

#### Property Crime

- Observed an overall 10.56% reduction in overall property crime from 2014 – 2016 when compared to 2011 – 2013
- Observed an overall 20.2% reduction in overall theft over \$5000 from 2014 – 2016 when compared to 2011 – 2013
- Observed an overall 15.75% reduction in overall theft under \$5000 from 2014 – 2016 when compared to 2011 – 2013

#### Illicit Drugs

- Observed an overall 35.7% reduction in overall illicit drug charges from 2014 – 2016 when compared to 2011 – 2013

#### Traffic Progress Results

- Collision statistics were analyzed and discussed with County Roads Department to identify high volume intersections
- Local schools engaged and educated in relation to Distracted Driving
- Deployment of Speed Trailer
- Participation in Provincial Traffic Initiatives / Campaigns
- Observed an overall 2.16% reduction in motor vehicle collisions from 2014 – 2016 when compared to 2011 – 2013

## Priority List for 2017 – 2019:

### Crime

- Violent Crime – Domestic Violence
- Property Crime – Break & Enter; Theft from Motor Vehicle
- Illicit Drugs – including Opioids
- Cyber Crime

### Traffic

- Change driver behaviours to avoid injuries and deaths on roadways, waterways and trails
- Animal related motor vehicle collisions
- Marine patrol and emergency response on Lake Erie
- Motorcycle involved collisions and fatalities

### Other

- Continue Lock it or Lose it Campaign
- Continue collaborating with St Thomas Elgin General Hospital for an enhanced police response to persons experiencing a mental health crisis
- Reduce the impact / risk / frequency of 911 pocket dials
- Reduce “false alarm” calls through engagement and education (have observed a 14.54% decrease in false alarm calls from 2014 – 2016 when compared to 2011 – 2013)

## Board Discussion following Report:

Chair Marr inquired: Property Crime seems to be the most difficult to complete with arrests. How do we compare with other detachments?

- Staff Sergeant Butler replies that we are on par with our neighbouring partners. We continue to use all resources available to us. In a recent case, an arrest was made when utilizing the K9 resources.

Fentanyl – is there much in our area?

- There is a presence in St. Thomas and the County and it is a high concern to the officers. Training has been completed to utilize naloxone by injection when responding to an overdose call.

Moved by Joanne Ferguson  
Seconded by Bonnie Vowel

THAT the OPP 2017 – 2019 Action Plan and 2016 Progress Report be received and filed.

- Carried

## Other Items:

- none

**New Business:**

- none

**Adjournment:**

Moved by Douglas Gunn  
Seconded by Joanne Ferguson

THAT we now adjourn at 3:35 pm with the board to meet, Wednesday, December 6, 2017, at 3:00 p.m. noting that the Chair could call a meeting earlier if required.

- Carried

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Julie Gonyou,  
Secretary / Administrator

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Dave Marr,  
Chair