



## BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS for the HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

### MINUTES August 7, 2024

PRESENT: Commissioner Becky Kent, Chair  
Commissioner Gavin Giles, Vice Chair  
Commissioner Lisa Blackburn  
Commissioner Yemi Akindoju  
Commissioner Greg O'Malley

REGRETS: Commissioner Lindell Smith

STAFF: Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer  
Martin Ward, K.C., General Counsel  
Jamie D'Angelo, Legislative Assistant  
Krista Vining, Team Lead, Legislative Assistants

*The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.*

*The agenda, reports, supporting documents, and information items circulated are online at [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca).*

*The meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m. and recessed at 2:36 p.m. The Board reconvened at 2:59 p.m., the Board moved into an In Camera (In Private) session at 3:06 p.m. and reconvened at 4:24 p.m. The Board adjourned at 4:29 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, and that we are all treaty people.

**2. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioners noted special community announcements and acknowledgements.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 17, 2024, July 24, 2024 and August 6, 2024**

MOVED by Commissioner Akindoju, seconded by Commissioner O'Malley

**THAT the minutes of June 17, 2024, July 24, 2024 and August 6, 2024 be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

Additions:

- Item 3 – Approval of Minutes - July 24, 2024 and August 6, 2024
- Item 12.1 – Approval of In Camera (In Private) Minutes - August 6, 2024

Deletions: None

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner Akindoju

**THAT the agenda be approved as amended.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE**

**6. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE**

**7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS**

**7.1 Commissioner Kent – Police Transformation Study & MCC Report Recommendations**

The following was before the Board:

- Extract from the June 17, 2024 Board of Police Commissioners Draft Minutes.

The following motion was on the floor from the June 17, 2024 meeting:

MOVED by Commissioner Kent, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners:**

- 1. Direct the Chief of the Halifax Regional Police and advise the Officer in Charge of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to work together in reviewing each recommendation contained in the MCC Report, Volume 5, Policing;**

- 2. Direct the Chief of the Halifax Regional Police and advise the Officer in Charge of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to produce a joint staff report outlining those recommendations in which they are able to work together to implement; and**
- 3. Direct the Chief of the Halifax Regional Police and advise the Officer in Charge of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to provide joint quarterly updates using the Joint Chief Reporting Template**

Commissioner Kent stepped down from the Chair and Commissioner Giles assumed the Chair.

Commissioner Kent spoke to withdrawing the motion to propose a new motion.

As provided for in section 61 of Administrative Policy One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Board of Police Commissioners*, the motion was withdrawn with consent of the Board of Police Commissioners.

MOVED by Commissioner Kent, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for Halifax Regional Municipality direct the Chief of the HRP and advise the Officer in Charge of the RCMP to provide updates to the board using the Joint Chief Reporting Template on local progress made against the themes identified by the Progress Monitoring Committee (PMC) following the release of each biannual PMC public update.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Commissioner Kent resumed the Chair.

## **8. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

**8.1 Correspondence – None**

**8.2 Petitions – None**

**8.3 Presentations – None**

## **9. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE**

## **10. REPORTS/DISCUSSION**

### **10.1 HALIFAX REGIONAL POLICE/ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HALIFAX REGIONAL DETACHMENT CHIEF UPDATES**

Chief Don MacLean, Halifax Regional Police gave a summary of key operational activities, recruitment, and provided community announcements. MacLean gave an overview of the crimes that have occurred over the past month, and investigation efforts made, that led to arrests. MacLean responded to questions of clarification from the Board. MacLean told the Board about the preventative work being done with their partners across Canada regarding the increase in theft crimes.

Chief Superintendent Jeffrey Christie, Officer in Charge, Royal Canadian Mounted Police Halifax Regional Detachment provided updates on recruitment and key operational activities. Christie told the Board that there had been an increase in pleasure craft offences.

### **10.2 STAFF**

#### **10.2.1 Off Duty and Extra Duty Employment Policy**

The following was before the Board:

- Staff report dated July 18, 2024

Josh Bates, Policing Policy Strategist spoke to the topic of extra-duty and off duty policies. Bates suggested the Board take steps to allow for the use of special constables for extra duties such as

directing traffic during special events. Bates told the Board that Halifax Regional Police officers were in support of this policy after being consulted. They further explained that the next step was to allow the public to give their opinion through the Halifax website.

MOVED by Commissioner Giles, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality:**

- 1. Adopt in principle, subject to a period of public comment, the revised extra duty and off duty policies for inclusion in the Board of Police Commissioners' Policy Manual, as outlined in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated July 18, 2024; and**
- 2. Recommend that Regional Council request the Mayor to write a letter to the Minister of Justice to consider the appointment of trained municipal staff as Special Constables to provide traffic direction at special events.**

Bates responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

Chief Don MacLean, Halifax Regional Police expressed concerns around section 11(b) Reporting requirements of the Draft Off Duty Employment Policy and the estimate of the total number of off-duty hours worked in the previous fiscal year based on applications received. MacLean responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer responded to question of clarification from the Board. O'Toole told the Board that the off-duty policy regarding the Chief's approval was largely to address any code of conduct conflicts.

Britt Wilson, Executive Director of Human Resources responded to question of clarification from the Board, explaining the process of any off-duty injuries.

MOVED by Commissioner Giles, Seconded by Commissioner Akindoju

**THAT Item 10.2.1 Off Duty and Extra Duty Employment Policy be deferred to a future meeting of Board of Police Commissioners.**

**MOTION TO DEFER PUT AND PASSED.**

**10.2.2 2023 RCMP Halifax Regional Detachment - 2023 Tantallon Wildfire Response After-Action Review – Presentation**

The following was before the Board:

- Staff presentation dated August 2, 2024

Inspector Don Moser, Royal Mounted Canadian Police Halifax Regional Detachment gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

Chief Superintendent Jeffrey Christie, Officer in Charge, Royal Canadian Mounted Police Halifax Regional Detachment spoke to the teams involved in evacuations. Christie expressed the proposed emergency response recommendations are not costly and are more training-based recommendations.

Bill Moore, Executive Director of Community Safety, spoke to Community Safety having presented a report to Council on their proposal for an emergency management program and that they would be adopting all recommendation they received from the Auditor General. Moore suggested the Board review the Halifax Regional Fire and Emergency After-Action Report.

Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer responded to questions of clarification from the Board. O'Toole explained the abilities the city had regarding emergency response and efforts being made to improve responses. O'Toole expressed to the Board the need for increased policies for risk mitigation.

### **10.3 MEMBERS OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS**

#### **10.3.1 Commissioner Kent – Halifax Regional Police Association Use of Halifax Regional Police Logo**

The following was before the Board:

- Request for Board of Police Commissioners Consideration form from Commissioner Kent

Commissioner Kent stepped down from the Chair and Commissioner Giles assumed the Chair.

MOVED by Commissioner Kent, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality approve the Halifax Regional Police Association's (HRPA) request to use the Halifax Regional Police logo in the creation of wooden plaques produced by James White as retirement or promotion gifts to HRPA members.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Commissioner Kent resumed the Chair.

### **11. ADDED ITEMS – NONE**

### **12. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)**

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner O'Malley

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners convene to In Camera (In Private) to discuss 12.1 In Camera (In Private) Minutes, Item 12.2 PERSONNEL MATTER and Item 12.3 LEGAL ADVICE.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

#### **12.1 In Camera (In Private) Minutes – June 17, 2024 and August 6, 2024**

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Private) and ratified in public as follows:

MOVED by Commissioner Giles, seconded by Commissioner O'Malley

**THAT the In Camera (In Private) minutes of June 17, 2024 and August 6, 2024 be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

#### **12.2 PERSONNEL MATTER - *Private and Confidential Report***

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Private) and ratified in public as follows:

The following was before the Board of Police Commissioners:

- Private and confidential report dated July 22, 2024
- Private and confidence staff presentation dated August 7, 2024

- Private and confidential extracts from the March 9, 2023, February 6, 2023, January 30, 2023 and January 16, 2023 Board of Police Commissioners minutes

MOVED by Commissioner O'Malley, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for Halifax Regional Municipality:**

- 1. Adopt the recommendations as outlined in the private and confidential report dated July 22, 2024; and**
- 2. Direct that the private and confidential report dated July 22, 2024 be maintained private and confidential.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**12.3 LEGAL ADVICE - *Private and Confidential Report***

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Private) and ratified in public as follows:

The following was before the Board of Police Commissioners:

- Private and confidential report dated July 15, 2024
- Private and confidential extract from the July 24, 2024 Board of Police Commissioners draft minutes

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner Giles

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for Halifax Regional Municipality adopt the direction provided during the In Camera (In Private) meeting.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**13. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE**

**14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – September 4, 2024**

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:29 p.m.

Jamie D'Angelo  
Legislative Assistant