

MINUTES

OTTAWA-CARLETON REGIONAL POLICE SERVICES BOARD

OTTAWA-CARLETON REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS CHAMPLAIN ROOM, 111 LISGAR STREET

26 FEBRUARY 1996

5:00 P.M.

PRESENT

Chair: Mr. P. Vice
Vice Chair: Mr. A. Bouwers

Members: Mr. G. Baskerville
Ms. A. Boudreau
Regional Chair P. Clark
Councillor D. Holmes
Councillor D. Pratt

INTRODUCTION

Chair Vice began the meeting by introducing the members of the re-constituted Board, and providing some instructions of a procedural nature to Board members.

He noted there were members of the public present who wished to speak to the Board. While he was prepared to hear the delegations at the appropriate time with the Board's consent, he noted the policy set out in the *Procedure By-law* encourages people wishing to make delegations to give notice to the Secretary, along with a copy of the materials that shall be presented, not less than one week prior to the meeting at which they wish to appear. He asked the Board whether it wished to hear from the delegations tonight, and suggested they spend some time later in the meeting determining the procedure they wished to follow for hearing future delegations.

Councillor Holmes clarified it was standard practice at Regional standing committee meetings to allow delegations to speak to items listed on the agenda without giving advance notice. Chair Vice noted this, but wished to clarify the procedure for hearing from people wanting to speak about issues other than those included in the agenda. The Board agreed to hear from the delegations present that evening.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved by P. Clark

That the Ottawa-Carleton Regional Police Services Board confirm the Regular and Confidential Minutes of the 18 December 1995 and 16 February 1996 meetings.

CARRIED

INQUIRIES

1. Correspondence from Motorola

Councillor Holmes referenced a letter that members of the Board recently received from Motorola. She inquired whether someone would be responding to it, and suggested staff be asked to provide a comment or verbal briefing at the next meeting.

For the benefit of new Board members, Regional Chair Clark explained Motorola was one of two companies that submitted proposals for the shared radio communications system currently being developed. Following lengthy and careful evaluation, the proposal from the other firm was found to be superior and the contract was subsequently awarded to them. Regional Chair Clark suspected the recent letter may be an attempt by Motorola to re-open the process or to seek some redress. He suggested the matter was best left with the Legal Department.

Chair Vice requested that General Counsel V. Westwick investigate and prepare a response prior to the Board's next meeting.

2. Increased Traffic Surveillance on Greenbank Road

Councillor Pratt asked the Chief of Police if there were plans to increase surveillance for speeding along Greenbank Road in light of the recent fatal accident there.

Deputy Chief A. Mackie responded he spoke with Superintendent J. Bickford, 21 (Nepean) Division earlier in the day, who indicated surveillance had been increased. The Deputy Chief stated he would have a detailed response for the Councillor the next day.

PRESENTATION

2. Presentation of Cheque from Kanata-Hazeldean Lion's Club

Regional Councillor Alex Munter and City of Kanata Councillor Tom Flood addressed the Board. Councillor Flood explained the cheque is the result of a cooperative effort between the Lion's Club and the OPP over the last couple of years in which unclaimed bicycles and other stolen goods are auctioned off, with the proceeds going to the Police Services Board.

He was very pleased to present a cheque on behalf of the Kanata-Hazeldean Lion's Club for \$3,465.00, representing the proceeds from 1995 auctions. In presenting the cheque, he expressed their pleasure at being able to participate, particularly in light of the service provided by the OPP in Kanata. He also took the opportunity to express his support for community grants.

As a follow-up, Regional Councillor Munter added some of the funds raised through the auction have been used for a youth drop-in centre for which the community is very thankful. He expressed his thanks to the Board and wished its members good luck in their new mandate.

Chair Vice thanked the presenters, and congratulated them on their efforts in the community.

3. RECONSIDERATIONS

Regional Chair Clark believed the approval of these funds was a question of whether the Board should be in the business of providing grants, and also of how much authority the Board wished to delegate to the Chief. He personally did not believe the Board should be in the business of providing grants. On the other hand, if some of the requests pertain to community policing operations, they should be evaluated by the Chief, with recommendations then coming to the Board. He noted none of these requests came from the Chief.

Councillor Holmes commented that various community policing committees throughout the Region have been working in partnership with either the Regional Police or the OPP, and want to carry out community based projects in partnership with the police. The grant requests before the Board represent the funds needed to conduct these projects. She felt it was important that these groups working in their own communities have a small amount of money to conduct programs of their own in conjunction with the programs offered by the police.

The Board voted on the whether to reconsider the Motions outlined below:

That the Ottawa-Carleton Police Services Board reconsider the Motions dealing with funding for the Greely and Area Community Policing Committee, the Cyrville Community Policing Committee, and the Community Grants program, in connection with the 1996 Ottawa-Carleton Regional Police Service Budget.

CARRIED

Greely and Area Community Policing Committee

Mr. Peter O'Neill, representing the Greely and Area Community Policing Committee, distributed a package of information to Board members (a copy is on file with the Board Secretary), and introduced Township of Osgoode Councillor Doug Thompson.

He began by providing some background on the community. There are approximately 1,740 residences and businesses in the Greely area, and it is the largest of the three main communities in Osgoode Township. There are approximately 130 police occurrences a week (Osgoode and Rideau Townships combined), yet there is no single point of access to social programs and no regular visible peace officer presence.

To address this, the Greely and Area Community Policing Committee was established to deliver proactive community based programs in support of the community. The Committee consists of a 12-member volunteer Board, 53 volunteers for special programmes and two students representatives. There are active in the Youth Club, in prevention initiatives and on Hallowe'en night.

The Committee feels a need to provide a real community presence and further to this, have assembled a pair of programmes that will provide a visible presence, community access, and an invisible deterrent to criminals.

The first is the establishment of a community police office to provide access to and info on social programmes, act as a drop-in centre providing trained volunteers and OPP officers to assist neighbours, and provide a presence and act as a deterrent. Mr. O'Neill believed this would enable police to focus their shrinking resources on core issues while the volunteers handled other matters. For residents, the office would provide an immediate return on investment as policing costs are phased-in over the next five years.

The second initiative, the "Greely Watch" program, would put trained volunteers in the community as patrollers to provide an unobtrusive presence and serve as "eyes and ears". The volunteers would not interact with criminals, but would be equipped with tools required to safely collect information about suspicious activities and provide leads for

police follow-up. Signage would also be erected to act as a visible deterrent. The “Greely Watch” is modelled after the successful “Embrun Watch” program.

While the group would like to begin fundraising initiatives, it is hampered by the lack of a physical presence. Additional statistical support for programme focus cannot happen until the OPP provides clearance for access to crime stats, which again is tied to the establishment of a programme.

He requested that the Police Services Board approve funding for the two initiatives, and drew the Board’s attention to the one-year and ongoing budget forecasts circulated as part of the information package. They do not include fundraising revenue and are therefore considered conservative estimates.

Township of Osgoode Councillor Thompson added his support to Mr. O’Neill’s request. He noted the group has been active for the past three years and while there are two community police offices in Osgoode already, he felt it was important demographically to have a presence in the Greely area also. Everything needed is in place except the funding. He was also hopeful the Township Council would provide some support once the Police Services Board acknowledged the need for the office.

Mr. Bouwers inquired whether the representatives felt they could raise the additional money needed through fundraising if they received \$5,000. He suggested providing the \$5,000 grant conditional on the community raising matching funds.

Mr. O’Neill responded if that was the case, they would put the office in place first, which in turn would provide the vehicle to assist in raising additional funds. Councillor Thompson added there is some interest among businesses in the other two Township community police offices in establishing a business watch program. He believed the establishment of a community policing office in Greely would serve as a catalyst in launching that program as well. However, a commitment from the Board that funding would be forthcoming would be essential.

Mr. Bouwers believed this was a very worthwhile project. He noted the two community policing offices already operating in the Township of Osgoode have been very successful, and the Greely community is really the most geographically spread-out of any community in the Township. This initiative would greatly assist in making the community more cohesive, and for a relatively small amount of money, would allow over 50 volunteers to be utilized. He believed the investment would be good value for the money.

Mr. Baskerville commended the Greely Committee for its initiative and hard work. However, it was his understanding the former Board had referred the Committee’s request to staff for consideration in connection with the 1996 budget and that staff, after balancing the request against other needs, had not included the funding in the budget. The fact that

this grant was added in afterwards concerned him, given that staff did considerable work in trying to balance conflicting demands and did not see fit to include this. He also expressed concern about what would be lost if this request was funded from the OPP portion of the budget. For these reasons, he could not support the request.

Regional Chair Clark, responding to one of Mr. Baskerville's concerns, stated the OPP were undersupplying service and therefore felt there was room in their budget for the \$5,000 request. On the other hand, he noted Greely is a community of approximately 5,000 people spread out over a wide area. If a community policing office was established for every 5,000 people, it would require 140 offices in the Region - a considerable amount of resources. He was more supportive of the "Greely Watch" programme rather than establishing another office. He believed the need for new offices should be evaluated on the basis of policing requirements rather than community relations.

Councillor Holmes clarified the application for funding originally was submitted to the Community Grants Program. The Grants Allocation Panel decided that funding for both the Greely and Cyrville community policing committees more properly belonged in the policing budget rather than the grants budget. She noted the request from Greely was specifically for the "Greely Watch" programme, not to set up an office, and that the programme would be largely volunteer-run. She also drew attention to the fact that the group had originally requested \$10,000, and that only \$5,000 is now before the Board.

Moved by D. Holmes

That the Ottawa-Carleton Police Services Board approve a grant in the amount of \$5,000 to the Greely and Area Community Policing Committee for the Greely Watch Program, to be funded from within the OPP component of the 1996 Budget.

CARRIED

YEAS: A. Boudreau, A. Bouwers, P. Clark, D. Holmes, D. Pratt

NAYS: G. Baskerville

Cyrville Community Policing Committee Funding Request

Councillor Holmes noted this grant request was similar to that from the Greely Community Policing Committee, except that Cyrville was a much larger community. The Cyrville Community Policing Committee also asked for \$10,000 for a specific Outreach Programme to be operated from the community policing centre, aimed at informing hard-to-reach residents of the services provided by the Centre. To achieve this, part of the money would be used to translate crime prevention documents into four or five languages common in the area. They also hoped to get more volunteers involved.

In response to a question from Mr. Bouwers, it was clarified this would be a one-time grant.

Moved by D. Holmes

That the Ottawa-Carleton Police Services Board approve a grant in the amount of \$5,000 to the Cyrville Community Policing Committee for the Outreach Program, to be funded from within the community policing office component of the 1996 Regional Police Service Budget.

LOST

YEAS: A. Bouwers, D. Holmes

NAYS: G. Baskerville, A. Boudreau, D. Pratt

Community Grants Program Funding

Councillor Holmes explained the Community Grants Program was established in 1995 by the former Board with an annual budget of \$100,000, and a cap of \$10,000 on grants. The program allowed community groups from across the Region to receive funding for community based projects offered in conjunction with their police partners. The former Board had approved funding for the program in 1996.

Councillor Pratt expressed concerns about providing the funding in light of the severe financial restraints currently facing the Police Service. He believed staff had done a very good job of reviewing and prioritizing all expenditures prior to the Board's Budget Review in December, and this was an area staff felt was nice to have, but not essential. He shared this feeling, and also cautioned that granting programs in general have a tendency to continue expanding along with the expectation that the money will always be there. He was convinced the good work performed by these community groups would continue regardless of funding through this program. He urged the Board to vote against providing the funding.

Regional Chair Clark did not believe the Ottawa-Carleton Police Services Board should be in the business of providing grants. In contrast, there are other, more police-related, areas that merit contributions such as the annual Police Memorial Service. He believed the Chief of Police should have some discretion to be supportive of such police-related functions, with periodic reports to the Board. He hoped the Board would address the establishment of a policy at a later date. He felt there were ample opportunities for community groups to seek funding through other Regional granting programs, and was against continuing the Police Board granting program.

Mr. Baskerville believed if the Board was going to approve a policy of community grants, it should be fully discussed and be included in the budget as a hard-line item, rather than being funded from the Auction Proceeds. He suggested the Auction Proceeds revenue could best be used as a contingency fund for the Board to be able to respond to unforeseen needs during the fiscal year.

Moved by D. Holmes

That the Ottawa-Carleton Police Services Board approve that \$100,000 be provided from the Auction Proceeds for community grants for 1996.

LOST

YEAS: D. Holmes

NAYS: G. Baskerville, A. Boudreau, A. Bouwers, P. Clark, D. Pratt

At this point in the meeting, Chair Vice indicated it was his intention to refrain from voting except in instances of a tie.

Councillor Holmes inquired whether the *Procedure By-law* or *Police Services Act* contained any requirement that the Chair must vote; General Counsel V. Westwick was asked to investigate and report back.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

4. Large Police Services Boards - 19 February 1996 Meeting
- Regional Chair's report dated 20 Feb 96

Regional Chair Clark reported on the meeting he recently attended in Brampton of Chairs from the Large Police Services Boards in Ontario. He noted he had attended the meeting in lieu of the Chair because there was no properly constituted Board at the time. He was surprised to discover at the meeting that there had been several earlier meetings of this group, and that the previous Chair had attended but had not reported on them to the Board.

He explained the group of 12 or 13 Chairs periodically meets to discuss issues of shared interest such as amendments to the *Police Services Act*, false alarm policy and contract flexibility. He drew the Board's attention to the notes he had taken at the meeting and additional documentation circulated to attendees. Other documentation included the Windsor Police Services Board by-law on false alarms, and papers from Metro Toronto and Halton on revenue enhancing possibilities.

He felt the issues raised at the meeting were substantive and believed it would be useful to examine some of them; he mentioned in particular the false alarm policy. He wondered whether it would be helpful to receive a report from staff on what the current policy is and whether it needs to be evaluated.

Regional Chair Clark also referenced the significant initiative being undertaken by the Solicitor General's Office with regard to reconfiguring police services across the Province, in particular in areas served by the OPP. He noted there are important amendments to the *Police Services Act* being proposed which he would like to discuss with the Board In Camera.

Another topic discussed at the meeting was the request from several police services for a "formula 75" for the determination of pensions. This could be very expensive and the Regional Chair thought it should be discussed.

He noted the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, 15 April 1996 in Halton. He felt the Board's representative at the next meeting should have some indication of how staff feel prior to that date. He recommended: the continued participation of one or more Board members at the bi-monthly meetings; and, that some of the issues be the subject of staff comment for inclusion in future agendas to facilitate discussion by the Board.

Mr. Baskerville inquired why Metro Toronto is recommending the elimination of the Ontario Police College.

Regional Chair Clark responded there was a feeling that training could be done through community colleges within each community to save residential fees. Chief Ford added that one of the problems with the Ontario Police College is that it does not have the capacity to meet the needs of police in Ontario. The Ottawa-Carleton Police Service is currently investigating a possible training partnership with Algonquin College.

Mr. Baskerville expressed concern about maintaining common standards and about the impact on the budget of having to provide instructors. He felt the matter required further discussion by the Board and endorsed staff review.

Councillor Holmes commented she has given some thought in the past to our false alarm by-law and how it applies, and she was very interested in finding an average and then costing above that above. She requested staff to compare the Windsor By-law to our own, and report back with recommendations.

She inquired if the Regional Chair was able to comment on how well the Windsor By-law is working after having been in place for two years. Regional Chair Clark responded he was not familiar with any details, other than that it has been the subject of some community debate. Staff was asked to contact Windsor to find out.

Chief Ford commented he will be circulating to Board members copies of a recently prepared comprehensive report on false alarms as a revenue generating idea. The system is already in place in Vancouver, and the Chief believed revenues in the range of \$1 to 2 million could be generated. The report is currently being reviewed by Police personnel, the RMOC's Finance Commissioner and Chief Administrative Officer for feedback, and will be submitted to the Board in approximately two months.

As no one else volunteered, Regional Chair Clark agreed to continue attending the meetings for the duration of the year, with the understanding that someone else would assume the responsibility next year.

That the Ottawa-Carleton Police Services Board receive the material on the Large Police Services Board Information Sharing Session held on 19 February 1996, and endorse the Ottawa-Carleton Police Services Board's future participation with this group, with Regional Chair Clark acting as its representative for the duration of the year.

CARRIED as amended

5. Ontario Association of Police Services Boards -
1996 Annual Meeting and Spring Conference - Call For Resolutions
- Board Secretary's report dated 21 Feb 96

Chair Vice suggested Board members submit to the Board Secretary before the next meeting any Resolutions they wish considered at the Annual Conference, so they can be included in the agenda.

That the Ottawa-Carleton Police Services Board receive the memorandum from the Executive Director, Ontario Association of Police Services Boards, dated 12 Feb 96.

RECEIVED

6. Ottawa-Carleton Police Services Board Meeting Schedule
- Board Secretary's report dated 15 Jan 96

Chair Vice pointed out the second Monday in the next two months falls on March break and Easter Monday, and suggested that meetings be held on the fourth Monday of each month instead. Board members concurred with this suggestion.

Mr. Baskerville suggested changing the word “communities” to “locations” to provide greater flexibility. He felt “communities” might be interpreted strictly as municipalities, and was concerned this would prevent the Board from meeting in other locations within the City of Ottawa. No member expressed an objection to this amendment.

Mr. Bouwers preferred to hold regular meetings at Regional Headquarters unless it was decided from time to time to hold them elsewhere, either at the call of the Chair or with the consensus of the Board.

Chair Vice believed Board members had a duty to visit other communities, along with the Chief and Deputies. However, he did not think they should hold regular Board meetings in various locations as it would mean taking all the police staff there as well. If a community wanted to address a specific issue, appropriate staff could be provided.

Councillor Holmes inquired whether the Board should ask the communities if they would like the Board to meet with them, or just ignore them.

Chair Vice responded he believed the Board should be visiting the various communities regardless of whether it has been invited, but he reiterated he did not feel it was necessary to bring all the staff along.

Councillor Holmes asked whether community meetings will be regularly scheduled, or done in an ad hoc manner. She noted how difficult it is to organize ad hoc meetings.

Mr. Bouwers agreed the meetings should be scheduled at least two months in advance, but suggested the Board should wait to hear whether the community wants a meeting. He also noted the Board will very likely have requests for community meetings once discussions begin about whether to regionalize areas currently policed by the OPP. However, he preferred to hold the regular meetings at 111 Lisgar Street.

Regional Chair Clark agreed regular meetings be held here, and when the Board has something particular to communicate, such as information on the OPP issue, it could provide it to the public through open houses and other vehicles other than regular meetings. He suggested the Board should be able to achieve this by sending one or two representatives.

Councillor Pratt noted the previous Board met in every one of the 11 municipalities throughout 1995. There was an effort to publicize the Board’s willingness to hear from people and to establish a presence in the communities. People know how to reach Board members now and, as noted by Mr. Bouwers, there will be times when the Board will have to make itself available at the local level on an as required basis.

That the Ottawa-Carleton Police Services Board approve a regular meeting schedule of the fourth Monday in each month beginning at 5:00 p.m., to be held at Regional Headquarters, 111 Lisgar Street, or in various locations throughout the Region as required.

CARRIED as amended
(D. Holmes dissented)

7. Regular Report from the Chief of Police and OPP Inspector
- verbal update

a) Retirements of J. Bickford and D. Fermoyale

Chief Ford formally announced that Jim Bickford, former Deputy Chief of the Ottawa Police Service, and Devon Fermoyale, former Deputy Chief of the Nepean Police Service, have confirmed their decision to retire. They will be taking advantage of early retirement incentives similar to those offered to members of the Senior Officers' Association in 1995.

He stressed both former Deputies have been valuable members of the Ottawa-Carleton Police Service's Executive group over the past year, and have been exemplary in helping the Service to make the difficult transition to a Regional service.

In order to best utilize their extensive experience, both have been asked by the Chief to take on special eight month assignments. Commencing 1 April 1996, they will report directly to the Chief and will assist in the implementation of a number of complex issues pertaining to amalgamation, district policing and proactive police initiatives. They have agreed to remain as active members of the Ottawa-Carleton Police Service until 30 November 1996.

Effective 1 December 1996, Superintendents Bickford and Fermoyale will utilize all accrued vacation and statutory leave and then commence a paid leave period to 30 November 1997, at which time they would be provided with any terminal leave or pay provisions applicable to them.

Chief Ford took the opportunity to thank both employees on behalf of the Ottawa-Carleton Police Service, for their many years of dedicated service to policing in Ottawa-Carleton.

Chair Vice added since becoming a member of the Board, he has heard numerous comments about the professionalism with which Superintendents Bickford and

Fermoyle performed their duties. Having known both officers for many years, he felt assured of their continued commitment to the Service over the next eight months. He concluded by congratulating them on their tremendous service to the Board and the community, and wished them both well.

b) Ontario Public Service Employees' Union (OPSEU) Strike

Chief Ford noted two officers have been assigned to the strike and have met with both union and management. There have been no problems in Ottawa-Carleton to date as a result of the strike, and the Chief did not expect there would be because an ongoing dialogue has been maintained with the various parties for some time.

c) Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police Conference

Last week the Chief and Deputies attended the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police conference to hear Ontario's Solicitor General, R. Runciman, speak about issues related to policing. He outlined some of the difficulties the Province is facing with regard to funding over the next year, and appealed to the Chiefs to do their part in tackling these budgetary problems. The Solicitor General will be speaking to the Ontario Police Association next week.

d) Veltchev Murder

Chief Ford reported that two individuals have been arrested in connection with the murder of Mr. Veltchev, who was found bludgeoned to death in the trunk of his vehicle.

e) First Murder of 1996

Inspector Burns reported that the first murder in the Region occurred in the OPP policed area of the Township of West Carleton on 2 January 1996. Two people have been arrested and the matter is before the courts.

f) Closure of Community Police Offices in Munster Hamlet and Kanata

Referencing earlier concern about the possible closure of community policing offices in Munster Hamlet and Kanata, Inspector Burns reported the Munster Hamlet leasing problem has been finalized and the office will remain open. The Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton is still negotiating with the property owners in Kanata to keep the office open.

8. PUBLIC DELEGATION

Sue Clark, representative for Canadian Advocates for Psychiatricized Persons

Ms. Clark thanked the Board for the opportunity to address them. She stated that she reported a date rape to the Ottawa Police Sexual Assault Unit in 1992, that occurred in 1988. At the time it happened, she believed she was responsible for the rape and that is why she reported it four years later. The response she received from the Sexual Assault Unit appalled her. She believed that because of her psychiatric background, she was treated like a perpetrator, not a victim. She stated the first detective that she saw said the rape would be hard to prove because it happened four years ago.

Ms. Clark believed the man who raped her also stalked her for two years, but when she reported it to the Ottawa Police, they would not charge him. At that point, she hired a lawyer, and laid a private rape charge. She went to court ten times in 1993 as a result of changing lawyers. At the trial, Ms. Clark believed her lawyer failed to protect her rights by revealing her psychiatric background.

Ms. Clark believed she has been re-victimized through this ordeal. She presented some suggestions for changes to the Sexual Assault Unit:

- increase the staff both at the Sexual Assault Unit and at the Victim Crisis Unit
- increase education regarding sexual assault, classism, racism and the stigma regarding psychiatric patients
- have victims speak at meetings such as those of the Police Board
- establish an advocacy unit paid by the Police for sexual assault victims
- have a liaison between victims of crisis and the Police
- have meetings with survivors
- have rape survivors speak about their experience with the justice system

Ms. Clark stated she was sure some rape cases have been well handled, but unfortunately hers was not.

Councillor Holmes requested that the Chief ensure someone from the Sexual Assault Unit meets with Ms. Clark to discuss the problem.

Because Chief Ford believed this was a public complaint, he suggested they take a report from Ms. Clark and have Public Complaints review it to see whether the appropriate procedures and investigative techniques were undertaken at the time.

9. NOTICE OF MOTION

- reference page 14 of Ottawa-Carleton Police Services Board Minutes, 18 December 1995
(to be considered at the meeting of 25 March 1996)

Moved by D. Pratt

That \$20,000 which was allocated at the meeting of 18 December 1995 in support of six Citizen Working Committees be held in abeyance pending a resolution of the OPP and RMOC contract issue, and a further determination of how best to solicit public input in areas currently serviced by the OPP.

IN CAMERA

At approximately 7:00 p.m., Mr. Bouwers moved the following:

That the Ottawa-Carleton Police Services Board move In Camera to discuss a personnel matter, in accordance with Section 35(4)(b) of the *Police Services Act*.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

W. Fedec
Secretary

P. Vice
Chair