



**MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF WEST HANTS
Police Advisory Board Minutes
March 11, 2019, 3:30 p.m.
Sanford Council Chambers**

Attendance:	P. Morton	Chair
	J. Daniels	Councillor
	C. Rochon	Director of Finance
	C. Bushell	RCMP
	R. Meehan	Citizen Member
	A. Henhoeffter	REMO Coordinator
	J. Woodman	Administrative Assistant

Regrets: G. Pineo

1. Call to Order

Chair Morton called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

2. Announcements

The standard fire evacuation procedure was announced.

3. Approval of Agenda

MOVED and SECONDED that the agenda be approved including the following additions.

6 (b) Annual Performance Plan

Motion Carried.

4. Approval of Minutes

MOVED and SECONDED that the Minutes of January 14th, 2019 be approved as circulated noting any errors or omissions.

Motion Carried.

5. RCMP Update – Budget

Staff Sergeant Bushell reported that their School Safety Resource officer remains on long term sick leave and there has been no change in status. He confirmed it is

being reviewed by their Health Services to determine how to move forward. He noted that Sgt. Balmaceda has been announced as the new Operations NCO with a tentative start date of April 8th, 2019. He advised that they have asked staffing to cancel the transfer from "K" Division and find a replacement. He confirmed one of their town members has gone ODS after 30 days and they will be transitioning a county member over but suggested it would not result in a noticeable decline in service.

He confirmed there was no remarkable enforcement news to report on the legalization of cannabis. He added that the Annapolis Valley Traffic Services continues to saturate the area for enforcement efforts as they deem Hants County to be a particular hot-spot for impaired operations.

He suggested they have been very successful with speed and seatbelt charges in the area, and noted this is seatbelt enforcement month, and next month is aggressive driving.

Staff Sergeant Bushell reviewed the monthly statistics for January and February. He confirmed a 1% increase is anticipated in the budget and noted that last year's budget was \$2,360,604 and next year's will be \$2,384,210 which is a variance of \$23,606.

He reported the RCMP's priorities for the upcoming year is Traffic-road safety, Crime reduction, Enhance relationship with African Nova Scotians. He noted he would like to have the board's direction as to what areas to focus on regarding these priorities.

6. Miscellaneous/New Business

a. Consolidation Update

Staff Sergeant Bushell reported looking ahead into consolidation the RCMP have met with the Town and Municipality as well as the Co-ordinating Coordinator. He stated it was decided the RCMP would present policing options to the Co-ordinating committee by May 15th, with a recommendation as to the best option. He suggested that currently members find it cumbersome to have two offices and felt boundary lines were not necessary. He noted there is concern whether there is enough office space to fit all the members. He stated that Chuck Porter is in favor of new infrastructure and felt it would be a great benefit to the community. He advised there has been some concerns from residents about the police station being accessible to individuals with mobility issues.

A. Henhoeffler asked if morale would increase if all members were in the same building during the amalgamation process. Staff Sergeant Bushell suggested the morale would increase for some and then there would be those who would be indifferent and offered that all members would enjoy a new building that was better laid out.

Councillor Daniels expressed the importance of having a School Safety Resource office position, and a consistent face that students are comfortable talking to. She noted that the schools truly miss having this officer and asked if this could be addressed.

Councillor Daniels inquired if there is ongoing education with the youth. Staff Sergeant Bushell confirmed there is and explained it is as requested. He noted early in the school year they sent out a message to the principals to advise them that they are available and confirmed that many members have been at the schools providing lessons and all schools have been addressed through the safe programs and the lockdowns drills have been completed.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for April 29th at 3:30 pm.

Adjournment

MOVED and SECONDED that the meeting adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 4:24 p.m.

Paul Morton, Chair