

**LACOMBE POLICE COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, January 11, 2024**

**Attendees:** Corey Gish, Chair  
Cameron Penstone, Vice-Chair  
Elaine Willette-Larsen, Commission Member at Large  
Sonja Dykslag, Commission Member at Large (Remote)  
Ken Kulak, Public Complaints Director  
John Soderberg, Commission Member at Large  
Steve Christie, Provincial Appointed Commission Member  
Cora Hoekstra, City of Lacombe Councillor

**Others:** Chief Lorne Blumhagen, Lacombe Police Service  
Diane Piché, Director of Corporate Service  
Tracey McKinnon, Senior Financial Manager  
Jennifer Peterson, Secretary

**Regrets:**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

1.1. Chair Gish called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

**2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

2.1. Chair Gish read the Land Acknowledgement.

**3. ADOPTION OF ORGANIZATIONAL AGENDA**

3.1 January 11, 2024, the Organization Agenda was presented for adoption.

(24.01) **MOVED by Elaine Willette-Larsen** to adopt the January 11, 2024, organizational agenda as presented.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**4. ORGANIZATIONAL AGENDA**

4.1 Oath of Office and Swearing-in of Reappointed Members

Chief Blumhagen administered the Oath of Office for reappointed Commissioner Cameron Penstone of the Lacombe Police Commission.

4.2 Annual Election

Chief Blumhagen called for nominations for Commission Chair.

Commissioner Willette-Larsen nominated Corey Gish for the position of Commission Chair.  
Commissioner Gish accepted the nomination.

Chief Blumhagen called for a second and a third for the nomination of the Chair position. No other nominations were received.

(24.02) **MOVED by Steve Christie** that nominations cease.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Commissioner Corey Gish was acclaimed as Chair.

Chari Gish opened nominations for Commission Vice-Chair.

Commissioner Christie nominated Cameron Penstone for the position of Commission Vice-Chair. Commissioner Penstone accepted the nomination. No other nominations were received.

Chair Gish called for a second and a third for the nomination of the Vice Chair position. No other nominations were received.

(24.03) **MOVED by Ken Kulak** that nominations cease.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Commissioner Cameron Penstone was acclaimed as Vice-Chair.

## **5. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

5.1. The January 11, 2024, Lacombe Police Commission Agenda was presented for adoption.

(24.04) **MOVED by Elaine Willette-Larsen** to adopt the January 11, 2024, agenda as presented.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

6.1. The November 9, 2023, Lacombe Police Commission meeting minutes were presented for adoption.

(24.05) **MOVED by Cameron Penstone** to adopt the November 9, 2023, minutes as presented.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **7. PRESENTATIONS**

7.1. There were no presentations at this meeting.

## **8. REPORTS**

8.1. Chief of Police Monthly Reports

Chief Blumhagen presented his reports from November 1, 2023, to January 1, 2024, to the Commission as information. Additional information shared is as follows:

- Cst. Arora was sworn in as a member in December 2023. There will be two members starting recruit training this year in Edmonton.
- The department will take possession of the electric vehicle at the end of January.
- There has been no movement on the Police Act Regulations.
- The province has set up a PCD review committee. The Chief will be attending a meeting next week.
- Has been working with the City of Lacombe on a new payroll system.
- A contract for equipment and monitoring services for the mandatory body-worn cameras, including tasers, has been signed.
- An LPS team has been set up for the NG911 program. In Q4, a team will be established for the body-worn camera program.

8.2. School Resource Officer Report and Statistics

Constable Wilzer's (SRO) November's report was presented as information. December's report was not provided.

8.3. Budget and Variance Report (Actual vs Budget 2023)

The budget and reserve reports were presented for information. There are no concerns about the information presented. A discussion occurred on reserves, deficiency, and the procedure for dealing with these concerns.

8.4. Public Complaints Director Report

PCD Kulak report was presented as information. PCD Kulak advised the Commission that a complaint was received the other evening, and the information has been forwarded to Staff Sergeant Zens for investigation.

8.5. Chair Report

Chair Gish's report was presented as information.

8.6. Vice-Chair Report

Vice-Chair Penstone's report was presented as information.

8.7. Council Rep. Report

Councillor Hoekstra's report was presented as information.

(24.06) **MOVED by Steve Christie** to accept reports (8.1/8.2/8.3/8.4/8.5/8.6/8.7) as information.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**9. OLD BUSINESS**

9.1. 2024 Operation Budget Update

The Lacombe Police Services 2024 Operation Budget was presented as information. Chair Gish requested that the adoption of the Lacombe Police Services' Operating Budget be added to the Lacombe Police Commission Annual Work Plan.

(24.07) **MOVED by Cora Hoekstra** to adopt the 2024 Lacombe Police Services 2024 Operating Budget as presented.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

9.2. City of Lacombe Bylaw 78/Proposed Bylaw 511

Director Piché provided an overview of the proposed Bylaw 511 and why a new bylaw is being proposed versus an amendment to the current bylaw. A discussion occurred on the recommended changes to the proposed bylaw by the Commission. Chair Gish will formalize the recommendations and provide them to Director Piché and Councillor Hoekstra to present to Council at the January 22, 2024, meeting.

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

10.1. 2024 – 2025 Meeting Dates

The draft 2024-2025 meeting dates were presented to the Commission for discussion.

(24.08) **MOVED by John Soderberg** to adopt the 2024 – 2025 Lacombe Police Commission Meeting schedule as presented.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

10.2. LPC Policy Manual Annual Review Committee

Vice-Chair Penstone and Commissioner Willette-Larsen will oversee the annual review. The draft of the recommended changes will be shared with the Commission once completed.

10.3. Annual Review of Audit Compliance of LPC

For the Lacombe Police Commission February meeting, a review of the audit compliance will be completed, and a draft letter of the findings of the audit will be compiled for the Solicitor General.

10.4. 2023-2026 Strategic Plan Review

As Chief Blumhagen reviewed the strategic plan while completing the Annual Report, it was recommended that the Annual Strategic Plan review be moved to the March meeting. The Commission members support the recommendation. The annual review of the Strategic Plan will be moved to March.

10.5. LPS/LPC Annual Report Q1 (March)

The draft Annual Report Q1 will be presented at the March meeting.

**11. INFORMATION**

11.1. ALERT – CAC Call for Nominations – AAPG Response

A discussion occurred regarding ALERT's concerns with the recommendation put forward by AAPG. The ALERT Board is meeting in February; more information will follow the Board meeting.

11.2. Automated Traffic Enforcement News Article

The news article was shared as information on the direction in which the province will be moving forward with photo radar.

11.3. Provincial Appointments to Municipal Police Commission FAQ 2023

This information will be added to the Lacombe Police Commission Policy Manual.

11.4. CPA, CAPG, & CACO Joint Statement

The joint statement was presented as information.

11.5. AAPG Activities

The AAPG Activities were shared as information.

11.6. AIPAB Governance Recommendations for the Alberta Police Advisory Board

The Commission has no recommendation for the Alberta Police Advisory Board.

**12. STANDING ITEMS**

Commissioners acknowledged standing items.

12.1. LPC Policy Manual Review

12.2. Confirm attendance at the AAPG Conference in Lethbridge on May 3 & 4, 2024.

12.3. LPC Annual Work Plan Review

Add to "Adoption of the Annual Operating Budget" to January

12.4. LPS/LPC Acronyms

12.5. 2024 LPC Membership

12.6. The Next Meeting Confirmation

Commissioners confirmed the next meeting date to be February 8, 2024, in the Community Room at Lacombe Police Services.

**13. IN-CAMERA**

(24.09) **MOVED by Elaine Willette-Larsen** to enter In-Camera at 10:47 a.m. to discuss the following:

- Legal (FOIP Section 17)
- Labor (FOIP Section 24)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

(24.10) **MOVED by John Soderberg** to return to Open Meeting at 12:00 p.m.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

(24.11) **MOVED by Cameron Penstone** that the Commission proceed with the Human Resource discussions held in Camera.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

**DECLARED by Chair Gish** that the regular meeting be adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

\_\_Original Signed\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_Original Signed\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary