

**LACOMBE POLICE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, May 9, 2024**

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

Others: Staff Sargeant Bryan Zens, Lacombe Police Service
Diane Piché, Director of Corporate Service
Tracey McKinnon, Senior Manager of Financial Services (remote)
Jennifer Peterson, Secretary

Regrets: Chief Lorne Blumhagen, Lacombe Police Services
Sonja Dykslag, Commission Member at Large
John Soderberg, Commission Member at Large

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1. Chair Gish called the meeting to order at 9:01 am.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

2.1. Chair Gish read the Land Acknowledgement.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

3.1. The Lacombe Police Commission Agenda was presented for adoption.

(24.29) **MOVED by Steve Christie** to adopt May 9, 2024, as amended with the additions of:

7.1 AAPG Annual Conference & AGM Debrief

7.2 The Lacombe and District Trade Show and Marketplace Debrief

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4.1. The April 11, 2024, Lacombe Police Commission meeting minutes were presented for adoption.

(24.30) **MOVED by Elaine Willette-Larsen** to adopt the April 11, 2024, minutes as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. PRESENTATIONS

5.1. There were no presentations.

6. REPORTS

6.1. Chief of Police Monthly Reports

Staff Sargeant Zens presented the Chief's report from April 1, 2024, to May 1, 2024, as information. The following items were highlighted:

- The complaint received in 2022 has been resolved.
- Body-worn Cameras, External Vests and the In-car video policies are being finalized.
- Members presented a fraud awareness seminar to seniors at Royal Oak
- Members attended external training.
- Graduation for the newest recruit will be held on June 14, 2024, at noon.
- Members have been assisting Blackfalds RCMP with the Freedom Rally on Highway 2.
- Chief Blumhagen and Director Piché have been working on the draft Service Agreement between the Lacombe Police Service and the City of Lacombe. The agreement will be shared with the Commission once finalized.
- The Wi-Fi is being upgraded to allow information to be downloaded from body-worn cameras as members enter the station.

6.2. School Resource Officer Report and Statistics

The School Resource Officer's Report was presented as information. Concerns regarding the name of an event were expressed. Staff Sargeant Zens will get clarification of the event name and report his findings to the Commission.

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

Ms. McKinnon presented the year-to-date actual vs budget and the reserve reports as information. After the first quarter, the 2024 budget is in good shape. Revenue is down a bit due to the decrease in third-party criminal checks.

A discussion occurred regarding the current structure of Victim Services integration with the Lacombe Police Services budget reporting process. Ms. McKinnon asked for the Commission's support in separating the two services to create a cleaner representation of each service. The Lacombe Police will still manage the Victim Services budget. Upon discussion, the Commission supports the request to move Victim Services to its own Department.

Ms. McKinnon left the meeting at 9:28 am.

6.4. Public Complaints Director Report

PCD Kulak's report was presented as information.

6.5. Chair Report

Chair Gish's report was presented as information.

6.6. Vice-Chair Report

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

6.7. Council Rep. Report

Councillor Hoekstra's report was presented as information. She added that the concern regarding no directional signs to the Police Station within the City has been addressed, and signs will be installed.

(24.31) **MOVED** by *Cameron Penstone* to accept reports (8.1/8.2/8.3/8.4/8.5/8.6/8.7) as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. OLD BUSINESS

7.1. AAPG Annual Conference & AGM Debrief

Councillor Hoekstra provided a debrief of the AAPG Conference sessions. A discussion occurred on the resolutions presented at the AGM and passed. It was recommended that the Commission review the resolutions before the AGM and reach a consensus on the vote.

7.2. The Lacombe and District Trade Show and Marketplace

The trade show was well attended. It is an excellent event for Commissions to interact with residents. The Charis Village approached the booth and requested the Lacombe Police Service provide the fraud seminar to their residents, as they did for Royal Oak. The Lacombe Police Service will collaborate with Charis Village regarding the request.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1. Public Complaints Director's Resignation

The Commission received Ken Kulak's resignation as the Public Complaints Director. Chair Gish thanked Mr. Kulak for his commitment to the role for the past two years. Mr. Kulak will remain an active member of the Commission.

At the end of 2025, the province will implement a provincial-wide Public Complaints Division. The Commission will develop a procedure for handling calls and emails until the change is implemented. In the meantime, the phone message and website will be updated to advise people that messages will be answered within a specific time.

8.2. Work Plan: Recruitment of Commission Members

John Soderberg and Ken Kulak's first term ends December 31, 2024. Both members have expressed interest in another term. Chair Gish will send the Mayor a letter supporting a second term. The City of Lacombe Legislative Coordinator will also be advised of their expressed interest.

9. INFORMATION

9.1. Province Announces Policing Grant for Coaldale, Alberta

The news article was provided to the Commission as information.

10. STANDING ITEMS

Commissioners acknowledged standing items.

10.1. Annual Review of LPS Human Resources Plan (Work Plan June)

The LPS Human Resources Plan will be added to the June meeting package for review.

10.2. Preparation of Annual Provisional Budget (Work Plan June)

Chief Blumhagen will start the 2025 Budget process in June. The Commission will meet for a budget workshop in August as an in-camera session.

10.3. LPC Annual Work Plan Review

10.4. LPS/LPC Acronyms

10.5. 2024 LPC Membership

10.6. The Next Meeting Confirmation

Commissioners confirmed the next meeting date to be June 13, 2024, in the Community Room at Lacombe Police Services.

11. IN-CAMERA

(24.32) **MOVED by** *Cameron Penstone* to enter In-Camera at 10:11 am to discuss the following:

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(24.33) **MOVED by** *Ken Kulak* to return to Open Meeting at 11:15 am.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

DECLARED by *Chair Gish* that the regular meeting be adjourned at 11:16 am.

__Original Signed____
Chairperson

____ Original Signed _____
Secretary