

**LACOMBE POLICE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, September 14, 2023**

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

Others: Chief Lorne Blumhagen, Lacombe Police Service
Jennifer Peterson, Secretary

Regrets: Diane Piché, Director of Corporate Service
Tracey McKinnon, Senior Financial Manager

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

2.1. Chair Gish read the Land Acknowledgement.

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

3.1. September 14, 2023, Lacombe Police Commission Agenda was presented for adoption.

(23.41) **MOVED by Elaine Willette-Larsen** to adopt the September 14, 2023, agenda as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4.1. The June 8, 2023, Lacombe Police Commission meeting minutes were presented for adoption.

(23.42) **MOVED by Steve Christie** to adopt the June 8, 2023, minutes as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. PRESENTATIONS

5.1. There were no presentations.

6. REPORTS

6.1. Chief of Police Monthly Reports:

Chief Blumhagen presented his reports from June 1 to September 1, 2023, to the Commission as information. The additional items shared are as follows:

- A complaint received in January that was granted a 6-month extension awaits the criminal matter being resolved. The court decision will be in November.
- Five public complaints were received. Two were inquiries to operations, and the other three are outstanding at his time.
- The province will be setting up a Public Complaints Agency. The current PCD role has not been defined.
- An investigation of a firearms and drug-related incident involving two individuals from the Edmonton area is ongoing.
- There are human resource matters being addressed.
- Lacombe Service members are attending training.
- The Lacombe Police Station has an issue with a collapsed sewer line under the building. The line has been flushed and is working at this time.
- The Victim Services program is still in negotiations. The suggestions provided were well received.
- Received three inquiries from municipalities about the CPO Monitoring program. A request was made to provide the Commission with a list of the current municipalities that the Lacombe Police Services has contacts with. The list is to be provided at the next Lacombe Police Commission meeting.
- There are challenges with the AFRRCS radio monitoring range. Wanting to set up five zones for monitoring through a fleet map that can be managed from anywhere in the province.

6.2. School Resource Officer Report and Statistics

Constable Wilzer's (SRO) report was presented as information.

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

The budget report was presented for information. The budget is on target and projecting a surplus this year. The fine revenue is under budget but better than in previous years. The freeze placed on the Automated Traffic Enforcement program will expire on November 30, 2023. Once it has been removed, a report will be completed, and a decision will be made on how the province will move forward with the program, which will affect the fine revenue.

6.4. Public Complaints Director Report

PCD Kulak report was presented as information.

6.5. Chair Report

Chair Gish provided her report with no other additional details added.

6.6. Vice-Chair Report

Vice-Chair Penstone provided his report with no other additional information added.

6.7. Council Rep. Report

Councillor Hoekstra presented her report, highlighting the signing of the Fire Service Agreement with Lacombe County. A discussion occurred regarding providing dispatch service to the fire service. It was identified that more discussion around this service must occur before deciding.

(23.43) **MOVED by Cameron Penstone** to accept reports (6.1/6.2/6.3/6.4/6.5/6.6/6.7) as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. OLD BUSINESS

7.1. Community Survey Results

The results were presented as information. A discussion occurred about why participation numbers were lower than in 2019 and if the right questions were asked. The Commission will consider the cost of hiring a third party for the next survey. Chief Blumhagen will ask the Solicitor General for a list of questions that should be asked and share the information provided.

7.2. Letter to the Lacombe Police Association

Chair Gish advised the Commission that a letter has been completed and will be provided to the Lacombe Police Association, formally inviting the Executive Team and the membership to the next Commission meeting.

7.3. Third-Party Cost Review for Survey

A cost review will be done to have a third party assist the Commission with doing surveys. More information will be provided at the next meeting.

This item is to remain as Old Business until completed.

7.4. Chief Evaluation

The Commission will look to have a third party complete the Chief's evaluation.

7.5. Service Agreement with City/Lacombe Police Service (LPS)

A discussion occurred on the importance of a Service Agreement.

This item is to remain as Old Business until completed.

7.6. City of Lacombe Bylaw 78

The City of Lacombe is moving forward with the review of the bylaw. The bylaw will be reviewed at the Regular Council Meeting on October 10, 2023. The Commission has been invited to participate in an In-Camera discussion on October 16, 2023, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1. 2024 Annual Provisional Operation Budget

The Commission met on August 10, 2023, to review the provisional 2024 Operation Budget.

(23.44) **MOVED by Cameron Penstone** to approve the 2024 Operational Budget presented at the August 10, 2023, workshop at a 4.16 million deficit.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. INFORMATION

9.1. Letter – AAPG Member’s Concerns with the Provincial Appointees.

A letter to The Honourable Mike Ellis from the Alberta Association of Police Governance was provided as information.

The response from The Honourable Mike Ellis to the Alberta Association of Police Governance was shared as information.

10. STANDING ITEMS

Commissioners acknowledged standing items.

10.1. LPC Annual Work Plan Review

10.2. Commission Member Training Report will be provided at the October meeting. -

10.3. Report on Manuals – Electronic/ Paper

10.4. LPC Annual Disposition of Records will occur at the October meeting.

10.5. Commission Member Tenure

A discussion occurred on the Commissioner’s terms. The City of Lacombe Council and the province will appoint the members.

10.6. The Next Meeting Confirmation

Commissioners confirmed the next meeting date to be October 12, 2023, in the Community Room at Lacombe Police Services.

11. IN-CAMERA

(23.45) **MOVED by Cameron Penstone** to enter In-Camera at 10:35 a.m. to discuss the following:

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(23.46) **MOVED by Elaine Willette-Larsen** to return to Open Meeting at 11:03 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12. ADJOURNMENT

DECLARED by Chair Gish that the regular meeting be adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

__Original Signed__
Chairperson

_____ Original Signed _____
Secretary