

**LACOMBE POLICE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, December 12th, 2024**

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

Others: Chief Lorne Blumhagen, Lacombe Police Services
Diane Piché, Director of Corporate and Protective Services
Tracey McKinnon, Manager of Financial Services (remote)
Jennifer Peterson, Secretary

Regrets:

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1. Chair Gish called the meeting to order at 9:03 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. Amendments to the agenda are.

8.2 Community Peace Officer Program

8.3 Chief of Police Recruitment Process

8.4 2025 Lacombe Police Commission Meeting Dates

(24.54) **MOVED by Steve Christie** to adopt the December 12th, 2025, meeting agenda as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4.1. The November 14th, 2024, Lacombe Police Commission meeting minutes were presented for adoption. Minutes are to be amended to correct grammatical errors.

(24.55) **MOVED by Elaine Willette-Larsen** to adopt the November 14th, 2024, minutes as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. PRESENTATIONS

5.1. N/A

6. REPORTS

6.1. Chief of Police Monthly Reports

Chief Blumhagen's report from October 1st, 2024, to November 1st, 2024, was presented as information. Additional information provided are as follows:

- Attended a "Wall of Honour" ceremony at the Camrose High School
- The new vehicle has arrived. Repairs of fleet vehicles are completed.
- The two fleet replacements should arrive in February or March.
- De-escalation training for members is to be scheduled in 2025.
- Body-worn cameras have been fully integrated. Looking into more information on the use of drones.
- Received inquiries regarding the Community Peace Officer monitoring program.
- Monitoring the changes to the Victim Services Unit.
- Photo Radar has had a partial lift. There are changes and restrictions. Unaware of when the changes will occur, monitoring the program will continue.

6.2. School Resource Officer Report and Statistics

No report was available for the meeting.

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

Ms. McKinnon presented the Lacombe Police Services and Victim Services year-to-date actual vs budget report as information. A discussion occurred regarding the budgeting and reporting process of the Victim Services Grant funds. Ms. McKinnon explained that the projected deficit in the Lacombe Police budget report is due to fines, security clearance, and the billing cycles.

Ms. McKinnon left the meeting at 9:19 am.

6.4. Public Complaints Director Report

The Public Complaints report was presented as information.

6.5. Chair Report

Chair Gish provided a verbal Chair's report.

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, adding an update on the address from ADM Zablocki held on November 26th.

(24.56) **MOVED by Camron 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. Lacombe Police Commission Members' Self-Assessment

The Lacombe Police Commission Members Self-Assessment has been tabled to the January 9th, 2025, meeting.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1. Appoint / Reappoint Commission Member

John Soderberg and Ken Kulak applied for reappointment. Under Bylaw 511 Police Commission, there was only one vacant spot. Ken Kulak was reappointed to the Lacombe Police Commission at the City of Lacombe Regular Council Meeting on December 9th, 2024. The Office of the Mayor sent a letter of recommendation for John Soderberg as a possible secondary Provincial Appointed Commission Member to the Commission.

8.2. Community Peace Officer Program

This item has been moved to *In-Camera* for discussion.

8.3. Police Chief Recruitment Process

A discussion occurred on the recruitment process, members' authorities, and the ratification by Council. It was confirmed that the Commission can appoint an outside public member to assist with recruitment.

(24.57) **MOVED by Camrone Penstone** to form a Recruitment Committee comprised of the following: all commission members, commission council representatives, Provincial-appointed members, and John Soderberg, as an outside public member

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(24.58) **MOVED by Steve Christie** to grant the Recruitment Committee the authority to hire a Police Chief and present them with a Letter of Offer.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.4. 2025 Lacombe Police Commission Meeting Dates

The draft 2025 Lacombe Police Commission open meeting dates were presented for consideration.

(24.58) **MOVED by John Soderberg** to approve the 2025 Lacombe Police Commission open meeting dates as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. INFORMATION

9.1. Police Review Commission (PRC) Status Update

The above was presented to the Commission as information.

10. STANDING ITEMS

Commissioners acknowledged standing items.

- 10.1. Annual Organizational Meeting (January))
- 10.2. Adoption of the 2025 Lacombe Police Services Operating Budget
- 10.3. Annual Review of Audit Compliance for Lacombe Police Commission (January, completed by March)
- 10.4. LPC Annual Work Plan Review
- 10.5. LPS/LPC Acronyms
- 10.6. 2024 LPC Membership
- 10.7. The Next Meeting Confirmation

Commissioners confirmed the next meeting date as January 9th in the Community Room at Lacombe Police Services.

11. IN-CAMERA

(24.59) **MOVED by** *Cameron Penstone* to enter In-Camera at 10:14 am to discuss the following:

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(24.60) **MOVED by** *Ken Kulak* to return to Open Meeting at 11:05 am.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12. ADJOURNMENT

DECLARED by *Chair Gish* that the regular meeting be adjourned at 11:08 am.

__Original Signed__
Chairperson

____Original Signed_____
Secretary