

**LACOMBE POLICE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, May 21st, 2026**

Attendees: Steve Christie, Chair & Provincial Appointed Commission Member
Cameron Penstone, Vice-Chair, Commission Member at Large
Corey Gish, Past Chair, Commission Member at Large
Ken Kulak, Commission Member at Large
Al Siebring, Commission Member at Large
Mayor Thalia Hibbs, City of Lacombe Council

Others: Chief Jason Dobirstein, Lacombe Police Service
Diane Piché, Director of Corporate and Protective Services
Kathy Empson, Accounting Controller, City of Lacombe
Annette Gordon, Senior Manager of Financial Services, City of Lacombe
Jennifer Peterson, Secretary

Guest: Debbie Barron and Rally, Victim Service Unit, Lacombe Police

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1. Chair Christie called the meeting to order at 8:58 am.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

2.1. Chair Christie read the Land Acknowledgement.

3. ADOPTION OF REGULAR AGENDA

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

(26.26) **MOVED by Cameron Penstone** to adopt the May 21st, 2026, agenda as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4.1. The April 16th, 2026, Lacombe Police Commission meeting minutes were presented for adoption.

(26.27) **MOVED by Corey Gish** to adopt the April 16th, 2026, minutes as amended, to correct an error with the spelling of a last name.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. PRESENTATIONS

5.1. Introduction of Rally, Debbie Barron

Ms. Barron introduced Rally, a two-year-old black Labrador from the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides, who serves as the support dog for the Lacombe Police Service. Before being paired with Ms. Barron, Rally completed specialized training designed to provide comfort and support within the workplace. Following their introduction, Ms. Barron and Rally completed handler training together to ensure a match and effective working relationship.

6. REPORTS

6.1. Chief of Police Monthly Reports

Chief Dobirstein presented the Chief's report as information.

6.2. School Resource Officer Report and Statistics

The SRO report was presented as information.

6.3. Budget and Variance Report

The year-to-date actual-to-budget reports for the Lacombe Police Service and Victim Services were presented. Administration confirmed that the updated Collective Agreement was considered with the 2026 Operating Budget and that no request for an increase to the wage general ledger account will be presented to Council during the spring budget adjustment process. The wage account will continue to be monitored throughout the year.

6.4. Public Review Commission Report (PRC)

The Quarter 1 Report from the Police Review Commission was provided as information.

6.5. Chair Report

Chair Christie provided a verbal report on his activities since the last meeting.

6.6. Vice-Chair Report

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

6.7. Council Rep. Report

Mayor Hibbs provided an update on her activities over the past month. During her report, she relayed residents' concerns and requested that solutions be considered. Chair Christie advised that this agenda item is intended for information purposes only and that matters requiring discussion or action should be brought forward through a Notice of Motion to allow the Commission time to prepare a response.

(26.28) **MOVED by Corey Gish** 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. Update on the May 5th meeting with the Police Review Commission

An update on the May 5th meeting with the Police Review Commission was discussed. The meeting was stated as positive, with the Commission noting that the Police Review Commission appeared to have heard and acknowledged their concerns. The discussion was open and included concerns regarding complaint timelines, decision-making processes, and the timeliness of reports. The Police Review Commission advised that they follow up by attending one or two Commission meetings this year, and thereafter on an annual basis. The remaining meeting dates will be forwarded to the Police Review Commission for consideration.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1. No new business presented.

9. INFORMATION

9.1. Police Review Commission CEO Rules

9.2. PRC Stakeholder & Community Update

9.3. Police Review Commission – Leadership Transition

9.4. May 2026 PRC Update

The above reports and correspondence were provided to the Commission for information. No action is required.

10. STANDING ITEMS

Commissioners acknowledged standing items.

10.1. Annual Review of LPS Human Resource Plan (June's Annual Work Plan)

10.2. Begin Preparation of Annual Provision Budget (June's Annual Work Plan)

10.3. LPC Annual Work Plan Review

10.4. LPS/LPC Acronyms

10.5. 2025 LPC Membership List

10.6. Next Meeting Confirmation (June 18th, 2026, LPS)

11. IN-CAMERA

(26.29) **MOVED** by **Corey Gish** to enter In-Camera at 9:59 am to discuss the following:

- Labour, Chief of Police (ATIA Section 20)
- Labour, Chief of Police (ATIA Section 20)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(26.30) **MOVED by Cameron Penstone** to return to Open Meeting at 10:46 am.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(26.31) **MOVED by Al Siebring** that the mandatory probation period for Police Chief Dobirstein be removed effective immediately.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(26.32) **MOVED by Corey Gish** that the Lacombe Police Service retain a consultant to assist with the nomination of Police Chief Dobirstein for the "Order of Merit of the Police Forces", at a maximum cost of \$1,000.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12. ADJOURNMENT

DECLARED by Chair Christie that the regular meeting be adjourned at 10:50 am.

___Original Signed___
Chairperson

___Original Signed_____

Secretary