



SARNIA POLICE SERVICES BOARD

OPEN MINUTES
9:00 a.m. - THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2024
COMMUNITY ROOM, SARNIA POLICE SERVICES

Board Members Present: Paul Wiersma, Councillor George Vandenberg, Charlene Sebastian, Councillor Chrissy McRoberts and Kelly Ash by video conference.

Administration Present: Chief of Police D. Davis, Deputy Chief J. Craddock, Inspector M. Van Sickle, J. Dale, Fleet & Facilities Manager, C. Dam, Director of Corporate Services and Joan Knight as Board Secretary.

1. Welcome

Chair Paul Wiersma opened the meeting.

2. Traditional Territory Acknowledgement

We, the Sarnia Police Services Board acknowledge the traditional territory of the council of the three fires; Potawatomi, Chippewa, and Odawa people, that being Aamjiwnaang (Sarnia 1st Nation), Bkejwanong (Walpole Island 1st Nation), Kikonaang (Kettle Point 1st Nation), Aashoodenaa (Stoney Point 1st Nation).

3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

4. Minutes

Moved by Board Member C. McRoberts, seconded by Board Member G. Vandenberg, and **carried:**

That the Minutes of February 22, 2024, be adopted.

5. Introduction of Promoted Officers

Aaron Johnston
Joshua Mitchell

Chief Davis introduced Aaron Johnston who was promoted from Detective Constable to Detective and Joshua Mitchell promoted from Detective Constable to Sergeant, giving their background and policing history.

6. Delegation – Safe Walking for School Age Children – Dr. Robert Dickieson

Chair Wiersma welcomed Dr. Dickieson and invited him to speak from the podium.

Dr. Dickieson advised that an incident involving a child had taken place on March 4, 2024, he addressed the need for a collaborative approach for the Community to deal with crime, addiction, mental health and homelessness, he suggested a Community Safety Action Plan with a pilot program of a Police Officer escorting children to and from school.

Chief Davis advised that while agreed there is a need for a pro-active approach to safety for children, the Sarnia Police Services does not have the man power to provide this type of aid to the Community, the Community needs to be involved and Sarnia Police Services is just one piece of the solution.

Discussion took place with the Board with all in agreement that the solution needs to be community based including the Federal and Provincial governments involvement.

Dr. Dickieson advised that he will speak to Sarnia City Council at an upcoming meeting for community support.

Chair Wiersma thanked Dr. Dickieson for his presentation and ongoing Community support.

7. Monthly Operation Update

A report from Deputy Chief Craddock, dated March 28, 2024, was provided.

Deputy Chief Craddock gave an update on the contest to name the new Police Canine, she advised that Constable Sean Urban will be training with the dog and the canine unit should be operational by mid August. She also gave an update on further training for officers on Domestic Violence.

Chief Davis spoke to the number of calls for the Emergency Response Team (ERT) and the increase in high-risk offenders, increased level of violence and weapons being seen during arrests.

8. Annual Missing Persons Report

A report from Chief Davis, dated March 28, 2024 with regard to 2023 Annual Report on Urgent Demands for Information Related to Missing Persons, was provided.

Chief Davis spoke to this legislated annual report and advised the Board that this report will be listed on the website.

9. Annual Use of Force Report

A report from Deputy Chief Craddock, dated March 28, 2024, regarding 2023 Use of Force Annual Report was provided.

Deputy Chief Craddock gave an update on the Use of Force training, training on de-escalation, stats on police interactions with public and the percentage of use of force.

10. Annual Health and Safety Policy Statement and Report

A report from Chief Davis, dated March 28, 2024, with regard to the Health and Safety Report was provided.

Jason Dale, Fleet and Facilities Manager spoke to the report and the undertakings to be in compliance with the Act, he stated that there had been no workplace injuries reported in 2023.

11. Service Presentation – Community Crime Unit

Chief Davis gave a power point presentation explaining the partnership with Lambton College for students to be hands on and build a case for shoplifting and minor thefts.

Students involved in the program were present and spoke to the benefit of the program.

Congratulations and thanks were given to the students by the Board.

12. Uniform/Civilian Collective Agreement Update

A report from Chief Davis, dated March 28, 2024, regarding the Contract Negotiations update was provided.

Chair Wiersma advised that this report was provided for disclosure to the public on the agreement.

13. Cadet Program

A report from Deputy Chief Craddock, dated March 28, 202, regarding the Cadet Program was provided.

Deputy Chief Craddock explained the Cadet Program socializes new candidates into the policing culture, provides them with learning and developmental opportunities and

familiarizes them with the policies, procedures and work practices of the Sarnia Police Service through various training assignments, this program will ensure that successful police constable applicants are on-boarded into the Sarnia Police Service while they wait for available seat allocations at the Ontario Police College.

14. Open Forum

CSPA Training

Chair Wiersma gave an update on the compulsory CSPA training for all Board Members to be completed prior to the April 25, 2024, meeting of the Board.

15. Adjournment

Moved by Board Member C. Sebastian, seconded by Board Member G. Vandenberg, and **carried:**

That the Sarnia Police Service Board adjourn to their next Open Meeting to be held Thursday, April 25, 2024.

Secretary

Chair