



**OPEN LETHBRIDGE REGIONAL POLICE COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES
November 26th, 2014
4:00 p.m. – Lethbridge Council Chambers**

In Attendance

Sandy McKay, Chair	Chief Catonio
Adam Zanoni, Vice-Chair	A/Deputy Chief Ascroft
Councillor Duda	Inspector Anderson
Councillor Iwaskiw (4:48)	Inspector Dobirstein
Councillor Parker	A/Inspector Smith
Lee Cutforth	Patrick Balfour
Peter Deys	Kristen Harding
	Monica Elder (Recording Secretary)

Regrets

**Marion Wiebe
D. Jean Valgardson**

- 1) Meeting Called to Order
 - The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Chair, Sandy McKay.
- 2) Approval of Agenda
 - **Motion by Councillor Parker, Seconded by Mr. Zanoni that the agenda be approved as circulated.....Carried.**
- 3) Enquiries by the Public
 - Merv Hudemka - his neighbour's residence and vehicle have been pelted with eggs – is this an isolated case or is it the norm?
 - Inspector Ascroft replied it is not normal but it does happen. It is a bylaw offence and would be looked into if it is reported to police.
- 4) Minutes of the October 29th, 2014 Open Meeting
 - a) Approval of Minutes
 - **Motion by Mr. Zanoni, Seconded by Councillor Duda that the minutes be approved as circulated.....Carried.**
- 5) Business Arising
 - a) ALERT Update – Inspector Anderson
 - Provided brief overview for ALERT Business Plan 2014 to 2017.

- Recent revisions to Business Plan, primarily to budget.
 - ALERT remains focused on increasing its profile in each community within province.
 - ALERT will continue to review governance model.
 - External review will be conducted.
 - Have submitted revised budget for next 3 years and developed strategies. Budget has been approved.
 - CFSEU Lethbridge stopped motor vehicle on November 21st - seized 18 grams of cocaine, cash, cell phones, drug paraphernalia, Three people were charged with offences relating to trafficking.
 - On November 8th a male was arrested and charged with 7 counts of trafficking and one count of possession of controlled substance.
 - Constable MacGregor, who is assigned to ICE, will be returning to Patrols. Constable Richmond will be seconded to the position.
- b) Building Expansion Update – A/Deputy Chief Ascroft
- Renovations to second floor of the old court house have been completed and Records Management has moved.
 - Photo enforcement will be moving shortly.
 - Third floor will be completed next week for CID.
 - Pilings for the addition as well as parking structure are now complete and placement of the prefab concrete wall sections will begin the second week of December.
 - Renovations to main floor of the existing building will begin in January.
 - Mr. Cutforth raised the issue of office space for the Commission at the Courthouse. Deputy Chief Ascroft advised the space is available – he will speak with Mr. McCallum.
- 6) New Business
- a) Calls for Service – A/Deputy Chief Ascroft
- Calls for service for October have increased by 324 from same period last year. Total calls for service have increased by 2000 over previous year.
 - Thefts up from last year which could be attributed to increase in shoplifting in October.
 - Assaults are up from same period last year – no real trends, mostly common assaults.
 - Conventional and photo enforcement tickets have increased and collisions decreased 90 from last year.
- b) Financial report – Chief Catonio
- The reporting period October 1 to October 31, 2014 reflects a monthly deficit of \$17,300, with Revenue accounts experiencing

a surplus of \$60,851, Wage accounts a deficit of \$60,919 and other Operating Expenses a deficit of \$17,261.

- Discussion in regards to court overtime. Courts have gone to a new scheduling system whereas all trials are set for morning and all witnesses called for the same time. Officers sometimes are not called until afternoon. Officers who are not scheduled to work that day are paid a court premium for their attendance so if they have to go in the morning and then come back in the afternoon are paid a premium for both morning and afternoon which will impact court overtime.
- As per Mr. McKay's request, Chief Catonio will be tracking – concerned about financial impacts.

c) AACP Report – Chief Catonio

- Chief Catonio, Inspector Anderson and Inspector Dobirstein attended Alberta Chiefs of Police Conference in Medicine Hat , November 4th and 5th. Chief Catonio provided highlights.
- ALERT budget is in place. No assurance of funding beyond 2017. Looking at its corporate structure and undertaking financial audit.
- Use of Force Guidelines and Standards – Law Amendments Committee has near ready document, one final edit required. Document standardizes use of force across province by various police services.
- Mental Health – it was resolved that there should be provincial standards on what training should be.
- CISA – presentation delivered regarding the results of provincial threat assessment.
- Active shooter – presentation from professor from Texas.
- Traffic safety – Crown Prosecutor presentation regarding impaired driving. Also spoke about body worn videos.
- Chief Catonio answered Commission's questions.

7) Enquiries by the Police Commission

- None

8) Enquiries by the Public

- Lance Chong – has suggestion regarding cameras, ideally can have real time, creating more openness. Also, health issues related to cell phones – not proven safe.
- Two questions – looking at Commission's website – is the Commission primarily concerned about how to service public, every agenda item concerns money. Where is the service? Secondly, what is the purpose of the red light cameras – should reconsider the purpose. Are there improvements?
- Mr. McKay assured the considerations of the Police Commission go beyond money. Commission sets policy to establish and manage the

Police Service. Red light cameras and other equipment used by the police is an effort to slow people down and reduce collisions. The Police Service investigates any opportunities to deal with issues and if improvements are necessary, they will be made.

- Councillor Parker added that there are two parts to a Police Commission meeting – Open meeting is for citizens and the Closed for issues that are sensitive, such as personnel, etc.
- Chief Catonio also pointed out, in his research to date, he has not seen any issues with the body worn cameras. LRPS uses video on a limited basis right now. The Traffic cars each have cameras in them. The Government of Alberta website has criteria with respect to how we use photo radar and red light cameras. The placement and selection of the intersections and how we deploy the equipment is all based on the criteria preset by province.

9) Meeting Adjournment

- **Motion by Mr. Cutforth, Seconded by Mr. Deys to adjourn the meeting at 4:56 p.m.Carried.**