



**OPEN LETHBRIDGE REGIONAL POLICE COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES
Wednesday, May 27, 2015
City of Lethbridge Council Chambers
4:00 p.m.**

In Attendance

**Sandy McKay, Chair
Lee Cutforth, Vice-Chair
Councillor Liz Iwaskiw
Councillor Ryan Parker
Peter Deys
D. Jean Valgardson
Marion Wiebe
Adam Zanoni
Carmen Hellawell (Recording Secretary)**

**Chief Robert Davis
Deputy Chief Colin Catonio
Inspector Bill Anderson
Inspector Tom Ascroft
Inspector Jason Dobirstein
Kristen Harding
Patrick Balfour**

- 1) Meeting Called to Order
 - The meeting was called to order by Chair, Sandy McKay, at 4:04 p.m.
- 2) Approval of Agenda
 - **Motion by Mr. Cutforth, Seconded by Councillor Iwaskiw that the agenda be approved as circulated.....Carried**
- 3) Enquiries by the Public
 - None
- 4) Approval of Minutes of April 29, 2015 Open Meeting
 - **Motion by Councillor Iwaskiw, Seconded by Mrs. Wiebe that the minutes be approved as circulated.....Carried**
- 5) Business Arising
 - a) Public Intox Discussion/Safe Sobering Site – Chair McKay
 - Chair McKay advised following the presentation at the previous meeting, Chief Davis wrote an article for the Lethbridge Herald on this topic and there was an article in the Blue Line Magazine. Both were included in agenda package for information purposes
- 6) Standing Items
 - a) ALERT Update – Inspector Anderson
 - Presented May 2015 monthly report for Lethbridge Region ALERT

- Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit focused their attention on activities of the illicit drug trade
- Investigation is ongoing and numerous charges have been laid in respect to an illicit drug and stolen property investigation
- Numerous internet child exploitation investigations are currently active
- Chair McKay asked that compliments be provided to the members who worked to establish a suspect in the triple homicide

b) Building Expansion Update – Inspector Ascroft

- Project is on budget
- Existing roof being replaced, part of life-cycle, new portion to be completed
- Concrete has been poured on second level. Chief Davis advised that rain hit during the pouring which created delays. Contractors stayed on the job until 4:30 a.m. which proves their dedication to the project
- Partition walls being framed in basement of addition
- Quartermaster Stores is complete and Records area is near completion
- Outside wall panels will be placed in the next few weeks

c) Calls for Service – Inspector Ascroft

- Calls for Service for April distributed in agenda package
- Clarification provided regarding question at last meeting regarding Other CFS – relates to Calls for Service that are not part of the information listed in table
- Total calls are up 673 from last year, calls up 1114 over same period in 2013
- Collisions are up 36 over last year
- Photo radar is down, have had equipment issues and some will be replaced
- Red Light violations almost double of last year
- Conventional enforcement up from last year
- Service is a body short due to attrition (Coaldale)
- Questions raised by Commission:
 - Why increase in calls for service? Insp. Ascroft advised likely because of increase in population. If it keeps increasing he will advise Commission
 - Any reason frauds have increased? Insp. Ascroft will look into this and report at next meeting
 - Amount of distracted driving tickets issued. Insp. Ascroft advised this was a focus for month of February and there were 131 tickets issued
 - It is legal to have a radar detector in vehicle? Insp. Ascroft advised it is legal, legislation changed approx. 15-20 years ago
 - Inquiry whether the digital boxes that indicate vehicle speed is tracking speed of vehicles. Insp. Ascroft explained it is equipment used by the City of Lethbridge to be used as a traffic calming device, not enforcement

7) New Business

a) 2014 Annual Report – Deputy Chief Catonio

- Deputy Chief Catonio explained the Executive Officer works with Executive to decide what to include in the annual report highlights. Obviously tough to capture all LRPS does in a single year but document has been well written
- Inquiry as to Crimes Against Persons on page 15 and why the clearance rate is so low? Deputy Chief Catonio will look into this and report to Commission
- Inquiry about Biased Based Profiling on page 18 – indicates 0 compared to 10 last year. Deputy Chief Catonio will confirm this number

- Inquiry whether social media is attracting a different audience for calls for service to increase. Deputy Chief advised that LRPS only takes calls through the typical call taking method, not through social media
 - Deputy Chief Catonio shared there is a common theme across Western Canada of an increase in calls for service
 - Commission provided compliments regarding the annual report
- b) Standards Compliance Review – Chief Davis
- Chief Davis has been notified that LRPS is in full compliance with the recent policing standards compliance review. Auditors provided a few best practice recommendations (pages 35 and 36) which LRPS could implement. LRPS pursuit reporting will be used as a best practice for others
 - Being CALEA certified allows this compliance to be easier to complete
 - Mrs. Valgardson asked for the individuals responsible for compiling the information for the review be recognized
 - Chair McKay suggested the performance measures be a joint business measure with LRPS and Commission
- c) Annual Lethbridge College Community Survey – Deputy Chief Catonio
- Survey which was included in agenda package is arranged by LRPS each year. Dr. Faron Ellis, Lethbridge College, conducts survey on LRPS behalf
 - Survey is scientific, 840 randomly chosen citizens of Lethbridge and Coaldale
 - Accuracy rate is 19 times out of 20
 - Results are consistent with previous years – police service is doing a good job, meeting expectations, citizens feel somewhat safe or very safe in neighbourhoods and downtown by both Coaldale and Lethbridge residents
 - General message - community thinks LRPS is doing a good job
 - Chair McKay expressed congratulations on the report, appears very positive
- d) CACOLE Report - Attendees
- Deputy Chief Catonio reported that the Canadian Association of Civilian Oversight Conference was held May 10 - 13 in Ottawa which included 12 sessions and key note speakers
 - Attendees included police boards and commissions from across the country, professional standards representatives, provincial oversight bodies, etc.
 - Excellent slate of speakers speaking on a variety of topics
 - Councillor Iwaskiw enjoyed attending CALEA for the quality of speakers and the sessions provide for great discussions
 - Mr. Deys attended due to his role as Public Complaints Director
 - Mrs. Wiebe expressed it was an excellent conference, different from CAPG. Benefit to share information with commissions in Ontario
 - Chair McKay thanked attendees for their report
- 8) Enquiries by the Police Commission
- None
- 9) Enquiries by the Public
- None
- 10) Meeting Adjournment
- **Motion by Mr. Deys to adjourn the meeting at 4:52 p.m.**