



# Minutes

## The Blue Mountains OPP Detachment Board

**Date:** January 15, 2025  
**Time:** 8:30 a.m.  
**Location:** Town Hall, Council Chambers and Virtual Meeting  
32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON  
**Prepared by:** Kyra Dunlop, Recording Secretary/Deputy Clerk

**Members Present:** Gail Ardiel, Andrea Matrosovs, Donna Wilson, Jim Oliver  
**Members Absent:** Lynn Church  
**Staff Present:** Director of Community Services Ryan Gibbons, Administrative Assistant Katie Love, Legislative Coordinator Carrie Fairley

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### A. Call to Order

#### A.1 Traditional Territory Acknowledgement

We would like to begin our meeting by recognizing the First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples of Canada as traditional stewards of the land. The municipality is located within the boundary of Treaty 18 region of 1818 which is the traditional land of the Anishnaabek, Haudenosaunee and Wendat-Wyandot-Wyandotte peoples.

#### A.2 Board Member Attendance

Recording Secretary Kyra Dunlop called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. with Jim Oliver, Donna Wilson, Andrea Matrosovs and Gail Ardiel in attendance. Lynn Church sent her regrets.

Town staff present were Director of Community Services Ryan Gibbons, Community Services Administrative Assistant Katie Love and Legislative Coordinator Carrie Fairley.

OPP Detachment Staff present were Detachment Commander Loris Licharson, Sgt. Kevin Cornell and Acting Staff Sgt. Mark Stadig.

### **A.3 Approval of Agenda**

Moved by: Jim Oliver

Seconded by: Gail Ardiel

THAT the Agenda of January 15, 2025 be approved as circulated, including any additions to the Agenda, and consider E.1 before Item C.1

Yay (4): Gail Ardiel, Andrea Matrosovs, Donna Wilson, and Jim Oliver

Absent (1): Lynn Church

**The motion is Carried (4 to 0)**

### **A.4 Appointment of Chair for 2025**

**Note: Section 36(1) of the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019* requires that a Chair be appointed at the Board's first meeting in each year. The Recording Secretary will call for nominations for the Chair for the 2025 Calendar Year.**

Moved by: Andrea Matrosovs

Seconded by: Donna Wilson

THAT, in accordance with the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019* section 36 (1), Jim Oliver is appointed as the Chair of The Blue Mountains OPP Detachment Board for a one year term ending December 31, 2025.

Yay (4): Gail Ardiel, Andrea Matrosovs, Donna Wilson, and Jim Oliver

Absent (1): Lynn Church

**The motion is Carried (4 to 0)**

### **A.5 Appointment of Vice-Chair for 2025**

**Note: Section 36(2) of the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019* requires that a Vice-Chair be appointed at the Board's first meeting in each year. The Recording Secretary will call for nominations for the Chair for the 2025 Calendar Year.**

Moved by: Andrea Matrosovs

Seconded by: Donna Wilson

THAT, in accordance with the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019* section 36 (2), Gail Ardiel is appointed as the Vice-Chair of The Blue Mountains OPP Detachment Board for a one year term ending December 31, 2025.

Yay (4): Gail Ardiel, Andrea Matrosovs, Donna Wilson, and Jim Oliver

Absent (1): Lynn Church

**The motion is Carried (4 to 0)**

**A.6 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and general nature thereof**

NOTE: In accordance with the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* and the Town Procedural By-law 2023-62, The Blue Mountains OPP Detachment Board Members must file a written statement of the interest and its general nature with the Clerk for inclusion on the Registry.

None

**A.7 Previous Minutes**

Moved by: Donna Wilson

Seconded by: Andrea Matrosovs

THAT The Blue Mountains OPP Detachment Board minutes of October 16, 2024 be approved as circulated, including any revisions to be made.

Yay (4): Gail Ardiel, Andrea Matrosovs, Donna Wilson, and Jim Oliver

Absent (1): Lynn Church

**The motion is Carried (4 to 0)**

**A.8 Chair's Remarks**

Chair Oliver noted he was happy to have their first meeting in 2025 and that the Board had supported his position as Chair for another year, and thanked OPP staff for their support in attending the meetings. Chair Oliver noted this is the first full year of the Board under the new legislation and looks forward to this transition.

Chair Oliver noted that Council will be dealing with the OPP Detachment Board's first estimates as submitted and this will also be true of the new OPP Contracts for 2025 and for the next several years. Chair Oliver noted that when Council has their discussion about the OPP Contract budget itself, he would appreciate being informed of that and observe. Deputy Clerk Dunlop confirmed that members of the public and Board are welcomed to provide their comments on the Council Budget relating any item part of the Council Budget, including with regard to the OPP Board Estimates and OPP Contract.

Chair Oliver noted he received a copy of the correspondence regarding the special funding from the province that the Town is receiving regarding the OPP Contract.

Member Matrosovs noted that across the province this funding is welcome relief and will help us adapt to the new configuration moving forward. Member Ardiel noted that the funding is for 2025 only, and we will not know what will happen going forward. Member Ardiel noted ongoing discussions are happening through AMO and the province to try and secure funding for following years, and they hope this funding will continue otherwise every municipality in this province will see huge increases in taxation to cover these expenses.

Chair Oliver noted as a Board they had a responsibility to seek community input and be more proactive in seeking out participation and engagement.

## **B. Public Meetings/Deputations/Presentations**

None

## **C. Staff Reports**

### **C.1 Detachment Commander Report, Quarter 4 2024**

Detachment Commander Licharson provided an overview of the Detachment Commander's Report and introduced Acting Staff Sergeant Mark Stadig.

Chair Oliver asked about the questionnaire regarding local information or news, and asked if there was a differentiation for the particular question around how Town residents get the information versus Collingwood residents. Chair Oliver noted that for example, the Blue Mountain Review is a primary source for the Town versus the Collingwood Today news source. Detachment Commander Licharson noted he does not believe there is a statistical difference in this regard, and he would look into this further to report back. Detachment Commander Licharson noted there is still a strong need for local outreach. Chair Oliver asked if OPP staff can share the results of the specific survey with Board Members, which Detachment Commander Licharson confirmed they could share.

Chair Oliver noted he has had residents reach out to him about RIDE programs taking place throughout the Town and asked how strategic OPP Staff were in terms of where and when the programs would be implemented. Detachment Commander Licharson noted that officers work together to ensure good traffic flow and use data analysis to see where previous arrests for impaired have taken place, as well as rely on local officers for their discretion as they know the areas of concern to target.

Member Ardiel noted that some incidences had jumped by 50 percent and asked if these incidences were from residents or visitors. Detachment Commander Licharson

noted that the holiday season is a factor for all the offence categories because the Town is a tourist destination and sees an increase in the number of people in the area. Detachment Commander Licharson noted that the numbers from 2022 to to 2024 saw a dip and he would need to analyze that further. Member Ardiel noted that in 2022, people were coming back from the pandemic, and that we are likely getting back to our normal pre-pandemic numbers. Member Ardiel noted she would anticipate more tourists are coming again which is great, and that the numbers for incidences might increase with the increase of people in the area.

Chair Oliver noted that for intimate partner violence, there is no data point gathered specifically and he has had information provided around the concept of designating intimate partner violence and femicide. Chair Oliver asked if the OPP corporately was trying to address this in terms of identifying femicide within the definition of intimate partner violence. Detachment Commander Licharson noted he cannot speak to corporately how the OPP stands on that issue, and that the detachment and OPP across the Board takes intimate partner violence seriously and has stringent policies around this. Detachment Commander Licharson noted their detachment has created an intimate partner violence response role and the OPP has a designated role for this to provide expertise and support for ongoing investigations. Detachment Commander Licharson noted that taking a proactive role in connecting with local groups such as the Women's Shelter is important. Detachment Commander Licharson noted in their detachment area the number of assaults did increase, including with regard to calls for service for intimate partner violence. Detachment Commander Licharson noted that they are doing a better job and collecting and classifying data for this, and for supervision of these occurrences. Detachment Commander Licharson noted that some of the increases they are seeing that the current economic situation and cost of living crisis has led to families not having the options they have had in the past and can result in escalations.

Member Wilson noted that they see a lot of social media for people who are wanted by the police, and asked if that is helpful to use their security cameras for this purpose. Detachment Commander Licharson noted there have been times where OPP staff have been able to resolve investigations with that assistance, and such a case occurred in Bracebridge where a photo was posted on social media and through the comments section OPP staff were able to identify the individual and lay charges. Detachment Commander Licharson noted if citizens have surveillance cameras it is helpful for them to consider participating in the CAMSafe Program. Chair Oliver asked if there has been uptake for the CAMSafe Program in the area, and Detachment Commander Licharson noted that there are now 30 participants in the program, and though the uptake is slow

it is good to see the increase. Member Ardiel noted that the Board could work with the Communications staff to educate and build awareness of this program.

Moved by: Andrea Matrosovs

Seconded by: Donna Wilson

THAT The Blue Mountains OPP Detachment Board receive for information the Detachment Commander Report, Quarter 4 2024.

Yay (4): Gail Ardiel, Andrea Matrosovs, Donna Wilson, and Jim Oliver

Absent (1): Lynn Church

**The motion is Carried (4 to 0)**

Moved by: Gail Ardiel

Seconded by: Donna Wilson

THAT, with regard to the Detachment Commander's Report, Quarter 4 2024, the Board directs the Board Chair to work with the Town's Communications staff and OPP Media Detachment Staff to build awareness of the CAMSafe Program.

Yay (4): Gail Ardiel, Andrea Matrosovs, Donna Wilson, and Jim Oliver

Absent (1): Lynn Church

**The motion is Carried (4 to 0)**

## **C.2 Special Event Communications Neighbouring Municipalities, TBMOPP.25.001**

Moved by: Gail Ardiel

Seconded by: Donna Wilson

THAT The Blue Mountains OPP Detachment Board receive Staff Report TBMOPP.25.001, entitled "Special Event Communications – Neighbouring Municipalities";

AND THAT The Blue Mountains OPP Detachment Board recommends Council to direct Staff to proceed with a special event communication plan with neighbouring municipalities that will include connecting by end of February of every year and follow up throughout the year for events that cross Town of The Blue Mountains borders.

Yay (4): Gail Ardiel, Andrea Matrosovs, Donna Wilson, and Jim Oliver

Absent (1): Lynn Church

**The motion is Carried (4 to 0)**

## **D. Correspondence**

### **D.1 Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce Re: Letter to Police Partners and Boards Re Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce requesting funding support**

**Note: This item was deferred from the October 16, 2024 Board Meeting.**

The Board discussed receiving more information from other municipalities around funding options for Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce and Member Matrosovs advised she would connect with member municipalities at the ROMA Conference in January 2025 for informal comments on funding availability for Crime Stoppers.

Moved by: Gail Ardiel

Seconded by: Andrea Matrosovs

THAT The Blue Mountains OPP Detachment Board receives for information the correspondence of Crime Stoppers Grey Bruce Re: Letter to Police Partners and Boards Re Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce requesting funding support.

Yay (4): Gail Ardiel, Andrea Matrosovs, Donna Wilson, and Jim Oliver

Absent (1): Lynn Church

**The motion is Carried (4 to 0)**

### **D.2 Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce Re: Quarter 2 Coordinator's Report April to June 2024**

**Note: This item was deferred from the October 16, 2024 Board Meeting.**

Moved by: Donna Wilson

Seconded by: Andrea Matrosovs

THAT The Blue Mountains OPP Detachment Board receives for information the correspondence of Crime Stoppers Grey Bruce Re: Quarter 2 Coordinator's Report April to June 2024

Yay (4): Gail Ardiel, Andrea Matrosovs, Donna Wilson, and Jim Oliver

Absent (1): Lynn Church

**The motion is Carried (4 to 0)**

**D.3 Selwyn J. Hicks, Chair, Hanover Police Service Board Re: Letter in support of Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce and motion passed in support of funding request**

**Note: This item was deferred from the October 16, 2024 Board Meeting.**

Moved by: Gail Ardiel

Seconded by: Andrea Matrosovs

THAT The Blue Mountains OPP Detachment Board receives for information the correspondence of Selwyn J. Hicks, Chair, Hanover Police Service Board Re: Letter in support of Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce motion passed in support of funding request

Yay (4): Gail Ardiel, Andrea Matrosovs, Donna Wilson, and Jim Oliver

Absent (1): Lynn Church

**The motion is Carried (4 to 0)**

**D.4 Ontario Association of Police Services Boards Re: All Chief's Memo 24-005 Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 Mandatory Thematic Training**

**Note: This item was deferred from the October 16, 2024 Board Meeting.**

Moved by: Donna Wilson

Seconded by: Andrea Matrosovs

THAT The Blue Mountains OPP Detachment Board receives for information the correspondence of the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards Re: All Chief's Memo 24-005 Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 Mandatory Thematic Training

Yay (4): Gail Ardiel, Andrea Matrosovs, Donna Wilson, and Jim Oliver

Absent (1): Lynn Church

**The motion is Carried (4 to 0)**

**D.5 Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce Re: Quarter 3 Coordinator's Report July to September 2024**

**Note: This item was deferred from the October 16, 2024 Board Meeting.**

Moved by: Donna Wilson

Seconded by: Andrea Matrosovs



THAT The Blue Mountains OPP Detachment Board receives for information the correspondence of Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce Re: Quarter 3 Coordinator's Report July to September 2024.

Yay (4): Gail Ardiel, Andrea Matrosovs, Donna Wilson, and Jim Oliver

Absent (1): Lynn Church

**The motion is Carried (4 to 0)**

**D.6 Special Joint Town of Collingwood and Town of The Blue Mountains Board Re: Special Joint Board Minutes dated December 13, 2024**

**Note: These minutes are being circulated as a correspondence item for information.**

Moved by: Donna Wilson

Seconded by: Andrea Matrosovs

THAT The Blue Mountains OPP Detachment Board receives for information the Special Joint Town of Collingwood and Town of The Blue Mountains OPP Detachment Board minutes dated December 13, 2024.

Yay (4): Gail Ardiel, Andrea Matrosovs, Donna Wilson, and Jim Oliver

Absent (1): Lynn Church

**The motion is Carried (4 to 0)**

**D.7 Annual Report of the Inspector General of Policing 2023**

**Note: This item deferred from the December 13, 2024 Special Town of The Blue Mountains and Town of Collingwood Joint Board Meeting**

Moved by: Andrea Matrosovs

Seconded by: Donna Wilson

THAT The Blue Mountains OPP Detachment Board receives for information the Annual Report of the Inspector General of Policing 2023.

Yay (4): Gail Ardiel, Andrea Matrosovs, Donna Wilson, and Jim Oliver

Absent (1): Lynn Church

**The motion is Carried (4 to 0)**

## **E. Other Business**

### **E.1 Draft Board Procedural By-law**

**Note: This item was deferred from the October 16, 2024 Board Meeting.**

Moved by: Gail Ardiel

Seconded by: Andrea Matrosovs

THAT The Blue Mountains OPP Detachment Board receives for information the draft Board Procedural By-law;

AND THAT the Board approves The Blue Mountains OPP Detachment Board Procedural By-law;

AND THAT the By-law be hereby enacted as passed this 15th day of January, 2025 as By-law 2025-01.

Yay (4): Gail Ardiel, Andrea Matrosovs, Donna Wilson, and Jim Oliver

Absent (1): Lynn Church

**The motion is Carried (4 to 0)**

### **E.2 Ontario Association of Police Services Boards (OAPSB) Board Remuneration Survey**

Member Matrosovs vacated the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

Chair Oliver noted that they had waited for the OAPSB Survey data to discuss remuneration and he did not feel that it would not be appropriate for the public members of the Board to suggest a remuneration amount to Council. Member Ardiel noted that this was something she could bring up at the 2025 Council Budget Meetings.

Recording Secretary Dunlop confirmed that the 2025 Estimates contemplated remuneration for \$100.00 per eligible Board Member, being the public and provincial appointees, and that remuneration for the provincial appointee would be required to continue as it is legislated for the municipality to pay them.

Andrea Matrosovs left the meeting at 10:25 am.

Moved by: Gail Ardiel

Seconded by: Donna Wilson

THAT The Blue Mountains OPP Detachment Board receive for information the OAPSB Remuneration Survey;

AND THAT the Board requests Town Council to give consideration for an appropriate level of remuneration for the Public and Provincial Appointee Board Members for 2025 and beyond as part of Council's budget deliberations.

Yay (3): Gail Ardiel, Donna Wilson, and Jim Oliver

Absent (2): Lynn Church, and Andrea Matrosovs

**The motion is Carried (3 to 0)**

**E.3 Board Member Attendance at 2025 OAPSB Annual General Meeting**

Moved by: Donna Wilson

Seconded by: Gail Ardiel

THAT The Blue Mountains OPP Detachment Board authorizes Jim Oliver and Gail Ardiel to attend the 2025 OAPSB Annual General Meeting from June 3 to 5, 2025 in London, ON and directs staff to register those Board Members for the conference including accommodation.

Yay (3): Gail Ardiel, Donna Wilson, and Jim Oliver

Absent (2): Lynn Church, and Andrea Matrosovs

**The motion is Carried (3 to 0)**

**E.4 School Resource Officer Programs in Ontario Update, Detachment Commander Licharson (verbal)**

**Note: This item deferred from the December 13, 2024 Special Town of The Blue Mountains and Town of Collingwood Joint Board Meeting**

Detachment Commander Licharson provided an overview of the status of the School Resource Officer Program, and noted that the project would be continuing. Detachment Commander Licharson noted that the detachment will continue to remain a spotlight detachment for the studies being conducted and look forward to the study results being released.

**E.5 Review of the Updated School Board/Police Protocol, Detachment Commander Licharson (verbal)**

**Note: This item deferred from the December 13, 2024 Special Town of The Blue Mountains and Town of Collingwood Joint Board Meeting**

Detachment Commander Licharson provided an overview of the school board/police protocol, noting that this relates to the Simcoe County Police Protocol and wanted to provide this information to the Board for awareness. Detachment Commander Licharson noted that it is mandated through the Province for a School Board/Police Protocol Document and this document did require an update to ensure consistency amongst schools within a schoolboard. Detachment Commander Licharson noted significant changes were not made as a lot of standards had remained the same, but the references to old legislation needed to be updated. Chair Oliver asked if there was a similar protocol for the Bluewater District School Board, which Detachment Commander Licharson confirmed there was.

#### **E.6 Appointment of Acting Recording Secretary**

Recording Secretary Dunlop introduced Carrie Fairley, Legislative Coordinator.

Moved by: Gail Ardiel

Seconded by: Donna Wilson

THAT The Blue Mountains OPP Detachment Board appoint Carrie Fairley as Acting Recording Secretary effective January 15, 2025, and designates Carrie Fairley as the signing authority for the Board as required under the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019*.

Yay (3): Gail Ardiel, Donna Wilson, and Jim Oliver

Absent (2): Lynn Church, and Andrea Matrosovs

**The motion is Carried (3 to 0)**

#### **F. Closed Session**

None

#### **G. Notice of Meeting Dates**

The Blue Mountains OPP Detachment Board Meeting, April 16, 2025  
Town Hall, Council Chambers

The Blue Mountains OPP Detachment Board Meeting, July 16, 2025  
Town Hall, Council Chambers

## **H. Adjournment**

Moved by: Donna Wilson

Seconded by: Gail Ardiel

THAT The Blue Mountains OPP Detachment Board Meeting does now adjourn at 10:38 a.m. to meet again April 16, 2025 or at the call of the Chair.

Yay (3): Gail Ardiel, Donna Wilson, and Jim Oliver

Absent (2): Lynn Church, and Andrea Matrosovs

**The motion is Carried (3 to 0)**