

Essex County OPP Detachment Board – North
Minutes

Date: Monday, April 14, 2025
Time: 10:00 am
Location: Tecumseh Town Hall - Council Chambers
917 Lesperance Road
Tecumseh, Ontario N8N 1W9

Present:

Chair Paul Sweet
Vice Chair Dave Kigar
Member Sherry Bondy
Member Tracey Bailey
Member Ed Hooker
Member John Quennell
Member Karen M. Robertson
Member Marc Gomes

Also Present:

Municipal Liaison Margaret Misek-Evans, Tecumseh C.A.O.
Municipal Liaison Doug Sweet, Essex C.A.O.
Municipal Liaison Susan Hirota, Lakeshore Corporate Leader - General Counsel
OPP Superintendent Mark Loucas, Essex County
OPP Inspector Jamie Smith, Essex County
OPP Staff Sergeant Bryan Andrusyk, Essex
OPP A/Staff Sergeant Pauline Brockman, Lakeshore
OPP Staff Sergeant Christian Cortese, Tecumseh
Ron LeClair, Police Services Advisor, Inspectorate of Policing
MacKenzie Vandenberg, Tecumseh Communications Officer
Karen Murteira, Administrative Support and Recording Secretary

Absent:

Member Gary McNamara

A. Call to Order

Chair Paul Sweet called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

B. Roll Call

Superintendent Mark Loucas announced the promotion of Christian Cortese to the rank of Staff Sergeant for the Tecumseh detachment.

C. Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that this land is the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations (comprised of the Ojibway, the Odawa, and the Potawatomi Peoples), and of the Huron-Wendat Peoples. We are dedicated to honouring Indigenous history and culture while remaining committed to moving forward respectfully with all local and regional First Nations and all of the Original Peoples of Turtle Island who have been living and working on the land from time immemorial.

D. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

There was no pecuniary interest declared by a member of the Board.

E. Approval of the Agenda**Motion: ECODB-N 13/25**

Moved by Member Marc Gomes

Seconded by Member John Quennell

That the Agenda for the Essex County OPP Detachment Board - North Meeting dated Monday, April 14, 2025, as duplicated and delivered to the members thereof, **be accepted**.

Carried

F. Approval of the Previous Minutes**1. Essex County OPP Detachment Board - North Minutes from the regular meeting held on February 10, 2025****Motion: ECODB-N 14/25**

Moved by Vice Chair Dave Kigar

Seconded by Member Tracey Bailey

That the Regular Minutes of the February 10, 2025 Essex County OPP Detachment Board - North Meeting, as duplicated and delivered to the members thereof, **be adopted**.

Carried

2. Essex County OPP Detachment Board - North Minutes from the in-camera meeting held on February 10, 2025

The Essex County OPP Detachment Board – North (Lakeshore, Essex, Tecumseh) held an in-camera meeting on February 10, 2025 in accordance with Section 44(2)(g) of the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019*, which permits a meeting may be closed to the public as the following condition is satisfied:

(g) information explicitly supplied in confidence to the board by Canada, a province or territory or a Crown agency of any of them, a municipality or a First Nation.

Chair Sweet advised that the Minutes of the in-camera meeting were distributed to the Board Members via confidential email.

Motion: ECODB-N 15/25

Moved by Member Ed Hooker

Seconded by Member Karen M. Robertson

That the In-Camera Minutes of the February 10, 2025 Essex County OPP Detachment Board - North Meeting **be approved;**

And that the Chair and Vice Chair **be authorized** to circulate any subsequent Essex County OPP Detachment Board - North In-Camera Minutes to the ECODB-N and sign.

Carried

G. Delegations

There were no delegations presented to the Board.

H. OPP Monthly Reports

1. Essex County Detachment Report for the month of February 2025

Inspector Jamie Smith reported overall decreases in motor vehicle collisions, violent crime, property crime, unfounded occurrences, patrol hours, Criminal Code and provincial statutes charges, and e-ticketing (due to focus on RIDE programs, distracted driving, and traffic enforcement).

Increases were noted in liquor license and impaired charges, which involve time-consuming investigations. A slight increase was noted in mental health calls with a corresponding increase in the number of proactive teams responding to calls for services.

Also of note, the street crime unit is executing warrants for drugs and guns. There has been only one youth diversion so far this year, and one non-fatal overdose. Due to a warrant being executed in Leamington, a major supplier of opioids is now in jail, resulting in a decrease in overdose deaths.

In response to Member Quennell's question, Inspector Smith advised that there has been an increase in referrals to victim services with OPP utilizing a victim-centred approach and follow up by abuse coordinators and victim specialists.

Member Bailey expressed the need for county-wide data, public reporting, and discussion on what is happening regionally. Superintendent Loucas advised that he continues to work with the strategic management unit to

develop a streamlined report for each detachment, taking all feedback into consideration, which includes adding by-law enforcement information.

Motion: ECODB-N 16/25

Moved by Member Tracey Bailey
Seconded by Vice Chair Dave Kigar

That the Essex County OPP **provide** detailed reports for each municipality as well as county-wide reports and data on a monthly basis to the Essex County OPP Detachment Board - North (Lakeshore, Essex, Tecumseh).

Carried

2. Essex County Detachment Report for the month of January 2025

Motion: ECODB-N 17/25

Moved by Member Marc Gomes
Seconded by Member Sherry Bondy

That the OPP Reports for the months of January and February 2025 **be received**.

Carried

I. Reports

1. ECODB-2025-01 Town of Tecumseh Citizen Satisfaction Survey (excerpt)

Tecumseh CAO Margaret Misk-Evans provided a summary of the Town of Tecumseh's Citizen Satisfaction Survey as it pertains to policing services. This is a biennial survey and the information provided will assist as input to the Local Action Plan that the OPP will be renewing this coming year. The full report is available on the Town of Tecumseh website.

The highlights of the survey indicate that most Tecumseh residents are generally satisfied with policing services in the community and that the importance of policing services is very high, especially in the areas of traffic, parking, by-laws, community visibility, education, intimate partner abuse, and mental health and youth crisis response. Services needing improvement were noted as policing, traffic safety and enforcement, and by-law enforcement.

Motion: ECODB-N 18/25

Moved by Member Ed Hooker
Seconded by Member Marc Gomes

That Report No. ECODB-2025-01 Essex County Detachment Board – North (Lakeshore, Essex, Tecumseh) Town of Tecumseh Citizen Satisfaction Survey, **be received;**

And that, the data presented in Report No. ECODB-2025-01 **be referred to** the OPP for input to the Local Action Plan.

Carried

At this time, Superintendent Loucas introduced, and the Board welcomed Acting Staff Sergeant Pauline Brockman, Detachment Manager for Lakeshore, who will be attending the detachment board meetings regularly.

2. Ontario Association of Police Service Boards Zone 6 Meeting March 25, 2025

Re: Agenda and Chair's verbal report

Chair Sweet provided a verbal report of the OAPSB Zone 6 meeting held March 25, 2025 in LaSalle, Ontario. The meeting was not well-attended overall, however, it was well-represented by this Board. Karen Murteira, ECODB-N Administrative Support, is the new Secretary-Treasurer for Zone 6.

The meeting included an interesting presentation by Street Smarts VR, a virtual reality training program. The Zone 6 annual membership dues have been set at \$200.00 as of this year.

Motion: ECODB-N 19/25

Moved by Member Tracey Bailey
Seconded by Member John Quennell

That the OAPSB Zone 6 meeting verbal report as listed on the Monday, April 14, 2025 Essex County OPP Detachment Board-North Agenda, **be received.**

Carried

J. Communications - Action Required

There were no Communications requiring action presented to the Board.

K. Communications - For Information Purposes**1. ECODB-N Correspondence to OPP Commissioner Carrique dated February 19, 2025**

Re: Criminal Record Checks Online Application Process

2. Correspondence from OPP Chief Superintendent Dumond dated March 18, 2025

Re: Criminal Record Check processing times

Member Bailey expressed her dissatisfaction with the response from Chief Superintendent Dumond, noting that organizations are failing to thrive, volunteer numbers are declining, and seniors cannot manage the digital technology of the application process for criminal record checks.

Superintendent Loucas committed to continuing discussions on this matter with Chief Superintendent Thib. Member Hooker noted the need to question whether this is a resource issue and what is being done to address it.

Motion: ECODB-N 20/25

Moved by Member Tracey Bailey

Seconded by Member John Quennell

That the Chair be directed to respond to the letter from Chief Superintendent Dumond indicating the Board's dissatisfaction with the response and request appropriate resourcing to expedite criminal record check processing.

Carried

3. ECODB-N Correspondence to Ontario Association of Police Services Boards

Re: Proposed Resolution: Amendment to S.258 (2.1) of the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019*

Chair Sweet advised that the proposed resolution was been forwarded to the OAPSB and will be presented at its Annual General Meeting on June 3, 2025.

4. Windsor-Essex Community Safety & Well-Being Systems Leadership Table

a. Systems Leadership Table Meeting Minutes June 12, 2024

b. County Council resolution to receive Minutes

5. Inspector General Memorandum #3 re: Critical Points Policy

a. Memorandum #3 dated March 20, 2025

b. Toronto Police Service Board Critical Points Policy

6. Inspector General Memorandum #4 re: Release of Inspectorate of Policing's Strategic Plan

- a. Memorandum #4 dated April 1, 2025
- b. Inspectorate of Policing 2024-2027 Strategic Plan

Motion: ECODB-N 21/25

Moved by Member Karen M. Robertson
Seconded by Member Marc Gomes

That Communications - For Information items 1 through 6 as listed on the Monday, April 14, 2025 Essex County OPP Detachment Board-North Agenda, **be received**.

Carried

L. Unfinished Business

There was no Unfinished Business presented to the Board.

M. New Business

1. ECODB-N New Webpage

Follow this link to view:

<https://www.tecumseh.ca/town-government/committees-boards/essex-county-opp-detachment-board-north/>

Administrative Support Karen Murteira advised that the Board's webpage is complete, which complies with legislative requirements, can be found on the Town of Tecumseh's website. The three municipalities' logos are being displayed until the Board has a logo of its own. Lakeshore and Essex websites provide a link directly to this page for consistency.

In response to Member Bondy's recommendation, the OPP non-emergency phone number will be added to the page.

2. ECODB-N Logo

Chair Sweet advised that the OPP Strategic Management Unit is in the process of developing logos for all detachment boards for consistency purposes.

Motion: ECODB-N 22/25

Moved by Vice Chair Dave Kigar
Seconded by Member John Quennell

That New Business items 1 and 2 as listed on the Monday, April 14, 2025 Essex County OPP Detachment Board-North Agenda, **be received**.

Carried

3. Community Safety and Policing Grant Opportunity

Superintendent Loucas advised that this provincial funding stream supports initiatives aligned with local and provincial priorities, including community safety, mental health, addictions, human trafficking, and guns and gang violence. As the application process has changed with new legislation, it falls under the detachment board to work with policing community partners to the lead municipality to submit. Superintendent Loucas recommended partnering with the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan team, who have insight into Essex County priorities and the expertise to co-author the application.

The process is competitive and has a tight timeline, but each Essex County detachment board would be eligible for up to \$500,000.00 each.

In response to Member Bailey's question, Margaret Misk-Evans advised that the county does not have jurisdiction for policing and therefore administration of the grant funds would be the responsibility of the managing municipality of each detachment board. Superintendent Loucas added that the lead municipality would allocate the funds and report back to Ministry. Any funds left over would go back to the municipality to decide how to disburse the leftover funds.

In response to Margaret Misk-Evans' question, Superintendent Loucas advised that the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan team has expertise in this area and would partner with OPP to co-author the application, and there would be no costs incurred by the municipalities.

Motion: ECODB-N 23/25

Moved by Member Tracey Bailey

Seconded by Member Marc Gomes

That the verbal report of Superintendent Mark Loucas regarding the Community Safety and Policing grant opportunity **be received**;

And that the Essex County OPP Detachment Board - North **endorse** proceeding with the grant proposal submissions under the local priorities and provincial priorities funding streams of the Community Safety & Policing Grant, 2025-26 cycle, in partnership with the Community Safety & Well-Being Team;

And further that, Superintendent Loucas **consult with** the Municipal Liaisons regarding any required municipal financial contribution requirement and on any components of the proposal affecting municipal assets prior to submission;

And further that, the Town of Tecumseh **be identified** as the lead municipality for the purpose of grant application submission and administration.

Carried

N. Other New Business

O. Next Meeting

Monday, June 9, 2025 at 10:00 am at Tecumseh Town Hall.

P. Adjournment

Motion: ECODB-N 24/25

Moved by Member John Quennell

Seconded by Member Karen M. Robertson

That there being no further business to discuss, the Monday, April 14, 2025 meeting of the Essex County OPP Detachment Board - North **adjourn** at 11:00 am.

Carried

Paul Sweet, Chair

Dave Kigar, Vice-Chair