**LAMBTON GROUP POLICE SERVICES BOARD**

**MINUTES**

**April 21, 2021**

**Session # 2/2021**

**Date:** Wednesday, April 21, 2021

**Time:** 3:00 p.m.

**Place:** Virtual Meeting

**Present: Murray Jackson, Chair**

**Leland Martin, Acting Chair**

**Steve Miller**

**Doug Cook**

**Shirley Durance**

**Dela Horley, Secretary**

**O.P.P. Representative: Inspector Chris Avery**

**Staff Sgt. Ross Stuart**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Murray Jackson called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

None declared.

**ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**Moved by D. Cook, Seconded by S. Durance, THAT** the minutes of Session 1/2021, February 17, 2021 be adopted as submitted.

Carried.

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

There was no business arising.

**DETACHMENT REPORT**

St. Sgt. Ross Stuart reviewed the November/December 2020 policing report:

* Violent crime down 53%, property crime down 10%, drug crime down 66% (over same time last year)
* Street Crimes Unit – 35 occurrences, 9 search warrants, 33 charges. Drug trafficking investigations resulted in drug seizures, 5 arrests and 27 charges.
* Trafficking investigation – a lot of background work to obtain warrant – drugs and cash found.
* Work continues on the domestic-related homicide in Corunna
* Investigation continues on 2 homicides in Stony and Kettle Point
* 5 sexual assaults – 3 still actively being investigated
* 1 opioid-related death in Point Edward
* Theft of firearms in the County – 3 firearms recovered.
* Officers continue to do property checks (businesses, homes, cottages, etc.) throughout the County (926 in January and February). The pandemic has closed a lot of businesses. Officers performed 4331 property checks in 2020.
* Community services – 45 media releases on impaired driving, distracted driving, aggressive driving and seat belt use.

S. Durance asked if mental health calls for service have increased; St. Sgt. Stuart confirmed that they have increased, and a second mental health partner has been brought in to assist the officers.

D. Cook asked how certain property recoveries are possible; St. Sgt. Stuart advised that Crime Stopper tips and other confidential information from the public are very helpful. In addition, there is a database that can be checked available to policing services containing serial numbers of certain stolen property.

**Moved by L. Martin, seconded by S. Miller, THAT** the Detachment Commander’s Report be accepted. Carried.

*Additional/statistical information available in OPP Monthly Report (forwarded electronically to municipal partners and posted to LGPSB website).*

**MEMBER’S REPORT**

* L. Martin advised the Board that there will be a meeting next week for the Community Safety and Well Being Plan. The group will be updated on the recent public survey.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

* 1. Draft 2020 Financial Statements *(sent electronically)*
  2. LGPSB Audit Planning Report from BDO

**Moved by S. Durance, seconded by D. Cook, THAT** the Correspondence as listed be accepted.

Carried.

**ACCOUNTS**

**Accounts/Finance**

1. Contract Policing – *May 2021* $ 751,811.00
2. Contract Policing – *June 2021*  $ 751,811.00
3. Mine & Yours Cleaning *(Forest ESO – February 2021)* $ 2,627.25
4. Mine & Yours Cleaning *(Forest EO – March 2021)* $ 2,627.25
5. Mine & Yours Cleaning *(Corunna – January 2021)* $ 2,288.25
6. Mine & Yours Cleaning *(Corunna – February 2021)* $ 2,288.25
7. Eastlink *(Forest ESO Office – February 2021)* $ 258.34
8. Eastlink *(Forest ESO Office – March 2021)* $ 257.61
9. Honorarium 2020 – *(S. Durance)*  $ 960.00
10. Township of St. Clair – (*Rent from April to June 2021)* $ 24,790.26
11. County of Lambton *(Admin fees – Oct to Dec 2020)* $ 736.15
12. OAPSB *(Virtual 2021 Conference Fee – M. Jackson)* $ 395.50
13. Trauma Tech Inc. *(Bio-hazard cleaning at Corunna P.O.)* $ 1,695.00
14. Canadian Hearing Services *(re- comm health grant funding)* $ 943.46
15. Project Lifesaver International *(re- com health grant funding)* $ 2,357.18
16. Sarnia Lambton Rebound *(re- diversion grant funding)* $ 77,500.00

**Moved by L. Martin, seconded by S. Durance, THAT** the accounts as listed be approved for payment.

Carried.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

Mandi Pearson, Clerk/Operations Clerk for the Town of Petrolia advised the Board that she will be attending meetings when possible and reporting back to Petrolia Council. Ms, Pearson commended the Board on the good work it is doing.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

1. M. Jackson advised that all Section 10 (OPP) Boards will be disbanded next year; a new Lambton OPP Detachment Board will be implemented.

One proposal per detachment must be submitted to the Province by June 2021. The Ministry will determine the Board composition if there is no consensus from the parties involved. Criteria: 20% community members, 20% Provincial appointees, and 60% municipal partners. The size of the Board will be determined by the policing area, most likely 8-10 members. The municipalities will determine who will represent them on the Board, and advertisements must be placed to fill the community member positions.

OPP Command staff will be instructed on this plan. D. Cook will assist M. Jackson with this transition. Municipalities are responsible to look after this process.

1. A discussion was held regarding Court Security/Prisoner Transport Funding. The Chair advised that the Board usually transfers the funds received from the province each year for prisoner transport/court security to the municipal partners. As these funds may be retained for use by the Board, consideration was given to retaining these funds, due to the cashflow shortfall in this year’s budget.

**Moved by S. Miller, seconded by D. Cook, THAT** the Court Security/Prisoner Transport funding for 2021 be retained by the Lambton Group Police Services Board, to be used to offset expenses.

Carried.

1. M. Jackson advised that the 2021 OAPSB Annual General Meeting and Conference will be held virtually this year May 26-28, 2021. Anyone wishing to attend should let D. Horley know and she will see that you are registered for the conference.
2. 2021 Draft Budget – The draft budget was reviewed by the Board. The shortfall of income due, in part, to the change by the province that grant funds must have very specific offsetting expenditures, grants can no longer be used to fund Board expenses, ie. rent costs. Further, the pandemic has caused significantly higher costs for cleaning the Corunna policing office and the Forest ESO.

A balanced budget document could not be provided as the source of the required additional income is not known.

**Moved by D. Cook, seconded by S. Durance, THAT** the 2021 LGPSB Draft Budget be received;

**AND FURTHER THAT** negotiations to address revenue streams continue in order to finalize the 2021 Budget.

Carried.

The Chair will follow up with our Provincial representative regarding funding opportunities for the Board.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Moved by S. Miller, L. Martin THAT** the April 21, 2021 meeting of the Lambton Group Police Services Board be adjourned.

Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 4:02 p.m.

**Next meeting**: Wednesday, June 16, 2021, or at the call of the Chair.

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Murray Jackson, Chair Dela Horley, Secretary