

Essex County OPP Detachment Board - North

Minutes

Date: Monday, June 9, 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 Gary McNamara
Member Sherry Bondy
Member Tracey Bailey
Member John Quennell
Member Karen M. Robertson
Member Marc Gomes
Member Ed Hooker
Municipal Liaison Margaret Misk-Evans, Tecumseh C.A.O
Municipal Liaison Susan Hirota, Lakeshore Corporate Leader- General Counsel
Municipal Liaison Kate Giurissevich, Essex C.A.O.
OPP Inspector Jamie Smith, Essex County
OPP Inspector Charles Lorway, Essex County
OPP Staff Sergeant Bryan Andrusyk, Essex
OPP A/Staff Sergeant Pauline Brockman, Lakeshore

Absent:

OPP Acting Staff Sergeant Christian Cortese, Tecumseh
OPP Superintendent Mark Loucas

Also Present:

Deputy Clerk - Clerks Services & Policy Advisor, Christina Hebert
Administrative Support and Recorder, Karen Murteira

A. Call to Order

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

B. Roll Call

1. Introduction of Kate Giurissevich, New CAO for the Town of Essex

Chair Sweet introduced Kate Giurissevich, newly-appointed CAO for the Town of Essex and Municipal Liaison to the detachment board. Chair

Sweet acknowledged retired CAO Doug Sweet for his dedicated service to the Detachment Board and to the Town of Essex.

Motion: ECODB-N 25/25

Moved by Member Sherry Bondy
Seconded by Member Gary McNamara

That the Essex County OPP Detachment Board-North **send** a letter of acknowledgement and appreciation to Doug Sweet, retired CAO for the Town of Essex and Municipal Liaison to the ECODB-N.

Carried

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 26/25

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

That the Agenda for the Essex County OPP Detachment Board - North Meeting dated Monday, June 9, 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 Regular Meeting Minutes dated Monday, April 14, 2025****Motion: ECODB-N 27/25**

Moved by Member Sherry Bondy
Seconded by Member John Quennell

That the Regular Minutes of the Monday, April 14, 2025 Essex County OPP Detachment Board - North Meeting, as duplicated and delivered to the members thereof, **be adopted**.

Carried

G. Delegations

There were no delegations presented to the Board.

H. OPP Monthly Reports**1. OPP Monthly Overview - Essex County****a. April 2025**

Inspector Jamie Smith passed along regrets on behalf of Superintendent Mark Loucas who is on medical leave. Inspector Smith reported that Essex County continues to lead the region in RIDE programs and impaired charges. Inspectors Lorway and Smith attended the West Regional Awards Ceremony where many members received service awards and citizen awards were also presented.

Inspector Smith advised they are still awaiting approval of the Community Safety and Policing grant application. The CAMSafe program was presented to the South detachment board and OPP are working with media and municipalities to strategize its implementation.

For the month of April, there was an overall decline in Criminal Code and Provincial statute charges, increases in *Highway Traffic Act* charges and a decrease in impaired driving offences. Violent crime and trafficking saw increases while there were decreases in property crime and possession. There was one public complaint for conduct.

Member Quennell noted a decrease in daily activity reporting from year to year (patrol hours) for Lakeshore. Inspector Smith advised this could be due to Criminal Code offences and impaired charges which are time-consuming and can impact patrol hours.

Acceptance of referrals to victim services increased amongst 11-16 year olds and 65+ year olds. OPP abuse investigators have offered to do a presentation to the detachment board which Chair Sweet welcomed.

Member Bondy noted high police visibility in Essex and advised that board member ride-alongs were encouraged by the OAPSB. In response to Member Bondy regarding victim services, Inspector Smith noted that work is being effectively done by the three positions in the unit: Detachment Abuse Coordinator; Victim Services Officer; and Victim Specialist. Member Quennell noted he wished to see more involvement by detachment board members in OPP activities and requested to receive a community calendar from OPP.

- b. March 2025

Motion: ECODB-N 28/25

Moved by Member John Quennell
Seconded by Member Gary McNamara

That the OPP Reports for the months of March and April 2025 **be received.**

Carried

I. Reports

1. 2024 Detachment Board Year-End Variance Report

Margaret Misek-Evans provided a report, noting a favourable year-end variance of approximately \$6,308.00. A credit will be applied to each of the municipalities to reconcile against the 2025 operating budget. Ms. Misek-Evans noted lower than budgeted costs with respect to public relations (Holiday Dinner) and professional development (OAPSB conference attendance), and higher than budgeted costs for insurance, as insurance costs had not been determined when the budget was set in 2024.

Member Bondy expressed thanks to the administrative team for their organization and good work. She noted that the board's holiday dinners are a great time to network and should continue.

Motion: ECODB-N 29/25

Moved by Member Sherry Bondy
Seconded by Member Karen M. Robertson

That notwithstanding the allowance in the Essex County OPP Detachment Board - North's 2025 operating budget for the holiday dinner, Board Members and their guests who attend the 2025 holiday dinner **shall pay** their own costs.

Carried

Motion: ECODB-N 30/25

Moved by Member John Quennell
Seconded by Vice Chair Dave Kigar

That Report No. ECODB-2025-03 2024 Year-End Variance Report be received.

Carried

2. Ontario Association of Police Service Boards Spring Conference and Annual General Meeting June 3-5, 2025

Re: Verbal Report from Chair Paul Sweet

Chair Sweet attended the OPP detachment board pre-conference training. The ECODB-N presented a resolution to the Annual General Meeting advocating for the return to detachment boards of proceeds from the sale of unclaimed goods to be used for community betterment, which received a favourable response.

The OPP and OAPSB have completed a template for Detachment Commander performance feedback which includes a pre-interview and is based on the calendar year. The template, once received, will be forwarded to members for their review and comment. In accordance with the detachment board's Governance Policy, a committee will be established for the purpose of providing feedback on the Detachment Commander's performance.

Speakers at the conference included the Solicitor General and the Inspector General, who discussed the importance of a board complaints policy. The board's Policy Committee has identified this as a priority. It was noted that most sessions were focused on municipal boards which raises concerns regarding next year's conference scheduled is to be held simultaneously, with shared sessions, with the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police.

Member Quennell recommended taking part in a grant program offered by Medallion Insurance to municipalities who send correspondence requesting equipment and training. He confirmed that the municipality does not have to purchase insurance through Medallion to take part. Details will be explored by the Administrative Support.

Member Bondy also felt there was not enough content in the conference sessions for OPP detachment boards. Some valuable information received was to have more media awareness of what the Board is doing and perhaps meeting as a Board more often for information-sharing with the OPP.

Vice Chair Kigar noted that the Detachment Commander performance feedback needs to be done quickly, recommending that a committee be established (Chair and Vice Chair) to meet with the Detachment Commander, followed by receiving input from the entire board, prior to the final performance meeting being conducted in December. He noted that the feedback and expectations would be based on the Local Action Plan.

Chair Sweet advised that the concern with respect to the content of the OAPSB conference sessions will be forwarded for the next Zone meeting agenda.

Motion: ECODB-N 31/25

That information detailed as Item 2, Reports, **be received**.

Carried

Motion: ECODB-N 32/25

Moved by Vice Chair Dave Kigar
Seconded by Member Tracey Bailey

That a committee be established, comprised of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Essex County OPP Detachment Board - North, for the purposes of leading the performance feedback for the Detachment Commander.

Carried

J. Communications - Action Required

There were no Communications - Action Required presented to the Board.

K. Communications - For Information Purposes

1. Letter to OPP Chief Superintendent Dumond dated May 14, 2025

Chair Sweet noted that Vulnerable Sector checks do take considerable amount of time and must be done locally. Member Bailey noted that service groups are experiencing further delays due the inconsistency of the employment letter and the confusion between applying for a vulnerable sector check or a criminal record check. A streamlined letter template is needed along with clear instructions and assistance from OPP.

Inspector Smith expressed the same frustrations and noted that complaints from the public to detachment administrative staff are being tracked through the chain of command. He will be meeting with the Commissioner and this is one of the issues that will be brought forward.

2. Town of Essex Letter to OPP - Response to Criminal Record Check Processing Times dated May 28, 2025

3. Inspector General Memorandum #5 - Policing Protests and Major Events dated May 26, 2025

4. Windsor Essex Regional Community Safety and Well-Being Plan

Regional Systems Leadership Table Minutes - December 11, 2024

Chair Sweet thanked everyone who participated in the survey regarding priorities for the five-year review of the current Community Safety and Well-Being Plan.

Motion: ECODB-N 33/25

Moved by Member Gary McNamara

Seconded by Member Ed Hooker

That correspondence detailed as Items 1 through 4, Communications for Information, **be received.**

Carried

L. Unfinished Business

There was no Unfinished Business presented to the Board.

M. New Business

1. ECODB-N Draft Policy: Board Composition, Appointment, Terms of Office, and Remuneration

Margaret Misek-Evans advised this policy codifies various past administrative memos and includes terms of present and future members. Going forward, the community at-large member will have a full term in the order of: Essex; Lakeshore; then Tecumseh. Ms. Misek-Evans also noted that remuneration is set by the detachment board's operating budget and expenses per the board-adopted Tecumseh travel policy.

In response to Member Bondy, Ms. Misek-Evans advised that the budget process begins with board consultation then approval, then goes to municipal councils as part of their budget process.

Chair Sweet noted that special board meetings may be required for policy review and the Detachment Commander performance feedback.

Motion: ECODB-N 34/25

Moved by Member John Quennell
Seconded by Member Ed Hooker

That Report No. ECODB-2025-02 Essex County OPP Detachment Board – North (Lakeshore, Essex, Tecumseh) Board Composition, Appointment, Terms of Office, and Remuneration Policy **be received**;

And that the Essex County OPP Detachment Board – North (Lakeshore, Essex, Tecumseh) Board Composition, Appointment, Terms of Office, and Remuneration Policy as presented at the June 9, 2025 meeting **be adopted**.

Carried

N. Other New Business

No Other New Business was presented to the Board.

O. Next Meeting

Monday, September 15, 2025 at 10:00 am at Tecumseh Town Hall.

P. Adjournment

Motion: ECODB-N 35/25

Moved by Member Karen M. Robertson
Seconded by Member Tracey Bailey

That there being no further business, the Monday, June 9, 2025 Essex County OPP Detachment Board-North **be adjourned** at 11:00 am.

Carried

Paul Sweet, Chair

Dave Kigar, Vice-Chair