



Kenora Police Services Board Regular Meeting Minutes

**Thursday, February 25, 2021
9:00 a.m.
Virtual Attendance**

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Board met electronically as permitted by the Provincial Emergency order. Citizens and our media partners are encouraged to view the recorded meeting at: <https://video.isilive.ca/kenora/2021-02-25.html>

Present: S. Dias, Board Chair D. Reynard, Member
W. Van Belleghem, Member A. Poirier, Member
D. Canfield, Member H. Pihulak, Board Secretary
J. Duggan, OPP Detachment Commander

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

There were none declared.

Approval of the Agenda – Resolution #1

Moved by D. Reynard, Seconded by D. Canfield & Carried:-

That the agenda of the Regular Kenora Police Services Board for the February 25, 2021 meeting be hereby approved as presented.

Presentations/Delegations

None

Minutes of the Previous Meeting(s) – Resolution #2

Moved by D. Canfield, Seconded by A. Poirier & Carried:-

That the minutes of the last regular meeting of the Kenora Police Services Board held January 28, 2021 be confirmed as written and circulated.

Business Arising from Minutes (Outstanding Items)

2021 Elections - Election of Chair & Vice Chair

Heather Pihulak, Board Secretary opened the 2021 Kenora Police Services Board elections for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair as required by the Police Services Act, R.S.O. 1990.

Board Secretary Heather Pihulak called for nominations for the position of Chair.

Dave Canfield nominated Sara Dias as Board Chair. Andrew Poirier Seconded the nomination. Ms. Dias agreed to let name stand.

Board Secretary called for any further nominations. There were none.

Board Secretary declared Sara Dias as the Board Chair for 2021.

Board Secretary then called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair.

Dan Reynard nominated Andrew Poirier as the Vice Chair. Dave Canfield seconded the nomination. Mr. Poirier agreed to let his name stand.

Board Secretary then called for any further nominations. There were none.

Board Secretary declared Andrew Poirier as the Board Vice Chair for 2021.

Receipt of Correspondence – None

New Business

Pikangikum New Bail Bed & Transition Home

Adam Illman was located in Pikangikum when this program started. It is an 18 bed facility located right in Pikangikum and technically not yet open as they don't have anyone in house yet. There are staffing and mechanical issues to work out. It is a stand-alone program and a lot of similarities to the bail bed program here in in Kenora. Rules and policies are similar but stand-alone facility. Lot of partners but biggest is Indigenous Justice system of MAG. Intent is to build more of these across the province to release into their own community. That means that people previously released into Kenora would then be released into their own community. Next one talking about is the Northeast side of the region.

This is potentially a positive impact for both Kenora and Pikangikum residents as it gets people into their own community. The Kenora District Jail is over populated from members of Pikangikum and not everyone can be repopulated in the community.

April Meeting Date

The April Police Services Board meeting is set for Thursday, April 29th. This conflicts with the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association Conference. The Board agreed to change the meeting to Tuesday, April 27 at 8:30 a.m.

OAPSB 2021 Spring Conference & AGM

The OAPSB Annual Conference and AGM is set for May 26 - 28, 2021. The tentative agenda includes Police Governance Training, Section 10 Programming, Section 31 Programming, Topical issues and the Annual General Meeting. A full detailed agenda will be posted early March. Early bird deadline for registration is March 31st which gives the pricing of \$350 per member for the full conference. A group purchase is available for \$1,500 or one day only is \$250.

Dave would attend at least one day. Members will review the full agenda once it is released and discuss this again at the March meeting.

Detachment Commander's Report – Resolution #3

Moved by W. Van Belleghem, Seconded by D. Canfield & Carried:-

That the Kenora Police Services Board hereby accepts the Kenora OPP January 2021 monthly reports as presented.

Discussion: 1,233 calls for service in January. Violent crime and property crime demonstrates significant reductions except for mischiefs. Lots of stolen personal property is still being witnessed and if we could still get people to lock their vehicles we would see a significant reduction in those types of crimes. Mischiefs are the only area that are really up with attempted break and enters and minor damage to property.

Drug crime the possession charges are down for January. The amounts of drug seized already in 2021 740g of cocaine has already been seized. The drug units are doing a lot of work to get these drugs off the street.

Snowmobile patrol hours have been in place on weekends and significant increase on the amount of snowmobile traffic out there this year.

It does appear we will get a bicycle program this year. The OPP won't fund bicycles but did end up get a few bikes from southern Ontario and will look at next year funding opportunities for next year. Get people trained in April/May. Wednesdays Farmer Market days and weekends. Some members really looking forward to this program this summer.

Detachment Commander Duggan was appreciative of the new office that the City has developed for them in the Pavillion. They will be moving their working location out of the Youth Hub and into the Kenora Pavillion office. The downtown presence is important and this is a win-win partnership for the City to provide the space. There is a set of double doors there and that will be the office. They will be putting up signage on the doors and plan to have a presence there. Weekends members are there a lot. Somewhere to work out of for bike patrol/foot patrol.

Andrew Poirier referenced the bike program and questioned the costs for this program. The OPP did have a proposal submitted for 4 bikes, \$6,000 includes bikes and racks. It was questioned if there has been any thought to approaching service clubs that may be something they would look at. Chamber, BIZ and think they are vitally important to have and find a way to fund them. Reluctant to approach businesses this year with being closed and service clubs being closed. Run the pilot program this year and hope to get people on board. Detachment Commander Duggan feels that we should not have to approach the community for this and want to secure government funding for this program. Highway safety division looks after bike training.

Dave Canfield was supportive of the program and feels it is a great idea. The snowmobile industry is up and maybe some of those businesses could consider. Woodlake group that guarantees the money for the LWDH draw. Dave is willing as a member to approach some local businesses.

Sara Dias questioned drug crime. Our drug crimes there is an influence out of Winnipeg and seeing drugs being moved through.

Whitney recalls an initiative wherein people were going around and putting flyers on unlocked vehicles. Lock it or lose it program. The OPP does get their auxiliary members out to put them out. Heather offered for City bylaw officers to also check vehicles on parking patrol and place the cards on vehicles.

Mental health calls 43 calls in January and 8 voluntary escorts to hospital and 6 involuntary and one existing order. 12 diversions out of the 43. Wait time at hospital was 2 hours and 27 minutes. Mobile response team is seeing some great stats. Will report at next meeting. Going live with second team as soon as can they can get CMHA member hired and youth team will then be increased.

Next Meeting Date

- March 25, 2021 @ 9:00 a.m. – City Hall Council Chambers or Virtual

Adjourn to Closed Session – Resolution #3

Moved by W. Van Belleghem, Seconded by D. Canfield & Carried:-

That in accordance with Subsection 35(4) of the Police Services Act, authorization is now given for the Police Services Board to adjourn to a closed session at 9:38 a.m. under section:

- (b) Intimate financial or personal matters (2 items)

Reconvene & Adjournment – Resolution #5

Moved by D. Reynard, Seconded by A. Poirier & Carried:-

That the Board reconvenes to its open session at 10:06 a.m. with no reports from its closed session; and further

That the Regular Kenora Police Services Board meeting be hereby adjourned at 10:06 a.m.