

February 24, 2021

Video Conference* and City Hall, Room 530, 32315 South Fraser Way, Abbotsford, BC

POLICE BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Henry Braun, Chair
Yvon Dandurand*
Mike Welte*
Mark Warkentin*
Chris Dominato*
Amanda MacPherson*

MANAGEMENT PRESENT:

Chief Constable Mike Serr
Deputy Chief Constable Brett Crosby-Jones – Operations
Deputy Chief Constable Paulette Freill – Administration
Randy Millard – Director of Finance*
Christine Bomhof, ARJAA*
Chris Lenshyn, ARJAA*
John Pankratz, ARJAA*
Insp. Jason Burrows – Operations Support Branch*

REGRETS:

None

RECORDING SECRETARY:

Donna Macey

GUESTS

Aird Flavelle*

The meeting was called to order at 12:04 p.m.

1. Adoption Of Agenda

It was moved and seconded that the Agenda be **approved**. The motion was **adopted**.

2. Consent Agenda

It was moved and seconded that the consent agenda be **approved**. The motion was **adopted**.

- a. Minutes of previous meeting - January 27, 2021
- b. Financial Statements - December 2020
- c. Operational Crime Overview - to January 31, 2021
- d. 2021 CAPG Membership Renewal
- e. Correspondence: from Policing and Security Branch - RE changes to BC Provincial Standards related to Intermediate Weapons and Restraints
- f. Correspondence: from Policing and Security Branch - RE Update on the Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act
- g. Correspondence: CACP Statement on System Racism

3. Business Arising Out of Previous Minutes

None

4. Presentation – ARJAA

The ARJAA team was introduced. Christine Bomhof provided an overview, explaining that one of the main purposes of ARJAA is to provide individuals with second chances as many situations are due to errors in judgement, life circumstances, or situations of conflict. Through accountability that is relational and not punitive, ARJAA creates space for those individuals who have crossed harms to make amends. The work is

guided by the values of empathy, respect, listening, and care. Christine reviewed the process of becoming involved with ARJAA, including the referral sources which mostly come through AbbyPD. The impact of COVID was discussed, noting that files slowed down slightly in 2020. It was noted that an increase to referrals from all sources is welcome.

Chris Lenshyn reviewed each stage in the process for the *Restorative Community Dialogue: A Restorative Intervention*. Chris used the Clearbrook RCD Pilot project as a case study for review.

Chair Braun asked a question about the stability of the volunteer base and Christine noted that over the past 10 years the number of volunteers has remained steady. Chief Serr commented on his participation at the Justice Summit recently, noting that diversion and restorative justice were significant themes and he anticipates that in the next one to five years there will be a shift to more diversionary programs.

It was moved and seconded that receiving the ARJAA presentation be **approved**. The motion was **adopted**.

5. Correspondence: from Policing and Security Branch RE Police Board Training Programs

It was agreed to accept the offer to have a 60-minute Police Board training/information session by PSD staff.

6. Chief's Report

Chief Serr, Deputies Crosby-Jones, and Freill reported on the following:

- AbbyPD **Street Checks** reviewed
 - 2019 = 2,031 conducted
 - 2020 = 108 conducted
 - Mark Warkentin asked about the decrease in the street check numbers being connected to the changes in policy and if management is pleased with the changes. Chief Serr confirmed that the decrease is attributed to the policy changes and that the expected outcome of the changes was not as impactful as once thought. Other ways are being considered and tried to engage with the community.
 - It was agreed to add this as a bi-annually report to the Board.
- **Community Diversity Committee** (official name: to be determined), being led by UFV along with members from the community.
- **Drug Overdose Crisis** – 2020 ODs = 1,716 of which 65 were in Abbotsford, making it the worse year, largely due to COVID. Project CEDAR (previously Angel) was not able to be as readily available due to COVID restrictions. SORT and Project CEDAR ramping up to assist with the crisis. Over next year there will be increased dialogue at the federal and provincial levels about next steps in connection to Bill C22, specifically related to diversion and decriminalization.

- Upcoming **retirement of Inspector Thomson** – will be running a competition for an Inspector
- **Polar Plunge** taking place Thursday February 25, in support of Special Olympics BC – taking place at a local pond with COVID restrictions
- **Recruiting**
 - Deputy Freill reporting that recruiting section has been busy with 150 interested parties on the last Zoom information session.
 - There are three recruits at JI since January, with plan for three more by end of May, and three to four more at the end of October
 - Recruiter is working with reservists of which 75% are South Asian and, of those who are interested in becoming police officers, they are being mentored/coached for that career pathway.
 - Four new experienced officers have joined with another two in mid-March and two in mid-April, with others in the recruitment process at various stages.
 - Attended Surrey Crime Prevention Symposium at end of March and the UFV Career Fair.
 - Post-COVID, recruit mentorship program will be launched, which is a mini police academy. The program will be approximately 10 weeks and designed to coach/mentor candidates who are interested in a policing career. The candidate pool will be selected with diversity at the forefront.
 - Chair Braun asked how recruitment initiatives are doing in connection with Surrey PD ramping up. Deputy Freill reported that it will be a challenge, noting that plans are for two classes of 60 to be run, however, funding is believed to be an issue. It was also noted that two senior managers recently retired. It is believed that Surrey is not putting any recruits through until 2022. JIBC is requesting estimates on the number of recruits each department will put through over the next three years to assist with their budget requirements.
- Yvon Dandurand suggested an informational briefing note be prepared for board members on Bill C22 and C21 regarding the main elements of the two proposed legislations and the impact to policing and public safety. Chief Serr noted that he has a briefing note on Bill C22 but not on C21 and would look to sharing something with the Board by the April meeting.

7. ARJAA Update

Yvon Dandurand had no additional update, given the presentation made earlier in the meeting.

8. BCAPB Update

No update for this meeting.

9. E-Comm Update

No update for this meeting.

10. Standing Board Committee Reports

- a. **Finance Committee** – no update for this meeting
- b. **Governance & Policy Committee** – no update for this meeting
- c. **Human Resources Committee** – no update for this meeting

11. Other Business

Yvon Dandurand raised for discussion the suggestion from the Board Assistant to record/post and livestream the Regular Board meeting. Managing the meeting regarding The delegation process was described.

It was moved and seconded that recording and livestreaming the Regular Police Board meetings be **approved**. The motion was **adopted**.

12. Questions from the public relating to today's Agenda

None raised.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

"Original signed"

Chair – Henry Braun

"Original signed"

Recording Secretary – Donna Macey