



## MINUTES

### **WEST GREY POLICE SERVICES BOARD** **MONDAY, JULY 10, 2023**

---

A meeting of the West Grey Police Services Board was held Monday, July 10, 2023 in the Council Chambers at the West Grey Municipal Office.

Present: Chair Kevin Eccles, Vice Chair Dave Fawcett, member Helen-Claire Tingling, secretary Heather Webb and Chief Martin.

Absent: Member Nuhn and Inspector White.

Meeting was called to order by Chair Eccles at 9:00 a.m.

#### Declaration of Pecuniary interest

None declared at this time.

#### Minutes

**Resolution:** 040-2023

**Moved:** Member Tingling

**Seconded:** Member Fawcett

**THAT the West Grey Police Services Board approve the minutes of June 12, 2023, as presented.**

**Carried.**

#### Business Arising from the Minutes

Due to the busy schedule of staff the monthly media releases addressing “non-police matters” have been put on hold until a more appropriate and less hectic time is identified to move this project forward.

#### Monthly Stats

- motor vehicle accidents show increase in property damage but decrease in personal injuries
- investigation into possible arson case in June resulted in charges
- assaults numbers remain the same
- break and enters are down
- domestic disputes have decreased but family disputes are on the rise
- mental health calls are down from this time in 2022
- neighbor disputes are up 100%
- stolen property valued at \$38,896.00 relates to thefts of trailers

In closing it was also noted that in June the Service has laid 136 Provincial Offences Act charges, 24 criminal charges and 24 arrests. They responded to 439 calls for service and logged 81.5 hours of foot patrol.

**Resolution**           041-2023  
**Moved:**             Member Fawcett  
**Seconded:**         Member Tingling

**THAT the West Grey Police Services Board receive the monthly stats for June 2023.**  
**Carried.**

Chief's Report

- no secondary employment requests received in June
- no new OIPRD complaints or SIU matters
- one officer completed Peer Support Wellness training and Chief happy to report no officers currently off due to occupational injury
- Service is involved in Public Health's filming of an educational video on the Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act which is scheduled to be released in September. This Act is trying to remove barriers to those involved in an overdose by encouraging people to call 911 and by providing legal protection
- Service is participating in Police Video Alliance. Annual fee of \$800 provides access to catalogue of 300 topics used for training
- Chief participated in Homeless Encampment training
- West Grey Police Service vehicle led the Law Enforcement Torch Run on June 14th
- Chief presented five St. John's Ambulance life saving awards
- the Service presented awards at the Spruceridge and Normanby school graduation ceremonies
- June 16-17 members worked at the Fish Derby at Allan Park
- Service has revised Water Safety policy
- use of Force policy has been revised to accommodate legislative changes.

Significant Events

- Service responded to 911 call from "tubers" on the Saugeen River. Upon arrival by Police the call was deemed not emergent. This is becoming problematic as those not familiar with the river do not understand that it does not go in circle so you do not finish where you started and the length of time involved to float down sections of the river is often miscalculated and people are reported missing.
- June 3-West Grey Police provided presence at "after prom" party in Glenelg-no charges laid
- June 6-sexual assault of a minor(isolated incident)
- June 13-arrest of member of the Sovereign Citizen's Club
- June 14-responded to party in crisis lodged between ceiling tiles and roof at the South Bruce-Grey Health Care Centre. Meeting with President of the Healthcare Network to

ensure secure hospital room is developed for mental health patients. Individual transferred to Owen Sound by Police.

-June 18- fatal ATV accident at Grey Rd 3 and Con 8 still under investigation

-June 20-collision at Grey Rd 28 and Knappville Rd involving motorcycle and vehicle

Outside agency assists in June include Hanover, Mount Forest and a vehicle collision with injuries in front of OPP Detachment in Chatsworth.

OPP is addressing detachment manpower shortages by offering pay duties to all eligible OPP officers in the province.

Chief Martin advised the members of a situation where they arrested an individual on Friday and had to hold him over for bail hearing as the courts were unavailable. This is occurring often and results in additional costs to the Service for jail guards, officer time taken from regular duties to accompany detainee to secure room for discussions with lawyer and back to cells as well as meal provisions. It was reported that the Courts have never gone back to in-person bail hearings since the COVID-19 pandemic.

Chief Martin suggested that since the Courts are reimbursed for costs associated with detaining individuals by the Province perhaps the same reimbursement policy should be extended to Police Services that have basically had this downloaded to them due to the unavailability of the courts and a shortage in numbers of Justice of the Peace appointments.

The lack of Justice's recently required an officer to drive to Guelph to get a warrant executed.

**Resolution:** 042-2023  
**Moved:** Member Tingling  
**Seconded:** Member Fawcett

**THAT staff be directed to prepare a letter to the proper authorities to address the lack of Justice of the Peace appointments in Grey County and reimbursement of prisoner holding costs. Circulation to also include Zone 5 and OAPSB.**  
**Carried.**

Further discussion ensued on the increasing number of people tubing on the Saugeen River and that perhaps an educational piece be circulated to the media to educate the public on the risks associated with this past time. Placement of signage such as "entering at own risk" was suggested as well as the means for possible cost recovery for non emergent matters,

Chief Martin advised that there is no regulatory means to impose cost recovery under the Police Services Act and that it may be something that could be done through bylaw. He will check with other Police Services to see if they have a bylaw which addresses reimbursement for costs incurred for non-emergent matters.

It was also suggested the Chief communicate with the local campgrounds to make them aware they could be liable for their campers.

Other ideas were production of pamphlets with do's and don't's of tubing and contacting other agencies such as SVCA and Grey County Tourism to determine what, if any, material on this subject they are circulating.

With respect to water safety the Chief advised that he is ordering new personal flotation devices for officers that auto inflate if submerged under 4 inches of water.

**Resolution:** 043 -2023  
**Moved:** Member Fawcett  
**Seconded:** Member Tingling

**THAT the Chief's Report for June 2023 be received.  
Carried.**

#### Accounts

June statement of accounts was reviewed by the members.

**Resolution:** 044-2023  
**Moved:** Member Tingling  
**Seconded:** Member Fawcett

**THAT the West Grey Police Services Board approve the payment of June accounts in the amount of \$80,623.83.  
Carried**

#### Correspondence

Summer Edition of the Crimestopper's Grey-Bruce newsletter provided for the members' information.

**Resolution:** 045-2023  
**Moved:** Member Fawcett  
**Seconded:** Member Tingling

**THAT the West Grey Police Services Board receive the correspondence and action as necessary.  
Carried.**

**Resolution:** 046-2023  
**Moved:** Member Tingling  
**Seconded:** Member Fawcett

**THAT the West Grey Police Services Board rise and move into closed Session at 10:25 a.m. in accordance with Section 35.4(b) of the Police Services Act to discuss labor relations and legal issues.**

**Carried.**

Report From Closed Session

Chair Eccles reported that only those items permitted were discussed in closed session.

New Business

The draft 2022 Annual Report was reviewed by the members.

The Chief was asked to add wording on Page 8 to indicate this photo was a demonstration on the administration of the mobile intoxilyser unit and that a subtitle be added to the back page indicating the drawing was received in appreciation from a reported missing child who had been found by the West Grey Police.

Once these changes are made the document will then be posted on-line for public access and Council will be provided hard copies of the Annual Report.

All business concluded the meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Board Chair, Kevin Eccles

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary, Heather Webb