



## Altona Police Board

**“The mission of the Altona Police Board is to provide civilian oversight and governance of the Altona Police Service in order to ensure a safe community.”**

Minutes of the Altona Police Board public meeting held in the Town of Altona council chambers on Wednesday February 6, 2025 at 5:00pm

Present: Chair Audrey Schmidt, Vice chair Katie Eyre-Saunders, Tammy Braun, Archie Heinrichs, Gord Sawatzky, Joanne Wiebe, Police Chief Dan Defer

1. **Call to order** at 5:00 and approval of agenda

**Motion: Tammy Braun-moved-Gord Sawatzky** that the agenda be approved as presented.

**CARRIED.**

2. **Approval** of the minutes of December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Motion: Archie Heinrichs-moved-Katie Eyre-Saunders** to approve the December 4<sup>th</sup> minutes as circulated.

**CARRIED.**

3. **Chair’s Report**

3.1 Police Board members have the opportunity for a refresher course on police board procedures presented by Andrew Minor. Some available dates need to be submitted to him and once a date has been secured, the course will be presented as an online presentation.

3.2 Follow up regarding budget training for police board members: Dan Gagne and Terry Fehr are willing to deliver a budgeting presentation to the board in April/May 2025

3.3 Strategic plan: deferred to the in-camera meeting following the public meeting

4. **Police Chief’s Report**

4.1 Budget review for 2024:

- Still waiting for a few more invoices to come in before we can close the books on the 2024 budget.
- The final budget for 2025 should be complete by the end of February.

4.2 General operations updates:

- Cst Krahn and Cst Tabunar have completed the 4-day end user course for PRO’s (Police records management)
- In March Cst Krahn and Cst Tabunar will be in a 5-day traffic course.
- Cpl Legal will be in Ottawa for 2 weeks for Incident Command training.



- Monthly media released will be on the web site shortly. Looking at what different Police services have done for ideas. Our monthly media releases will separate Plum Coulee and Altona calls for service.
- Chief Defer attended a meeting with the Manitoba Chiefs of Police this week. Chief Defer sits on a subcommittee for restorative justice. The Department of Justice strongly encourages files to be sent to the restorative justice rather than through the court system. Police can refer files to the local restorative justice committee in Altona, or if they refuse the case, then it will be given to the provincial restorative justice committee to handle.
- A new Director of Municipal Policing has been appointed. Wes Courchene has close ties with Altona, he used to live here and worked in the area as a police officer.
- 2025 Community Safety Net Drug Safety books were handed out to the board. These books will be given to students in West Park and Parkside school, as well as to all RM of Rhineland schools.

4.3 Monthly reports:

- A small decrease in call volume compared to the same time as last year.
- Some file highlights were given.

4.4 Strat plan review:

- New template is almost complete.

5. **New Business**

- Audrey Schmidt has submitted her letter of resignation from the chair of the Altona Police Board effective Feb 28, 2025. She will be staying on as member at large until the end of 2025.

**Motion: Gord Sawatzky-moved-Archie Heinrichs** that Katie Eyre-Saunders will become the new chairperson for the Altona Police Service effective March 1, 2025.

**CARRIED.**

**Adjourned: 6:20pm**

**Next meeting: April 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm. Supper optional, at 4:30pm**