



The Thunder Bay Police Services Board

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS FOR AUGUST 9, 2022

THUNDER BAY, ON, August 9, 2022 — The Thunder Bay Police Services Board (TBPSB) convened virtually for a meeting this morning. Following are notable items from today's meeting:

Service Overview

Acting Chief Taddeo provided an update on items relating to the Service. This update included the following information:

- The opioid crisis and mental health are two of the largest drivers of calls for service.
- The Service is working extremely hard to address the drug, gun and gang issues in the community. During the months of June and July:
 - A total of 16 warrants were executed
 - 30 persons were arrested (17 from outside of the district)
 - 61 criminal charges were laid,
 - 9 home takeovers were investigated
 - 2 firearms seized
 - Approximately \$41,000 in currency seized
 - 2 kg of cocaine, 323 grams of crack cocaine, 228 grams of fentanyl and 5269 grams of methamphetamine were seized.
- An update was provided on the need for provincial and federal funds to address the issues relating to guns and gangs and it is the hope of the Acting Chief that funding will be provided to assist the Service in addressing these issues.
- The Acting Chief is looking into additional mental health support and further resources for members of the Service. The Acting Chief is also working on recruitment for the Service's needs.
- The Community Outreach Branch. The Community Inclusion Team, Community Oriented Response and Engagement Team, and School Resource Officer have all been involved in a number of initiatives aimed at working with the community.
- The Service finalized and implemented the migration of the Service's records management system to the OPTIC cooperative as of July 18, 2022. This addresses recommendations 13 and 14 of the OIPRD report, enabling the records management system to be shared with 34 other Municipal Police Services, 6 Indigenous Police Services and the OPP. This includes all police services in all of Northeast and Northwest Ontario.
- The Acting Chief has reached out to and met with various external partners.

Committee Review

The Board discussed potential changes to its committee structure. Under the Police Services Act all Police Services Boards have the authority to establish such committees, or sub-committees for the support of its operations and responsibilities. At present the Board has established a Governance Committee, a New Hire Committee, a Sponsorship Committee, and has proposed the establishment of a Bargaining Committee at the beginning of the next term of the Board.

For background:

- The Governance Committee was established in 2019 with 2 members of the Board and a mandate of reviewing and developing Board policies as recommended in the Thunder Bay Police Services Board Investigation Final Report.
- The New Hire Committee was established in 2020 with a mandate to review and approve reports from the Chief of Police on new hiring of sworn and civilian employees of the Service.
- The Sponsorship Committee is mandated to review all requests for financial sponsorship from the Board's Special Account and make recommendations to the Board. The committee composition is set by position: The Board Chair, Chief of Police and Secretary to the Board.
- The Bargaining Committee, once appointed, will be responsible to represent the Board in collective bargaining as well as considering ongoing maintenance of collective agreements through items such as Memorandums of Understanding.

The Board's Secretary, Mr. Hannam recommended some changes to the mandate and structure of the governance committee. Specifically, he recommended that the mandate of this committee be expanded to include meeting procedural by-laws, meeting processes and practices, recruitment, development and education of Board members as well as recruitment the Chief of Police and the Deputy Chief and administrative officers of the Board. It was also recommended that the composition of the committee be amended to include 3 members of the Board; and at present with administrator oversight, that all current members of the Board be invited to join the committee.

The following motion was presented for the consideration of the Board and was approved:

"With respect to the mandate and membership of the Thunder Bay Police Services Board's Governance Committee we recommend that the Board approve the amendment of the mandate to include:

- meeting procedural by-laws, meeting processes and practices
- recruitment of Board members
- development and education of Board members,
- recruitment of the Police Services Board the Chief of Police and the Deputy Chief,
- recruitment of administrative officers of the Board

AND THAT the membership of the Governance Committee be amended to include 3 members of the Board, and 3 community representatives;

AND THAT Board Administrator M. Mercer participate as a committee member as provided for in his appointment as the Administrator.”

This decision will allow the Board more flexibility to select a Chief of Police and recruit new members of the Board.

The full agenda can be accessed [here](#).

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