



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 Thursday, September 11, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

Present were: Chair Katie Eyre-Saunders, Vice Chair Joanne Wiebe, Tammy Braun, Sandy Hutchison, Archie Heinrichs, Audrey Schmidt, Police Chief Dan Defer, S/Cst. Julie Seniuk

Zoom: Sumit Benipal- Assistant Director Policing Standards- Department of Justice

Regrets: Gord Sawatzky

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

Motion: Audrey Schmidt- moved- Archie Heinrichs - seconded- that the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED.

2. **Approval** of the minutes of April 16, 2024

Motion: Tammy Braun-moved- Audrey Schmidt- seconded- to approve the June 19th minutes as circulated.

CARRIED.

3. **Chairs Report**

- 3.1 Canadian Association of Police Governance Membership update:

- Each member should have received an email with your log in credentials to utilize the CAPG learning portal. It was sent on July 12th, if you did not receive the email check your spam folder and let Katie know so that it can be re-sent.
- This portal has many learning opportunities and available resources. Some areas of interest that were noted from members of the board were hate crime and Population vs Police information.

3.2 Brandon Police Board meeting:

- Katie will send out the virtual meeting link prior to the meeting for those who wish to observe. This meeting will be held October 3rd at 12:00

4. Presentation from Dan Gagne, Town of Altona CAO- understanding Police board budget responsibilities and role clarity

5. Police Chief Report

5.1 2024 Budget Update

- Budget remains on track. No concerns at this time.
- Maintenance Veh/Equipment presently \$2000.00 over budget.
- Overall budget has room to absorb this overage.
- New police truck has arrived. Decaling appointment in September as well as autobody appointment this month to fix damage on delivery.
- Vehicle purchase appears to be under budget, awaiting final invoice.

5.2 General Operational Update

- Recruits are well on their way as 4th class constables.
- Block training for all officers is presently on going.
- Annual qualifications and training for firearms, taser and less lethal shot gun in Morden has begun and all members will be qualified by October. This includes training for the Taser 7.
- Planning for Altona Police to have another firearms instructor in 2026.
- Crime stats:
Property crime 2024-102 / 2025-88
Crimes against persons 2024-49 / 2025-44
Economic crimes 2024-61 / 2025-41
Drug enforcement 2024-16 / 2025-8

5.3 Monthly reports- highlights

- 2024 year to September 8th 771 files
- 2025 year to September 8th – 727 files

5.4 Strategic Plan- targets and highlights

Target 1:

- Forrest Green will be in Altona to finalize the security camera registry as well as review the online criminal record check.

Target 2:

- Cpl Legal advanced to team leader rank on the RSTT
- Block training under way in September. Use of force/firearms/taser 7
- Digital Evidence Management training is ongoing. The Province of Manitoba Justice is hoping to launch this program in the next few months
- Chief Defer attended (virtual) hate crimes meeting held by Canadian Association Chiefs of Police

Target 3:

- 6-month regional managers meeting was held
- New committee for anti-racism meeting attended by Chief Defer and Cpl Legal.
- Cpl Legal will now sit on this anti-racism committee
- Cpl Legal will sit on the Altona Transportation Task Force and give Police perspective.
- Chief Defer has joined a provincial alerting committee. This is in regards to alerts such as the Amber alert, silver alert and those policies and procedures for the province.

Target 4:

- Capital budget review
- General pre budget work up- identifying budget issues for 2026 & 2027

Target 5:

- Field training for both new recruits is done
- Career Development plan for officers
- Planning for leadership opportunities over next 5 years

- Planning for “position” shadowing opportunities

Target 6)

- End of school year school talks held with various students
- Bicycle safety course held for pre school and junior school age students

6. New Business:

- None

Adjournment at 6:50pm

Next meeting is October 30, 2025 at 5pm