

# **South West Dufferin Police Services Board Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, February 20, 2025 – 4PM  
5 Main Street North, Grand Valley

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The Police Services Board met at the Town of Grand Valley Municipal Office  
on February 20, 2025 commencing at 4:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:**

Councillor James Jonker (Grand Valley)  
Councillor Andrew Stirk (Amaranth)  
Deputy Mayor John Stirk (East Garafraxa)  
Provincial Appointee Member Amie Zukowski  
Municipal Appointee Member – East Garafraxa - Julian Vines  
Municipal Appointee Member – Amaranth - Mike Botelho  
Inspector-Detachment Commander Michael DiPasquale  
Secretary / Staff - Brad Haines  
Guest - CAO/Clerk Meghan Townsend (Grand Valley)

**1. Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2025-02-01

BE IT RESOLVED THAT leave be given to confirm the proceedings of the February 20, 25 meeting of South West Dufferin Police Services Board.

Moved by: A. Stirk, Seconded by J. Stirk

CARRIED

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

2025-02-02

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the board adopts the Agenda dated February 20, 2025 as amended, delegation for Susan Wilson – Leeson Street South 3 way stop.

Moved By: A Stirk, Seconded by A. Zukowski.

CARRIED

**3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest**

**4. Adoption of Previous Minutes**

**4.1 November 28, 2024.**

2025-02-03

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board receives the minutes dated November 28, 2024 as presented.

Moved by: A. Stirk, Seconded by J. Stirk

CARRIED

**5. Oath and Affirmations**

Each member of the board took their individual Oath and or Affirmation as per O. Reg 416/23 Oaths and Affirmations.

"I solemnly swear (*affirm*) that I will uphold the Constitution of Canada, which recognizes and affirms Aboriginal and treaty rights of Indigenous peoples, and that I will, to the best of my ability, discharge my duties as a member of the *South West Dufferin, OPP detachment board*, faithfully, impartially and according to the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019*, any other Act, and any regulation, rule or by-law. So help me God. (*Omit this line in an affirmation.*)"

The oaths were conducted in the following order; James Jonker, John Stirk, Andrew Stirk, Amie Zukowski, Julian Vines; all witnessed by CAO / Clerk Meghan Townsend.

Grand Valley Clerk M. Townsend as witness of oath(s).

**6. Delegation (Amended) – Susan Wilson – 3 way Stop (Leeson Street South)**

2025-02-04

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Susan Wilson be given leave to address the board.

Moved by: M. Botelho, Seconded by J. Stirk

CARRIED

Grand Valley Resident Susan Wilson addresses the board regarding the 3 way stop at Leeson Street South.

The board is advised that S. Wilson was previously told when addressing previous police services board that technically the stop sign at Leeson Townhomes is not mandatory as it is on private property, therefore the Highway Traffic Act does not apply. S. Wilson advises the board that often residents don't stop at any of the signs, not just the one on private property and that the prime time for offences appears to be 7am-9am and 4pm-6pm and reiterates it has been an ongoing issue, since the completion of the Leeson North townhomes.

Inspector-Detachment Commander M. DiPasquale advises the board that if it is in fact a

private road, S. Wilson is correct that the stop sign is not mandatory, however there can still be other applicable charges an officer can use in such instances, however Grand Valley should confirm the road is in fact a private road as it is not mapped as a private road on google maps.

M. Botelho advises board, the stop sign is not very visible as per google maps.

J. Stirk recommends reaching out to the condo board for a possible internal memo to residents, however more information is needed.

Inspector-Detachment Commander M. DiPasquale advises the board the OPP have 3 tools for policing – Enforcement, Engagement and Public Education, but should conform with the municipality that it is in fact a private road.

## **7. Items for Discussion**

### **6.1 Provincial Offences Act Issues and Fines**

A. Stirk summarizes the handouts regarding the Provincial court system and fines within Ontario and informs the board that there is currently \$1 billion in fines outstanding, with Dufferin County accounting for \$4 million of said fines. Current cost recovery of these fines are costing 60% of the fines itself, often costing more than the potential revenue.

J. Stirk questions Wellington radar cameras, and if infractions are ran by the OPP or the Municipality.

A. Zukowski questions who sets the fines, to which the board responded the Attorney General.

J. Jonker advises the board that in the past fines used to only cost 20% of revenue, however with current costs, closer to 60%.

### **6.2 Verbal Discussion – Police Services Board By-law**

CAO Meghan Townsend led a group discussion regarding the use of Orangeville's Police Services By-law as a template for South West Dufferin Police Services board.

The position of vice chair will be assigned, as good practice and meetings can still be held should the Chair not be available.

J. Stirk states that it can be beneficial to have the Executive Assistant as the same person continually; creates consistency.

A round table discussion regarding whether a land acknowledgement statement should be incorporated into the agenda.

A. Zukowski states that if its not mandatory, why do it?

M. Botelho states that ideas such as this can spiral, however it alone is a positive idea.

J. Vines states that given the training previously completed and that it states it within the Oath itself, therefore should be continued at each meeting.

Question Period was discussed by the board; It was agreed that delegations must be sent to the Executive Assistant by at least 48 hours prior to the meeting, in order ensure its put on the agenda.

Electronic / virtual meeting capabilities; the board agreed to have it as an alternative option. Executive Assistant can send out meeting request via teams.

M. Townsend concluded with advising staff will complete the necessary changes and bring the by-law for further review to the next board meeting.

## **8. Financials**

**Verbal Discussion of Financial reporting requirements.**

## **9. Police Reports**

7.1 Q 4 2024 – Amaranth, East Garafraxa, Grand Valley (Board)

7.2 Q4 2024 – Grand Valley

7.3 Q4 2024 – Amaranth

2025-02-05

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board receives the following OPP Dufferin Detachment Reports as presented.

Moved by: J. Stirk, Seconded by A. Stirk

CARRIED

OPP Detachment Commander Michael DiPasquale reviews Q 4 2024 - Amaranth, East Garafraxa, Grand Valley (Board) report.

- Additional visibility and patrol hours, nearly doubled the previous quarter.
- Significant # of Highway Traffic Act offences.
- Property and Drug crime number down.
- Victim services for ages 26-45 down significantly.
- No fatalities noted in 4<sup>th</sup> quarter; A. Zukowski questions this as there had been one on the news as of late. M. DiPasquale states that it was likely shown in the stats as a robbery, not a homicide.

J. Vines questions what victim services entails; M. DiPasquale advises that it provides emotional and practical support to victims of crime, including crisis intervention, referrals, and advocacy.

## **10. Correspondence**

2025-02-06

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the board receives the correspondence as presented.

9.1 West Grey Police Services Board – Resolution-Provincial Announcement re Funding of OPP Costs

9.2 OAPSB – Proposing Resolutions for the Annual General Meeting (AGM)

9.3 Inspectorate of Policing - How Policing is Delivered

9.4 Inspectorate of Policing – Inspector General Memo #2: Changes to the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 and Revised Advisory Bulletin 1.1

9.5 Solicitor General – Ontario Launches new tool to Better Monitor High-Risk Offenders on Bail.

9.6 Justin Cohen – Traffic Enforcement

9.7 OAPSB – Call for Resolutions

9.8 OAPSB Membership Renewal Invoice

9.9 Hank Zehr – Police Service Board Advisor Introduction

Moved By: A. Stirk, Seconded by: A. Zukowski

CARRIED

Discussion commences regarding police officers time and allocation while on duty. M. DiPasquale informs the board that officers can target specific areas of concern more efficiently if specific times are relayed during a complaint / to dispatch. In addition, the perception to the public can look like officers are not busy, however there is a large amount of reporting and documentation needed for each incident, hence why you may see an officer parked in a parking lot for an extended period of time. Currently a pilot project is ongoing with Caledon OPP, where a dedicated civilian employee will type up any reports from the officers notes, allowing officers to be on the road more frequently. Dictation is also assisting officers in being more efficient with their time in the form of E-notes. Nearby municipalities such as Mono and Melancthon have paid duty officers to target traffic concerns, however are very costly. The Dufferin OPP detachment currently has a 100 person compliment, in both officer and civilian roles.

J. Stirk questions if retention is an issue with Dufferin OPP; While it is noted being an issue with larger municipal police forces, it doesn't appear to be relevant at this time for Dufferin OPP.

## **11. Other Business**

## **12. Next Meeting - date and agenda items**

**13. Adjournment**

2025-02-07

BE IT RESOLVED THT we do now adjourn this meeting at 6:06PM to meet again May 15 at 4PM or at the call of the Chair.

CARRIED

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James Jonker, Chair

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Brad Haines, Secretary