



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, December 18, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

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

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

Motion: Gord Sawatzky- moved- Archie Heinrichs - seconded- that the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED.

2. **Approval** of the minutes of October 30, 2025

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

CARRIED.

3. **Chairs Report**

3.1 Community survey should be complete and ready for the board members review by January. Once the board approves, the survey will be put online for 3 weeks, The results should be completed by the end of February and strat plan for 2026 can be planned accordingly using these results.

3.2 Review of the Police Chief hiring policy. Discussion was held and agreed to add this document to the Policy & Procedures Manual.

Motion: Joanne Wiebe-moved- Gord Sawatzky- seconded

CARRIED

3.3 Meeting dates for 2026

- January 26- Public
- February 23- in camera. Self and board evaluations & strategic planning
- April 27-Public
- June 22- Public
- October 19- Public
- December 14- in camera. Budget review

All meeting will begin at 5:00pm in council chambers.

4. Police Chief Report

4.1 2025 Budget Update

- Budget remains on track. No concerns at this time.
- Overall budget has room to absorb the overage in a few budget lines.
- Projected to come in under budget again once all invoices are in.

4.2 General Operational Update

- Criminal Property Forfeiture Fund: 4 applications will be submitted. We have requested a drone as well as the training and certification to operate it for Altona Police Service.
- The other applications are going to be paid for by the Department of Justice. There is a conference in Winnipeg that 3 members will be attending and one member will go into a 1-month mentorship program with RCMP Major Crimes.
- Application will be submitted on behalf of Altona, Winkler & Morden Police Services to have 3 new members train in Ottawa for the RCNU (negotiators)
- A complaint was forward to the Altona Police Service that had been received from LERA. Due to no cooperation from the complainant, the file was concluded as unfounded. The complaint will be held on file.

4.3 Monthly reports- highlights

- 4 mental health calls were received in the month of November for the same person. Police met with the complainant and their support

team to make a plan going forward. We have received no more complaint from the individual since the meeting.

- Frauds continue to be a steady call for service. Altona Police will continue to educate on social media pages as well as community presentations.

4.4 Strategic Plan- targets and highlights

Target 1:

- Safe Neighborhood Camera Registry is live and available for residents and businesses of Altona and Plum Coulee to register their security camera's. In the last month we have used the registry twice to have residents check their security cameras for possible footage.

Target 2:

- Digital Evidence Management is live. We currently use this method to submit video footage to prosecutions.
- Chief Defer attended meeting held by Canadian Association Chiefs of Police

Target 3:

- Planning for "position" shadowing opportunities
- Future planning continues for all members to ensure they have a path they want to move forward on. Planning training and courses accordingly.
- Joint meeting with Altona, Winkler and Morden Police Executive was held in November to review and discuss the new policing standards draft that was released. Conversation on how to adapt and change our policies to align with the standards was held. This will be a long and big project for all services to adhere.

5. New Business

- No new business

Adjournment at 5:00PM

Next meeting is January 26, 2026 at 5:00PM

