

**VANCOUVER POLICE BOARD  
FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Meeting Minutes**

**June 5, 2020 - 1:03pm to 3:30pm**

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**Present:**

**Committee members:** Barj Dhahan (Chair), Dr. Sherri Magee, Wendy John

**Additional Board members joined for special item RE Bargaining:** Rachel Roy, Patricia Barnes, Allan Black (2:30-3:30)

**VPD:** Chief Palmer (until 1:36) DCC Rai, Sr. Dir. Nancy Eng, Jang, Melissa Lee, Supt. Martin Bruce (until 2:27pm)

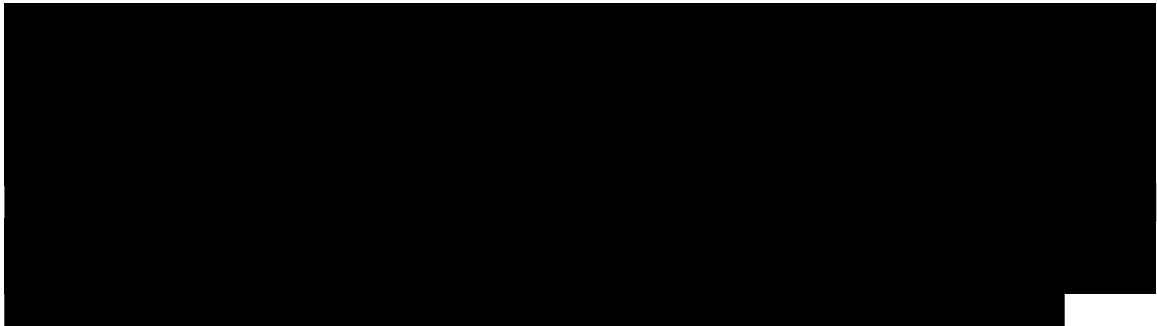
**Board Office:** Stephanie Johanssen, Executive Director, Ali Huculak Executive Assistant

**Minutes By:** Ali Huculak

**1. Agenda**

The Committee adopted the agenda for June 5, 2020 and amended the Agenda to include a briefing on collective bargaining from Chief Palmer at the beginning, and a closed special item for the Committee and other Board members to discuss bargaining under other business at the end of the meeting.

**Chief Adam Palmer: Briefing on Collective Bargaining**



*Chief Adam Palmer exited meeting at 1:36pm*

## 2. Minutes

The Committee approved the Minutes of and February 27, 2020.

## 3. VPD Q1 Variance Report

DCC Rai spoke to this report stating the Vancouver Police Department (VPD) is projecting to be \$3000 under budget by year end. There are a number of internal business expenses that traditionally the VPD has not had, and the VPD has to find ways to cover these costs from within.

Senior Director Nancy Eng spoke to a Committee members question with respect to where the Federal government money is being allocated, stating the money that is coming to the Provinces is mostly for business and personal economic stimulation, there is nothing devoted specifically to the municipalities, which is why the City of Vancouver (COV) have been lobbying both the Federal and Provincial government to get a piece of the funding.

Chair Barj Dhahan received clarification that the PPE costs will be included in the Year End projection and suggested changing the wording from *'will be on budget'* to *'may be on budget'* in the summary of the Variance report to make it more neutral.

Motion to accept this report with this minor change to the wording.

MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED

## 4. VPD Q1 Overtime Analysis

Ms. Melissa Lee spoke to the report stating the three month period ending March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020 the VPD was over budget by approximately \$1.9 million dollars for overtime. The majority of the cost is related to the Wet'suwet'en protests that happened in February, as well as \$200,000 spent on COVID-19 related overtime for the 2 week duration. The other sections are similar to prior years in this quarter with respect to overtime.

Board member Dr. Sherri Magee asked for clarification on the overtime compared to the previous year.

Ms. Lee spoke to a Board member's question stating that overtime in Quarter 1 for 2020 is \$1.2 million dollars more than the previous year in Q1, which was \$600,000.

The report was received for information.

**5. VPD Vacancy Report**

DCC Rai spoke to the Vacancy report stating there are 56 sworn vacancies and 41.5 civilian vacancies. The plan for the Department is to continue to hire for attrition.

DCC Rai briefed the committee on the time duration and process of hiring, stating that from recruitment to being ready for patrol takes approximately 10-12 months.

Ms. Lee spoke of the expected retirements in the next three months stating the VPD is projecting at least 50 retirements in 2020.

Committee members stated their concern over the vacancies and the need to create a short and long term strategy to combat this as well as stating the importance of continuing to recruit during this time.

Motion to recommend report to the Board for information.

MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED

**6. Nursing Contract**

DCC Rai provided a brief overview of this report stating no one in the lower mainland applied to the request for proposal (RFP) for the three-year contract for *Medical Services for Vancouver Jail Prisoners* except for RockDoc. DCC Rai stated RockDoc Consulting Inc. is being recommended to provide nursing and ancillary services for a three-year term.

Motion to recommend the report to the Board for approval.

MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED

**7. 2021 Budget Strategy**

The Finance committee discussed a broad strategy to the 2021 police budget ask. With respect to the financial impact of COVID-19 on the City of Vancouver (CoV) the Board is aware future discussions will be challenging. The committee discussed whether they are willing to go to the Province for a review if Council objects the VPD budget ask.

DCC Rai stated providing data and unbiased information, and 3<sup>rd</sup> party research to the City does not seem to impact their decision of agreeing to the VPD budget ask, but nonetheless the department will still provide that information. DCC recognized there is a need for improvement with respect to stakeholder engagement, Business Improvement Area (BIA), community groups.

Board member Dr. Magee stated we need a short term and long term strategy to support the VPD budget which needs to be discussed with the entire Board.

Ms. John stated we need to change the perception on who the police are, what they are doing in the community and how the community can help to grow what they are looking for in the VPD to serve the community.

Ms. John also mentioned getting the Indigenous Advisory Board involved with the Vancouver Police Board, and is currently trying to meet with them.

**8. Other Business**

The Finance Committee decided to adjourn the meeting and discuss Q1 at a later date.

*The Finance Committee meeting added a Special Board item of discussion and at 2:30pm Board members Rachel Roy, Allan Black and Patricia Barnes joined the conference call.*

***Discussion of the Special Item RE Bargaining Commenced at 2:30pm***

1.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED

*The meeting adjourned at 3:30pm*