



Owen Sound Police Service Board

2nd Floor Board Room

Wednesday March 18, 2026

PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES

Members Present: J. Thomson (Chair), B. O’Leary C. Merton, M. Koepke (Vice Chair), M. Dickson

Management Present: Chief C. Ambrose, Deputy Chief D. Bishop, Inspector C. Matheson

Guests: T. Simmonds- City Manager

Absent with Regrets: Inspector T. Doherty

Minutes: K. Wardell

1. Call to Order

Chair Thomson called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

2. Land Acknowledgment

Chair Thomson gave the land acknowledgment.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by M. Koepke, seconded by B. O’Leary.

“That the agenda dated March 18, 2026, be approved.” **CARRIED.**

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest arising out of the Minutes and Matters Listed on the Agenda. HEARING NONE

5. Presentations, Deputations, and Public question period.

There were no presentations or deputations or public questions

6. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Public Session held February 18, 2026.

Moved by B. O’Leary, seconded by M. Dickson.

“That the minutes dated February 18, 2026 be approved.” **CARRIED**

**7. Business arising out of the Public Session Minutes of February 18, 2026.
HEARING NONE**

8. Correspondence received

- a) Crime Stoppers Article – New Chair
- b) Inter Township Post
- c) Gratitude and Thank you

9. Chairman’s Report

Chair Thomson reported on meetings attended since the last Board meeting.

At the February 19, 2026 OAPSB meeting, key updates included the near completion and subsequent signing of the Transfer Payment Agreement (TPA) with the Ministry, which will support training, stabilize staffing, and enhance infrastructure. A new reserve account and policy were approved, and updates were provided on a new website, rebranding to Police Governance of Ontario (PGO), a completed four-year business plan, and a new communications plan. Expanded member supports were also highlighted, including training, legal advice, HR support, media support, and governance resources. Advocacy efforts are focusing on the cost of policing, WSIB review, bargaining, legislative matters, and bail reform.

At the March 10, 2026 Zone 5 meeting, members received updates consistent with the OAPSB meeting, as well as a presentation on Inspector General Decisions & Findings Reports. The next Zone 5 meeting is scheduled for June 9, 2026, and the Board has expressed interest in hosting.

On March 11, 2026, Chair Thomson participated in a Strategy Corp survey of Police Service Board Chairs focused on governance trends, challenges, and opportunities. The findings will be presented at the 2026 OAPSB AGM and Spring Conference.

10. Governance

There were no new governance items tabled for this open session.

11. Inspector Matheson – Operational Reports

- a) Criminal Investigations Branch and Drug Enforcement/Criminal Intelligence Unit (CIB), Community Oriented Response & Enforcement Unit (CORE) and Bail Compliance and Warrant Apprehension Unit (BCWA)
- b) Auxiliary Unit Report
- c) Front Line Patrol and Collision Statistics
- d) Community Services Office
- e) Training

12. Inspector T. Doherty- Administrative Reports

- a) Records, Courts and Bylaw
- b) OSECC and IT
- c) Human Resources
- d) Lost Hours

13. Building and Facility Update from Inspector Doherty

A report from Inspector Doherty provided an update on facility-related matters for 2025–2026.

- **Parking:** Ongoing capacity challenges during peak hours. A new streamlined overflow parking process has been implemented, allowing automatic exemptions for dayshift staff parking on 1st Avenue (effective March 1, 2026).
- **Capital & Infrastructure Needs:** Several areas require future investment, including flooring, exterior brickwork, HVAC system replacement, windows, and AODA-related upgrades. At this time, many items do not have confirmed capital plans or timelines.
- **Power Supply:** Identified as a priority project, with replacement planned for 2027, including conversion to LED lighting.

- Health & Safety: Mold issues identified in late 2025 have been remediated, with no impact on operations.
- HVAC: Recommissioning is scheduled for spring 2026 to address ongoing issues; full system replacement will be required in the future.
- General Maintenance: Ongoing work includes cleaning services, lighting replacement, snow removal, drainage maintenance, roof repairs, and interior painting updates.
- Upgrades & Improvements: Recent and upcoming improvements include front lobby security glass installation, washroom access control changes, main floor staff washroom renovation (spring 2026), and installation of a new staff water filling station.

Chair Thomson reported that a working group will be established to develop a charter and conduct a needs assessment comparing the current facility with the future requirements of the service.

As next steps, a draft charter and terms of reference will be developed, including key definitions to guide the group's work and ensure a clear understanding of scope and objectives.

Chair Thomson noted that this work will incorporate a review of the MacIntosh building assessment report. The working group will ensure that any facility considerations align with applicable requirements, including the Community Safety and Policing Act (CSPA), O. Reg. 392/23: Adequate and Effective Policing, the Occupational Health and Safety Act, and the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act 2005 (AODA).

14. Financial Update from the Chief of Police

Chief Ambrose reported that there has been no update from the city as they are still finalizing year end financials.

15. Operating Reports from the Chief of Police

- a) Chief's Activity Reports

16. Other Items and New Business

- a) Annual Reports
 - i. Accommodation Sector Registry Act
 - ii. Owen Sound Court Operations
 - iii. Joint Force Operations
 - iv. Violent Crime Linkage and Analysis System (ViCLAS)
 - v. Missing Persons

vi. Major Case Management

b) 2026-01 Admin Fee Bylaw 3rd Reading

Moved by M. Koepke seconded by B. O’Leary.

“That leave be granted to introduce Bylaw number 2026-01 Admin Fee Bylaw and the same be hereby deemed to have been read a third time and approved”
CARRIED

c) Review OSPSPB GP-009 Financial Management

Moved by B. O’Leary seconded by M. Koepke.

“That policy OSPSPB GP-009 Financial Management with the amended changes, be approved.” **CARRIED**

d) Review OSPSPB GP-003 Board Governance

Moved by M. Dickson seconded by C. Merton.

“That policy OSPSPB GP-003 Board Governance with the amended changes, be approved.” **CARRIED**

e) Section 14 Agreement

Deputy Police Chief Bishop reported that a survey has been completed outlining the services OSPS would require from the O.P.P. under the new O.P.P. Framework. The Chair has signed the document, and it has been submitted, with next steps pending.

f) OAPSB Sponsorship Spring Conference

Chair Thomson reported that for the last number of years, the board has sponsored the OAPSB AGM and Spring Conference.

The information in the board package outlines what that sponsorship provides to the board and our service.

Moved by C. Merton, seconded by B. O’Leary.

“That the OSPSPB sponsor the OAPSB AGM and 2026 Spring Conference in the amount of \$1,500.00, be approved.” **CARRIED**

17. Motion to move into Closed and Confidential Closed Session

Moved by M. Koepke and seconded by B. O’Leary

“That the board move into closed session and upon termination of the closed session the board move into confidential closed session. These meetings are to review and discuss matters that fall under Section 44 item (2) of the Community Safety and Police Act and Section 25 item b) of the OSPSB General Policy 003- Board Governance to consider:

- a. Educational or training sessions.*
- b. Litigation or potential litigation affecting the board, including matters before administrative tribunals;*
- c. personal matters about an identifiable individual, including members of the police service or any other employees of the board;*
- d. labour relations or employee negotiations;” CARRIED*

Chair Thomson advised that for those watching the meeting live on YouTube, the livestream would reconnect upon the Board’s return to open session to report out of the Closed and Confidential Closed Sessions. Members of the public wishing to view the remainder of the open session may watch the livestream later on the Owen Sound Police Services Board’s YouTube channel. The video recording of the meeting will also be posted on the Board’s webpage following the meeting.

18. Reporting out of Closed Session

In accordance with Section 44 of the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, the Owen Sound Police Service Board met in a closed session following the public meeting to discuss items pertaining to:

- a. Approval of minutes of the Closed Session of the Owen Sound Police Service Board meeting held on February 18th, 2026; and
- b. Matters regarding Board Training

No decisions were made during the meeting and no direction was provided

19. Reporting out of Confidential Closed Session

In accordance with Section 44 of the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, the Owen Sound Police Service Board met in a confidential closed session following the closed session meeting to discuss items pertaining to:

- a. Minutes of the Confidential Closed Session of the Owen Sound Police Service Board Regular Council meeting held on February 18th, 2026 and
- b. Matters related to Staffing and labour relations
- c. Matters related to SIU investigations

No decisions were made during the meeting and no direction was provided.

20. Termination of the Public Meeting

Having completed all of the business items listed on the agenda Chair Thomson terminated the open meeting at 12:43p.m.

Next Meeting: April 22nd, 2026