



LETHBRIDGE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, January 28, 2026
Culver City Room, City Hall
4:08 P.M.

In Attendance:

Commission Members:

Members Brett Carlson, Clement Esene, Hunter Heggie, Matthew McHugh, Noella Piquette, Jenn Schmidt-Rempel (*participated remotely until 4:20 P.M.*), Doug Thornton (*participated remotely until 5:12 P.M.*), Jen Visser, Ryan Wolfe

Lethbridge Police Service Executive:

Chief Mehdizadeh, Deputy Chief Grobmeier, Inspector Klassen, Inspector Lawrence, Inspector Walper

Other:

Executive Assistant to the Chief Carmen Hellowell, Legal Counsel Lee Cutforth, Finance Manager Kim Ordway, LPS Strategic Communications Manager Kristen Saturley, Executive Director Elizabeth Thompson-Wensveen

1. Meeting Called to Order

Executive Director Thompson-Wensveen opened the meeting of the Lethbridge Police Commission on January 28, 2026, the time being 4:08 p.m.

2. Election of Chair and Vice Chairs

Chair

The following self-nominations were received by email for the position of Chair:

- Noella Piquette
- Doug Thornton

There were no further nominations.

Members of the Lethbridge Police Commission voted by secret ballot. The ballots were counted by Executive Director Thompson-Wensveen and City Employee Talmann Frostad.

Doug Thornton was declared elected as Chair for the 2026 Lethbridge Police Commission year.

First Vice Chair

The following self nomination was received by email for the position of First Vice Chair:

- Jen Visser

There were no further nominations.

Jen Visser was declared elected by acclamation as first Vice Chair for the 2026 Lethbridge Police Commission year.

Second Vice Chair

The following nominations were received and accepted by email for the position of Second Vice Chair:

- Clement Esene
- Matt McHugh

There were no further nominations.

Members of the Lethbridge Police Commission voted by secret ballot. The ballots were counted by Executive Director Thompson-Wensveen and City Employee Talmann Frostad.

Matt McHugh was declared elected as Second Vice Chair for the 2026 Lethbridge Police Commission year.

Vice Chair Visser assumed the position of Chair for the remainder of the meeting

3. Acknowledgment Statement

Vice Chair Visser read the Acknowledgement Statement.

4. Conflict of Interest Declaration

5. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Commissioner McHugh, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission adopt the agenda for the January 28, 2026, meeting as amended to include the January 2026 Lethbridge Police Service Report.

CARRIED

6. Consent Agenda

The minutes of the November 26, 2025, Lethbridge Police Commission Meeting were circulated for approval in the consent agenda.

Moved by Commissioner Wolfe, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission adopt the Consent Agenda as presented.

CARRIED

7. Recognitions

The following recognitions were made:

- Executive Director Elizabeth Thompson-Wensveen
- Recognition of Contributions to Executive Director Appointment – 2025 Chair Noella Piquette, City of Lethbridge People & Culture General Manager, Melissa Craig & Lethbridge Police Service Finance Manager Kim Ordway

8. Inquiries from the Public

9. Presentations

- a. Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams – Staff Sergeant Trevor Sheppard

10. Standing Items

- a. Lethbridge Police Service Report – Chief Mehdizadeh

- b. Monthly Compliments - Chief Mehdizadeh
- c. LPS Crime Report - Deputy Chief Grobmeier

Moved by Commissioner Heggie, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission receive as information the following reports:

- Lethbridge Police Service Report,
- Monthly Compliments, and
- LPS Crime Report

CARRIED

11. New Business

- a. 2025 Annual Policing Plan Year End Report – Chief Mehdizadeh

Moved by Commissioner McHugh, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission receive the 2025 Annual Policing Plan Year End Report as information.

CARRIED

Recess 5:12-5:20 P.M.

- b. Appointment of Public Complaints Director

Moved by Commissioner Esene, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission appoint Commissioner Visser as Public Complaint Director.

CARRIED

- c. Ratification of Electronic Vote re: Executive Director Contract

Moved by Commissioner Wolfe, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission ratify the results of the electronic vote conducted on December 26, 2025, respecting the approval of the Executive Director contract.

CARRIED

- d. Governance Structure Review: Committees vs. Committee of the Whole

Moved by Commissioner Piquette, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission proceed with a temporary governance reorganization to eliminate committees and move committee items to the regular commission meetings

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission move the September 30th meeting date to September 23, 2026.

CARRIED

e. Appointment of Access to Information and Privacy Coordinator

Moved by Commissioner Carlson, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission Appoint Executive Director Elizabeth Thompson-Wensveen as the Lethbridge Police Commission's Access to Information and Privacy Coordinator.

CARRIED

12. Reports

- a. Chair Report – 2025 Chair Noella Piquette
- b. Executive Director Report – Elizabeth Thompson-Wensveen

Moved by Commissioner Heggie, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission receive the Chair report and Executive Director Report as information, and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission approve the Executive Director to engage in alternate employment, provided that such employment does not interfere with the duties of the LPC position and does not result in a real or perceived conflict of interest.

CARRIED

13. Closed Session

Moved by Commissioner McHugh, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission enter into a closed meeting at 6:09 P.M. to discuss confidential matters as per sections 20 (Disclosure harmful to personal privacy), 23 (Disclosure harmful to law enforcement), 25 (Disclosure and complaints), 29 (Advice from officials) and 30 (Economic Interests) of the Access to Information Act.

CARRIED

- a. Closed with Lethbridge Police Service

*Commission Members, Executive Director, Chief, Deputy Chief, Inspectors x3,
Executive Assistant to the Chief, LPS Legal Counsel, LPS Finance, LPS Strategic Communications*

*.....
LPS Executive exited at 6:42 P.M.*

Chief exited at 7:01 P.M.

b. Closed with Commission Only

Commission Members, Executive Director
.....

Moved by Commissioner Esene, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission adjourn the closed meeting at 7:33 P.M.

CARRIED

Moved by Commissioner Piquette, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the closed session meeting discussions, reports, and documents relating to:

2026 LPC Budget
LPS Operating Budget In-cycle Addition
Chief of Police Conference Travel Approval
Chief Report

remain confidential, pursuant to Sections 29 (Advice from Officials) and 30 (Economic interests), of the Access to Information Act, and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission adopt the 2026 LPC Budget as attached, and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission approve the Chief of Police Conference travel for 2026, and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission receive the Chief report and LPS Operating Budget In-Cycle Addition report as information.

CARRIED

Moved by Commissioner Wolfe, BE IT RESOLVED the the closed session meeting discussions, reports, and documents relating to:

Professional Standards Report

Chair Report
Correspondence
Upcoming Events

remain confidential, pursuant to Sections 20 (Disclosure harmful to personal privacy), 23 (Disclosure harmful to law enforcement), 24 (Advice from Officials), 25 (Disclosure and Complaints), and 29 (Advice from officials) of the Access to Information Act; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission provide the following time limit extensions:

- Files 2024-059, 2024-091, 2025-017a, and 2025-026 extended to Wednesday April 29, 2026;
- File 2024-083 extended to Wednesday March 25, 2026; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT Lethbridge Police Commission receive the confidential correspondence as information.

CARRIED

12. Upcoming Events and Meetings

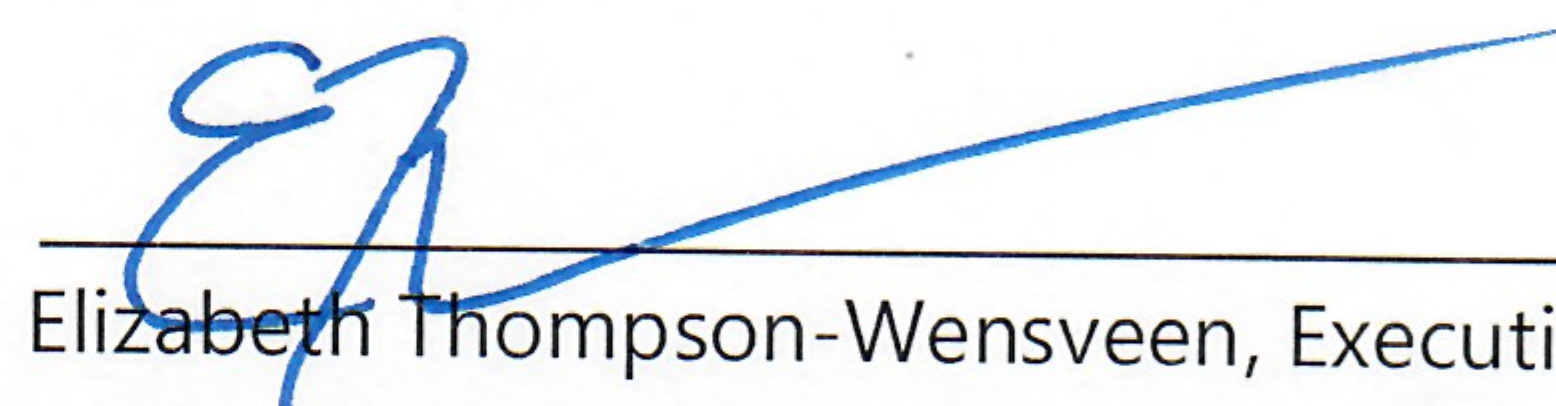
The next regular meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2026 at 4:00 P.M. in the Culver City Room at City Hall.

13. Meeting Adjournment

Vice Chair Visser declared the meeting adjourned at 7:35 P.M.



Doug Thornton, Chair



Elizabeth Thompson-Wensveen, Executive Director