

**Municipality of the District of Lunenburg**  
**Minutes of a Fire & Emergency Services Committee Meeting**  
**Held virtually via Microsoft Teams**  
**Monday, March 14, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.**

**Attendance**

Brian Keizer, District 1 & 2 Fire Commission, Chair  
Councillor Martin Bell, District 2  
Councillor Pam Hubley, District 4  
Councillor Michelle Greek, District 7  
Chief Tom Lockwood, Indian Point Fire Department  
Retired Chief Steve Patterson, Cornwall Fire Department  
Deputy Chief Dean Schmeisser, Dayspring & District Volunteer Fire Department  
Herbert Seymour, Member-At-Large  
Randy Harris, Member-At-Large  
Mayor Carolyn Bolivar-Getson, Ex-Officio

**Staff**

Chris Kennedy, Fire Services Coordinator  
Angela Henhoeffler, REMO Coordinator  
Sandra Challis, Administrative Assistant

**Regrets**

Councillor Reid Whynot, District 9, Vice Chair  
Alex Dumaresq, Deputy C.A.O.

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

**Moved by Deputy Chief Schmeisser, seconded by Mr. Seymour that the agenda be approved with the additions of an opening statement from the Mayor and the New Germany Fire Department Smoke Detector Campaign to be added under new business. Carried unanimously.**

**3. Statement from the Mayor (added item)**

Mayor Bolivar-Getson extended sympathies to the families and friends who lost loved ones in the recent house fire. She thanked emergency responders for their efforts and reminded firefighters that volunteer firefighters of MODL and their families have an employee and family assistance program available to them from the municipality. For more information on this program contact the Fire Services Coordinator.

Mayor Bolivar-Getson also thanked New Germany Fire Departments for their initiative with providing smoke detectors to every child in their service area, with currently seven additional departments taking part.

#### **4. Approval of Minutes – January 10, 2022**

**Moved by Chief Lockwood, seconded by Retired Chief Patterson that the Minutes of the January 10, 2022 Fire & Emergency Services Committee meeting be approved as circulated. Carried.**

#### **5. Business Arising from Minutes**

##### **5.1 Options for reduction in Insurance Premiums**

Mr. Kennedy provided a verbal update on a discussion held with Ed Nix of BFL Canada. He would send committee members an outline of the option of increasing deductibles to reduce premiums and then creating a Mutual-type fund for departments to pay for deductibles, with departments paying into this fund annually. It was agreed that the Insurance Sub-Committee would be re-established to discuss the matter further and bring a recommendation back to the FESC.

##### **5.2 Fire Scene Security**

Mr. Kennedy advised the document is being reviewed by the Municipal Clerk and should be ready for discussion at the AGM.

##### **5.3 Mutual Aid Agreement**

Mr. Kennedy reported the revisions had now been signed-off by thirteen of the twenty-four departments. A reminder would be sent out to the remaining departments and at the next LRFES meeting.

##### **5.4 Air Pack Certification/Turn-out Gear Safety**

This item was not yet discussed at LRFES but would be discussed at a later date.

##### **5.5 Cell Coverage**

A reply from the Honorable Susan Corkum-Greek regarding the poor cellular coverage of the region was circulated with the agenda. There was concern from a member that no action may occur.

##### **5.6 Municipal Funding Options – Procurement of Equipment for Departments**

Mr. Keizer reported that LRFES would like to see more discussion on this matter, as it was felt departments could benefit from using a Municipal Finance Corporation, or similar. LRFES would

try to gather some historical data on departmental equipment purchases over the last decade for staff to consider.

### **5.7 Budget 2022/2023**

The Committee's recommendation and Council's motion approving the 2% increase on the municipal grants for fire services in 2022/2023 were circulated with the agenda.

### **5.8 A.G.M.**

The Best Western was confirmed for Thursday April 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Kennedy would correspond with Departments on the nomination process for the FESC.

## **6. L.R.F.E.S. Report**

Mr. Keizer had nothing further to report from the recent meeting, other than the Procurement item already dealt with under 5.6.

## **7. New Business**

### **7.1 Fire Service Grants Update**

Mr. Kennedy reported that grants had been awarded for the new Recognition Grant to Dayspring F.D. and for a municipal-wide Officer Leadership Training arranged for March 26<sup>th</sup>. Uptake for this training was good.

### **7.2 New Germany Fire Department – Smoke Detector Campaign (Added item)**

Councillor Greek explained New Germany Fire Department's campaign to provide every child a smoke detector for their bedroom following the tragic loss of life on February 19<sup>th</sup> in Auburndale. She requested members to share the campaign with the hope that it would spread province wide.

It was asked how Departments can participate. Councillor Greek explained that departments need to commit to the campaign and find the best way to distribute the detectors, perhaps through the schools or by a collection at the local station. She added that Cumings were providing detectors at cost.

Following a suggestion, it was agreed that Mr. Kennedy contact CVSFA who had a partnership with First Alert, manufacturers of detectors, as they may be interested in participating which could remove the dealer costs of distribution to Cumings.

## **7. In Camera**

Not required.

**8. Next Meeting – Monday, May 9, 2022 (AGM: Thursday, April 7, 2022)**

**9. Adjournment**

**There being no further business at 7:34 p.m., it was moved by Deputy Chief Schmeisser, seconded by Chief Lockwood that the meeting adjourn. Carried.**