

**Municipality of the District of Lunenburg
Notes of a Fire & Emergency Services Committee Meeting**

Held in Council Chamber, 10 Allée Champlain Drive, Cookville, N.S.
Thursday, May 02, 2024 – 7:00 p.m.

Attendance

Brian Keizer, District 1 & 2 Fire Commission, Chair
Deputy Chief Dean Schmeisser, Dayspring & District Volunteer Fire Department, Vice Chair
Mayor Carolyn Bolivar-Getson, Ex-Officio
Councillor Pam Hubley, District 4
Herbert Seymour, Member-At-Large
Patricia Sharpe, Member-At-Large
Captain Emily Bowers, Hebbville Fire Department

Regrets

Chief Darren Mulock, Northfield District Fire Department
Deputy Mayor Wendy Oickle, District 3
Councillor Martin Bell, District 2
Councillor Reid Whynot, District 9
Angela Henhoeffler, REMO Coordinator

Staff

Alex Dumaresq, Deputy C.A.O.
Chris Kennedy, Fire Services Coordinator
Sandra Challis, Administrative Assistant

1. Call to Order

Mr. Kennedy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Election of Officers**2.1 Chair**

Mr. Kennedy called for nominations for the position of Chair. Those nominated by ballot for the position of Chair were Brain Keizer, and Dean Schmeisser. Dean Schmeisser removed himself from the ballot, therefore Mr. Keizer was acclaimed as Chair.

2.2 Vice Chair

Mr. Keizer called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair. Those nominated by ballot for the position of Vice Chair were Dean Schmeisser and Reid Whynot. Councillor Whynot was not present and had not indicated his willingness to accept a nomination, therefore Deputy Chief Schmeisser was acclaimed as Vice Chair.

Moved by Deputy Chief Schmeisser, seconded by Councillor Hubley that the ballots be destroyed. Carried Unanimously.

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Herbert Seymour, seconded by Mayor Bolivar-Getson that the agenda be approved as circulated. Carried Unanimously.

4. Business Arising from Notes

4.1 Policy-036 Revisions to include SCBA Testing in 2025 (repeal & replace)

Mr. Kennedy updated the Committee that Policy-036 is going before Council on May 14th for final reading to repeal and replace.

4.2 Member at Large Vacancy

Council had confirmed the appointment of Patricia Sharpe as the member-at-large for the Committee.

5. L.R.F.E.S. Report

Deputy Chief Schmeisser reported that there were some discussions on training and FIT testing at the recent LRFES meeting.

6. New Business

6.1 July 2024 meeting

Moved by Deputy Chief Schmeisser, seconded by Councillor Hubley, that the July meeting of the FESC is cancelled, with the next meeting being September 5th, 2024. Carried Unanimously.

6.3 FIT Tester

The Committee talked about FIT Testing processes and equipment and discussed opportunities to improve the safety of firefighters using SCBA.

6.2 Committee Work Plan

It was noted that the Committee had approved a workplan for the Fire Services Coordinator at the November 2023 meeting. Mr. Kennedy advised he would provide a progress report at each FESC meeting going forward.

Safety:

1. Mandatory Requirement for SCBA Functional Testing – COMPLETE, will become effective June 2025.

2. Gather data on Level 1 Trained, Level 1 Certified firefighters - COMPLETE, a question has been added to the registration package.
3. Consult with Departments/LRFES on standardized GOGs – LRFES are currently working on GOGs, it would be useful for FESC and Departments to see them one by one rather than all together – as they could be adopted individually.

Capacity & Governance:

4. Work with LRFES to develop a training strategy to address gaps – Level 1 training has been offered locally for the past three years, and there is a big demand. LRFES are currently working on a training strategy.
5. Continue MODL's training program – MODL's training and training grants focuses on HR skills – the soft skills side of being part of a fire department. A session is planned for Spring 2024.
6. Work with LRFES to develop a standard personnel policy – Once developed, this policy could be adopted by departments.
7. Encourage Mutual Aid – Information on mutual aid partnerships between departments was now being requested as part of the registration package.

Recruitment & Retention:

8. Continue implementing existing R&R Strategy
9. Work with LRFES on a template for intake policy and application process including IDEA – Mr. Kennedy advised that departments are requesting this.
10. Promote Recognition Certificate for employers/community groups who support firefighters.

Regional Training Facility

11. Begin discussions with regional partners on concept. – Mr. Dumaresq reported he is working on something to bring to the FESC, and subsequently to LRFES, looking at similar facilities.
12. Recommend annual contribution to MODL reserve for facility – Council has agreed to put \$100,000 each year into a reserve; the reserve currently stands at \$200,000.

7. Added Items – Nil**8. In Camera – Nil****9. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.