

**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.  
Wednesday, March 12, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.

**Attendance**

Brian Keizer, District 1 & 2 Fire Commission, Chair  
Deputy Chief Dean Schmeisser, Dayspring & District Volunteer Fire Department, Vice Chair  
Councillor Morgen Reinhardt, District 1  
Councillor Martin Bell, District 2  
Councillor Pam Hubley, District 4  
Councillor Alison Smith, District 6  
Herbert Seymour, Member-At-Large  
Patricia Sharpe, Member-At-Large  
Chief Darren Mulock, Northfield District Fire Department  
Captain Emily Bowers, Hebbville Fire Department

**Regrets**

Mayor Elspeth McLean-Wile, Ex-Officio

**Staff**

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

**1. Call to Order**

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

**2. Approval of Agenda**

**Moved by Deputy Chief Schmeisser, seconded by Councillor Hubley that the agenda be approved as circulated. Carried unanimously.**

**3. Approval of Notes**

**The notes of the January 30, 2025 Fire and Emergency Services Committee meeting were approved as circulated.**

**4. Business Arising from the Notes**

**4.1 2025-2026 Budget Approval**

Municipal Council approved the 2025-2026 Fire and Emergency Services budget, approving the 2% increase over the previous year.

## **5. L.R.F.E.S. Report - NIL**

## **6. New Business**

### **6.1 Draft Training Strategy**

Mr. Dumaresq presented an overview of the draft discussion paper for a Lunenburg Regional Training Strategy (circulated with the agenda).

The following was noted:

- Level 1 training program has 18 firefighters enrolled.
- Stipend for providing training, potential insurance issue.
- LRFES has a seat on the Fire School Board and should be filled at the next LRFES meeting.
- Priority is to make the volunteer roles safe.
- Input from membership needed around the Regional Training Facility.
- Draft training strategy would be presented at the upcoming FESC AGM
- Provide Council with context of the \$100,000 contribution to reserve for a Regional Training Facility.

**Moved by Patricia Sharp, seconded by Deputy Chief Schmeiser that the FESC indicate support to Municipal Council for the continued contributions into reserve for the regional fire training facility. Carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Captain Bowers, seconded by Herbert Seymour that the FESC recommend that the Draft Discussion Paper for Lunenburg Regional Training Strategy be forwarded to Council before presentation to the fire service for further consultation.**

Clarification that the draft discussion paper will go to council as information was provided.

**The motion on the floor was voted on and carried unanimously.**

### **6.2 New Fillable Fire Department Registration Package**

Mr. Kennedy gave an overview of the new fillable Fire Department Registration package form (circulated in the agenda). The old registration format was problematic, and this new form will populate each department's registration information.

### **6.3 AGM – Process for nominations to FESC**

Mr. Kennedy reviewed the nomination process for fire service representatives that occurs at the AGM, as set out in the Committee's Terms of Reference, Section 5, provided with the agenda package.

#### **6.4 Insurance (Liability & Vehicle, Building)**

Mr. Dumaresq gave a verbal report on the recent tender for Insurance Services and explained the background of the regional bulk purchasing and the evaluation process. The selected insurer, Gallaghers, should show a significant saving, approximately \$63,000, which will be passed on to the departments. There is no change in the coverage being provided. More information will come to the FESC.

#### **6.5 Cumberland County Fire Services - Discussion**

Following the recent events at Cumberland County Fire Services, Staff had identified potential risks to both Fire Services and the Municipality – Legal, Insurance and Reputational risks. One way to mitigate risks would be to adopt a standardized code of conduct, but it would be important to be respectful of each department's autonomy.

The following items were discussed:

- Need to send to the LRFES for discussion and input.
- Some departments require new members to sign a Code of Conduct.
- Department's Codes of Conduct should outline a procedure when the Chief or Senior Officer has broken the code, or if the issue cannot be dealt with from inside the department.
- Criminal Record Checks and Driver's Abstract are required by some departments.
- Annual renewal of these documents problematic for RCMP detachments, due to the volume that would be required. Perhaps an annual waiver could be signed attesting that nothing has changed since their issuance.
- Medical First Responders should also be required to have background checks.

Next Steps - Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Kaizer would collaborate on a report to present to LRFES.

#### **7. Added Items - NIL**

#### **8. In Camera – NIL**

#### **9. Next Meeting**

AGM – 7:00 p.m. April 9<sup>th</sup>, Best Western, Cookeville

#### **10. Adjournment**

The being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.