APPROVED by REMO Committee

Date: July 20, 2026

Notes of a Meeting of the REMO Advisory Committee

Virtual Meeting held on Microsoft Teams
March 16, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.

Attendance

Municipality of the District of Chester
Warden Allen Webber
Deputy Warden Abdella Assaf
Councillor Andre Veinotte
Tara Maguire, CAO
Erin Lowe, Deputy CAO

Municipality of the District of Lunenburg
Mayor Elspeth McLean-Wile
Deputy Mayor Chasidy Veinotte
Councillor Martin Bell
Tom MacEwan, CAO
Alex Dumaresq, Deputy CAO

Town of Bridgewater
Mayor David Mitchell, Chair
Councillor Braden Newell
Mark Flint, Deputy CAO

Town of Lunenburg
Deputy Mayor Rachel Bailey
Councillor Gale Fullerton
Paul Nopper, CAO

Town of Mahone Bay
Mayor Suzanne Lohnes Croft
Councillor Kelly Wilson
Councillor Penny Carver
Dylan Heide, CAO
Eric Levy, Deputy CAO

Regrets
Deputy Mayor Jennifer MacDonald – Town of Bridgewater
Mayor Jamie Myra, Vice-Chair – Town of Lunenburg

Staff
Mike Kendall, Community Readiness Coordinator

Other Attendees
Ryan Doherty, Region 6 Manager NS Department of Emergency Management (DEM)

1. **Call to Order**

Mayor Mitchell called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

2. **Nomination & Election of Chair & Vice-Chair**

Mayor David Mitchell received two nominations to serve as Chair and was elected unanimously. Mayor Jamie Myra received two nominations to serve as Vice-Chair and was elected unanimously.

Due to the hybrid nature of the meeting, ballots were not used.

3. **Approval of Agenda**

A change was requested to move item 9.1 Introduction of Mike Kendall, under 7.1 New Business.

Moved by Councillor Veinotte, seconded by Mayor McLean-Wile, that the agenda be approved as amended. Carried unanimously.

4. **Approval of Notes – January 26, 2026**

Moved by Warden Webber, seconded by Councillor Newell, that the meeting notes from January 26, 2026 be approved as circulated. Carried unanimously.

5. **Business Arising from Notes - Nil**

5.1 Budget Discussion for Approval back to the partner Councils

Mr. Dumaresq noted that per the revised governance process, the committee approved a draft 2026-27 budget proposal for deliberation by the individual Councils. He noted that all Councils have now reviewed the proposed budget and determined it to be acceptable as presented. No questions or concerns were received. Staff are seeking recommendation that the budget proposal be circulated to the Councils again for final approval.

Moved by Councillor Newell, seconded by Councillor Assaf that the final budget back to councils for approval. Carried unanimously.

6. **Correspondence**

6.1 Correspondence to CAOs from DEM – REMO Standards
6.2 Final REMO Standards – February 2, 2026

Mr. Dumaresq noted that on February 2nd, a final draft of the updated REMO standards was circulated to CAOs from the Department of Emergency Management. He noted that many of the committees' areas of concern have been amended, and that Lunenburg REMO is in a good position to meet the requirements, as outlined.

The new standards do require municipalities to present a plan for the creation of a vulnerable persons registry. Mr. Dumaresq noted that staff are seeking guidance from the province on the best way to develop a plan that protects the privacy of residents.

Mayor McLean-Wile requested that staff provide a progress update on this work. Mr. Doherty (NS Department of Emergency Management), offered to provide additional information to the committee at their upcoming meeting in May.

7. New Business

7.1 Introduction of Mike Kendall, Community Readiness Coordinator

7.2 Training – State of Local Emergency (SOLE), Ryan Doherty

Mr. Doherty (NS Department of Emergency Management), provided a 40-minute training session to the committee on the process of declaring a State of Local Emergency (SOLE). Mr. Doherty clarified that that State of Local Emergency allows local authorities to declare a mandatory evacuation.

Councillor Bailey inquired about the process of activating Lunenburg REMO's Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) in tandem with the State of Local Emergency. Mr. Dumaresq clarified that Lunenburg REMO would activate it's ECC prior to declaring SOLE.

Councillor Carver inquired about the role of the Nova Scotia Guard, and the process of requesting their support. Mr. Doherty clarified the scope of their work and that they are directed by the Department of Emergency Management, in response to local needs. Requests for assistance from the Nova Scotia Guard would be submitted by REMO staff, to the Provincial Coordination Centre (PCC).

Mr. Dumaresq noted that elected officials will receive communication from staff in an emergency in two ways. The first being a direct communication from their CAOs, and the second being public information that is created by Information Officers in the Emergency Coordination Centre. This public information can be shared by elected officials with their constituents via social media.

Councillor Bailey noted that a guide to Emergency Coordination Centre acronyms would be supportive for elected officials in future training.

8. **NS DEM Updates - Nil**

9. **REMO Coordinator Updates - Nil**

10. **Added Items - Nil**

11. **Next Meeting**

Monday May 18th, 2026 at 10:00 AM virtually and at MODL Council Chambers.

Committee members noted that the standing meeting on May 18th falls on a statutory holiday, so staff will propose an alternate date in May.

12. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:21 AM.