

## **Cape Breton Regional Municipality**

Fire and Emergency Services Committee Meeting Minutes

October 31, 2023

9:59 a.m. at City Hall Council Chambers

### **Committee**

Deputy Mayor James Edwards, Chair

Councillor Gordon MacDonald

Councillor Glenn Paruch, Vice-Chair

Councillor Steve Parsons (Arrived at 10:38 a.m.)

Councillor Darren O'Quinn

### **Staff**

Mayor Amanda M. McDougall-Merrill

Chris March, Acting Fire Chief/Director of Fire and Emergency Services

Christa Dicks, Municipal Clerk

Demetri Kachafanas, KC, Regional Solicitor

John MacKinnon, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer/Director of Technology

Bruce MacDonald, Manager of Emergency Management

Craig MacNeil, Deputy Fire Chief

Krista Dove, Fire and Emergency Services Administrative Assistant

Spencer Merrill, Information Technology Technician

Sharon MacSween, Senior Administrative Assistant

Kelly McDonald, Recording Secretary

The following does not represent a word for word record of the proceedings of this meeting. The agenda, reports, supporting documents, information items circulated, and video (if available) are online at [www.cbrm.ns.ca](http://www.cbrm.ns.ca).

**Deputy Mayor James Edwards called the meeting to order.**

**Land Acknowledgement**

**Roll Call**

Director MacKinnon read a statement on behalf of Marie Walsh, Chief Administrative Officer.

**1. Approval of Agenda**

**Motion**

Moved by Councillor Gordon MacDonald, seconded by Councillor Paruch, to approve the October 31, 2023, Fire and Emergency Services Committee Agenda as presented.

**Motion Carried**

**2. Career Fire Training – High Angle Rescue**

Chris March, Acting Fire Chief/Director of Fire & Emergency Services made a formal statement regarding the previous Fire & Emergency Services Committee.

Chris March then provided a verbal update on Career Fire Training – High Angle Rescue information regarding the Sydney Fire Department including topics such as training, quantity of fire fighters, estimated duration of training, estimated cost of the course, and estimated cost of equipment.  
For Information Only

### **3. Volunteer Recruitment/Retention**

Craig MacNeil, Deputy Fire Chief, provided a verbal update on Volunteer Recruitment/Retention information. Information provided included topics such as Chief Administrative Officer supporting a multimedia company to get messaging out, consultation with Chiefs association to ensure consistency, local advertising, information sessions targeting CBU and other schools, and career pathways.

For Information Only

### **4. Reports**

#### **4.1 Fire Chief/Director of Fire and Emergency Services Report**

Chris March, Acting Fire Chief/Director of Fire & Emergency Services presented the report included in the agenda package.

For Information Only

#### **4.2 Operations, Sydney Fire Department and Public Information Officer**

Chris March, Acting Fire Chief/Director of Fire & Emergency Services presented the report included in the agenda package.

For Information Only

#### **4.3 Volunteer Coordinator, Training, Prevention, & Fleet**

Craig MacNeil, Deputy Fire Chief, presented the report included in the agenda package.

For Information Only

#### **4.4 Manager of Emergency Management**

Bruce MacDonald, Manager of Emergency Management, reviewed the report included in the agenda package.

For Information Only

#### **4.5 Cape Breton Regional Fire Chiefs' Association Report**

Rod Beresford, Chair of the Fire Chiefs' Association, reviewed the letters included in the agenda package. The following motion was then put forward:

##### **Motion**

Moved by Councillor Parsons, seconded by Councillor Paruch, the Cape Breton Regional Fire Chiefs' Association have opportunity to present to CBRM Council regarding support for career and volunteer fire fighters.

##### **Motion Carried**

**Meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.**

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**James Edwards**  
**Deputy Mayor / Chair**

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**Christa Dicks**  
**Municipal Clerk**  
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