

RICHMOND COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

September 25, 2019 7:00 PM

Location: St. Peter's VFD Fire Hall, St. Peter's, NS

Present: Councillor Jason MacLean, Mr. Raymond Ferguson, Mr. Blair Stone, Ms Esther MacDonell, Mr. Don McDonnell, Mr. Paul Shears, Mr. Kelvin MacKay, Mr. Terence Terrio, Mr. Aaron Marchand, Mr. Evan Marchand, Mr Darryl Johnson.

Absent: L'Ardoise, Loch Lomond, Isle Madame, Potlotek, Framboise-Fourchu.

Call to Order:

Chairperson, Raymond Ferguson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and asked if there were any items to be added.

Items Added:

1. TIR
2. Phone/radios
3. Boat Launch

Moved by Esther MacDonnell, seconded by Kelvin MacKay that the agenda be accepted as amended. Motion carried.

Review of Minutes: June 18, 2019

Moved by Esther MacDonnell, seconded by Kelvin MacKay, that the minutes of June 18, 2019 be approved. Motion carried.

Business Arising from Minutes:

Heavy Rescue Course will take place in late October. Victoria, Inverness and Richmond to split cost. \$5000 per county. Contact Raymond if interested.

New Business:

- Heavy Rescue Course - Will take place well into the fall. Lyle Donovan is the contact person. Will \$5000 fee be split among departments attending?

- Investigation is ongoing into the fire extinguisher that caused the fatality at the fire school. Business is continuing as usual at the Fire school.
- Fire Services Review: Only one bid was received from a company out of the US with ties in Winnipeg. This bid was not accepted. Looking to get someone more local who is familiar with the way rural fire departments are run. This review will be go back out to tender. Chris Boudreau will be checking with the fire school to see if they have any names to put forward. Might be a contact in Guysborough (Shaun Andrews) familiar with review process.
- Port Hawkesbury and Louisdale have a 1 year term to cover Point Tupper.
- Dry Hydrants -
 - Paul Shears sent an email to the county in February. Still has not had a reply.
 - On July 24th, Paul Shears visited the municipal building.
 - West Bay FD - Cleveland dry hydrant has sediment from brook filling in around the pipe. Needs to be dug out and gravel added. Before water freezes.
 - Question came up about funding dry hydrants.
- FSANS will take place in Truro in May. Theme has been picked. See Raymond if you would like more information.
- Annual meeting of FSANS taking place on October 20th at the Waverly Fire School. AGM for Fire school also takes place that day.
- Vehicle Extrication course was cancelled due to the hurricane. Will start on the long weekend in October. With second weekend taking place Nov 30th. 2 spaces left. Contact Blair Stone.

Items Added to the Agenda:

1. TIR - Night of September 6th hurricane, roads were blocked by downed trees. Call center for TIR took messages but roads were not opened thus blocking Emergency vehicles. Letter should be sent to ensure that this does not happen. Need local contact.
2. CRTC needs to be contacted re cell phones and landlines not working during September 6th hurricane. Very dangerous situation.
3. Boat Launch - St. Peter's Fire Department would like to have a boat launch built on the St. Peter's side of the Canal. Would like the Municipality to send a letter to Parks Canada.

New Business:

- EMO - a motion was made in council to bring in Adam King, the EMO coordinator for discussion. Need an action plan to be formed.
- Level 1 Firefighter course is starting in November in the Strait area. Contact Fire School directly to register. Register early please.
- Memorial Service - October 13th. Any members attending be there at 10:30am. Forward any deceased names to Roy MacKinnon, Mark Skinner or Jim Kavanaugh.
- MFR Course - Contact Esther MacDonnell.

- Critical Incident Stress Session - Open to members and spouses. Contact Esther MacDonnell or Raymond if you are interested.
- Jason MacLean to contact Don Marchand with the following items:
 - One of the members said that he had emailed the County a couple of questions last Winter and hasn't yet received a response. Can you please prepare a response to the following questions and maybe Raymond can forward it on to the members of the Fire Services Committee?
 - Is it possible to have a fire hydrant installed at the Sewer Plant in Evanston?
 - Has there been any funds budgeted for 2019-2020 for installation of Dry Hydrants?
 - Letter of support be sent to Parks Canada regarding a Boat Launch on the ocean side of the St. Peter's canal.
 - One last request that Raymond Ferguson be invited to attend the meeting to be scheduled with the EMO Co-ordinator.

Next Meeting:

It was the consensus of the Committee that the next meeting date be scheduled for October 30, 2019.

Adjournment:

Moved by Kelvin MacKay, seconded by Paul Shears that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm.

MINUTES RECORDED BY: Carla Martell