



LUCAN BIDDULPH FIRE SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

April 9, 2025, 10:00 a.m.
Lucan Biddulph Township Office
270 Main Street P.O. Box 190 Lucan, ON

Present: Daniel Regan
Cathy Burghardt-Jesson
Chief, Ron De Brouwer
Chief, Steve Toews
Dave Goddard
Robert Wilhelm

Also Present: Ron Reymer
Fred Tranquilli
Tina Merner
Tracy Loyens
Kathryn Langendyk

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair D. Regan called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. **DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST & NATURE THEREOF**

None

3. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Resolution No. 01

Moved by Cathy Burghardt-Jesson

Seconded by Dave Goddard

THAT the meeting minutes of June 27, 2024 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

4. **REVIEW OF MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS**

Chair D. Regan moved an item from Other Business up on the agenda and discussion followed regarding the future of both Lucan Biddulph and Biddulph Blanshard Fire Area Boards.

C. Burghardt-Jesson noted that in an effort to keep moving forward with the FSMP recommendations consideration should be given towards the current governance model of the Lucan Biddulph and Biddulph Blanshard Fire Area Boards. She further noted dissolving the boards and operating under one model wherein the fire chiefs would communicate directly with staff and council would improve efficiencies and streamline administration.

D. Goddard concurred with C. Burghardt-Jesson with dissolving the boards however noted there are many variables to consider.

R. Wilhelm agreed this model as well noting Perth South's input into to the operation of the Biddulph Blanshard department could be provided for in an agreement.

D. Regan agreed and noted a possible timeline of January 2026 to keep things moving forward.

R. DeBrouwer noted his support of dissolving the boards but added it's getting difficult to make decisions for the department and its assets without knowing what the structure of the fire departments will be in the future.

S. Toews noted his concerns/questions with how this governance model would work with Perth South and further concurred with R. DeBrouwer regarding direction for the future of the departments, noting it's a topic that we keep avoiding.

General discussion followed regarding Perth South's ownership share, the process involved to dissolve the boards, possible fee for service with Perth South, administrative duties, potential advisory committees with representation from both communities, a single fire chief responsible for fire services including administration and separate fire station chiefs at each department, all the variables to consider such as who owns the assets and having firm agreements in place.

Resolution No. 01

Moved by Cathy Burghardt-Jesson

Seconded by Robert Wilhelm

THAT the Lucan Biddulph Fire Services Advisory Committee (FSAC) endorses the dissolution of the governance of the two fire boards;

AND THAT a recommendation to Council for consideration be given regarding dissolution of the two fire boards;

AND THAT senior administrative leaders create a Terms of Reference regarding a transition group.

CARRIED

Members reviewed the 24 recommendations included in the FSMP and status of each. Comments provided are outlined in the attached priority flow chart.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

F. Tranquilli provided an update on the status of Perth South's Fire Services Master Plan and advised it has been adopted by Council. He further noted a lot of the recommendations are very straight forward, with limited budget impact and for the most part the recommendations are administrative in nature. R. Wilhelm added Perth South will be looking at hiring a fire prevention officer.

6. FUTURE MEETING

The next meeting date was scheduled for Thursday, June 12th, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution No. 03

Moved by Cathy Burghardt-Jesson

Seconded by Robert Wilhelm

RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned at 11:18 a.m.

CARRIED

Chair

Secretary/Treasurer