



MINUTES
of the REGULAR MEETING of the BOARD
THURSDAY, June 18th, 2009

RRDSSAB Office, Fort Frances, ON 6:30 p.m.
MEETING #05/09

PRESENT: Gary Judson, Township of Emo
Ross Donaldson, Township of LaVallee
Gary Gamsby, Township of Morley(by phone)
Michael Lewis, Rainy River East
Wade Desserre, Rainy River West
Linda Armstrong, Township of Dawson
Valerie Pizey, Township of Lake of the Woods
Debbie Ewald, Town of Rainy River
Barbara Cournoyer, Township of Alberton

REGRETS: Dennis Brown, Town of Atikokan
Peter Van Heyst, Township of Chapple
Sharon Tibbs, Town of Fort Frances
John Callan, Rainy River Central

STAFF: Donna Dittaro, CAO
Leanne Eluik, Manager of Finance
Dawn Galusha, Assistant Manager of Finance
Judy Koski, Recorder

GUESTS: Jon Evans, BDO Dunwoody

1. Call to Order

Mike Lewis, Chair, called the meeting to order.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

None.

3. Approval of Agenda

Resolution #36/09 MOVED BY V. Pizey and SECONDED BY B. Cournoyer:

RESOLVED THAT the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board* approve the agenda of June 18, 2009.

Carried.

4. Presentations/Delegations

The Chair introduced Jon Evans, BDO Dunwoody, who presented the 2008 audited financial statements to the Board members. A summary of the statements reveals that the DSSAB's records are in excellent condition. Next year we will be fully compliant in accordance with PSAB. All assets will be valued and comparatives for 2008 will be specified. The Auditor's Report was reviewed and it was noted that this is an unqualified audit. The Statement of Current Fund Operations shows a net revenue over expenditures of \$371,821 and an operation surplus of \$26,857. The Statement of Continuity of Current Fund shows a municipal surplus of \$51,628. A detailed review of the statements was carried out by Mr. Evans which included the various increases or decreases in comparison to 2007. He noted that a resolution must be passed each year appointing the auditor for each specific fiscal year, in addition to the resolution which was passed in 2006 which retains BDO for a five year period. He also stated that the transfer of cash from reserve funds should be done as quickly as possible. He noted a massive deficiency in capital dollars for housing units and noted that this had been confirmed in the Building Condition Audits completed for DSSAB Housing. The Chair stated that the Board had a lengthy discussion in this regard during its Budget deliberations this year, however, the large amount suggested in the Building Condition Audit was not affordable by the Board.

Mr. Evans stated that the Manager of Finance will be bringing forward a resolution later in the Agenda to obtain an actuarial valuation of post-employment benefits for CUPE employees. This will determine the Board's liability and he is recommending the firm of Morneau Sobeco to complete the valuation.

Mike Canfield of BDO will be attending the Board office in September to audit the figures gathered for PSAB. Val Pizey stated that the figures used for land and buildings should be historic value not fair market value. Mr. Evans stated that there is no perfect answer with regard to these values and suggested that our best estimate would be used as long as it was a reasonable value. A policy should be set to create these values.

Mr. Evans concluded by congratulating the Board and Staff on keeping very good financial records.

Resolution #37/09 MOVED BY V Pizey and SECONDED BY B. Cournoyer:

RESOLVED THAT the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board* receive the audited financial statements as presented by BDO Dunwoody for the year ended 31 December 2008.

Carried.

Resolution #38/09 MOVED BY B. Cournoyer and SECONDED BY V. Pizey:

RESOLVED THAT the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board* confirms that BDO Dunwoody have been retained, per Board Resolution #111/06, as the auditors for the 2009 fiscal year..

Carried.

5. In Camera

None

6. Approval of Minutes

Resolution #39/09 MOVED BY W. Desserre and SECONDED BY R. Donaldson:

RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the *Regular Board Meeting* held May 21, 2009, be approved.

Carried.

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

7.1 Social Housing Funding Formula

The CAO reviewed a letter she had written to Minister for Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding the large shortfall in capital funding and the significant disparity in per unit funding between Northern and Southern Ontario.

8. New Business

8.1 New Funding Announcements from MMAH

The CAO advised that the in a letter received from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Board has been allocated \$585,988 in 2009-10 and \$721,860 in 2010-11, under the Social Housing Renovation & Retrofit Proram. In addition, we have been invited to submit a funding request under the Northern Component of the Affordable Housing Program for a two year extension. We are unsure at this

time if the Aging at Home Proposal is included in this allocation. We do know that the allocation is geared toward capital work, not daily operating costs. We should be receiving the Program Guidelines next week which will clarify the specific intent of the funding. It is noted that these allocations may be reallocated should a Service Manager not be able to commit their allocations on schedule.

8.2 Actuarial Valuation of Post-Employment Benefits for CUPE Employees

An Issue Sheet prepared by the Manager of Finance was reviewed. This item was also discussed during the presentation made by Jon Evans of BDO. Ross Donaldson asked if we would hire the firm of Morneau Sobeco regardless of cost. The CAO advised that the Board's Direct Negotiation policy would be followed, as set out in the resolution before the Board. It was noted that Riverside also has used this firm, therefore they are familiar with the Paramedic staff.

Resolution #40/09 MOVED BY W. Desserre and SECONDED BY R. Donaldson:

RESOLVED THAT the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board* retain the firm of Morneau Sobeco to complete the actuarial valuation of the Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 4807 post-employment benefits per *Policy F7.15: Direct Negotiation*.

Carried.

Resolution #41/09 MOVED BY R. Donaldson and SECONDED BY W. Desserre:

RESOLVED THAT the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board* approve the use of the Land Ambulance Transition Reserve Fund to cover any costs not covered in the 2009 Land Ambulance Budget.

Carried.

9. Reports:

9.1 CAO and Program Reports

The Board received and reviewed the CAO and Program Reports. The CAO also advised that she will attend a meeting with the Assistant Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing tomorrow to discuss several issues.

The CAO also advised that on Sunday, May 24th, one of our ambulances was involved in a collision in the Town of Fort Frances, when struck by another vehicle while transporting a patient. The patient was treated for a pre-existing medical condition. One paramedic has returned to work – the other continues to be on medical leave. The ambulance has been written off. The driver of the car has

been charged which means that our insurance premiums will not be affected. A replacement vehicle has been ordered.

The RRDSSAB's website has been updated as of June 15th, and the CAO invited the Board members to view the site when possible.

The Children's Services Manager is presently drafting a letter to the Honourable Diane Finley, Federal counterpart to Deb Matthews, Minister of Children & Youth Services. Minister Matthews recently forwarded a letter to us regarding the termination of Federal funding for child care as at March 31st, 2010. The Minister has encouraged us to make our concerns known to the Federal Government, as child care spaces within our District could be threatened by the lack of funding.

The Outreach Program is moving forward and an Open House will be held on Monday, June 22nd from 1:00 to 4:00 PM at 1018 Webster Avenue. The CAO extended an invitation to the Board members to attend.

Dr. Charles Pascal's report on early learning in Ontario has now been released. The Board will be informed of the impact on the DSSAB once more information has been received.

The CAO asked that if Board members receive any communications from staff members, contact her directly in order that she or the appropriate Supervisor can deal with the matter directly. The respective staff person will then be instructed as to the appropriate protocol or policy to follow.

The CAO advised that she has met with Peter Van Heyst, member for the Township of Chapple regarding a misunderstanding he had with her employment contract terms. He did inform her that information has been released from the in-camera session into the public domain which she thought important to bring to the Board's attention.

The Administrative Assistant advised that the process to pave the parking lot to the east of the building at 450 Scott Street has begun. A Request for Quotes for the preparation of a drainage and grading plan, which is a requirement of the Town of Fort Frances, is being prepared. An application for a minor variance to reduce the requirement for landscaped space from 20% to 11%, has also been made. This will allow the parking space needed for both clients and staff. Faye Flatt, Municipal Planner for the Town Fort Frances, has indicated that she will support our application. Once the drainage and grading plan has been submitted to the Town of Fort Frances and approved, preparation of the lot may be carried out and subsequently, the lot will be paved.

9.2 Finance

The Accounts Payable listing for the month of May, 2009, in the amount of \$718,890.27, was received and reviewed. Financial Statements for the month of May, 2009, were also reviewed.

9.3 Board Chair

None

9.4 Committee Reports

Ontario Works – No meeting held.

Social Housing – No meeting held.

Land Ambulance – No meeting held

Child Care – No meeting held.

10. Other Business

None.

11. Information Items Attached

The Board received an information package as part of this evening's agenda.

12. Information Items Available Upon Request

None.

13. Next Meeting

The next regular Board meeting will be held July 16th, 2009, at 6:30 p.m. at the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board Office*, 450 Scott Street, Fort Frances.

14. Adjournment

Resolution #42/09 MOVED BY R. Donaldson and SECONDED BY W. Desserre:

RESOLVED THAT the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board* meeting be adjourned.

Carried.

CHAIR

SECRETARY-TREASURER

DATE APPROVED