



MINUTES
of the REGULAR MEETING of the BOARD
THURSDAY, May 21st, 2009

RRDSSAB Office, Fort Frances, ON 6:30 p.m.
MEETING #04/09

PRESENT: Peter Van Heyst, Township of Chapple
Gary Judson, Township of Emo
Ross Donaldson, Township of LaVallee
Gary Gamsby, Township of Morley
John Callan, Rainy River Central
Michael Lewis, Rainy River East
Wade Desserre, Rainy River West
Dennis Brown, Town of Atikokan
Sharon Tibbs, Town of Fort Frances
Linda Armstrong, Township of Dawson
Valerie Pizey, Township of Lake of the Woods
Debbie Ewald, Town of Rainy River

REGRETS: Barbara Cournoyer, Township of Alberton
Donna Dittaro, Secretary-Treasurer
Leanne Eluik, Manager of Finance

STAFF: Dawn Galusha, Assistant Manager of Finance
Judy Koski, Recorder

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

The Chair advised that two added items are as follows:

8.1 *Request from Barbara Cournoyer, Township of Alberton*

11.4 *Letter dated May 12, 2009, from Minister Deb Matthews, MCYS*

Val Pizey asked that an item under *In Camera* be added regarding a personnel issue:

Resolution #31/09 MOVED BY P. Van Heyst and SECONDED BY D. Brown:

RESOLVED THAT the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board* approve the agenda of May 21, 2009.

Carried.

4. Presentations/Delegations

None.

5. In Camera

Resolution #32/09 MOVED BY V. Pizey and SECONDED BY D. Ewald:

RESOLVED THAT the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board* now meet in camera in order to address a matter pertaining to:

* *personal matters about an identifiable individual, including Board employees*

Carried.

The Chair reconvened the meeting to its regular session.

In Camera Report

During its *In Camera* session, the Board discussed:

- Contract details and Board responsibilities with regard to confidentiality

6. Approval of Minutes

Resolution #33/09 MOVED BY D. Ewald and SECONDED BY P. Van Heyst:

RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the *Regular Board Meeting* held April 9, 2009, be approved.

Carried.

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

7.1 Monthly Service Report

Dennis Brown asked for a current figure for the Ontario Works caseload for Atikokan. The Administrative Assistant was directed to obtain this information and relay it to Mayor Brown.

8. New Business

8.1 Request from Barbara Cournoyer, Township of Alberton

The Chair advised that the Board member from the Township of Alberton has requested that she be allowed to continue to represent her municipality, although she must miss three consecutive Board meetings. This request is made pursuant to the Board By-Law.

Resolution #34/09 MOVED BY W. Desserre and SECONDED BY R. Donaldson:

RESOLVED THAT Barbara Cournoyer, Board Member for the Township of Alberton, be allowed to miss three consecutive meetings, for reasons as stated.

Carried.

9. Reports:

9.1 CAO and Program Reports

The Board received and reviewed the Program Reports.

9.2 Finance

The Accounts Payable listing for the month of March, 2009, in the amount of \$568,978.40, was received and reviewed. Financial Statements for the months of March, 2009 and April, 2009, were also reviewed. It was noted that Jon Evans, BDO, will present the audited Financial Statements for 2008 at the next meeting.

9.2 Board Chair

The Board Chair presented a report to the Board, based upon questions raised by an individual board member relating to retroactive OMERS costs and decisions made without all board members present.

The Chair explained that the board's share of the retroactive OMERS costs were included in the 2008 budget, upon the advice and guidance from the auditor, as reported to the Board at the April board meeting.

The Chair further explained that we cannot guarantee that all members will be present for all meetings due to a variety of personal circumstances that arise in each member's case. Decisions are made within the parameters of the board's procedural by-laws. The Chair has the discretion to postpone voting, should enough members be absent to influence the outcome.

The Chair reiterated that it is not appropriate for board members to discuss in-camera items with councils and/or members of the public. It is appropriate to discuss anything which occurs in the public session and the resolutions that arise from any in-camera session, as they are public. Those rules are no different than the rules that govern the behavior of councillors in regard to in-camera sessions at their respective Council meetings. The Chair stated that although other chairs of this board have made similar statements to the full board regarding confidentiality of in-camera items, it "needed to be said again."

9.3 Committee Reports

Ontario Works – No meeting held.

Social Housing – Debbie Ewald, Chair of the Social Housing Committee reported that at the last Board meeting the issue of the discrepancy in the amount our DSSAB receives per unit compared to Southern Ontario was discussed and forwarded on to the Committee for its recommendation. The Committee recommends that a letter be written to the Ministry and copied to all Northern MPPs requesting this issue be addressed. The Board directed the Administrative Assistant to compose a letter to the Ministry in this regard. Debbie advised that the Board Chair and others had met with the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to discuss special funding for the Riverview Manor Aging at Home proposal, however, the Minister indicated that funds may have to come out of the capital allocation. She noted that the project is moving ahead in order to be "shovel ready".

Land Ambulance – Gary Gamsby, Chair of the Land Ambulance Committee, advised that the Committee met prior to this evening's Board meeting. Contract negotiations were discussed and he anticipates an exchange of submissions with the Union in July. The \$45.00 fee charged by the hospitals was also discussed. As previously noted, this matter is entrenched in legislation. The Committee recommends that the Board write a letter to the Ministry, requesting a change of

the name of the fee, to alleviate any confusion and is suggesting that it be called a "hospital administration fee". The Board therefore directs that the Health Services Manager write a letter to the Minister of Health and Long Term Care requesting the change. The Health Services Manager updated the Committee with regard to the recent Service Review carried out by the Ministry. It was noted that fourteen recommendations were made; seven are legislated and seven are best practice recommendations. The number of recommendations is very low compared to other reviews in the Province. There were no negative comments with regard to patient care. Paramedics will be required to obtain enhanced drivers' licenses and will receive funding to assist in the cost. A minor variance application was required for the Rainy River base to meet the required side yard setback. Tenders will be distributed after June 28th. The Committee recommends that the Land Ambulance Chair and the Health Services Manager submit a press release regarding the recent favourable Service Review. The Board agrees that this should be carried out.

Child Care – No meeting held. The Children's Services Manager has advised that a meeting will be held before the next Board meeting.

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 June 18th, 2009, at 6:30 p.m. at the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board Office*, 450 Scott Street, Fort Frances.

14. Adjournment

Resolution #35/09 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