



MINUTES
of the REGULAR MEETING of the BOARD
THURSDAY, October 18, 2007

RRDSSAB Office, Fort Frances, ON 6:30 p.m.
MEETING #10/07

PRESENT: PETER VAN HEYST, Township of Chapple
EMILY WATSON, Township of LaVallee
LINDA ARMSTRONG, Township of Dawson
GARY JUDSON, Township of Emo
VALERIE PIZEY, Township of Lake of the Woods
DEBBIE EWALD, Town of Rainy River
GARY GAMSBY, Township of Morley
BARBARA COURNOYER, Township of Alberton
DENNIS BROWN, Township of Atikokan
JOHN CALLAN, R. R. Central Electoral Area

REGRETS: WADE DESSERRE, R. R. West Electoral Area
MICHAEL LEWIS, R. R. East Electoral Area
Representative for the Town of Fort Frances

STAFF: DONNA DITTARO, Secretary-Treasurer
MILDRED BECK, Acting Manager of Finance
JUDY KOSKI, Recorder
MARIE HOWELLS, Ontario Works(Fort Frances)
SHEILA FAYKES, Ontario Works(Atikokan)
MYRNA BEACHY, Ontario Works(Fort Frances)

1. Call to Order

Valerie Pizey, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

None.

3. Approval of Agenda

The Vice-Chair advised that there was one addition to the Agenda as follows:

Information 11.2 - Press Release re: Rental Opportunity for Ontario Families

Resolution #71/07 MOVED BY G. Judson and SECONDED BY B. Cournoyer:

RESOLVED THAT the agenda of October 18, 2007, be approved, as amended.

CARRIED

4. Presentations/Delegations

Marie Howells and Myrna Beachy, Ontario Works Income Maintenance Caseworkers in Fort Frances, and Sheila Faykes, Ontario Works Income Maintenance Caseworker in Atikokan, made a presentation to the Board regarding their roles and responsibilities, and the integrated service system. A question and answer period followed. It was noted that the Board appreciates the work done by the staff and also enjoys meeting with them to hear their presentations.

5. In Camera

None.

6. Approval of Minutes

Resolution #72/07 MOVED BY G. Gamsby and SECONDED BY J. Callan:

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the *Regular Board Meeting* held September 13, 2007 be approved, as amended.

CARRIED

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

7.1 Farmland Assessment

A memo from the Acting Manager of Finance was reviewed. She had contacted a representative from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation to gather the information.

7.2 Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF)

A request had been made to ascertain the net cost apportionment per municipality which is the gross apportionment cost from the DSSAB less the OMPF for each municipality. The Acting Manager of Finance advised that she did attempt to contact Susan Fraser-Wilson, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and has received no response. She will further research this matter as time allows.

7.3 Land Ambulance: Fort Frances Base and Patient Passports

A memo from the Health Services Manager dated October 10th, 2007, was reviewed. The memo was written in answer to a question posed at the last regular Board meeting with regard to the doors at the Fort Frances Base.

The passport issue is still under discussion and we do not have any definitive answers at present. The Health Services Manager explained that it is his understanding that paramedics are exempt from producing a passport when transporting patients to the United States but the patients are not. Once the CT scanner is in place at Riverside, this should alleviate the problem.

8. New Business

8.1 Minor Variance Appeal

The CAO explained that we had applied for a minor variance with regard to paving the parking lot beside 450 Scott Street and had asked for the maximum extension. The Committee of Adjustments allowed only an eighteen month extension. The Municipal Planner for the Town of Fort Frances had been apprised of the fact that a staff member was not available to attend the meeting and she advised that a postponement would be granted. At the meeting the Committee stated that they felt they could deal with the issue without a staff member present and proceeded. An appeal has been submitted to the Ontario Municipal Board, a copy of which is in the Board package this evening. If a staff member had been allowed to attend, a longer extension would have been sought as this project is 100% municipal dollars and therefore a hardship to the municipalities if the monies must be budgeted within one year. The project could possibly reach \$70,000.

9. Reports

9.1 CAO and Program Reports

The CAO reported that she has received several letters of support regarding her Transitional Housing Proposal. She will draft a proposal to the Ministry of

Northern Mines and Development for funding a needs analysis and program design concept.

The CAO will ensure that a summary of the monthly staff presentation is included in the Board package.

9.2 Finance

The Board members received and reviewed the Accounts Payable Report for the month of September, 2007 in the amount of \$439,240.98. The Acting Manager of Finance was asked to clarify why Nu Steel was paid twice for maintenance and the Administrative Assistant will check into our arrangement for storage at Crozier Automotive.

Financial Statements for the month of August, 2007 were received and reviewed. The financial statements for the month of September are not available, however, will be included in the Board package next month.

9.3 Board Chair

The Vice Chair reminded the Board members to hand in their Board Self-Evaluation Forms if they have not already done so.

9.4 Committee Reports

Ontario Works - Linda Armstrong, Chair of the Ontario Works Committee reported that no meeting has been held and referred the members to the report of the Ontario Works Manager. A discussion followed regarding the recent events in Atikokan with respect to Fibratex and its affect on the Atikokan Ontario Works Caseworker.

Social Housing - No meeting has been held recently.

Land Ambulance - Gary Gamsby, Chair of the Land Ambulance Committee, reported that an update had been received from the Health Services Manager today. The Health Services Manager commended his staff for their cooperation during the recent service review. Dan, Donna and other administration staff were also recognized for their assistance.

The Cross Border Billing Reserve Fund will total \$325,000 by year end. Our DSSAB sets aside \$81,000 per year into reserves for this purpose. There has been no movement to date from the Minister on recommendations from the Land Ambulance Committee. The Manager is meeting with Thunder Bay to discuss this issue next week.

A District Committee has been established to address inter-facility transfers which includes our Health Services Manager. It was noted that these transfers are not a DSSAB responsibility.

The Service Review has been completed and we are awaiting a report. The exit interview was very positive. There are three possible outcomes from this review; fail, pass with a revisit or pass. The Health Services Manager has advised that it is not unusual to fail on a first attempt.

A meeting has been held with the Union regarding twelve hour language, scheduling and benefits. All discussion have been very positive and the next meeting has been planned for October 24th.

Base costs for Emo will be available for the next meeting which will include lease payments. The Fort Frances base cost totals \$842,895 which includes all purchase costs, fees and renovations. Other DSSABs have built new facilities for an average of \$1.5 million dollars. We have been able to renovate for less money than purchasing a new building.

A TWOMO adjustment of \$250,000 has been announced as well as an increase of \$250,000 for First Nations funding. AVL funding will be received in the sum of \$72,000 which includes a \$9,900 base funding adjustment.

A new vehicle will be received by the end of October or early November and will be placed in Emo.

Fleetnet, a new radio system, is expected to be operational by November 28th, with all dispatching originating from Kenora.

Child Care - No meeting has been held.

Building - John Callan reported that the elevator will not be operational for at least another six weeks. Some fine tuning must be done to the HVAC system and the technicians are to be here next week to attend to that matter. A financial statement was received regarding 450 Scott Street which shows an overage of \$57,704 which will be recovered internally from operations, as explained by the Acting Manager of Finance. The cost per square foot will be calculated for the next meeting. It was explained that 'non-mandatory training' only has been reallocated to cover some additional building costs. The staff continue to explore funding sources for accessibility requirements, i.e. the elevator and new addition.

10. Other Business

None.

11. Information Items Attached

The Board members received information items 11.1 to 11.2 which were acknowledged.

12. Information Items Available Upon Request

None

13. Next Meeting

The next regular Board meeting will be held November 15, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. at the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board Office*, 450 Scott Street.

14. Adjournment

Resolution #73/07 MOVED BY D. Ewald and SECONDED BY D. Brown:

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

CARRIED

CHAIR

SECRETARY-TREASURER

DATE APPROVED