



RRDSSAB BOARD MEETING

MINUTES of the REGULAR MEETING of the BOARD THURSDAY, September 13, 2007

RRDSSAB Office, Fort Frances, ON 6:30 p.m.
MEETING #09/07

- PRESENT:** PETER VAN HEYST, Township of Chapple
WADE DESSERRE, R. R. West Electoral Area
TANNIS DRYSDALE, Town of Fort Frances
MICHAEL LEWIS, R. R. East Electoral Area
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
- REGRETS:** JOHN CALLAN, R. R. Central Electoral Area
TANNIS DRYSDALE, Town of Fort Frances
- STAFF:** DONNA DITTARO, Secretary-Treasurer
MILDRED BECK, Assistant Manager of Finance
JOANNE SPENCE, Recorder
GARY GODIN, ERO/FSW, Housing
KIM TARRANT, ERO/FSW, Ontario Works

1. Call to Order

Michael Lewis, Chair, called the meeting to order.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof
None.

3. Approval of Agenda

Resolution #60/07 MOVED BY P. Van Heyst and SECONDED BY W. Desserre:

RESOLVED THAT the agenda of September 13, 2007, be approved.

CARRIED

4. Presentations/Delegations

Kim Tarrant, Eligibility Review Officer/Family Support Worker (ERO/FSW) for Ontario Works and Gary Godin, Eligibility Review Officer/Family Support Worker (ERO/FSW) for Housing made a presentation to the Board regarding their roles and responsibilities and the benefits of an integrated social service system. A question and answer period followed.

5. In Camera

None.

6. Approval of Minutes

It was noted that the July 19, 2007 meeting was held at the Fort Frances Land Ambulance Base. The Minutes will be revised to reflect this correction.

Resolution #61/07 MOVED BY P. Van Heyst and SECONDED BY D. Brown:

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the *Regular Board Meeting* held July 19, 2007 be approved, as amended.

CARRIED

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

7.1 Cost Apportionment

The Chair advised that members were to bring feedback from their municipalities to this meeting regarding the need to change the current apportionment formula and, if so, any suggestions they may have for the new formula. Peter Van Heyst provided some statistics for the members. The Chair noted that the uploading of the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) and the upcoming Provincial Land Tax Reform (PLT) may have a significant impact. It was noted that formula

2 was originally chosen because it was the most fair for all members in the District as opposed to what is best for any individual municipality. Val Pizey requested information on the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) per municipality for social services to give us a better understanding of the financial impact. Mildred Beck may be able to obtain this information, however, it will take some time. Wade Desserre queried why Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) does not list any farm land in the Rainy River West (RRW) Unincorporated Area. Mildred will follow-up on this as well.

8. New Business

8.1 Confirmation of Telephone Poll RE: HARS Conversion

The Chair advised that Judy Koski conducted a telephone poll on August 21, 2007 regarding \$62,000 to be converted to the Affordable Housing Program, Northern Home Repair Program at no cost to the member municipalities or unincorporated areas. This resolution will confirm the results of the telephone poll.

Resolution #62/07 MOVED BY P. Van Heyst and SECONDED BY D. Brown:

WHEREAS approval has been granted to allow Service Managers to convert all or a portion of uncommitted AHP Housing Allowance/Rent Supplement (HARS) funds allocated to their service area to an AHP capital component including Northern Housing;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board affirm the approval requesting the sum of \$62,000 previously allocated to the Rainy River DSSAB under both the Housing Allowance and Home Ownership Program to be converted to the Affordable Housing Program, Northern Home Repair Program, at no cost to the member municipalities or unincorporated areas, per the telephone poll of August 21, 2007.

CARRIED

8.2 Signing Authority

The Chair indicated that signing authority is being revised to include all Managers.

Resolution #63/07 MOVED BY G. Gamsby and SECONDED BY E. Watson:

RESOLVED THAT the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board* rescind Resolutions 74/02 and #100/05.

CARRIED

Resolution #64/07 MOVED BY G. Gamsby and SECONDED BY L. Armstrong:

RESOLVED THAT the following individuals be designated with signing authority for the business of the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board*, per Board policy:

Chairperson, RRDSSAB
Vice-Chairperson, RRDSSAB
Chief Administrative Officer
RRDSSAB Ontario Works Manager
RRDSSAB Children's Services Manager
RRDSSAB Housing Manager
RRDSSAB Non-Profit Housing Manager
RRDSSAB Health Services Manager

CARRIED

8.3 Staff Negotiations Committee

We will be entering into staff negotiations before year end. Michael asked for two (2) Board Members to join him on the Negotiating Committee.

Resolution #65/07 MOVED BY G. Gamsby and SECONDED BY L. Armstrong:

RESOLVED THAT the following be appointed to the Negotiations Committee:

Chair, Michael Lewis
Emily Watson
Val Pizey

CARRIED

8.4 Reserve Fund Allocations

The Chair indicated that reserve funds will be moved for the following purposes:

Resolution #66/07 MOVED BY D. Brown and SECONDED BY P. Van Heyst:

RESOLVED THAT the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board* approve the recovery of funds from the Land Ambulance Vehicle Reserve Fund for the purchase and delivery of two (2) Ambulances from Paul Demers & Fils Inc., In the amount of \$211,171.87.

CARRIED

Resolution #67/07 MOVED BY E. Watson and SECONDED BY W. Desserre:

RESOLVED THAT the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board* approve the transfer of the RRDSSAB Housing Allocation of the 2007 Provincial DOOR Funding, to the RRDSSAB Housing Reserve Fund in the amount of \$197,333.33.

CARRIED

The Chair indicated that \$110,000 dollars was placed in an account to cover the transfer of the Land Ambulance service. We are now retrieving a portion of those funds to cover costs associated with the transfer.

Resolution #68/07 MOVED BY D. Brown and SECONDED BY P. Van Heyst:

RESOLVED THAT the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board* approve the recovery of funds from the Land Ambulance Transition Reserve Fund for costs associated with the transfer of Direct Delivery of Ambulance Services for the months of January to July 2007 in the amount of \$52,889.46.

CARRIED

8.5 ODSP and ODB Upload

Mildred Beck, Acting Manager of Finance indicated that the Province announced they are uploading the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) and the costs for the Ontario Drug Benefit. Municipalities in the District will realize significant cost savings as a result of the upload, as ODSP costs make up approximately 30% of the total RRDSSAB budget. Mildred noted that the municipal responsibility for ODSP and drug benefit costs will be eliminated over a four year period, beginning with the elimination of the drug benefit cost in January, 2008. By January of 2011, 100% of the ODSP and drug costs will be borne by the Province.

9. Reports

9.1 CAO and Program Reports

The CAO's Report and Program Manager reports were received and reviewed by the Board members. Emily Watson indicated that Darlene Morgan from Municipalities Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) is speaking at the Municipal Association meeting on September 22, 2007.

The CAO indicated that Family & Children's Services is hosting a Children's Services Fair on September 27, 2007 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The RRDSAB is participating and she encouraged Board members to spread word of the upcoming event.

The CAO also reported that the Town of Fort Frances continues to hold Ministry of Northern Development and Mines (MNDM) funding in the amount of \$47,000 originally intended for Area Services Board (ASB) development. She indicated that the funds are being released to address needs which fall within the funding criteria. We would like to propose that the funds be used to examine transitional housing in the District as this is repeatedly identified as a gap in the Rainy River District. Donna has sent letters to the Community Care Access Centre (CCAC), Riverside Health Care Facilities Inc., Atikokan General Hospital, Northwestern Health Unit and Canadian Mental Health for Older Adults to request support to develop a proposal for transitional housing and a commitment to collaborate on the project. If there is sufficient interest and a proposal is drafted, Donna will bring it to the Board for endorsement.

The CAO was directed to inquire about problems we may have experienced with the Land Ambulance Base garage doors at 801 Scott Street.

9.2 Finance

The Board members received and reviewed the Accounts Payable Report for the month of July, 2007, in the amount of \$511,211.38 and August, 2007 in the amount of \$484,045.46. Financial Statements for the month of July, 2007, were received and reviewed.

9.3 Board Chair

The Chair requested that the Vice-Chair Val Pizey and Committee Chairs Barb Cournoyer, Linda Armstrong, Gary Gamsby and Deb Ewald assist him in

conducting an annual performance appraisal of Donna Dittaro, CAO, to begin in the later part of October, 2007.

9.4 Committee Reports

Ontario Works - The Ontario Works Committee recently met and Committee Chair Linda Armstrong provided members with written information on the new Ontario Child Benefit program (OSB). Questions regarding the program may be directed to the CAO.

Social Housing - The Social Housing Committee meeting recently met and Committee Chair, Debbie Ewald informed members that there is a new Rental Opportunity for Ontario Families (ROOF) Program for low income families who struggle to pay rent. The RRDSSAB is assisting by educating the public and informing people that applications must be submitted no later than November 15, 2007. This is a one-time entry opportunity with successful applicants receiving \$100.00 per month for a period of 5 years, provided they meet the criteria. The RRDSSAB will send ROOF Packages to the municipalities to get the word out to the communities. Members were also presented with the August 21, 2007 Social Housing Committee Minutes.

Mildred Beck, Acting Manager of Finance stated that the Golden Age Manor (Emo) Inc. is in a negative cash flow position and in need of financial assistance. The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) template for calculating mortgage rollovers for Section 95, 2% Write Down properties is flawed and has resulted in a negative subsidy adjustment which is substantially greater than the reduction in mortgage payments for Golden Age Manor. Mildred also noted that the RRDSSAB has reduced the municipal share of the Social Housing Budget with savings from Social Housing Provider Mortgage Rollovers since 2002. Therefore, the municipalities have not been paying their full 50/50 share and have realized a total savings of \$442,000 during that time-frame. Discussion was held. Val Pizey called for a recorded vote.

Resolution #69/07 MOVED BY D. Brown and SECONDED BY W. Desserre:

WHEREAS the existing Ministry calculation for Mortgage rollovers for Section 95, 2% Write Down properties is flawed and has resulted in a negative subsidy adjustment which is substantially greater than the reduction in mortgage payments for Golden Age Manor (Emo) Inc. - East, causing this provider to be in a negative cash flow position, and;

WHEREAS the Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board has reduced annual Social Housing Budget apportionment of Municipal Share with savings from Social Housing Provider Mortgage Rollovers in prior and the current years;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board* approve an interim subsidy adjustment of \$35,715.78 for Golden Age Manor (Emo) Inc. - East, to be reconciled when a final calculation for the Section 95, 2% Write Down Mortgage rollover is finalized. Monies for this subsidy adjustment to be offset from Social Housing Provider Year End reconciliation recoveries and 2007 Social Housing Budget surplus, if any; and/or billing to the member municipalities based on current year apportionment as required.

CARRIED

Recorded Vote: **Nay:** Barb Cournoyer, Val Pizey

Yea: Dennis Brown, Peter Van Heyst, Linda Armstrong,
Gary Jusdon, Emily Watson, Gary Gamsby, Debbie Ewald,
Michael Lewis, Wade Desserre.

Land Ambulance - No meetings have been held.

Child Care - No meetings have been held.

Building -Mike Lewis, Building Committee Chair, stated that Board members will receive final building costs, once completed.

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

2006/2007 Annual Report - North West LHIN.

13. Next Meeting

The next regular Board meeting will be held October 18, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. at the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board Office*, 206 Scott Street.

14. Adjournment

Resolution #70/07 MOVED BY P. Van Heyst and SECONDED BY D. Brown:

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

CARRIED

CHAIR

SECRETARY-TREASURER

DATE APPROVED