



**MINUTES**  
of the  
**BOARD MEETING**

held at the  
Espanola Regional Recreation Complex  
on  
**March 23, 2000**

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 The Chair, Mr. Frank Gillis, called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

**Present:** Perry Anglin, Jack Barr, Pat Best, Raymond Chénier,  
Earle Freeborn, Les Gamble, Frank Gillis (Chair),  
Ray Harding, Lucille Joyce, Willy Léveillée,  
Laurier Low, Claude Mayer.

**Staff:** Gary Champagne, CAO;  
Paulette Poulin, Executive Assistant. (Recording Secretary)  
Connie Morphet, Finance & Admin. Services Coordinator

**Absent:** Dale Van Every

**Guests:** Dan Hammond – MOHLTC, Emergency Health Services

**2.0 REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Motion #00-001**

MOVED BY: Dave Ham

SECONDED BY: Claude Mayer

That the agenda be approved subject to the following amendments:

- 7.1 Appointment of Board Officers
- 8.0 In-Camera items – Performance Evaluation, Collective Agreement, New Hires, and HRDC accommodation matters
- 9.0 Land Ambulance Services Conference – April 10<sup>th</sup>
- 10.1.1 Apportionment Resolution
- 11.1 BTP/CVP

CARRIED

### **3.0 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

None declared.

### **4.0 ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

#### **Motion #00-002**

MOVED BY: Dave Ham

SECONDED BY: Willy Léveillé

That the minutes of the February 24, 2000 Board meeting be approved as presented.

CARRIED

### **5.0 PRESENTATIONS**

The HRDC accommodations presentation was cancelled.

### **6.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

#### **6.1 Board Computer Services**

Remitted to the next Board meeting when Iain Stephen, IMS Co-ordinator is present.

### **7.0 NEW BUSINESS**

#### **7.1 Election of Officers for the Year 2000**

Frank Gillis stepped down from the Chair and called upon Gary Champagne to preside over the election process.

Gary appointed Connie Morphet and Paulette Poulin as scrutineers.

Gary noted that the District Social Services Administration Boards Act required that there be annual elections for both the Chair and the Vice-Chair.

Subsequent to the completion of the elections, Mr. Champagne indicated that:

- Mr. Frank Gillis had been nominated to the Chair's Office for the year 2000; and that
- Mr. Raymond Chénier had been elected as Vice-Chair.

The elections completed, Gary ordered the ballots destroyed and invited Mr. Gillis to preside over the Board meeting in his capacity as Chair.

## **7.2 Zero Tolerance for Social Assistance Fraud (Doc.#000323-001 & 002)**

The above two referenced documents, the one from the Cochrane District and the other from Waterloo, were thoroughly discussed.

### **Motion #00-003**

MOVED BY: Perry Anglin                      SECONDED BY: Dave Ham

### **Re: Provincial Government's Policy Intentions on Zero Tolerance for Social Assistance Fraud**

That the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB support the petitions of the District of Cochrane Social Services Administration Board and the Regional Municipality of Waterloo with respect to the Provincial Government's policy intentions on Zero Tolerance for Social Assistance Fraud;

And that the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB incorporate the wording of the Regional Municipality of Waterloo in correspondence of its own to the Government of Ontario with the request that Ontario seek the input of social assistance service providers in the development of alternative penalties to that of a life time ban for social assistance fraud.

CARRIED

## **8.0 IN-CAMERA DISCUSSION**

### **Motion #00-004**

MOVED BY: Dave Ham                      SECONDED BY: Les Gamble

That the Board move in-camera to discuss Performance Evaluation, Collective Agreement, New Hires, and HRDC accommodation matters.

CARRIED

### **Motion #00-005**

MOVED BY: Dave Ham                      SECONDED BY: Raymond Chénier

That we come out of camera and report.

CARRIED

## **IN CAMERA DECISIONS AND REPORTS**

### **8.1 Executive Director's Evaluation**

#### **Motion #00-006**

MOVED BY: Raymond Chénier      SECONDED BY:      Willy Léveillé

That the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB accepts the review of the Executive Director's evaluation and proceeds as recommended.

CARRIED

### **8.2 Retroactive Increment**

#### **Motion #00-007**

MOVED BY: Raymond Chénier      SECONDED BY:      Willy Léveillé

That in accordance with the Employment Contract between Gary R. Champagne and the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB dated May 2, 1999;

That the Board remit the retroactive increment that the Director was to receive in November 1999, after an initial satisfactory evaluation.

CARRIED

### **8.3 Five Year Employment Contract**

#### **Motion #00-008**

MOVED BY: Raymond Chénier      SECONDED BY:      Willy Léveillé

That in accordance with the Employment Contract between Gary R. Champagne and the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB dated May 2, 1999;

That the Board renew the Director's contract for five years, effective May 1, 2000 pursuant to the terms of the agreement.

CARRIED

### **8.4 Collective Agreement Negotiations – External Consultants**

#### **Motion #00-009**

MOVED BY: Perry Anglin      SECONDED BY:      Raymond Chénier

That the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB retain the services of Gatién-Braithwaite Law Firm to negotiate its first Collective Agreement with the understanding that the Senior Partner personally manage the negotiations and the total cost does not exceed \$18,000 without the prior approval of the Board.

CARRIED

**8.5 Collective Agreement Negotiations – Board Member Participation**  
**Motion #00-010**

MOVED BY: Claude Mayer                      SECONDED BY:     Ray Harding

That the Board appoint two Board members to be part of the Negotiating Team that includes our Executive Director and our Gatién-Braithwaite solicitor in the negotiation of our first Collective Agreement; and

That these two members, along with the Executive Director, share the responsibility of providing regular reports to the Board.

CARRIED

**8.6 HRDC Accommodations**

**Motion #00-011**

MOVED BY: Raymond Chénier                      SECONDED BY:     Perry Anglin

That the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB advise HRDC that we will not be able to accommodate them in our Espanola offices.

CARRIED

**9.0 DECISION ITEMS**

**9.1 Land Ambulance Conference Attendance**

**Motion #00-012**

MOVED BY: Earle Freeborn                      SECONDED BY:     Laurier Low

That Perry Anglin is authorized to attend the “Downloading Land Ambulance Services in Ontario” meeting in Toronto on April 10, 2000.

CARRIED

**10.0 REPORTS**

**10.1 Apportionment Committee Report**

The Committee met on February 16, 2000 and March 23, 2000. Earle Freeborn, Committee Chairman, spoke to the Committee’s findings and recommendations.

- Earle distributed a resolution passed by the Apportionment Committee to the Board members.

### **10.1.1 Year 2000 Apportionment Formula**

#### **Motion #00-013**

MOVED BY: Jack Barr

SECONDED BY: Perry Anglin

That the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB endorse the Apportionment Committee recommendation that the Year 2000 budget be apportioned as per the same formula as in 1999.

CARRIED

### **10.1.2 Alternate Apportionment Options**

#### **Motion #00-014**

MOVED BY: Raymond Chénier

SECONDED BY: Pat Best

That the Board's Apportionment committee continue to meet to explore other apportionment options for the year 2001 given our new Land Ambulance Services management responsibilities, the Property Land Tax Reform implications for unorganised municipalities when taxed in the same manner as organized municipalities and the loss of some of our unorganised territory to the Greater City of Sudbury in the year 2001.

CARRIED

## **10.2 Land Ambulance Committee (Doc.#000323-014)**

- The Land Ambulance Committee met on March 16, 2000. Perry Anglin, Committee chairman, spoke to the Committee's findings and recommendations.
- Mr. Champagne indicated that Doc.#000323-014 contained his recommendations as to the route the DSSAAB should pursue on this dossier.

Discussion – Given the presence of Mr. Dan Hammond, Regional Manager, Emergency Health Services, MOHLTC, the following matters were discussed:

- Planning Assistance & Funding - Dan Hammond indicated there was the possibility of funding to assist the DSSAB in the planning required prior to take over. He noted speaking with Mr. Champagne re: this matter and suggested the DSSAB submit a letter of request re: reasonable planning cost funding.
- Increased Operations Management Costs - Pat Best questioned what seemed to be an increase in the number of staff required to operate these services across the North compared to what the province seemed to require when it was responsible for the services.

- Ray Harding repeated that the DSSAB was on record as being of the opinion that the Province should not be downloading its Land Ambulance responsibilities in Northern Ontario and that the DSSAB still had a number of unanswered questions regarding the adequacy of the funding and the cost sharing formula given the need to meet the MOH's 1996 service delivery standards, which by many accounts, are presently unmet in a number of areas.

**10.2.1 Land Ambulance Planning Assistance & 100% MOHLTC Funding  
Motion #00-015**

MOVED BY: Perry Anglin                      SECONDED BY:     Willy Léveillé

That the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB authorize the Land Ambulance Committee to assist the Executive Director in the retention of the contractual services of an in-house resource consultant and an external Consulting firm experienced in the Land Ambulance business; and

That the sums earmarked to this end not exceed \$80,000 without the further approval of the Board; and

That the CAO be directed to write to the Ministry of Health to seek its 100% funding of the estimated start-up costs associated to the Land Ambulance dossier.

CARRIED

**10.2.2 RFP Development  
Motion #00-016**

MOVED BY: Earle Freeborn                      SECONDED BY:     Dave Ham

That the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB authorise the Land Ambulance Committee to assist the CAO and the Consultants in the development of a Land Ambulance RFP.

CARRIED

Next Land Ambulance Committee meeting - March 29, 2000 at 10:00 a.m.

**10.3 Human Resources Committee**

The Committee met on March 16, 2000 and March 23, 2000. Raymond Chénier, Committee Chairman, gave his report during the In Camera portion of the meeting.

## **11.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### **11.1 Ontario Works (Doc.# 000323/012 & /013)**

#### **11.1.1 BTP/Consolidated Verification Process (CVP) (Doc.#000323/012)**

Referring members to Document /012, Gary gave an overview on CVP and the MCSS expectation that we dedicate at least 1.5 FTE to this new way of carrying out this in-house service "audit" requirement. He noted that changing the DSSAB's present decentralised approach to the verification process would require centralising this function and entail additional costs since there is an expectation that a centralised and dedicated CVP Worker meet, face to face, with all Social Assistance recipients at least yearly. It was pointed out the province was not providing additional funding for this new approach to meeting our CVP requirements.

#### **Motion #00-017**

MOVED BY: Perry Anglin                      SECONDED BY:      Jack Barr

Whereas the Provincial Government has transferred to the DSSAB the authorization and responsibilities of delivering Ontario Works and;

Whereas the Ministry of Community and Social Services concurred on our Budgeted means of delivery of Ontario Works and;

Whereas the Ministry is unreasonable in asking us to alter our internal means of meeting our Consolidated Verification Process responsibilities without consultation and without providing the funding for all additional associated costs;

Therefore the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB declines to alter its procedures without the additional funding associated with these CVP procedural changes.

CARRIED

#### **11.1.2 Eligibility Review Officer (ERO) – Additional Provincial Funding**

Gary pointed out that the province has indicated that they are prepared to provide us an additional \$8000 (of 100% provincial dollars) to have us increase our Recovery and Fraud capabilities for a time limited period to assist us with backlogs in this area. This additional funding is not particular to our DSSAB; it applies to all CMSMs.

We are writing a proposal to receive the funding needed for a .5 FTE. Updates on the matter will be provided.

#### **11.1.3 OW Statistic Report (Doc. 000323/013)**

Indicates that our Social Assistance caseload has increased.



#### **11.1.4 Employment**

At a February mtg. with MCSS Corporate officials all CMSMs were informed of the option as to when we could choose to move to the new Employment funding approach. The matter is one which it is fair to say most CMSMs are “anxious” about. We are presently examining, with local MCSS officials, when we would be best to move to the new Social Assistance Employment funding approach; April, July or October.

#### **11.1.5 Community Placement Initiative Proposals**

We have yet to hear from MCSS re: the Community Placement proposal we submitted.

#### **11.2 Child Care**

Our Consultant, Richard Rivard, has been meeting with people in Muskoka, and will soon be prepared to meet with the Child Care Committee to provide us with a requested draft Policy document modelled on the Muskoka Policies and Procedures.

There will be an attempt to schedule a mtg. of the Child Care Committee on the matter prior to the next Board meeting.

#### **11.3 Homelessness**

- MCSS has an additional \$60,000 available to us for our catchment area in the present 2000 year.
- The CAO has asked Board members to go back to their respective communities for ideas and suggestions re: possible initiatives and projects these funds could go towards.
- He has spoken with the new Housing Authority Manager re: same given the obvious links between Homelessness and Social Housing.

#### **11.4 Social Housing**

The CAO has met with Mr. Robert Sutherland, newly hired Manager of the Espanola-Manitoulin Housing Authority. He asked the Board to consider inviting Robert to an upcoming Board meeting to discuss both the Homelessness dossier links possible as well as the upcoming divestment of the Social Housing portfolio to the DSSAB.

Gary also indicated that he had a working document on a possible approach as to how to “fit” the Social Housing portfolio within the DSSAB.

Board members agreed that the Homelessness and Social Housing matters should be linked and examined by the Board’s Social Housing Committee.

Gary will look at confirming that Committee’s membership and setting a meeting of the Committee sometime in the next few weeks.

#### **11.4 National Child Benefit (NCB)**

- There are new funds available to us for the present year. The funding attribute to us in light of our January caseload figures is \$6000. Using this as an indicator would mean that we will, in 2000, again have approximately \$72,000 to dedicate to appropriate initiatives.
- It was suggested this matter be linked to the Child Care portfolio and the Child Care Committee.

#### **11.2 Property**

- Looking to moving into the new Mead Blvd. addition within 2 to 3 weeks.
- Will attempt to hold next Board meeting there.

### **12 NEW BUSINESS**

#### **12.1 Official Opening**

- To examine at a future meeting.

### **13.0 NEXT BOARD MEETING**

Thursday, April 27, 2000. 10:00 a.m. Espanola.

### **14.0 ADJOURNMENT**

#### **Motion #00-018**

MOVED BY: Jack Barr                      SECONDED BY: Laurier Low

That we do now adjourn at 12:55 p.m.

CARRIED

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Frank Gillis, Chair