



MANITOULIN-SUDBURY DISTRICT
SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARD

CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION DES SERVICES
SOCIAUX DU DISTRICT DE MANITOULIN-SUDBURY

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MINUTES
of the
DSSAB BOARD MEETING
held in its Espanola Office Boardroom
May 23, 2002

Present: Jack Barr, Pat Best, Gary Brown, Raymond Chénier, Ken Ferguson, Earle Freeborn, Les Gamble, Frank Gillis, Vincent Lacroix, Willy Léveillé, Marcel Rancourt, Dale Van Every, Janet Whissell

Absent: Lucie Lemieux

Staff: Gary Champagne, CAO
Karen Gerrard, E.A. (Recording Secretary)
Connie Morphet, Finance and Administration Manager
Fern Dominelli, Ontario Works Program Manager
Peter Bradley, Housing Services Manager
Dan Hammond, EMS Manager
Karen Dominick, Community Services Manager

Media: Cindy Laundry, Mid North Monitor
Cheryl Waugh, Manitoulin Expositor

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The Chair, Ray Chénier, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2.0 CLOSED SESSION

Resolution No. 02-088 Moved by: Les Gamble **Seconded by:** Marcel Rancourt
THAT the Board convene a closed meeting to discuss H.R. and Property matters.

Carried

Resolution No. 02-089 Moved by: Ken Ferguson **Seconded by:** Vince Lacroix
THAT the Board adjourn this closed meeting.

Carried

Resolution No. 02-090 Moved by: Frank Gillis **Seconded by:** Willy Léveillé
THAT this regular meeting be open for business.

Carried

3.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Resolution No. 02-091 Moved by: Pat Best **Seconded by:** Marcel Rancourt

That the agenda be adopted subject to the following amendments:

- Additions – 8.3 EMS Study Group Report
- 9.2 Child Care Resources

Carried

4.0 DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None disclosed

5.0 MINUTES

5.1 Approval of Minutes

Resolution No. 02-092 Moved by: Ken Ferguson **Seconded by:** Janet Whissell

THAT the minutes of the April 25, 2002 meeting be accepted as circulated.

Carried

6.0 DELEGATIONS

6.1 Sure Benefits Consulting

Resolution No. 02-093 Moved by: Vince Lacroix **Seconded by:** Earle Freeborn

THAT Rob Papineau and Guy St. Georges of Sure Benefits Consulting, our Group Benefits Agent of Record, be thanked for their presentation.

Carried

7.0 ACTION ITEMS

7.1. Human Resources / Policy Committee

Resolutions brought forward for Third and Final Reading

7.1.1 Disposal of Vehicles Policy

Resolution No. 02-094 Moved by: Jack Barr **Seconded by:** Janet Whissell

THAT having been given initial consideration through a first and second reading;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the attached Disposal of Vehicles Policy is given a third and final reading and enacted as of this date.

Carried

7.1.2 Computer Purchasing Plan Policy

Resolution No. 02-095 Moved by: Jack Barr **Seconded by:** Ken Ferguson

THAT having been given initial consideration through a first and second reading;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the attached Computer Purchase Plan Policy is given a third and final reading and enacted as of this date.

Carried

7.1.3 Overtime Provisions for Non-Bargaining Unit, Non-Supervisory Employees

Resolution No. 02-096 Moved by: Dale Van Every **Seconded by:** Earle Freeborn
BE IT RESOLVED THAT after initial consideration, the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB

hereby gives third and final reading to the circulated DSSAB policy regarding overtime compensation for Non-Bargaining Unit, Non-Supervisory employees.

For clarification, this policy applies to the following positions:

Assistant to the Finance and Administration Manager - Ontario Works
Assistant to the Finance and Administration Manager- Housing Services
Financial Assistant
Executive Assistant

Carried

7.2 Finance and Administration

7.2.1 Working Reserve Policy

Resolution No. 02-097

After due consideration of the two policy options presented, it was ...

Moved by: Earle Freeborn **Seconded by:** Les Gamble

THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB hereby give its first and second reading to the circulated proposed policy that DSSAB:

- i.- maintain a Working Reserve that is set at a maximum of 15% of the annualized municipal share of the DSSAB's operating current budget; and
- ii - see any interest earned on the Working Fund Reserve first applied to maintaining the Working Reserve at its maximum of 15% level; and
- iii - see any year end operating surpluses first applied to maintaining the Working Fund Reserve at its maximum of 15% level; and
- iv – see all remaining Working Reserve Fund interest or annual operating surpluses returned to the municipalities as per the apportionment formula of the previous year.

Carried

7.2.2 Non-Owned Automobile Insurance Resolution

The Board accepted to defer consideration of the circulated draft Resolution until our solicitor's opinion re: same was obtained.

8.0 REPORTS

8.1 CAO's Report

The CAO and his program managers expanded upon and answered questions regarding the circulated program reports.

O.W. Community Placement Enhanced ("Bonus") Funding – Members applauded the Employment Report indication that the DSSAB has yet again exceeded the provincially set Community Placements target. While we do not yet know if we exceeded last year's 5th place provincial ranking which saw us realise a 90% placement ratio and generate \$435,000 of C.P. "bonus funding", we have this year realised a 110% placement ratio and **\$502,500 of C.P. "bonus funding"**.

There was round table acknowledgement that this accomplishment was only possible as a result of the commitment and hard work of O.W. staff and O.W. clients alike.

SDMT & Cost of Administration – Verbal Report - Reporting that things were operating fairly smoothly across all program fronts, the CAO chose to highlight the correlation between SDMT's implementation and the DSSAB's Cost of Admin.

Ontario is on record as to its long-standing claim that the SDMT's introduction would mean savings and efficiencies. Ontario has also been indicating for quite some time that it planned to move to an O.W. Cost per Case funding formula once its SDMT efficiencies were evident, the correlation between both is obvious.

Noting that while CMSMs do not dispute that SDMT may lead to certain efficiencies, the CAO pointed out that CMSMs, across the province, are experiencing a number of very real and wide ranging concerns and frustrations with SDMT that are, at this point in time, generating a good number of systemic inefficiencies that unfortunately require additional staff time and work. F. Dominelli cited examples of the frustrations and difficulties inherent to the front end of the "new" system to indicate that these efficiencies are thus far not yet evident

The CAO pointed out that OMSSA was requesting that the province give CMSMs 18 months of O.W. program and financial stability before expecting us to achieve the potential efficiencies we were to realise once SDMT was in place.

The Chair summarised this matter by noting that though the impact of a move to Cost per Case funding would have different consequences for each CMSM and that while each CMSM could well choose to go its own route on the matter, he encouraged the CAO to continue to seek out Northern Ontario support for the formation of a DSSAB specific inter-ministerial table advanced by this DSSAB in its May 6th letter to the Hon. Brenda Elliott.

8.2 EMS Study Group Report

Noting he had been appointed as the Chair of the EMS Study Group at its first meeting, held just prior to this Board meeting, Earle Freeborn reported that the Study Group confirmed its understanding of its work plan and the areas that needed to be covered to allow the Group to meet its assigned mandate to provide the Board with its

recommendation as to the land ambulance services delivery option the DSSAB should pursue in its jurisdiction post-2003. The EMS Study Group/Committee will evaluate the options available to the DSSAB to meet its legislated responsibility for the delivery of land ambulance services as of January 1, 2004. The Study Group will focus on 5 major areas; Financial, Operational, Human Resources, Legislative and the End Product (Patient Outcome, or are we meeting the needs). The Group will provide its recommendation to the Board at or before its January 2003 meeting.

Resolution No. 02- 098 Moved by: Frank Gillis **Seconded by:** Willy Léveillé

THAT the CAO Reports on Ontario Works, Children's Services, EMS and Housing Program Reports, as well as the EMS Study Group Report be accepted as presented.

Carried

8.3 Financial Statement

Resolution No. 02- 099 Moved by: Janet Whissell **Seconded by:** Earle Freeborn
THAT the Board accept the Financial Report for the period ending April 30, 2002.

Carried

9 CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 Housing - Federal Capital Funding - Reply from Minister

The circulated reply from Minister Hodgson was discussed. It fails to substantiate the concerns specific to this DSSAB and also speaks to the Ministry's intent to deal with DSSAB concerns individually, DSSAB by DSSAB, instead of by way of a reassessment of the impact of the revised Capital funding model on Northern DSSABs as requested by all but one of the North's DSSABs.

The Board agreed to await the CAO's comments from other DSSABs before taking any further action on this matter.

9.2 Child Care Resources

The Board agreed to a Child Care Resources' Board presentation to the DSSAB at a future Board meeting. The logistics of a June or early fall presentation will be confirmed.

10 UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

10.1 AMO Conference

That AMO is scheduled to meet in August led to Board discussion of two related items:

- a) **CRF concerns** – Building on prior Board discussions re: a list of the DSSAB's key concerns that member municipalities could have with them when at AMO meetings, Marcel Rancourt pointed out that if the DSSAB or any of its member municipalities wish to make a presentation to AMO regarding CRF, serious thought has to be given to a prepared presentation on the matter that could be presented to and discussed with either the Minister, DM or ADM of Finance at the AMO meeting.

As pertains the CRF question, Board members suggested that the municipal treasurers prepare documents regarding CRF to bring to the Minister. It was agreed Mr. Gillis would co-coordinate this initiative. The representatives of the following municipalities volunteered the services of their

clerk-treasurers to work on this matter: French River, Chapleau, NEMI, Espanola, and Markstay-Warren. Though a primarily municipal initiative, the DSSAB Finance Manager will also be part of this group.

- b) **Political Linkages** - Building on prior Board discussions re: the limited clout of individual municipalities, and the added weight that DSSAB jurisdiction municipalities had by speaking as a collective, be it by way of the DSSAB and by way of a united Northern DSSABs voice when possible, Earle Freeborn indicated that the DSSAB was a valuable vehicle through which to voice the collective concerns of member municipalities.

Mr. Gillis added that to have a stronger voice via the political route, the DSSAB should formalise its political links with Northern Ontario political umbrellas such as FONOM. He repeated his previously advanced opinion that the DSSAB should become an associate member of FONOM and also encourage other DSSABs to do the same.

He pointed out that doing so would formalise DSSAB political ties to AMO by way of FONOM, add value to a FONOM membership, improve Northern Ontario wide awareness of individual DSSAB issues and provide additional political weight to DSSAB concerns raised with Queen's Park and supported by FONOM.

He indicated that the merits of FONOM and AMO associate memberships should be further discussed at the next Board meeting.

11.0 NEW BUSINESS

11.1 Strategic Partnering Workshop – Mr. Gillis encouraged his fellow DSSAB Board members to encourage their municipalities to submit their responses to the circulated report by the due date.

11.2 Summer Meeting -

Resolution No. 02-100 Moved by: Frank Gillis **Seconded by:** Vince Lacroix

THAT the summer meeting be held in Chapleau in August.

Carried

The meeting is scheduled for August 22, 2002.

12.0 Next Meeting & Adjournment

Resolution No. 02-101 Moved by: Earle Freeborn **Seconded by:** Marcel Rancourt

THAT we do now adjourn at 11:50 a.m. until the next regular meeting to be held on June 27, 2002, commencing at 10:00 am.

Carried

Chair

Chief Administrative Officer

(Secretary Treasurer of the Corporation)