



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 April 27, 2006
MANITOULIN-SUDBURY DSSAB BOARD MEETING
held at Espanola's DSSAB Mead Street Board Room

Present: Pat Best, Fern Bidal, Ray Chénier, Earle Freeborn, Leslie Gamble, Frank Gillis, Bruce Killah, Mike Lehoux, Bud Rohn, Richard Stephens, Maureen Van Alstine, Dale Van Every

Staff: Gary R. Champagne, CAO
Suzanne Bouchard, E.A. (Recording Secretary)
Connie Morphet, Director of Finance
Fern Dominelli, Director of Social Services
Peter Bradley, Manager, Housing Services
Jeff Horseman, Director of EMS
Karen Dominick, Community Programs Supervisor

Resource personnel:
Aurel Malo, Consultant, HR Services
Francine Chartrand, Consultant, Best Start

Regrets: Laurier Low
Absent: Member from Municipality of French River

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Ray Chénier, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
Gary Champagne introduced Francine Chartrand of Trisac Inc. who will be working with the DSSAB on the Best Start dossier.

2.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA Resolution No. 06-28

Les Gamble asked to have DSSAB Office Hours of Business added as an agenda item. It appears as Item 6.6.

Moved by: Earle Freeborn **Seconded by:** Bruce Killah
THAT the agenda be adopted as amended.

Carried

3.0 DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

4.0 CLOSED SESSION

Resolution No. 06-29 Moved by: Les Gamble **Seconded by:** Dale Van Every
THAT the Board move into closed session at 10:05 a.m. to discuss Human Resources and Property matters.

Carried

Resolution No. 06-30 Moved by: Earle Freeborn **Seconded by:** Les Gamble
THAT the Board adjourn this closed session at 10:45 a.m.

Carried

5.0 MINUTES**5.1. Adoption of Minutes of March 22, 2006**

Resolution No. 06-31 Moved by: Fern Bidal **Seconded by:** Maureen Van Alstine
That the minutes of the March 27, 2006 Board meeting be approved with an amendment to Resolution No. 06-23 in item #7.1.1. which should instead read: "THAT the Board accept the Finance Committee's recommendation that the Audited Financial Statement for the year ended December 31, 2005, as prepared by the Board's Auditors be presented for the Board's approval at the April 27, 2006 Board meeting." **Carried**

6.0. BUSINESS ITEMS**6.1. Closed Session Report**

Items discussed during the Closed Session included

- Closed Session Obligations, Procedures and Content
- Manitoulin Island DSSAB Property Rentals
- April 11th Sudbury-East Meetings
- Personnel Wellness

6.1.1. DSSAB Property Rentals on Manitoulin Island

Mike Lehoux, Chair of the Property Committee, reported that the Committee had met to discuss the possible relocation of the Little Current OW Office. Having analyzed the pros and cons of such a move, the following Resolution resulted.

Resolution No. 06-32 Moved by: Mike Lehoux **Seconded by:** Earle Freeborn
THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB not enter into a new lease with its present Little Current OW Office landlord and instead move to finalize negotiations with the landlord that Cambrian College is leasing from and negotiate a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the College for the usage of the main floor space the DSSAB requires for its purposes. **Carried**

Recorded Vote: Yeas: 9

Nays: 3 (Frank Gillis, Les Gamble, Richard Stephens)

6.2. Best Start Update

The CAO informed Board members that at the Toronto based April 11th province-wide Best Start initiative update meeting convened by the provincial government, MCYS Minister Chambers:

- Congratulated Ontario's 37 CMSMs and 10 DSSABs for the hard work and commitment put into the preparation and coordination of the Best Start Implementation Plans finalised in each of their jurisdictions;
- Indicated that while Ontario had to readjust its approach to its Best Start initiative in light of the Harper government's decision to not honour the Federal-Provincial Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) funding agreement, Ontario remained committed to its Best Start initiative;
- Encouraged the 47 to continue to work towards the implementation of the Best Start plans most appropriate to their communities' needs;
- Encouraged the 47 to strenuously lobby the new federal Conservative government re its need to respect the Canada-Ontario ELCC Agreement entered into between its predecessors and the Ontario government;
- Indicated that each CMSM/DSSAB would be informed of the specific Best Start allocation* it would be receiving over a four-year period to implement and sustain the number of Best Start child care spaces Ontario was approving for their jurisdictions. (* Ontario has decided to amortize the Harper government's

one-year Early Learning & Child Care funding allocation to Ontario over a four-year period).

The Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB has since been informed that its Best Start allocation in each of the next four years is \$693,000. The lion's share of this allocation is directed towards the creation and four year sustenance of 84 new licensed child care spaces in our jurisdiction.

The CAO noted that our DSSAB, like its 46 Ontario counterparts, is expected to provide MCYS with an amendment to our Child Care Plan which identifies how we plan to implement these new licensed Child Care spaces and how we plan to sustain them over the course of the four years in question.

Noting that the Plan has to be submitted to Ontario by May 31st, 2006, Gary stressed the Province's clear indication that since Ontario is speaking of the DSSAB's Child Care Plan, the Plan is not one that requires the "approval" or "endorsement" of the Manitoulin-Sudbury Best Start Network. That said Gary pointed out that the Ministry is clearly encouraging CMSMs and DSSABs to continue to consult with their Best Start Network partners and communities for their input on the appropriateness and the responsiveness of the child care services implemented and the ongoing development of the School-based Hubs appropriate to our communities.

Noting that Administration was ever mindful of the Board's frustrations as to the unknowns of Ontario's possible future funding expectations of the DSSAB member municipalities when it, the province, had none of its own dollars invested in Best Start, the CAO pointed out that the DSSAB's Administration was satisfied that our Best Start funding allocation was sufficient:

- to enable us to create the new licensed child care spaces assigned to our jurisdiction;
- to subsidize the child care fees of those families whose children qualify for those new spaces; and
- to sustain what is implemented over the four year timeframe without the infusion of municipal funding;
- to carry out this licensed child care expansion without any increase to the DSSAB's staff complement;
- to phase out or dismantle what has been out in place with Best Start funding over the term of these four years if there is a DSSAB funding commitment required to sustain same at the end of the four year 100% funding commitment. (x-ref. Board Resolution No. 06-22).

Gary concluded by indicating that DSSAB staff had already begun to work on the amended Child Care Plan that the DSSAB is expected to submit to MCYS by May 31st.

6.3. Mindemoya "Meadow View Apartments" Building Fire

Further to earlier circulated information, Peter Bradley reported on the extent of the damage and that repairs will be under way ASAP. He indicated that two tenants are presently not able to occupy their units which it is hoped will again be ready for occupancy within one month. Peter indicated that he had arranged and held a post-event meeting with all building tenants, their interested family members, representatives of VCARS and the Mindemoya Fire Chief. He felt that everyone benefited from the counselling offered and that everyone is feeling much better after this meeting.

Resolution No. 06-33 Moved by: Fern Bidal **Seconded by:** Mike Lehoux
 WHEREAS the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB Insurance Policy contains a \$10,000 deductible; and
 WHEREAS the cost of repairing the fire damage incurred at the Mindemoya building on April 17th, 2006, will necessitate use of our insurance policy; and
 WHEREAS the DSSAB will be required to pay the first \$10,000,
 BE IT RESOLVED THAT the deductible in the amount of \$10,000 be taken from the DSSAB's Housing Reserve funds. **Carried**

Pat Best and Richard Stephens expressed their thanks to the DSSAB and in particular to Peter Bradley and Tony Cardamone for managing this incident in the professional manner that they did. Peter added that he would like to specifically recognize the above the call of duty efforts of both Tony Cardamone and Ellie Orr in dealing with a difficult situation. He also sought to highlight the assistance and comfort that a building neighbour, Mrs. Ruby Cannard, provided to the residents during the incident itself.

6.4. Closed Session Obligations, Procedure and Content

The Chair reported that the Closed Session discussion of same led the DSSAB to decide to ask its Legal Counsel to provide the Board with its opinion as to their obligations and responsibilities re: In Camera matters and discussions.

6.5. Update on Board Member Computers

As previously pointed out by Iain Stephen, the lease of the Board members current laptops expires at the end of May. In keeping with the 2006 Budget cost containment decisions re: Board member computers, Board members were provided a questionnaire that they were asked to complete regarding their going forward options. Members with specific concerns or queries are to speak with either Iain Stephen or Greg Gilbert as both gentlemen are prepared to assist as best they can with the transition involved as a result of the need to honour our lease commitments by the end of May.

6.6. DSSAB Office Hours of Business

Les Gamble noted that while he appreciated that the matter of the Espanola Mead Street Office being closed over the lunch hour had been discussed and decided on a few years back, he asked that the matter be revisited. Administration committed itself to preparing a brief report on the matter for the Board's perusal.

7.0. REPORTS

7.1. BOARD COMMITTEES

7.1.1. Finance Committee

(i) 2005 Audited Statement

Committee Chair, Fern Bidal, drew the attention of Board members to the circulated "Audit Document and Results Report". He gave them a short summary of same. He informed the Board that both the DSSAB's Administration and Auditors had completed their tasks and that the Finance Committee had met with the Auditors re: the Year End Report. He noted that proceeding this way as opposed to the way the Board had previously proceeded provided the Board, via its Finance Committee, the opportunity to take the time to go into greater scrutiny and discussion of the Report's content. That said, he indicated that the Committee was totally satisfied with what was put forth. He noted that the Board's role vis-à-vis the finalization and circulation of the 2005 Audited Statement rests in their readiness to accept their Finance Committee's indication that the Report is adequate and accurate and reflects the current financial situation of the DSSAB and the recommendation of the Finance Committee that the financial statement be accepted by the Board. Mr. Bidal invited his fellow Finance Committee

members to make any other additional comments or corrections they would like to make to what he had stated. There being none, Mr. Bidal indicated that the recommendations of the Finance Committee are reflected in the following Resolution.

Resolution No. 06-34 Moved by: Fern Bidal **Seconded by:** Maureen Van Alstine
THAT the Board accept the Finance Committee's recommendation that the Audited Financial Statement for the year ended December 31, 2005, as prepared by the Board's Auditors, be accepted. **Carried**

(ii) 2005 Municipal Surplus Apportionment

Resolution No. 06-35 Moved by: Frank Gillis **Seconded by:** Pat Best
WHEREAS the audited financial statements for the operating year ended December 31, 2005 saw the DSSAB close the year with a working surplus of \$382,191;
BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB accept its Budget Committee's recommendation to redistribute said amount to the DSSAB's member municipalities as per the apportionment formula in place in the year 2005. **Carried**

(iii) Banking and Investment Services

Fern Bidal reported that the Finance Committee had received tender submissions from financial institutions and had gone into intensive detail of the presentations submitted. The recommendations of the Finance Committee are reflected in the following Resolution.

Resolution No. 06-36 Moved by: Fern Bidal **Seconded by:** Dale Van Every
WHEREAS the Board has requested that the Finance Committee tender the banking and investment services of the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB,
AND WHEREAS the Finance Committee has reviewed all the banking proposals in detail with the Director of Finance,
AND WHEREAS the Finance Committee has reviewed the potential interest revenues while assessing any risk in said investments,
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Finance Committee recommend to the Board to award the banking services portion of the tender to the Royal Bank of Canada with a \$2,000,000 deposit balance; and the Finance Committee recommend to the Board to award the investment services portion of the tender to the Caisse Populaire with \$4,000,000 invested in a Convertible term deposit for 20 months @ 4.32%; and invest \$500,000 with the Caisse Populaire in a redeemable term deposit @ 3.91%. **Carried**

(iv) 2007 Budget

In standing with the Board's indicated desire to attempt to complete its 2007 operating budget before the end of the present calendar year, Fern Bidal informed the Board that the Finance Committee intends to start to meet re: same with the DSSAB's Senior Management in September 2006.

Fern Bidal indicated that this completed his Committee's report to the Board.

Resolution No. 06-37 Moved by: Earle Freeborn **Seconded by:** Bud Rohn
THAT the Board accept the report of the Finance Committee. **Carried**

7.2. CAO REPORT

7.2.1. Operational Management Reports

The following Departmental Reports were circulated:

- [Children's Services Report](#)
- [Ontario Works Report](#)
- [Social Housing Report](#)
- [Emergency Medical Services Report](#)

Children's Services Report

Pat Best asked the DSSAB'S Administration to comment on the impact, if any, that the \$14,000 OEYC funding that the Algoma-Manitoulin electoral riding's Wawa-headquartered OEYC is providing to the Manitoulin Family Resources (MFR), will have on the DSSAB.

Gary indicated:

- that while he welcomes the Wawa-based OEYC's decision to add the Manitoulin District to the LaCloche and Chapleau portions of its Manitoulin-Sudbury electoral riding service area to which it commits some of the OEYC funding that it receives to serve the children and families of its electoral riding service area; and
- that while he would like to see the same largesse on the part of the Walden-based OEYC when it comes to the portions of their electoral riding service area that lie outside of the boundaries of the City of Greater Sudbury and within our DSSAB's child care service management jurisdiction; and
- as the Ministry of Children & Youth Services now openly acknowledges, the fact remains that the Manitoulin-Sudbury District has not been equitably dealt with when it comes to OEYC services, and there is a good deal of contradiction and incompatibility in its indications that the DSSAB is the child care service system manager for its jurisdiction when it comes to FRC and Hub planning as long as OEYCs remain outside of our service system management jurisdiction.

Gary noted that it remains our DSSAB's preferred position – a position supported by both the Algoma DSSAB and the City of Greater Sudbury (a CMSM), that Ontario commit itself to realigning OEYC service boundaries to be coterminous with those of our two DSSABs and one CMSM and that the service management responsibility for these OEYCs be vested in the DSSAB/CMSM just as they are when it comes to Family Resource Centres, Hubs and licensed child care services.

Social Housing Report

Peter Bradley reported that work is expected to begin in earnest on the new Chapleau Ambulance Station on Monday, May 1, 2006.

EMS Report

Jeff Horseman informed Board members that correspondence is ongoing with the MOHLTC re the enhancement of ambulance station coverage at the Foleyet Station.

7.2.2. Strategic Issues Report

7.2.2.1 A Municipality's Return on its DSSAB Investments (Years 2003 & 2004)

At the end of 2003, the CAO provided each of the DSSAB's member municipalities a copy of what was referred to as the [2002 Return on Investment \(ROI\) Report](#) which indicated what each municipality had in fact contributed by way of their property taxes as a percentage of the overall federal, provincial and municipal taxes dedicated to the DSSAB services provided in their given regions.

It was only after subtracting the year 2002 surplus that the DSSAB returned to each municipality and the Year 2002 CRF that the province returned to each municipality for the programs run by the DSSAB in 2002, that the DSSAB was able to calculate the actual DSSAB cost to each municipality compared to the costs apportioned to them for the DSSAB at the beginning of 2002.

While the DSSAB had been asking the Province to provide it with the CRF data needed to do the same analysis for the years 2003 and 2004, the information was only recently given to our DSSAB. That information in hand, the DSSAB was able to produce a [2003 ROI Report](#) and a [2004 ROI Report](#). A copy of these Reports will again be circulated to each of the DSSAB's member municipalities.

Board Chair Ray Chénier pointed out that this information may down the road prove useful to municipalities as they seek to compare what the DSSAB cost them when the Community Reinvestment Fund (CRF) was in place relative to what it costs them with the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) in place.

DSSAB Governance and Accountability

Gary wanted to let Board members know that the Province has decided to reactivate the InterMinisterial-DSSAB Working Group that he co-chaired and appears ready to release the results of the DSSAB Governance and Accountability Consultative Study that it undertook some two years ago as a result of the DSSAB governance and accountability issues then identified by the North's DSSABs as well as because of the impact of Municipal Act changes on the DSSABs.

A newly identified problem that may be sparking the Province's decision to rekindle the Committee stems from the change to the Municipal Act which sees municipal politicians elected to four-year terms while the DSSAB Act continues to speak to three-year office terms and three year election terms for TWOMO representatives.

It is suspected that the Province may be ready to act on what it confirmed as the indication of the majority of the municipalities on the DSSAB Boards that the lead provincial Ministry for DSSABs should be the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) and not the Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS).

Resolution No. 06-38 Moved by: Fern Bidal **Seconded by:** Mike Lehoux
THAT the CAO's Operational and Strategic Issues Management Reports be accepted.

Carried

8.0. CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 Municipal Representation at the DSSAB Table

- o NEMI has forwarded a second letter to the DSSAB indicating its belief that it should have a permanent seat at the DSSAB table.
- o Fern Bidal mentioned an email from the Municipality of St. Charles sent to the CAO which indicated that they do not believe that SEMA has the authority to determine the rotation of municipalities from the Sudbury East jurisdiction represented on the DSSAB Board.

9.0. UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

9.1. The Future of Rural and Northern Health Care – May 25-26, 2006, Toronto

This upcoming conference could be of interest to member municipalities as it speaks to Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) and may be a good forum to clear up much of the uncertainty and the unknowns as to how these will impact municipalities and where the municipal voice "fits in" when it comes to local health planning.

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

Resolution No. 06-39 Moved by: Dale Van Every **Seconded by:** Mike Lehoux
THAT we do now adjourn at 12:25 p.m. until the next regular meeting to be held at 10:00
a.m. on May 27, 2006 in the DSSAB's Espanola Mead Blvd. Boardroom. **Carried**

Chair

Chief Administrative Officer
(Secretary Treasurer of the Corporation)