



MINUTES
of the April 26, 2012
MANITOULIN-SUDBURY DSB BOARD MEETING
held in Espanola's 210 Mead Blvd. DSB Boardroom

- Present:** Lou Addison, André Byham, Sonja Flynn, Les Gamble, Dennis Golden, David Leonard, Derek Stephens, Mike Lehoux, Denis Turcot, Jack McMillan, Paul Moffatt, Morgan Pitfield, Bruce Killah
- Regrets :** Louise Ross
- Staff:** Fern Dominelli, Michael Maclsaac, Donna Moroso, Connie Morphet, Melody Ouellette, Aurel Malo, Human Resources Consultant
- Media :** Alicia McCutcheon, Manitoulin Expositor
Dawn Lalonde, Mid-North Monitor
- Guests:** Maison Boréal Inc.: Pierrette Ouellette, Doreen Cachagee, Bonnie Ivey, and Denise Godin
Freelandt Caldwell Reilly LLP: Kirby Houle CA and Cynthia MacKenzie MBA, CA
Mayor Claude Bouffard, Municipality of French River
Mayor Paul Schoppmann, Municipality of St. Charles

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Les Gamble, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Resolution No. 12- 36

MOVED BY: **André Byham** SECONDED BY: **Dennis Golden**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be adopted.

Carried

3.0 DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

4.0 DELEGATIONS

4.1 [Maison Boréal Home Inc. – Letter](#)

[Maison Boréal Home Inc. – Business Plan](#)

Pierrette Ouellette presented the business plan for affordable senior housing in Chapleau. She stated that the senior population of Chapleau continues to rise by approximately 15% per year. The need for affordable housing in Chapleau is great. Seniors do not want to leave their home town and their families due to lack of proper accommodations. Housing for seniors allows for continued independence and mental health. There are no supportive care suites within a 210 km radius of Chapleau. The new construction will allow seniors to stay in Chapleau and avoid early institutionalization.

The estimated cost for the 24,000 sq. ft. complex is \$5.3 million dollars. The complex would consist of 20 affordable housing units and 12 supportive care units. The group is seeking \$2.5 million in Federal funding and \$2.5 million in Provincial funding. As well Maison Boréal Home Inc. is hoping to raise \$300,000 towards the cost through events, lotteries, private donations etc.

Doreen Cachagee, Chair of Maison Boréal Home provided the Board with four letters of support from the [Township of Chapleau](#), [Brunswick House First Nation](#), [Chapleau Ojibwe First Nation](#) and [Chapleau Cree First Nation](#).

The Maison Boreal Home Inc. is requesting the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB's support under the Investment in Affordable Housing program.

Fern and Les thanked Maison Boréal for their presentation. This item will brought back to the Board at the May 24th Board Meeting.

André Byham thanked the group for their hard work and informed the Board that Chapleau council had received the presentation and gave their support.

5.0 AUDITOR'S REPORT

Kirby Houle CA, and Cynthia MacKenzie MBA, CA, Freelandt Caldwell Reilly LLP presented the Auditor's Report to the Board. [The 2011 Audited Financial Statements](#) were provided to Board members.

Kirby provided a brief review of each audit schedule. Kirby indicated that the audit went very well and there were no concerns that management had not dealt with.

Resolution No. 12- 37

MOVED BY: **Morgan Pitfield**

SECONDED BY: **Mike Lehoux**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB accept receipt of the Audited Financial Statement for the year ended December 31, 2011, as prepared by the Freelandt, Caldwell, Reilly Accountants.

Carried

6.0 CLOSED SESSION

Resolution No. 12- 38

MOVED BY: **David Leonard**

SECONDED BY: **Paul Moffatt**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board move into closed session at 11:15 a.m.

Carried

Resolution No. 12- 39

MOVED BY: **André Byham**

SECONDED BY: **Lou Addison**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board adjourn this closed session at 11:50 a.m.

Carried

7.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION

Morgan Pitfield declared a conflict of interest in regards to a Human Resources issue that was dealt with in camera and excused himself.

Aurel explained that at the last Board meeting a tentative agreement with OPSEU was presented and the Board approved the agreement. The Board has since been notified that the contract was not ratified by the OPSEU members. OPSEU is reviewing their mandate and the Board is waiting to hear from OPSEU to continue negotiations.

8.0 MINUTES

8.1 Adoption of Minutes – March 22, 2012

Resolution No. 12- 40

MOVED BY: **David Leonard**

SECONDED BY: **Denis Turcot**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the [Minutes of the March 22, 2012](#) Board meeting be approved.

8.2 Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

9.0 NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Impact of Provincial Budget

The Board was provided with an [Issue Report](#) on the 2012 Provincial Budget and directed to the [OMSSA Quick Connect](#), [AMO Breaking News](#), and [MCSS Memo](#) for more details.

Some Provincial Budget highlights include:

Social Assistance Rates

Initially the province announced that there would be no general rate increase in 2012 for the Ontario Works (OW) and Ontario Disability Support Programs (ODSP). It has recently been announced that there will be a 1% increase for ODSP in November 2012 and for OW in December 2012.

Community Start-up & Maintenance Benefit (CSUMB)

CSUMB will be removed as a mandatory benefit under social assistance program effective January 1, 2013.

In the Calendar year 2011 the DSB expended \$108,000 on the CSUMB benefit.

Based on recent communications from the province for the period April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012 the DSB spent \$120,000 on CSUMB for OW clients and the province spent \$160,000 on CSUMB for ODSP clients in the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB jurisdiction, for a total of \$280,000.

The province has indicated it will transfer half of the provincial share, which in our case would \$130,000, to the new consolidated housing and homelessness program managed by the MMAH.

The concern here is that MMAH will use their own formula based on households to re-distribute these dollars and the DSB may not see the full \$130,000 transferred to our program.

Home Repairs

The 2012 Budget announced that home repair benefits are being removed from social assistance effective January 1, 2013.

The province is suggesting that individuals requiring home repairs can access the Investment in Affordable Housing Program delivered by DSSAB/CMSM's.

For the calendar year 2011 the DSB spent \$6,265 on emergency home repairs for OW clients. In general most emergency home repairs for social assistance clients involve emergency furnace repairs in winter.

The DSB was allocated \$1,015,176 under the Investment in Affordable Housing Program and the Board approved the [Program Delivery and Fiscal Plan](#) at the November 2011 Board meeting.

In the plan the Board allocated \$965,177 to the Ontario Renovates Program over the next 3 years. The waiting list for the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB - Ontario Renovates Program has 135 households with requests for repairs totaling in excess of \$2 million dollars.

Staff will be contacting the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to determine the most appropriate method of ensuring social assistance clients have access to emergency home repairs particularly during winter months where the current application process under the Ontario Renovates Program would not be timely.

Discretionary Benefits

The existing formula of \$8.75 per case for non-health related discretionary benefits would be replaced with a new formula of \$10 per case on combined health and non-health related discretionary benefits effective July 1, 2012.

Based on our early analysis of these new rules the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB will have an annual allocation of approximately \$145,000 for health and non-health related discretionary benefits effective July 1, 2012.

Since our expenditures for the 2011 calendar were \$147,034, we may be able to manage within the new allocation.

However once the CSUMB is eliminated in January 2013, this will put a lot of pressure on the discretionary benefits allocation. A majority of the items covered by the CSUMB benefit are also eligible under discretionary benefits so we will need to track and monitor this closely to ensure we do not exceed our allocation.

DSB staff is currently reviewing the Ontario Works Discretionary Benefits policy and will be providing the Board with a revised policy before the July 1, 2012 changes take effect.

Employment Services Integration

The government will be looking at opportunities to integrate Ontario Works and ODSP employment services with the broader Employment Ontario network.

According to the Ministry of Community & Social Services, no decisions have been made yet regarding the integration of employment services. Ministry staff has indicated they will be working closely with the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities and municipal partners to explore this idea.

9.2 2012 Federal Budget

The Board was provided with an update on the 2012 Federal Budget and directed to the [Federal Budget Brief](#), [OMSSA Quick Connect](#) and the [AMO Breaking News](#) more details.

The exact impact for municipal governments in Ontario is not clear. Some highlights include:

Job creation and skills training

Investing \$205 million to extend the temporary Hiring Credit for Small Business for one year – a credit of up to \$1,000 per employer to help defray costs of hiring new workers and assist with the increase in EI premiums.

By providing an additional \$50 million over two years to the [Youth Employment Strategy](#) to assist more young people, including youth at-risk and recent post-secondary graduates, in gaining tangible skills and experience.

Providing \$6 million over three years to extend and expand the [Third Quarter](#) program to key centres across the country. Assisting older workers with the particular challenges they face in finding employment. The program is targeted at older workers in vulnerable communities with populations of less than 250,000.

By improving labour market opportunities for Canadians with disabilities with the investment of \$30 million over three years in the [Opportunities Fund](#) and by creating a panel on labour market opportunities for persons with disabilities.

Housing and Municipal/Community Infrastructure

Introduce enhancements to the governance and oversight framework for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), contributing to the stability of the housing market as well as proposed legislative amendments to strengthen

oversight of CMHC and to ensure its commercial activities are managed in a manner that promotes the stability of the financial system.

Community Infrastructure Improvement Fund allocating \$150 million over two years for improvements to existing community infrastructure. Allocations will be made on a cost-shared basis in partnership with municipalities, community organizations and not-for-profit entities.

9.3 DSB Board Representation

Board member Morgan Pitfield addressed the Board on behalf of the Sudbury East Municipal Association (SEMA) in regards to full representation for the four year term of office for the SEMA group of municipalities.

As the constituents are becoming more involved in municipal politics they are demanding more transparency and accountability. The issue of our contribution by way of apportionment to DSB was noted and addressed to myself and municipal councillors, demanding explanation of where and why such a large portion was assessed to our municipality. While discussing this issue at a recent SEMA meeting it was determined that our SEMA Group is contributing 31.3% of the total assessment of our DSB organization.

This issue has already been brought to my attention and I was asked how do I know what is going on with our contribution to DSB if not physically present at meetings. The rest of the mayors in our SEMA group are of the same opinion as I am, if a whole year of meetings are missed we are not properly representing our constituents. We believe that selection to the Board should not depend on population alone but also must include the financial contribution by a municipality or group of municipalities. It is requested that an ad-hoc committee be established to review the request. Morgan thanked the Board for its time and consideration.

Les Gamble requested that all municipalities be present at AGM to have a discussion prior to setting up ad hoc committee.

The CAO explained that there are no provincial guidelines, regulations or legislation that dictate or provide any guidance on Board representation. In 1998 the DSSAB Steering Committee contracted with the Randolph Group to develop a Board representation model, the model was approved by the Steering Committee on September 17, 1998.

This model was sent to member municipalities for a double majority vote as defined by DSSAB regulations.

This item has been added to the May 23, 2012 DSB AGM in Killarney so that a similar discussion can take place with all member municipalities present and the

Board will decide how to proceed on the matter at the May 24, 2012 Board meeting.

9.4 DSB Annual General Meeting – May 23, 2012 in Killarney

A draft AGM Agenda was shared with the Board.

Since the Board will be in Killarney it was decided that a visit to the Killarney EMS station followed by a walkthrough of the new Killarney Health Centre would be in arranged. Board members may visit these sites Thursday May 24 from 9:00 to 9:45 a.m. prior to the Board meeting. The Board meeting will be held at 10:00 am in the Veterans Memorial Hall.

10.0 OTHER BUSINESS

11.0 Next Meeting – May 24, 2012 at Veterans Memorial Hall in Killarney

12.0 Adjournment

Resolution No. 12- 41

MOVED BY: **Morgan Pitfield**


SECONDED BY: **André Byham**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we do now adjourn at 12:05 p.m. until the next regular meeting to be held in Killarney on May 24, 2012.

Carried



Chair



CAO (Secretary-Treasurer
of the Corporation)