



Minutes
of the April 23, 2015
MANITOULIN-SUDBURY DSB BOARD MEETING
held in Espanola's 210 Mead Blvd. DSB Boardroom

Present: Bill Baker, Les Gamble, Bruce Killah, David Leonard, Al MacNevin, Ron Piche, Jim Rook, Eric Russell, Dean Wenborne, Ned Whynott, Laurier Falldien, Stewart Meikleham, Ted Lovelace

Regrets : Michael Levesque

Staff: Fern Dominelli, Donna Moroso, Connie Morphet, Mike Maclsaac, Patrick Wittmann, Melody Ouellette, Ehren Baldaulf, Robert Smith

Media: Alicia McCutcheon

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. 15-32

Moved by: Ron Piche

Seconded by: Dean Wenborne

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 Closed Session

Resolution 15-33

Moved by: David Leonard

Seconded by: Bill Baker

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board move into closed session at 10:00 a.m.

Carried

Resolution 15-34

Moved by: David Leonard

Seconded by: Al MacNevin

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board adjourn this closed session at 10:15 a.m.

Carried

5.0 Business Arising from Closed Session:

During its Closed Session, the Board discussed Property and Human Resources Issues.

6.0 Minutes

6.1 Adoption of Minutes

Resolution No. 15-35

Moved by: Bill Baker

Seconded by: Dean Wenborne

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the [March 26, 2015](#) Board meeting be approved.

Carried

6.2 Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

7.0 Committee Reports

7.1 Program Planning Committee

The Program Planning Committee met April 22, 2015. David Leonard was elected Chair of the committee.

7.1.1 Social Housing Market Rents

David Leonard, Chair of the Program Planning Committee, asked Donna Moroso, Director of Integrated Social Services, to walk the board through the Market Rents - Issue Report.

Staff are recommending that the market rent values of the Social Housing units be raised to be more in line with the Household Income Limits (HIL) as set by the Housing Service Act. The HIL's have been set by the Housing Services Act and are used to calculate market rent which is 30% of gross income. Currently our market rent tenants are paying rent based on an outdated HIL and are in essence being subsidized when they should not be.

The proposed change would affect 35 tenants who are paying the current market rent.

The board voiced concern over the proposed increase being drastic and detrimental to those who will be affected by it. As per board direction, the issue report will be revised to include a phased in approach and brought back to the board for review.

7.1.2 Social Housing Duty to Accommodate

David Leonard, Chair of the Program Planning Committee, asked Patrick Wittmann, Supervisor of Infrastructure and Asset Management, to walk the board through the Duty to Accommodate Issue Report.

The DSB, in accordance with the Human Rights Code, has a duty to accommodate in their Social Housing units. Housing providers are only required to implement accommodations that would not amount to undue hardship. The [test for undue hardship](#) is set out fully in the Ontario Human Rights Commission [Policy and Guidelines on Disability and the Duty to Accommodate](#). Housing providers are expected to accept requests in good faith, unless there are objective reasons not to do so.

On occasion we have received requests from tenants for modifications that range from easy fixes such as grab bars and raised toilets to costly renovations such as door widening and electronic door openers.

Staff are developing the Accommodation policy that will be in accordance with the Human Rights Code. Staff will secure appropriate expert opinion where necessary and appropriate. Consideration must be given to the 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan within the process, which speaks to improving accessibility.

Resolution 15-36

Moved by: David Leonard

Seconded by: Laurier Falldien

WHEREAS the Program Planning Committee has reviewed the Duty to Accommodate-Issue Report and is recommending approval to the Board.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB approves the [Duty to Accommodate-Issue Report](#) and directs staff to action the recommendations contained within the report.

Carried

7.1.3 EMS - Wikwemikong Staffing Enhancement

David Leonard, Chair of the Program Planning Committee, asked Mike Maclsaac, Chief of EMS, to walk the board through the Wikwemikong Staffing Enhancement Issue Report.

Statistical data supports the need for enhanced staffing in our Wikwemikong EMS station. Staff are recommending the utilization of a Paramedic Response Unit (PRU). A PRU is a completely marked EMS emergency vehicle which is staffed by a fully a qualified paramedic who is capable of responding to any emergency call. The PRU concept, which is in place in many EMS across Ontario, allows for a rapid response and medical intervention without the ability to transport a patient. The lack of transport capabilities ensures that the PRU is rapidly available for the next emergency as soon as the ambulance arrives to transport the patient to a medical facility.

As the Wikwemikong Station is 100% provincially funded, the proposal for a PRU has been submitted to the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC) for consideration in their 2015/16 budget.

Resolution 15-37**Moved by:** David Leonard**Seconded by:** Al MacNevin

WHEREAS the Program Planning Committee has reviewed the Wikwemikong Staffing Enhancement - Issue Report and is recommending approval to the Board.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB approves the [Wikwemikong Staffing Enhancement - Issue Report](#) and directs staff to action the recommendations contained within the report.

Carried**7.1.4 Ambulance Response Time Standards**

David Leonard, Chair of the Program Planning Committee, asked Mike MacIsaac, Chief of EMS, to walk the board through the Ambulance Response Time Standards Issue Report.

The Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB is required by legislation to report response time standard targets for the following year to the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC) by October 31 of each year. Additionally, we are required to report our actual performance in relation to our set targets to the [MOHLTC Emergency Health Service Branch](#) by March 31 for performance relating to the previous year.

While the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB has been successful in achieving its targets, those set targets are not particularly high. Success in relation to the aggressive time standards demanded by the MOHLTC is proportionately relative to population density. The citizens in the DSB area live in less dense areas of population. Where the provincial average for population density is 12.4 people for every km, the DSB has a population density of 0.6 people per km. This in turn has a drastically negative impact upon response times given the fact that we cannot possibly have ambulance stations in all areas of greater population.

When a population is spread out it becomes nearly impossible to deploy limited resources in all optimal locations in an effort to achieve greater success with the aggressive response time requirements. While this response time standard is nearly unattainable, it has to be noted that the focus of the standard deals with less than 1% of our overall patient encounters. One must question the reasonability of placing such a high level of importance on such a small subset of overall call volume.

On the surface it appears as though it will be hard to achieve better response times with such urban based, population dense standards. Community programs such as Public Access Defibrillation and Tiered Response programs can go a long way in assisting citizens when resources are just not close enough. The DSB will continue to review this matter on a regular basis and make any improvements where possible and look to other measurements of success.

Resolution 15-38

Moved by: David Leonard

Seconded by: Dean Wenborne

WHEREAS the Program Planning Committee has reviewed the Ambulance Response Time Standard – Issue Report and is recommending approval to the Board.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB approves the [Ambulance Response Time Standard – Issue Report](#) and directs staff to action the recommendations contained within the report.

Carried

7.1.5 Ministry of Education Child Care Funding

David Leonard, Chair of the Program Planning Committee, asked Donna Moroso, Director of Integrated and Social Services, to walk the board through the Child Care Funding Issue Report.

The child care funding formula is based on data elements which are publicly available, such as low income cut off indicators, population of Ontario, and statistics Canada measures. The data elements are used to calculate each CMSM's/DDSAB's share of the funding in each component. Each year the Ministry of Education (MEDU) updates the funding formula data resulting in redistributive changes in each CMSM's/DDSAB's share of the funding formula due to changes in the demographic area. This made it difficult to predict future funding.

The new funding formula is based on broad objectives such as efficiency, responsiveness, predictability and transparency, quality and accountability. CMSM's/DSSAB's have noted that in order to support multi-year service planning the current funding formula needs to be more predictable and transparent. In response to this feedback the MEDU introduced benchmarks for each of the existing data elements.

The benchmark based model sees allocations for funding based on, for example, a dollar per child value determined by MEDU. Under this model allocations in 2015 and onward will no longer be based on percentage shares but instead will be based purely on demographic data and the funding benchmarks.

Some CMSM's/DSSAB's are raising concerns as the change in the funding formula has resulted in their allocations being significantly decreased. There is a concern of serious implications to program planning when the funding formula isn't predictable and transparent.

Resolution 15-39

Moved by: David Leonard

Seconded by: Jim Rook

WHEREAS the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB is concerned about the volatility in the updated Ministry of Education funding formula for child care which appears to be affecting smaller CMSM's/DSSAB's negatively; and

WHEREAS NOSDA members are concerned that there are some serious implications to program planning when the Child Care Funding Formula isn't predicable and transparent; and

WHEREAS the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB supports and encourages NOSDA to bring these concerns directly to the Minister of Education; and

WHEREAS the Program Planning Committee has reviewed the Child Care Funding-Issue Report and is recommending approval to the Board.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB approves the [Child Care Funding - Issue Report](#) and directs staff to action the recommendations contained within the report.

Carried

8.0 New Business

8.1 Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative

On March 30, 2015, staff received a [letter](#) from the Assistant Deputy Minister Janet Hope, from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) regarding our 2015-16 and 2016-17 funding allocations under the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI).

The ministry has decided to maintain the current funding allocation model. This approach will provide stability to Service Managers in the short-term as funding levels will remain the same as the previous year.

The Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB's 2015-16 and 2016-17 is expected to be \$324,000. CHPI planning allocations are contingent on provincial budget approvals, we will be notified if there are any changes to our planning allocations. The CHPI allocation is used to fund our Healthy Communities Fund which helps individuals and families with items such as hydro and rental arrears, as well as funding local food banks.

8.2 Social Assistance Management System (SAMS)

On March 30, 2015, the Cochrane District Social Services Administration Board sent a [letter](#) to Deputy Minister Bohodar Rubashewsky thanking him for taking the time to do a site visit as well as have an open and frank conversation with frontline workers about SAMS and their frustrations.

8.3 Social Assistance Management System (SAMS) Progress Report

The Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS) has engaged Pricewaterhouse Coopers to perform an independent assessment of SAMS that began on March 5, 2015.

The key focus areas of the [SAMS review](#) are planning, organizational change management, user experience, stakeholder engagement and communications, transition to operations and governance.

While frontline workers were hopeful that the review was going to result in fixes to the system, the review is only meant to give a clearer picture of what went wrong and how to avoid it happening again in the future.

8.4 Employment Ontario Leadership Awards

The Employment Ontario (EO) Leadership Awards recognize EO service providers who have demonstrated exceptional leadership in the areas of innovation and collaboration.

The EO Leadership Awards recognize collaboration as bringing multiple stakeholders together to partner on solving problems and improving service delivery.

It is with much enthusiasm that the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB wrote a [letter](#) recommending our EO partner, Alpha-En-Partage of Sudbury East, for the Employment Ontario Leadership Award in Collaboration.

9.0 Other Business

The Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association (NOSDA) recently held its Annual General Meeting in Thunder Bay. NOSDA issued a [Press Release](#) detailing the event and highlighting the Ministers in attendance.

A number of [resolutions](#) were passed including issues with SAMS, child care, and a request to align DSSAB and Municipal Council terms.

10.0 Next Meeting – May 28, 2015

11.0 Adjournment

Resolution 15-40

Moved by: Ron Piche


Seconded by: Ted Lovelace

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we do now adjourn at 12:10 p.m. until the next regular meeting to be held, in the DSB's Espanola Mead Boulevard Board Room on May 28, 2015.

Carried



Chair



CAO (Secretary-Treasurer
of the Corporation)