



Minutes
of the February 26, 2015
MANITOULIN-SUDBURY DSB BOARD MEETING
held in Espanola's 210 Mead Blvd. DSB Boardroom

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

Regrets : Ted Lovelace, Laurier Falldien

Staff: Fern Dominelli, Donna Moroso, Connie Morphet, Mike MacIsaac, Patrick Wittmann, Melody Ouellette, Ehren Baldauf

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. 15-09

Moved by: Bruce Killah

Seconded by: David Leonard

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 St. Charles Delegation – Mayor Paul Schoppmann

Mayor Paul Schoppmann and Councillor Phil Belanger who will be serving on the DSB Board in 2016, addressed the board regarding increasing costs to municipalities even though the DSB is benefiting from the provincial upload of Social Assistance costs. The Mayor's [presentation](#) was provided to the Board and indicated "the Municipality of St. Charles will be passing a resolution to the effect that whatever upload amount that is part of our allocation you receive we will be decreasing that same amount from our contribution. I would not consider this to be unprecedented because the Province itself has invoked net zero on money allocations to certain agencies and boards".

This statement did cause some concern with DSB Board members but the point St. Charles was really trying to make, was that Municipalities could not afford the annual DSB budget increases. It was explained that the provincial upload for Social Assistance has always been clearly listed on the front page of all the DSB Budget documents from 2008 to 2015. Although there were savings due to the provincial upload, the Board did choose to re-invest some of those savings into other DSB priorities such as the expansion of Land Ambulance Services across the DSB jurisdiction. As for municipalities not paying the apportionment they were billed by the DSB, there are tools to manage these situations.

5.0 Closed Session

Resolution 15-10

Moved by: Stewart Meikleham

Seconded by: Ron Piche

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board move into closed session at 10:15 a.m.

Carried

Resolution 15-11

Moved by: David Leonard

Seconded by: Michael Levesque

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board adjourn this closed session at 10:40 a.m.

Carried

6.0 Business Arising from Closed Session

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

7.0 Minutes

7.1 Adoption of Minutes

Resolution No. 15-12

Moved by: Bill Baker

Seconded by: Dean Wenborne

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the [January 22, 2015](#) Board meeting be approved.

Carried

7.2 Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

8.0 New Business

8.1 [NOSDA Letter to Minister McMeekin Re: OMPF](#)

The purpose of the NOSDA letter to Minister McMeekin was to point out NOSDA's concerns with the [Minister's letter to Mayors and Reeves](#) in Northern municipalities.

In his letter, the Minister states that the government will have to make tough choices and to continue to their commitment to the uploading of municipal costs. He also states that it is important to acknowledge that the removal of these costs off the property tax base benefits all local taxpayers.

The DSSAB's and NOSDA are unable to confirm the net result of the uploading of municipal service costs. The Ministers letter is misrepresenting the true nature of the Provincial uploads and the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) reductions.

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and the Ministry of Finance have been invited to the NOSDA Annual General Meeting in Thunder Bay taking place April 15 to 17, 2015 to hold a meeting to discuss the OMPF calculations and the provincial uploads.

8.2 CAO Fourth Quarter Activity Report

Fern Dominelli, CAO, walked the Board through the 2014 Fourth Quarter CAO Activity Report. This report will be shared with member municipalities who are encouraged to add it to Council agenda packages.

Resolution 15-13

Moved by: Al MacNevin

Seconded by: Jim Rook

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the [2014 CAO Fourth Quarter Activity Report](#) be approved.

Carried

8.3 Fourth Quarter Unaudited Financial Report

Connie Morphet, Director of Finance & Administration, walked the board through the Fourth Quarter Unaudited Financial Report. The DSB is estimating a 2014 year end surplus of \$303,112 however DSB staff are currently in discussion with the auditors in regard to the EMS Severance Accrual. The audit team is requesting an increased expense of \$83,562, which would in turn reduce the 2014 year end surplus to \$219,550. Staff will provide a final audited 2014 year end surplus once this matter has been resolved.

Resolution 15-14

Moved by: Ron Piche

Seconded by: David Leonard

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the [2014 Fourth Quarter Unaudited Financial Report](#) be approved as presented.

Carried

8.4 Revised 2015 Apportionment

Connie Morphet, Director of Finance & Administration, walked the board through the revision to the [2015 Apportionment](#). The 2015 Apportionment that was sent out in January has been revised due to the Power Dam apportionment calculation.

8.5 Non Urgent Patient Transportation

Mike MacIsaac, Chief of EMS, walked the board through the Non-Urgent Patient Transportation Service - Request for Expression of Interest - Issue Report.

The NELHIN through Health Sciences North has released a Request for Expression of Interest (REI) on the delivery of non-urgent patient transportation services.

The DSB's response will detail the issues and recommendations based on the success in the running of this service for 3 years.

The board was assured that if the DSB does bid on this service it will be with the strict mandate that it will not cost the municipal tax base and will be fully funded.

Resolution 15-15

Moved by: Al MacNevin

Seconded by: Stewart Meikleham

WHEREAS the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB has reviewed the Non Urgent Patient Transportation Service - Request for Expression of Interest - Issue Report.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB approves the [Non Urgent Patient Transportation Service - Request for Expression of Interest - Issue Report](#) and directs staff to action the recommendations contained within the report.

Carried

8.6 Social Assistance Management System (SAMS)

Donna Moroso, Director of Integrated and Social Services, walked the board through the Social Assistance Management System – Issue Report.

The board was reassured that even though there are many problems with the new system, the Integrated Social Services staff have been working hard to ensure that clients receive the assistance they are entitled to.

The DSB continues to work with the Ministry of Community and Social Services to correct deficiencies and identify solutions while supporting the DSB staff as they continue their day-to-day work in providing good customer service.

Resolution 15-16

Moved by: Dean Wenborne

Seconded by: Michael Levesque

WHEREAS the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB has reviewed the Social Assistance Management System - Issue Report.

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

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board recognizes the hard work and tireless efforts of frontline Integrated Social Services staff to ensure that citizens within all of the DSB communities receive the benefits they are entitled to in a timely fashion despite the failed implementation of the provincial Social Assistance technology called SAMS.

Carried

8.7 Employment Related Benefit (ERB)

Donna Moroso, Director of Integrated Social Services, walked the board through the Employment Related Benefit – Issue Report.

Currently there are seven (7) different employment benefits for social assistance recipients that differ in eligibility and amounts. The new Employment Related Benefit will replace all seven.

Due to the ongoing issues surrounding the transition to SAMS, the Ministry has decided to postpone the implementation of the ERB from April to October 2015.

Resolution 15-17

Moved by: Eric Russell

Seconded by: Bill Baker

WHEREAS the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB Board has reviewed the Employment Related Benefit – Issue Report.

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

Carried

8.8 Child Care Wage Enhancement Funding

Donna Moroso, Director of Integrated Social Services, walked the board through the Child Care Wage Enhancement Funding – Issue Report.

The 2014 Ministry of Education budget included an investment of \$269 million over three years to support a wage enhancement in the licensed child care sector. In 2015, \$1.00 per hour plus 17.5% for benefits is being provided to eligible employees and \$10 per day to eligible private home day care providers. Child care operators are required to apply for the wage enhancement funding from the DSB. The DSB will post applications on the DSB website between May 1, 2105 and June 30, 2105. DSB staff are currently in the process of implementing the new wage enhancement funding and will provide updates to the board as required.

Resolution 15-18

Moved by: David Leonard

Seconded by: Ron Piche

WHEREAS the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB Board has reviewed the Child Care Wage Enhancement Funding – Issue Report.

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

Carried

8.9 Social Housing Investment in Affordable Housing Program Policies

Patrick Wittmann, Supervisor of Infrastructure & Asset Management, walked the board through the new Investment in Affordable Housing Program policies, Ontario Renovates and Homeownership.

In order to implement these programs, policies and procedures for the Ontario Renovates and Homeownership have to be established.

Resolution 15-19

Moved by: Bill Baker

Seconded by: Dean Wenborne

WHEREAS the Board has reviewed the Social Housing, Investment in Affordable Housing Program policies being Ontario Renovates and Homeownership and is recommending approval of these policies.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB approves the Social Housing Investment in Affordable Housing Program policies being [10.1 Ontario Renovates](#) and [10.2 Homeownership](#) effective March 1, 2015.

Carried

9.0 Other Business

**NOSDA AGM Valhalla Inn Thunder Bay
April 15-17, 2015**

10.0 Next Meeting – March 26, 2015

11.0 Adjournment

Resolution 15-20

Moved by: Al MacNevin

Seconded by: Ron Piche

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we do now adjourn at 12:15 p.m. until the next regular meeting to be held, in the DSB's Espanola Mead Boulevard Board Room on March 26, 2015.

Carried



Chair



CAO (Secretary-Treasurer
of the Corporation)