



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

210 boul Mead Blvd
Espanola, ON P5E 1R9
Telephone/Téléphone: (705) 862-7850
Fax/Télécopieur: (705) 862-7805
<http://www.msdsb.net>

MINUTES
of the February 26, 2009
MANITOULIN-SUDBURY DSSAB BOARD MEETING
held in Espanola's 210 Mead Blvd. DSSAB Boardroom

- Present:** Lou Addison, Gary Brown, Jean-Marc Chayer, Ray Chénier, Earle Freeborn, Dennis Golden, Bruce Killah, David Leonard, Al MacNevin, Jack McMillan, Shelley Quibell, Dean Wenborne
- Staff:** Gary Champagne, Suzanne Bouchard, Fern Dominelli, Connie Morphet, Jeff Horseman
- Consultant:** Aurel Malo, DiBrina-Sure Human Resources Inc.
- Media:** Camilla Kirkpatrick, Mid-North Monitor
Alicia McCutcheon, Manitoulin Expositor
Steven McCulligh, Manitoulin Expositor Co-Op Student
- Regrets:** Les Gamble, Mike Lehoux

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

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

2.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Resolution No. 09-12

Moved by: Earle Freeborn **Seconded by:** Shelley Quibell
THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.

Carried

3.0 DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

4.0 MINUTES

4.1 Adoption of Previous Board Minutes

Resolution No. 09-13

Moved by: Jack McMillan **Seconded by:** Lou Addison

THAT the Minutes of the January 22, 2009 Board meeting be approved. **Carried**

4.2. Business Arising from Minutes

4.2.1 EMS Committee Membership Change -

Jean-Marc Chayer indicated that other commitment scheduling conflicts made it necessary for him to resign from the EMS Committee. It was decided not to replace his position on the Committee.

4.2.2 Property Committee Change -

David Leonard asked to be added as a member of the Property Committee. Board members agreed.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS**5.1 Earth Hour and Energy Conservation**

The circulated Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) invitation asking for the DSSAB's support of the World Wildlife Fund Earth Hour (March 28, 2009, 8:30 - 9:30 p.m.) and the Ontario Power Authority Energy Conservation Week (May 17-23, 2009) was discussed.

Resolution No. 09-14

Moved by: Al MacNevin **Seconded by:** J.M. Chayer

THAT the DSSAB actively participate in the World Wildlife Fund Earth Hour scheduled from March 28, 2009, 8:30 - 9:30 p.m. and in the Ontario Power Authority's Energy Conservation Week scheduled from May 17 to 23, 2009.

Carried

5.1 NOSDA's Position Paper on the Northern Growth Plan (NGP)**Resolution No. 09-15**

Moved by: Gary Brown **Seconded by:** Jack McMillan

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has initiated consultations on the Northern Ontario Growth Plan (NGP); and
WHEREAS the Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association (NOSDA) has developed a Position Paper outlining the opportunities to address the provincially identified priorities most relevant to NOSDA members; and
WHEREAS the development of an integrated, effective and efficient social infrastructure is an essential component of all local and regional development;
BE IT THEREFOR RESOLVED THAT the Board of Directors of the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board supports the recommendations contained within the Position Paper entitled 'NOSDA and The Northern Growth Plan'; and
BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB directs that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Ontario Growth Secretariat, the Honourable Michael Gravelle, Minister of Northern Development and Mines, the Honourable George Smitherman, Minister of Energy and Infrastructure, Gary Scripnick, Chair of the Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association, local MPPs and DSSAB member municipalities.

Carried

Following up on:

- i) Earle Freeborn's indications that the Hon. Michael Gravelle asked to know who else should be invited to participate in Northern Growth Plan consultations;
 - ii) the NOSDA Position Paper's indication that DSSABs were not but should be systemically asked to participate in the process given their unique to Northern Ontario mandate in the development of the North's social infrastructure, and
 - iii) previously circulated CAO emails re: the significance of the decisions that will emanate from the NGP and how these will impact the role and responsibilities of municipalities; ...
- ...the Chair directed the CAO to obtain the dates of the next scheduled Northern Growth Plan Summit consultations so that these may be brought to the attention of Board members to determine who might attend as our DSSAB's spokesperson re: this important Northern Ontario wide undertaking.

5.3 Ongoing Provincial Best Start Funding

Resolution No. 09-16 Moved by: Earle Freeborn **Seconded by:** J.M. Chayer

WHEREAS it was in March of 2006 that the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB forwarded a copy of its Resolution #06-22 to the Minister of Children & Youth Services; and

WHEREAS said resolution informed the Minister that the DSSAB supported the Province's investment of the 100% dollars it sought to direct towards the implementation of a host of very valid "Best Start" Early Learning & Child Care programs across the DSSAB's Manitoulin-Sudbury service jurisdiction, said resolution also clearly informed the Minister that the DSSAB was not prepared to commit itself to funding any portion of said Best Start initiatives and programs if the Province did not maintain its 100% funding beyond its March 31, 2010 commitment; and

WHEREAS the province of Ontario has not yet provided municipal service managers any indication of its plans re: the ongoing funding of these Best Start initiatives beyond its March 31, 2010 commitment;

BE IT HEREIN RESOLVED that the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB request of the Minister that she inform us of said plans before September 1, 2009 and that we also inform her of our belief that we will by that date have little option but to give notice to the affected programs thereby enabling them to in turn give parents and families seven months advance notice that the funding ends March 31, 2010.

Carried

6.0 REPORTS

6.1 CAO Report

6.1.1 Operational Management Reports

The following Departmental Reports were circulated:

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

6.1.1.1 (EMS) North-Eastern Ontario Base Hospital Steering Committee Membership Update -

Chair Ray Chénier noted that while he appreciated that Board members had been informed by the CAO that the MOHLTC had "a change of heart" and decided to accept the advice of our DSSAB and its North-Eastern Region peers that since all eight of them were recognised Designated (*land ambulance*) Delivery Agents (DDAs) to be served by the new North-Eastern Base Hospital, it was only reasonable that all of them should be provided full and equal voting rights on said Base Hospital matters brought to the Steering Committee for its agreement, he wanted to see such noted in these minutes and both the CAO and Jeff Horseman congratulated for the work done to protect the interests of our DSSAB and its member municipalities when it came to such matters.

6.1.1.2 (OW) Ontario Works Report

Asked by the Chair to comment on the OW Report, Jack McMillan expressed how impressed he remained with the Ontario Works Department's ability - and for that matter, the ability of all DSSAB Departments - to continuously meet and surpass established performance targets and goals. He indicated that he believed, as indicated in the Strategic Plan, that the DSSAB should be doing

more to promote and showcase the fine work it is doing in responsibly meeting its service obligations in a manner that is responsive to the collective best interests of the rural and remote communities that its municipally elected governing body representatives are there to safeguard and advance.

6.1.2 Strategic Issues Report

6.1.2.1 First Strategic Planning Committee meeting -

Ray Chénier reported that the Strategic Planning Committee had held its first meeting on Wednesday, February 25th. He reported that Al MacNevin, who had been unable to attend due to a prior engagement, was elected as its Chair. Al MacNevin in turn indicated that he accepted his appointment as its Chair.

Noting that both David Court and Aurel Malo were retained as consultants to assist the Committee with the work ahead, Ray reported that the three Strategic Plan items that the Committee had focused on during its first meeting were:

1. A DSSAB Communications Strategy

Ray pointed out that most of the meeting was spent discussing the many Strategic Plan items and recommendations that fell under the "Communications Strategy" umbrella heading. Dean Wenborne added that it was what David Court identified as the 'low hanging fruit' area via which a number of strategic objectives could be met without requiring any significant financial investment on the DSSAB's part.

2. Ontario Municipal Partnership Funding (OMPF) Education

Noting Al MacNevin's question as to why this was an area the Committee would delve into when the Strategic Plan clearly recommended that the DSSAB stay clear of this municipal-provincial hot spot, Ray indicated that the basic answer rested in the fact that many of our member municipalities continue to drag us into the arena and that the DSSAB risks continuing to be viewed as the scapegoat to whom they will attribute their ills unless the DSSAB plays a role in everyone's education as to the facts of the matter. Ray went on to elaborate on the types of partnerships the Committee wants to explore further at its next meeting.

3. Other Services: additional areas where municipalities believe the DSSAB should be involved.

Noting that the Strategic Plan indicated there were oftentimes certain dossiers that some of our regions wanted the DSSAB to delve into even though the DSSAB has traditionally stayed away from getting involved unless it consisted of matters all regions wanted the DSSAB to be involved in, the Committee believed the question is a legitimate one that we should be exploring in greater detail with our member municipalities. Ray cited as examples –

- the interest of Manitoulin municipalities that we carry out a study of the housing needs of Manitoulin that goes beyond a narrow interpretation of what is our "social housing" mandate per se;*
- the expressed Sudbury-East interest that we play a coordinating role in ensuring that the public transportation support needs of the aged and persons with disabilities who seek to remain in their rural & small town homes (e.g. Aging at Home) can do so;*
- the Committee's belief that there was merit in having a general meeting with all member municipalities re: such matters as OMPF, apportionment, Board representation, the results of the Housing study that is underway and the possible interest there is in reviving the past practice of annual general meetings with member municipalities re: areas of joint interest or concern.*

Ray concluded by noting that the Committee had also discussed the Mayor of Killarney's Board computer retention request and determined the Board would be

best advised to not divert from its past practice. There being no motion to the contrary, this practice was deemed to remain in force.

Resolution No. 09-17

Moved by: S. Quibell **Seconded by:** Dean Wenborne
THAT the CAO Report be accepted.

Carried

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Alert re: Bottled Water

Gary informed Board members that, consistent with AMO's request re: the discontinuance of the practice of providing bottled water in (DSSAB) buildings and offices where potable municipal water is supplied, the DSSAB's Administration will be discontinuing the practice of providing bottled water effective April 1, 2009.

7.2 New Provincial Accessibility Standards

Resolution No. 09-18

Moved by: Gary Brown **Seconded by:** Shelly Quibell
THAT the Chair's proposed **Letter to the Minister of Community & Social Services Re: Ontario's New Accessibility Standards** be approved. **Carried**

8.0 OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 Transportation in Rural and Remote Areas

The CAO reported that Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) officials have responded in the affirmative to his query re: the possible availability of funding for a study to explore the means of addressing the public transportation support needs of the aged and persons with disabilities who seek to remain in the Manitoulin & Sudbury District rural and remote communities that they call home. Gary indicated that he would keep the Board informed of all further developments on this front.

8.2 DSSAB 2008 Surplus

J.M. Chayer asked when the DSSAB's member municipalities would be informed how much of the DSSAB's 2008 operating year surplus would be returned to them and what their apportioned share would be. The Chair informed him of the practice that has always been in place and which continues to be in place: once the DSSAB auditors' completed financial audited statements for the year in question have been accepted by the Board and the Board's Finance Committee Chair's recommendation re: same has been accepted by the Board.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

Resolution No. 09-19

Moved by: David Leonard

THAT we do now adjourn at 11:27 a.m. until the next regular meeting to be held in the DSSAB's Espanola Mead Blvd. Boardroom on March 26, 2009. **Carried**

Chair

CAO (Secretary-Treasurer of
the Corporation)