



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

- Present:** Lou Addison, Gary Brown, Jean-Marc Chayer, Earle Freeborn, Les Gamble, Dennis Golden, Bruce Killah, Mike Lehoux, David Leonard, Al MacNevin, Jack McMillan, Shelley Quibell, Dean Wenborne
- Staff:** Gary Champagne, Suzanne Bouchard, Fern Dominelli, Connie Morphet, Jeff Horseman
- Guest:** David Court, Strategic Planning Consultant
- Media:** Camilla Kirkpatrick, Mid-North Monitor
Michael Erskine, Manitoulin Expositor
- Regrets:** Ray Chénier

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of Board Chair Ray Chénier, the meeting was chaired by Vice-Chair Gary Brown who called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Resolution No. 09-20

Moved by: E. Freeborn **Seconded by:** A. MacNevin
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 CLOSED SESSION

Resolution No. 09-21

Moved by: D. Leonard **Seconded by:** E. Freeborn
THAT the Board move into closed session at 10:05 a.m. to discuss Property matters.

Carried

Resolution No. 09-22

Moved by: L. Gamble **Seconded by:** E. Freeborn
THAT the closed session be adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Carried

CLOSED SESSION REPORT

During its Closed Session, the Board discussed:

- Chapleau Property Issue
- Warren Office Building
- Fire at 70 Barber Street, Espanola

5.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSION**5.1 Chapleau Property Issue****Resolution No. 09-23**

Moved by: M. Lehoux **Seconded by:** E. Freeborn

THAT the Board accept its Property Committee recommendation that the Township of Chapleau be given the permission to proceed with a survey of the DSSAB property in question. **Carried**

5.2 Warren Office**Resolution No. 09-24**

Moved by: M. Lehoux **Seconded by:** J. McMillan

THAT the Board accept its Property Committee recommendation that the DSSAB's Administration be authorized to explore the best options for the location or relocation of the DSSAB's present Warren office in the Markstay-Warren or St. Charles municipalities. **Carried**

5.3 Fire at 70 Barber Street, Espanola**Resolution No. 09-25**

Moved by: M. Lehoux **Seconded by:** D. Leonard

THAT the Board accept its Property Committee recommendation that a letter be sent acknowledging the timely response and professional actions of the involved personnel of the Espanola Fire Department and Espanola Police Department as well as the involved personnel of the DSSAB's Housing and EMS Departments, who responded to the fire at the DSSAB's 70 Barber Street Apartment Building, March 22, 2009. **Carried**

6.0 MINUTES**6.1 Adoption of Previous Board Minutes**

Resolution No. 09-26 **Moved by:** S. Quibell **Seconded by:** L. Addison

THAT the Minutes of the February 26, 2009 Board meeting be approved. **Carried**

7.0 REPORTS**7.1 COMMITTEE REPORTS****7.1.1 Property Committee**

Mike Lehoux, who was renamed as the Committee's Chair at its March 25th meeting, indicated there was nothing to report beyond what was discussed In Camera and voted upon Out of Camera.

7.1.2 EMS Planning Committee

Re-elected Committee Chair Les Gamble reported that at its March 25th meeting the Committee agreed to the following:

- **Emergency First Response Team (EFRT):** that the Municipality of Killarney request that the DSSAB pay Honoraria to the EFRT volunteers be denied at this time it being understood that the question would be further reviewed as part of a more comprehensive report that the Committee

asked the DSSAB's Administration to prepare for Committee's review and subsequent recommendation to the Board regarding the proposed future supports and resources that Administration recommends the DSSAB continue to provide to the sponsors of the EFRTS in operation in the DSSAB's service jurisdiction.

- **Public Access Defibrillator (PAD) Program** - that the DSSAB's Administration prepare a report for the Committee's review and subsequent recommendation to the Board regarding the proposed future supports and resources that the DSSAB should commit to with respect to the PADs situated in municipal and public settings within the DSSAB's service jurisdiction.
- **New MOHLTC Response Time Standards:** that the DSSAB's Administration will put together a brief report on the new requirements for a future presentation to the Board.

7.1.3 Strategic Planning Committee

Chair Al MacNevin reported that the Committee had also met on March 25th and that, in keeping with the strategic objective of improving the communications with member municipalities, clients and the general public alike, the DSSAB had decided to simplify and reorganise the information available via its www.msdsb.net website.

Noting that David Court had walked Committee members through the various changes and improvements thus far made, he asked David to walk members through a number of those same website changes.

Appreciating that the work was not yet all completed, Board members were nonetheless impressed with the changes already made. David invited members to familiarise themselves with the site and encouraged them to bring forward any other suggestions they might have re: the site's further improvement.

The CAO repeated earlier expressed requests that Board members encourage their respective member municipalities to have a link to the DSSAB website on their municipal websites as such would be yet another means of providing their citizens' access to information on the DSSAB administered municipal services that a portion of their property taxes were subsidising and that they or their neighbours may wish to access.

Al mentioned that at its next meeting the Committee intends to turn its attention to its French language service delivery capabilities and the matter of member municipality representation on the Board.

(The Chair called for a 5-minute break and the Board reconvened at 11:15 a.m.)

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 \(EMS\) Report](#)

There were no questions concerning the Operational Management Reports.

7.2.2 Finance and Administration

7.2.2.1 Year 2008 Working Surplus of \$742,747

The CAO explained that while it was impossible for the DSSAB's auditors to meet with the Board until the April meeting date, he was given the auditors' assurances that the DSSAB had closed the books on its 2008 operations with a Working surplus of \$742,747. The CAO thanked Mayor Les Gamble for reminding him to mention that the surplus was as healthy as it was because of the \$737,489 of past due EMS cross-border billing revenues that the DSSAB had successfully negotiated to have repaid to the DSSAB in 2008. Had it not been for the receipt of the cross-border payments owed to us, we would have closed the books on our 2008 operations with a surplus of little more than \$5,258.

Resolution No. 09-27

Moved by: J.-M. Chayer **Seconded by:** Earle Freeborn

WHEREAS the draft audited financial statements for the operating year ended December 31, 2008 saw the DSSAB close the year with a working surplus of \$742,747;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT \$44,612 be directed to the DSSAB's Working Reserve in order to bring it to the 15% that the Board has established; and
BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the remaining \$698,135 be distributed to the DSSAB's member municipalities as per the apportionment formula in place in the year 2008. **Carried**

7.2.3 Strategic Issues

7.2.3.1 Manitoulin-Sudbury Housing Needs Study Progress Report

The above cited is the tabled Progress Report of the consulting firm (SHS Consulting) that the DSSAB retained to carry out a Housing Needs, Supply and Affordability Study in its service jurisdiction. The goals of the study are:

- To review and identify the affordable housing needs/gaps with respect to the low income working poor, seniors and singles;
- To review the current capacity of existing public and private housing supply/stock and the secondary rental market (social housing, private households, single-detached, multi-residential);
- To identify current public/private housing development alignments and affordability rates within the Manitoulin-Sudbury service jurisdiction;
- To review the Official Plans of the municipalities to determine if they will accommodate the development of future affordable housing as may be determined by this study.

SHS Consulting principal Ed Starr will be at the April meeting to update Board members on their progress and to answer any questions Board members may have.

7.2.3.2 AMO President Peter Hume's Letter to Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU)

Referencing his email re: the AMO President's letter, Gary Champagne reiterated how pleased he was to see AMO so publicly air its concern that the MTCU was mistakenly leaving the province's 47 OW municipal service managers in the

wings when it comes to the effective coordination and integration of the local delivery of the employment training and support services intended through the signing of the Labour Market Development Agreement reached between the federal and provincial governments.

Our DSSAB, like its peers, has been maintaining that given the responsibilities for the employment support and training of both OW and ODSP recipients that the province has vested with municipal service managers we should be systemically involved in the MTCU's local employment service redesign efforts. We have been advocating as much for a number of years.

Resolution No. 09-28

Moved by: Lou Addison **Seconded by:** Dennis Golden

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario is currently engaged in re-designing employment supports as part of the federal-provincial Labour Market Development Agreement; and

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has vested this role with the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities through Employment Ontario; and

WHEREAS Ontario's 47 Municipal Services Managers (a group which includes Northern Ontario's 10 District Social Services Administration Boards) are leaders and key partners in local labour force development through their divested responsibility for the delivery and funding of Ontario Works Employment Assistance activities; and

WHEREAS there is growing confusion surrounding the roles of Training Boards, Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration, municipal service managers and the role of Service Canada in employment system redesign; and

WHEREAS local employers across the province report increasing uncertainty regarding who they should be dealing with; and

WHEREAS the Provincial-Municipal Fiscal and Service Delivery Review (PMFSDR) committed involved partners to the ***integrated planning of employment programs at the local level***;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Directors of the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board (DSSAB) support the recommendations indicated in AMO President Peter Hume's letter to the Minister of Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities; and

ALSO BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB asks that the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities systemically partner with Municipalities, CMSMs and Northern Ontario's DSSABs in the Ministry's local employment service redesign efforts; and

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB directs that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable John Milloy, Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities, AMO, NOSDA, FONOM, OMSSA, CMSMs, DSSABs, Local Training Boards, our DSSAB service jurisdiction's MPs and MPPs, and this DSSAB's 18 member municipalities. **Carried**

7.2.3.3 O.W. Cost of Administration Concerns

As part of the Provincial-Municipal Fiscal Service Delivery Review (PMFSDR), the province, AMO and the City of Toronto are committed to reviewing the Ontario Works Cost of Administration and having a revised OW Cost of Administration distribution formula in place effective January 1, 2010.

The concern cited in the CAO's email to members re: this matter lies in the

possibility, and he fears the probability, that:

- the formula that will be agreed to will be that which is the most palatable to the largest nineteen of Ontario's 47 OW municipal service managers – those that have a voice at what are often referred to as the Urban Commissioners Group or again the Urban Treasurers Group tables.
- Per past experience the largest nineteen tend to be agreeable to a simple cost per case formula just as they were with a simple cost per call formula when it came to EMS cross-border billings ... a formula that would have left smaller service managers with less densely populated jurisdictions significantly out of pocket had we simply agreed to proceed with such a formula.

The CAO concluded his remarks by noting that a simple cost per case Cost of Administration formula would leave our DSSAB's member municipalities responsible for a much higher share of the OW Cost of Administration it now bears if a more weighted and equitable cost of administration formula was not agreed upon. He noted that the formula he continued to advance as the most equitable to all concerned consisted of a modification of the formula that Ontario uses when it comes to the funding of the province's public education system; a formula known as the Rozanski formula.

When Dean Wenborne asked the CAO if he did not believe AMO would ensure the DSSAB's concerns were addressed and reflected in the final outcome, the CAO responded by noting that AMO had the challenging task of having to try to ensure that the formula reached was one that all of its members could live with and support.

Jack McMillan advanced that he appreciated the CAO's comments given that he was at one time part of a working group of school board directors of finance mandated by the Ontario Public School Boards Association (OPSBA) to examine a number of allocation formulas and always found himself faced with the struggle of ensuring that the formula reached was not simply one that met the needs of the Boards in the Golden Horseshoe – a stress that the OPSBA had to manage without losing the support of the largest contributors to its coffers, that is to say the Boards in the Golden Horseshoe.

Pressed to indicate what the DSSAB's member municipalities could do about the matter, the CAO asked:

- that Board members alert the municipalities in the areas they represent to the concern;
- that member municipalities ask AMO to keep them abreast of developments re: this question;
- that member municipalities not miss the opportunity to alert AMO, AMO Committee members dealing with the matter and their MPPs as to the need for an equitable OW funding formula along the lines of the Rozanski funding formula that the province has in place for its school boards.

The CAO was directed to circulate a letter outlining the DSSAB's concerns on the matter to all member municipalities, to write to FONOM asking them to be aware of this concern and to raise same at the AMO table.

Jean-Marc Chayer asked the CAO to attend the next SEMA meeting to speak to this matter. Gary offered to attend municipal meetings to explain the concerns expressed.

Resolution No. 09-29

Moved by: Lou Addison **Seconded by:** Bruce Killah
THAT the CAO and Committee reports be accepted.

Carried

8.0 OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 Lou Addison's Resignation from the Board

Lou Addison announced that she had resigned her seat on Gore Bay's Council effective April 5th and that she would as such no longer be eligible to continue to sit as the DSSAB Act's stipulated Area #5 Representative at the DSSAB Board table.

She indicated that she had thoroughly enjoyed her time with the DSSAB and would miss being on the DSSAB Board as she judged it a fine body of people that took their responsibilities seriously without losing their ability to find humour and camaraderie in what they do.

Board members thanked Lou for her participation, and expressed sadness at her departure.

Area #5 member municipalities (the Townships of Billings, Burpee & Mills, Cockburn Island, Gordon/Barrie Island and the Town of Gore Bay) will be asked to appoint a replacement for Lou to represent them on the Board.

9.0 UPCOMING CONFERENCES & EVENTS

NOSDA Annual General Meeting, Sault Ste Marie, April 27-29, 2009

Dennis Golden indicated he was prepared to join Ray Chénier as one of this DSSAB's two voting members at this year's NOSDA AGM in Sault Ste. Marie at the end of April.

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

Resolution No. 09-30

Moved by: Lou Addison

THAT we do now adjourn at 11:45 a.m. until the next regular meeting to be held in the DSSAB's Espanola Mead Blvd. Boardroom on April 23, 2009. **Carried**

Chair

CAO (Secretary-Treasurer of
the Corporation)