



Minutes
of the June 25, 2015
MANITOULIN-SUDBURY DSB BOARD MEETING
held in Espanola's 210 Mead Blvd. DSB Boardroom

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

Regrets : Michael Levesque, Laurier Falldien, Stewart Meikleham

Staff: Fern Dominelli, Donna Moroso, Connie Morphet, Mike MacIsaac, Melody Ouellette, Ehren Baldauf, David Wolff

Media: Michael Erskine

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. 15-54

Moved by: Dean Wenborne

Seconded by: Bruce Killah

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 15-55

Moved by: Ron Piche

Seconded by: David Leonard

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board move into closed session at 10:03 a.m.

Carried

Resolution 15-56

Moved by: Al MacNevin

Seconded by: Ned Whynott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board adjourn this closed session at 10:20 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. 15-57

Moved by: Jim Rook

Seconded by: Ned Whynott

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the [May 28, 2015](#) Board meeting be approved.

Carried

6.2 Business Arising from Minutes

7.0 Committee Reports

7.1 Property Committee

Al MacNevin, Chair of the Property Committee, discussed items covered during the committee meeting.

The DSB was advised by the Rainbow District School Board that access to parking at the rear of 210 Mead Blvd will be closed as of September 1, 2015. At this point the DSB staff are looking at all options to increase the available parking at 210 Mead before September 1.

8.0 New Business

8.1 Cultural Competency Training

Donna Moroso, Director of Integrated Social Services, delivered a brief report on the Cultural Competency Training attended by DSB staff and 16 Community Organizations, a total of 115 participants over 2 days.

The training was delivered by Maya Chacaby, the [Aboriginal Cultural Competency Education](#) Coordinator with the Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres (OFIFC). Maya has been leading the Cultural Competency Training sessions across the province for the last three years. She has trained over 3,000 participants from District School Boards, Health Service Providers, Hospitals, Law Enforcement, Children's Aid, Municipal leadership, Provincial Ministries and Tribal Councils.

The training was a huge success and the DSB plans on training all 130 paramedics next year during the annual EMS spring training. As well, the Best Start Network will be participating in this training in the near future.

8.2 Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres (OFIFC)

Donna Moroso, Director of Integrated Social Services, discussed a [letter](#) from OFIFC to Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association (NOSDA) seeking their input on the impending impacts of the Canada-Ontario Job Grant (COJG).

OFIFC is concerned that the design and implementation of the COJG will negatively impact multi-barriered individuals including urban Aboriginal people.

NOSDA has responded to the concerns of the OFIFC detailing that COJG is an employer-driven program. This program benefits job-ready individuals, rather than the individuals who are in need of the support to join the labour market. In general, this program is not for the unemployed.

8.3 Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association (NOSDA)

Fern Dominelli, CAO, advised the board that the [Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities](#) (FONOM), the [Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association](#) (NOMA), and the [Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association](#) (NOSDA) have formalized their working relationship by holding their first joint meeting on May 14, 2015. This came about from their respective annual conferences where the need to work more collaboratively for the betterment of Northern communities was a common goal for all three organizations.

As part of the development of a structured working relationship the organizations will meet regularly and on an as needed basis to discuss current and long-term issues and strategies from a Northern Ontario perspective.

The next meeting is June 26, 2015 where the organizations will be discussing our delegations at the AMO conference in August.

8.4 WSIB Rate Framework Reform

Connie Morphet, Director of Finance and Administration, walked the Board through the proposed changes to the [WSIB Rate Framework](#).

Currently DSSAB's may have several different WSIB rates within their worker complement that represents the risk of injury and the cost of claims within the employment category. The Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board currently has 4 rate groups with different group rates with the ambulance services group rate being the highest.

Should the suggested recommendation move forward proposing that a predominant class be set for each employer that represents the largest percentage of the employer's annual insurable earnings, DSSAB's would be negatively affected. Premium costs in most cases could increase significantly, placing undue hardship on our local municipalities and our local taxpayers to cover the associated increased costs.

In a [letter](#) dated June 8, 2015 addressed to Elizabeth Witmer, WSIB Chair, NOSDA voiced their concern over the proposed changes. NOSDA is now working with WSIB to clarify the new proposed rate structure. We have gathered all the NOSDA members WSIB information and provided it to WSIB for their analysis. The DSB hopes to have the analysis and response from WSIB by September at which time it will be shared with the Board.

8.5 EMS Staffing Enhancement Results

Mike MacIsaac, Chief of EMS, walked the board through the EMS Staffing Enhancement Results - Progress Report, highlighting the changes that have increased the efficiency of the stations that saw staffing enhancements over the years.

It is understood that the value of staffing levels must be measured against results. The Board has been very proactive in attempting to stay ahead of the curve when it comes to call volume increases. Staying ahead of a potential rise in call volumes on a gradual basis year after year is a safe and fiscally responsible way to maintain an appropriate level of services.

From the data shown in this report it is evident that the DSB is staying ahead of the future risks and is actually providing a better, more responsive service to the citizens of its communities.

The DSB is currently looking at different data gathering possibilities to report on patient outcomes to support the positive changes in staffing enhancement.

Resolution 15-58**Moved by:** Bill Baker**Seconded by:** Eric Russell

WHEREAS the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB has reviewed the EMS Staffing Enhancement Results - Progress Report.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB approves the [EMS Staffing Enhancement Results - Progress Report](#) and acknowledges the improvements in service due to the staffing enhancements made over the years.

Carried**8.6 10-Year Housing & Homelessness Plan**

Donna Moroso, Director of Integrated Social Services, walked the board through the 10-Year Housing & Homelessness Plan – Progress Report.

With the completion of the devolution of Ontario's affordable housing to municipalities, the Province required the development of a [10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan](#) to reflect certain principles or interests that the government had prescribed in addition to considering and responding to local needs.

The Year One report on the plan includes a review of the priorities that were the result of the accumulation of data and research pertaining to housing, income, and homelessness from within the DSB at the time the plan was developed.

The priorities complement one another, as they reflect a whole community focus on addressing housing and homelessness in the ten year period. There are 14 priorities included in the plan and the report to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing outlines the actions taken to implement each priority. Priorities include, emphasis on seniors, overlooked populations, gaps in service that contribute to imminent risk of homelessness, employment and training opportunities, energy efficiency, sustainable housing and affordable housing.

The DSB will continue to work towards addressing each recommendation and continuing with the ongoing progress ensuring our communities benefit from our commitment.

Resolution 15-59**Moved by:** Ted Lovelace**Seconded by:** Ron Piche

WHEREAS the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB has reviewed the 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan - Progress Report.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB approves the [10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan - Progress Report](#).

Carried

8.7 Patient Transfer Service

Mike MacIsaac, Chief of EMS, provided the Board with an update on the Patient Transfer Service.

The Patient Transfer Service pilot project has been operating since March 2013, with 2 vehicles on 8 hour shifts 5 days a week out of Little Current and Espanola. Based on the success of the pilot project the North East Local Health Integration Network is suggesting that a permanent model should be implemented but the future of the service and the funding remains to be decided. The Board will be updated as new information is received.

8.8 Jobs for Youth

Donna Moroso, Director of Integrated Social Services, provided the Board with an update on the 2015 Jobs for Youth program.

The total student applicants for 2015 is 163 of which 146 were eligible with 122 students being placed. Reasons for students being ineligible include not residing in the area, being too young and having already participated in the program. Of the 122 students placed, 51 are considered at risk. At risk is defined as students who have been involved with the Children's Aid Society, those on probation or have been in trouble with the law, those whose parents are on social assistance and those who live in remote rural areas.

The total employer applicants for 2015 is 164. Not all employers received a student. Since the placement is geared to the student's interests with the goal that it will be an enjoyable experience and will set them up for success, the DSB was unable to match some positions with student interest.

8.9 Community Paramedicine Update

David Wolff, Commander of Training, gave a brief presentation on the [Community Paramedicine](#) program. David shared a presentation he will be giving at the Community Paramedicine Initiatives Knowledge Exchange Day. The purpose of the presentation is to highlight our partnership with Cochrane and Algoma DSSAB's and describe the unique challenges our geography presents to Community Paramedicine.

The program has been well received by our paramedics and our 2 pilot stations, Gore Bay and Gogama, are moving forward with the program. A wellness clinic is being set up for both communities at their July 1st community events.

8.10 Social Housing Market Rents

Donna Moroso, Director of Integrated Social Services, provided the board a brief update on the Social Housing Market Rents.

DSB staff are currently contacting each of the 35 Market Rent tenants in order to determine the impact the proposed change to market rents may have on their ability to remain tenants. Further analysis is currently in progress with 61 Market Rent applicants on the waitlist to determine their eligibility for rent geared to income (RGI) subsidy.

The DSB has held 2 meetings with the non-profit housing providers to receive their feedback. Each provider was asked to contact their Market Rent tenants and waitlist applicants to request up-to-date information on income and assets to determine potential eligibility for rent geared to income (RGI) subsidy.

On June 3, 2015 DSB staff met with Board representatives from Gore Bay non-profit and on June 5, 2015 with Board representatives from the Espanola non-profit. During these 2 meetings the non-profit staff and Boards agreed to undertake contact with their residents to request income and asset information for both tenants and applicants. This information will be compiled to determine the impact of this change to market values.

The province does set Market Rents through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation data for other communities in Ontario but does not establish Market Rents for any of the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB communities. At this point staff are recommending that the new Market Rents be based on the Household Income Limits (HILS) as established by the province on an annual basis.

The term Average Market Rent has been used interchangeable with Market Rents. Average Market Rents is referenced in the Investment in Affordable Housing (IAH) guidelines when it comes to establishing affordable rents. When a project receives funding under the IAH program, the affordable rent must be 80% of the Average Market Rent in the community. This has caused a lot of confusion for DSB staff and for the non-profits. The bottom line is the DSB is allowed to establish Market Rents based on a survey to determine actual market rents in a community or the DSB is allowed to use the HILS to set the Market Rents.

DSB staff have been advised by Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing officials that the DSB can establish Market Rents for their building. The DSB can establish Market Rents by competing market surveys to determine actual market rents in each community and then based on that information, set the Market Rents for DSB buildings. The DSB can in fact use the HILS to set the Market Rent.

Both providers agreed that the market rents are too low and need to be increased. Gore Bay non-profit indicated their concern that significant increases to market rent could drive people out of their community. Espanola non-profit has indicated that using HILS is not fair and that Market Rents should be based on average market rents charged in each community not an arbitrary HILS number set by the province

After a lengthy discussion, the Board directed staff to move forward with the original recommendations contained in the [Social Housing Market Rents – Issue Report](#) that was deferred in April 2015 and to revise the report to include a phased in approach to implementing the new Market Rents.

A follow up meeting has been scheduled for July 24, 2015 with the 3 non-profit providers to review the financial information collected from current and waitlist market tenants to discuss possible phase in options. The information collected at this meeting will be used to revise the issue report and shared with the DSB Board in September.

9.0 Other Business

AMO Convention – August 16 – 19, 2015. Some issues being raised will be the Patient Transfer Service and the WSIB rate reform.

Annual Container Gardening Event– The annual Container Gardening events took place in Espanola on June 6, 2015 and in Chapleau on June 15, 2015. The event is hosted by the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB and the Best Start Hubs in LaCloche and Sudbury North. The event is open to families with children to learn basic container gardening skills. Participants enjoyed a free BBQ lunch at both of these events as well as face painting and other activities. EMS, fire and police attended the events and allowed the children to explore the vehicles. This year’s turnout was the best one held to date with 84 adults and 111 children attending the Espanola event and 42 adults and 43 children attending the Chapleau event.

10.0 Next Meeting – September 24, 2015

11.0 Adjournment

Resolution 15-60

Moved by: Ned Whynott

Seconded by: Ted Lovelace

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we do now adjourn at 12:12 p.m. until the next regular meeting to be held, in the DSB’s Espanola Mead Boulevard Board Room on September 24, 2015.

Carried


Chair


CAO (Secretary-Treasurer
of the Corporation)