



MINUTES
of the REGULAR MEETING of the BOARD
THURSDAY, September 16th, 2010

RRDSSAB Office, Fort Frances, ON 6:30 p.m.
MEETING #10/10

PRESENT: Rick Neilson, Township of Chapple
Dennis Brown, Town of Atikokan
Michael Lewis, Rainy River East
Linda Armstrong, Township of Dawson
Ross Donaldson, Township of LaVallee
Val Pizey, Township of Lake of the Woods
John Callan, Rainy River Central
Gary Gamsby, Township of Morley
Mike Ford, Township of Alberton
Gary Judson, Township of Emo

REGRETS: Sharon Tibbs, Town of Fort Frances
Wade Desserre, Rainy River West
Debbie Ewald, Town of Rainy River

STAFF: Donna Dittaro, CAO
Dawn Galusha, Acting Manager of Finance
Dan McCormick, Health Services Manager
Judy Koski, Recorder

1. Call to Order

Mike Lewis, Chair, called the meeting to order.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

None.

3. Approval of Agenda

Resolution #68/10 MOVED BY R. Neilson and SECONDED BY D. Brown:

RESOLVED THAT the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board* approve the agenda of September 16, 2010.

Carried.

4. Presentations/Delegations

None.

5. In Camera

None

6. Approval of Minutes

Resolution #69/10 MOVED BY D. Brown and SECONDED BY V. Pizey:

RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board held July 15, 2010, be approved.

Carried.

7. Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

8. New Business

8.1 2009 Audited Financial Statements

Jon Evans, BDO Canada LLP attended the Board Meeting to present the 2009 audited financial statements. Mr. Evans advised that the Board's records are in excellent condition and offered kudos to the staff and Board, particularly as the RRDSSAB is one of the first to be compliant with the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) principles. The RRDSSAB has been issued an unqualified audit.

It was noted that, under PSAB, the paying down of loans are not expenditures and that amortization of assets is a cost. Transfers to and from reserves are an allocation of surplus and no longer part of expenses or revenues. The total deficit for 2009 is \$333,006. Mr. Evans noted that surpluses and deficits will generally

vary from year to year and it does not mean that the RRDSSAB is not managing well. The estimate of the cost of all assets at January 1, 2008, was \$18,530,987 which is the amortized value of all assets. Capital grants come in as revenue.

On page 5, Statement of Change in Net Financial Assets, the financial assets are long term debt and payables. The non-financial assets are buildings.

On page 3, Statement of Financial Position, the accumulated surplus shows the health of the organization. Operating cash is approximately \$2,000,000. It was noted that the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care is always three months behind with their funding.

Note 11 on page 17 shows Accumulated Surplus. PSAB rules dictate that the Board must report total surplus, therefore BDO has developed a note for details of the surplus.

Two budgets must be prepared; a cash budget is needed, in order to levy the municipalities and an accrual based budget is prepared by "tweaking" the cash budget for accrual.

8.2 2010 Accrual Budget

The Acting Manager of Finance reviewed her Issue Sheet with respect to the 2010 Accrual Budget. She cited recommendations from BDO which change the Board's cash budget to an accrual budget. The accrual budget will not alter the 2010 levies to the municipalities and unincorporated areas.

Resolution #70/10 MOVED BY V. Pizey and SECONDED BY D. Brown:

RESOLVED THAT the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board* receive the audited financial statements as presented by BDO Canada LLP for the year ended December 31, 2009.

Carried.

Resolution #71/10 MOVED BY M. Ford and SECONDED V. Pizey:

RESOLVED THAT the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board* approve the 2010 Accrual Budget for audit and Public Sector Accounting Board presentation purposes, and that the 2010 Levy for municipalities and the unincorporated remain as is.

Carried.

The Chair thanked Mr. Evans for his presentation to the Board.

8.5 Reserve Transfers

The Acting Manager of Finance advised that the renovations at the Rainy River Land Ambulance base are now complete and additional funds must be transferred from reserves to operations to cover the costs paid out in 2010 for this project.

Resolution #72/10 MOVED BY V. Pizey and SECONDED BY M. Ford:

RESOLVED THAT the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board* approve the immediate transfer in the amount of \$92,667.79 from the Land Ambulance Transition Reserve Fund, per the approved tender.

Carried.

The Acting Manager of Finance also advised that the Social Housing budget included a reserve transfer which now must be confirmed.

Resolution #73/10 MOVED BY R. Donaldson and SECONDED BY G. Gamsby:

RESOLVED THAT the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board* approve the immediate transfer in the amount of \$104,080.00 from the Social Housing Contingency Fund, per the approved 2010 Budget.

Carried.

8.3 Non-Emergent Transfers

The Health Services Manager reviewed his presentation with the Board regarding non-emergent transfers. He has met with both Riverside Health Care Facilities Inc. and Atikokan General Hospital regarding this issue. The Chair advised that the Health Services Manager had spoken to the Land Ambulance Committee regarding this issue and the Committee requested that this presentation also be given to the Board members.

Resolution #74/10 MOVED BY G. Gamsby and SECONDED BY J. Callan:

RESOLVED THAT the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board* shall provide non-emergent transfers within the following parameters, effective 01 October, 2010, unless otherwise stated:

1. Limit transfers to Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays;
2. Restrict hours from 0730 hr to 1700 hr for a three month period;
3. Restrict hours from 0730 hr to 1530 hr, as of 01 January, 2011;
4. Suspend return to home transfers, unless medically necessary to have a stretcher;

5. Restrict long distance transfers to minimize staffing costs and ensure appropriate rest periods;
6. Delay up to one hour for a crew change, when originating from a hospital
7. Utilize air ambulance, where available;
8. Continue to develop helipads within the District;
9. Evaluate the effectiveness of the above in January and December of 2011; and
10. Continue to lobby the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care for a proper solution to the problem of non-emergent transfers.

Carried.

It was confirmed by the Health Services Manager that these transfers can legally be restricted. Gary Gamsby noted that we are not restricting anything which we are mandated to carry out. He also stated that the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) has met with the Minister of Health and Long Term Care regarding this issue.

Resolution #75/10 MOVED BY J. Callan and SECONDED BY R. Neilson:

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario's Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MoHLTC) has tied Land Ambulance funding to Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) principles;

AND WHEREAS the agreement to fund under the Memorandum of Understanding, particularly for capital assets, allowed for the establishment of reserves expressly for the future purchases of vehicles and equipment, based upon lifecycles;

AND WHEREAS funding based upon PSAB depreciation of capital assets may cause extreme variances in annual budgets from year to year, particularly for small designated delivery agents (DDAs) such as the Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board (RRDSSAB);

AND WHEREAS these variances will create difficulties for smaller Municipalities to develop budgets each year, as the levies for Land Ambulance may vary significantly from year to year;

AND WHEREAS PSAB funding which is based upon depreciation will lead to a decrease in cost-sharing from the Ministry on capital assets;

AND WHEREAS PSAB funding does not cover or account for the increase in costs of a new asset;

AND WHEREAS the DDA must fund the entire capital cost of a new asset without any cost share from the Province at the time of purchase;

AND WHEREAS PSAB funding will force smaller DDAs such as the RRDSSAB to purchase capital assets annually rather than on the service lifecycle, in order to maintain the depreciation account at a reasonable level to fund future purchases;

AND WHEREAS DSSABs are not afforded the same privileges of Municipalities, including upper and single-tier Municipalities, to access grants or borrow funds;

AND WHEREAS the RRDSSAB is strongly opposed to the Ministry's decision to fund Land Ambulance based upon PSAB requirements;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the RRDSSAB petition the Premier of Ontario and the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care to continue to provide funding for Land Ambulance capital purchases and reserve funds for small Designated Delivery Agents, on the basis of approved lifecycle plans and future needs assessments, as previously established in the MoHLTC Land Ambulance funding template;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that this Resolution be circulated to Member Municipalities, Rainy River District Municipal Association (RRDMA), Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Association of Municipal Emergency Medical Services of Ontario (AMEMSO), Howard Hampton, MPP Kenora-Rainy River, and Bill Mauro, MPP Thunder Bay-Atikokan.

Carried.

It is noted that Val Pizey, member of Lake of the Woods Township, abstained from voting on the above resolution.

8.4 Health & Safety Policy Review

The Chair advised that an annual review of this policy is required by legislation.

Resolution #76/10 MOVED BY M. Ford and SECONDED BY V. Pizey:

RESOLVED THAT the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board* approve the following policy:

HR-33.0 Health and Safety.

Carried.

9. Reports:

9.1 CAO and Program Reports

The Board received and reviewed the CAO and Program Managers' Reports.

9.2 Finance

The Accounts Payable listing for the months of July, 2010, in the amount of \$699,949.06, and August, 2010, in the amount of \$476,672.24 were received and reviewed by the Board. Financial Statements for the months of July and August, 2010, were also received and reviewed by the Board.

9.3 Board Chair

No report.

9.4 Committee Reports

Ontario Works Committee – No meeting was held.

Social Housing Committee – The Board Chair reported that the Social Housing Committee met prior to this evening's Board meeting. As a result, there are two resolutions which have been recommended by the Committee.

Resolution #77/10 MOVED BY R. Donaldson and SECONDED BY L. Armstrong:

RESOLVED THAT the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board* Approve a 0.7% increase to market rent for the year 2011, for all public housing units in the Rainy River District.

Carried.

Resolution #78/10 MOVED BY L. Armstrong and SECONDED R. Donaldson:

RESOLVED THAT the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board* approves the request from Fort Frances Native Urban Wahkaihanun Corporation to seek Ministerial Consent to sever and sell the property at 1038 and 1040 York Avenue North, Fort Frances, in order to build a ten-unit complex;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT this project shall be undertaken without any cost, both present and future, to the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board*.

Carried.

Land Ambulance Committee – No meeting has been held.

Child Care Committee – No meeting has been held.

10. Other Business

None.

11. Information Items Attached

The Board received an information package as part of this evening's agenda.

12. Information Items Available Upon Request

None.

13. Next Meeting

The next Regular Meeting of the Board will be held October 21, 2010, at 6:30 p.m. at the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board Office*, 450 Scott Street, Fort Frances.

14. Adjournment

Resolution #79/10 MOVED BY G. Gamsby and SECONDED BY R. Donaldson:

RESOLVED THAT the *Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board* meeting be adjourned.

Carried.

CHAIR

SECRETARY-TREASURER

DATE APPROVED