



District of Sault Ste. Marie

Social Services Administration Board

- Ontario Works
- Child Care
- Social Housing
- Land Ambulance

**MINUTES for
DSSMSSAB REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Thursday, February 21, 2008 @ 5:20 p.m.
Social Services Building II Boardroom (180 Brock Street)**

PRESENT: D. Edgar P. Mick B. Hayes
 L. Madonna L. Turco F. Fata
 S. Butland V. Burns L. Tridico

STAFF: K. Streich-Poser A. McRae J. Barban
 L. McCoy A. Nanne F. Lake

REGRETS:

Meeting called to order by DSSMSSAB Chair, P. Mick at 5:46 p.m.

1. Minutes

Resolution #08-014

Moved By: D. Edgar

Seconded By: L. Madonna

- 1.1 "Be it resolved that the Minutes from the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board meeting dated January 17, 2008 be adopted as recorded."

CARRIED

2. Accounts

Accounts NOT Previously Reviewed:

Resolution #08-015

Moved By: V. Burns

Seconded By: D. Edgar

- 2.1 "Be it resolved that the DSSMSSAB Accounts Payable dated:

January 04, 2008 in the amount of \$249,022.71
January 10, 2008 in the amount of \$1,208,670.81
January 17, 2008 in the amount of \$32,569.42
January 24, 2008 in the amount of \$879,213.37

be passed for payment."

CARRIED

3. Executive/Finance

A. McRae spoke to this resolution and noted that there is basically just a small shift in percentages in the 2007 Current Value Assessment for 2008 Taxation report. He also commented that a number of assessment changes and the unfreezing of the Provincial Land Tax Reform will take effect next year. Adjustments will definitely be made.

Resolution #08-016

Moved By: L. Madonna

Seconded By: D. Edgar

- 3.1 "Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board endorse the weighted percentages as outlined in the 2007 Current Value Assessment for 2008 Taxation report for the purpose of determining levies for the 2008 budget year."

CARRIED

4. Land Ambulance

L. McCoy noted that during the snow storms in January EMS and Fire up staffed and felt that the cost was truly beneficial. He also commented that the training investment (the IV program) has been showing a profound impact. The investment in upgraded defibrillators is now ready for training and usage. By having a dedicated group of workers the impact has been very positive.

The board would like to see this good news shared with the Media for public knowledge.

A. McRae noted that another good news story is the fact that we have surpassed 50/50 funding as a result of recent grants and funding (JEPP) received.

The EMS / City contract expires in March and noted that the rental agreement for the new EMS center. He would like to see this cost built into the new agreement. The government should really be paying (accountable) for their accommodations. The Land Ambulance committee will sit down and put together a business case for the Board and Province.

Resolution #08-017

Moved By: D. Edgar

Seconded By: V. Burns

- 4.1 "Be it resolved that the January 2008 report from the Fire Chief for the Sault Ste. Marie Emergency Medical Services be accepted by the Board as information."

CARRIED

5. Ontario Works

K. Streich-Poser spoke about Ontario Works. She noted that the biggest change going on at Ontario Works is the fact that all case managers are handling the Intake function as well as their own caseload. This offers better customer service as a result of the person doing intake will continue to be the caseworker, decreasing the number of people that a client needs to deal with.

The Ontario Child Benefit – staff is being orientated this week and other stakeholders will be briefed shortly as well.

Resolution #08-018

Moved By: B. Hayes

Seconded By: V. Burns

- 5.1 "Be it resolved that the February 2008 Report from the Ontario Works Program Manager be accepted by the Board as information."

CARRIED

Resolution #08-019 was discussed at the last NOSDA face-to-face meeting in Sault Ste. Marie. This resolution points out the short-fall in funding for winter clothing and back to school for this year because the OCB is not being implemented until July – there is a gap for this year only.

Resolution #08-019

Moved By: D. Edgar

Seconded By: L. Madonna

- 5.2 "Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board supports the rationale and resolution # 08-008 dated January 24, 2008 passed by the Cochrane DSSAB requesting that the Ministry of Community and Social Services reinstate the winter clothing allowance and the back to school allowance for Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program families for August 2008."

CARRIED

6. Community Child Care

F. Lake was available for questions.

Resolution #08-020

Moved By: V. Burns

Seconded By: D. Edgar

- 6.1 "Be it resolved that the February 21, 2008 Report from the Community Child Care Manager be accepted by the Board as information."

CARRIED

F. Lake addressed the Guidelines for Income Testing and Determination of Eligibility for Fee Subsidy. She noted that all DSSABs and CMSMs need to develop these guidelines. This reflects the changes from the needs test to the income test and is not that different from past practices.

F. Lake noted that there are now 31 child care sites – which is an increase over the past year.

Resolution #08-021

Moved By: D. Edgar

Seconded By: L. Madonna

6.2 “Be it resolved that the Guidelines for Income Testing and Determination of Eligibility for Fee Subsidy be approved by the Board.”

CARRIED

F. Lake spoke the surplus funds discussed in resolution #08-022. These funds are generated from the Best Start dollars designated in 2007 and will be carried forward to Jan., Feb. & Mar. of 2008. The Ministry has requested that some of these funds be used for the hiring and start up of the Indian Friendship Centre day nursery. We hope to have this program open by September 2008.

The surplus in part (b) is from funding for the additional 75 spaces that will be used for health & safety and training costs.

Despite these surplus funds being spent some dollars will still be returned to the Ministry.

Resolution #08-022

Moved By: L. Madonna

Seconded By: D. Edgar

6.3 "Be it resolved that the DSSMSSAB approve the use of surplus funds received in 2007 to provide:

- a) Operational Start-Up Assistance to the Indian Friendship Centre in the amount of \$147,000, for the development of a licensed day nursery;
- b) One-Time Assistance for Service Providers in the amount of \$119,500."

CARRIED

This resolution allows the Ministry to transfer the surplus funds from 2007 to 2008.

Resolution #08-023

Moved By: V. Burns

Seconded By: D. Edgar

- 6.4 "Be it resolved that the DSSMSSAB approve the Amended 2007 Service Contract with the Ministry of Children and Youth Services for the provision of Child Care funding."

CARRIED

7. Community Coordinator

K. Streich-Poser informed the board that the CFIF is basically the renewal of the NCBS with a new name.

Resolution #08-024

Moved By: D. Edgar

Seconded By: B. Hayes

- 7.1 "Be it resolved that the DSSMSSAB accept the Child and Family Investment Fund (CFIF) Policies and Procedures and the financial spreadsheet as information."

CARRIED

8. Social Housing Programs

Resolution #08-025

Moved By: B. Hayes

Seconded By: V. Burns

- 8.1 "Be it resolved that the DSSMSSAB support the recommendation from the Manager of Housing Programs to approve La Chaumiere Housing Co-Op to receive \$5,602.55 to cover legal fees incurred to pursue recoverable insurance funding for the 2005 original mould and flooding incident for which the DSSMSSAB provided funding in 2006 (resolution #05-091 dated September 22, 2005) to rectify the problem."

CARRIED

The Board suggested that this resolution be circulated to the NOSDA members for further support.

Resolution #08-026

Moved By: B. Hayes

Seconded By: D. Edgar

- 8.2 "Be it resolved that the DSSMSSAB petition the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) to develop a financial section for the Affordable Housing Program, Northern Repair Component as part of their AIMS Computer System to help the Housing Providers track these 20 year programs."

CARRIED

9. Sault Ste. Marie Housing Corporation

Resolution #08-027

Moved By: B. Hayes

Seconded By: L. Turco

- 9.1 "Be it resolved that the Minutes from the Sault Ste. Marie Housing Corporation Board meeting dated December 18, 2007 and January 17, 2008 be adopted as recorded."

CARRIED

10. Commissioner of Social Services

K. Streich-Poser mentioned that the NOSDA AGM will be held in Thunder Bay in the second week in April and that the DSSMSSAB is entitled to representation and to consider who might like to attend.

Information regarding the NOSDA AGM will be circulated by the office and volunteers solicited.

Resolution #08-028

Moved By: B. Hayes

Seconded By: L. Turco

- 10.1 "Be it resolved that the Matrix of Ongoing DSSMSSAB Issues February 2008 prepared by the Commissioner of Social Services be accepted by the Board as information."

CARRIED

11. DSSMSSAB Administration

OMSAA has requested financial support to help cover the cost of the key-note speaker Roberta Bondar. This conference will bring 200-300 delegates to the Sault from across Ontario.

Resolution #08-029

Moved By: L. Madonna

Seconded By: D. Edgar

- 11.1 "Be it hereby resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board sponsor \$5,000 to help financially support the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA) 2008 Learning Symposium to be hosted in Sault Ste. Marie on June 11-13, 2008"

CARRIED

12. New Business

13. Old Business

14. Correspondence/Information

** See listing of Correspondence provided with meeting material **

15. Adjournment

Resolution #08-030

Moved By: D. Edgar

Seconded By: B. Hayes

15.1 "Be it resolved that we do now adjourn."

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.