



District of Sault Ste. Marie

Social Services Administration Board

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

*MINUTES
DSSMSSAB REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Thursday, January 15th, 2015 @ 5:00 p.m.
Russ Ramsay Room – 3rd Level - Civic Centre*

PRESENT:	D. Edgar M. Bruni P Christian	J. Gawne L. Turco S. Myers	J. Krmpotich J. Hupponen
STAFF:	M. Nadeau J. Barban A. Nanne	P. Lebel D. Petersson	C. Fairbrother R. Rushworth
REGRETS:	K. Lamming		

1. CALL TO ORDER

D. Edgar called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. He then turned the meeting over to M. Nadeau for Election of Executive.

Election of Executive

Election conducted by M. Nadeau, Commissioner of Social Services.

Chairperson – **J. Gawne** (Ballot vote 5 to 3 in favour of J. Gawne)

Chair Nominations

J. Gawne

Nominated by: D. Edgar

Seconded by: P. Christian

L. Turco

Nominated by: S. Myers

Seconded by: M. Bruni

Vice-Chair - **David Edgar** (Acclaimed)

Nominated by: J. Gawne

Seconded by: J. Krmpotich

Secretary - **Joe Krmpotich** (Acclaimed)

Nominated by: J. Gawne

Seconded by: D. Edgar

Treasurer - **Lou Turco** (Acclaimed)

Nominated by: P. Christian

Seconded by: J. Krmpotich

New Board Chair J. Gawne commenced to Chair the remainder of the meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Resolution #15-001

Moved By: P. Christian

Seconded By: L. Turco

- 2.1 “Be it resolved that the Agenda for the January 15th, 2015 District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board meeting be approved as presented.”

CARRIED

3. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None.

4. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES / ACCOUNTS

Resolution #15-002

Moved By: M. Bruni

Seconded By: D. Edgar

- 4.1 “Be it resolved that the Minutes from the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board meeting dated December 18th, 2014 be adopted as recorded.”

CARRIED

5. CAO / COMMISSIONER / MANAGER REPORTS

BOARD ORIENTATION

M. Nadeau welcomed new Board Members to the DSSMSSAB. He led the group through the orientation session. Social Services and EMS managers spoke to their respective areas.

ACTION: Ontario Works rates will be brought forward to the next meeting.

ACTION: 10 Year Housing plan be brought forward to City Council as information

Resolution #15-003

Moved By: S. Myers

Seconded By: P. Christian

- 5.1 "Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board accept the Orientation Presentation provided and presented by Social Services and EMS Managers as information."

CARRIED

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS)

R. Rushworth spoke to Board Members about his statistical report.

J. Krmpotich posed a number of questions in regards to EMS. He noted that a lot of information has been presented over the past year regarding the Goulais River EMS station. He requested that a report be composed and provided to all Board members including new members to bring everybody up to date.

What is the call response critical calls.

When was last MOH evaluation for staffing level that was completed to verify we have adequate ambulance service on the road.

If call volumes increasing and staffing levels remain the same why hasn't our local staffing compliment been updated.

The DSSMSSAB Executive Assistant and R. Rushworth will work together to put the report together.

S. Myers asked for clarification regarding the status of the situation and examination of the Goulais River Station. She was informed that the Board is still in information gathering mode.

Resolution #15-004

Moved By: J. Krmpotich

Seconded By: M. Bruni

- 5.2 "Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board accept the Statistical Ambulance Report for the year 2014 as information."

CARRIED

HOUSING PROGRAMS

J. Barban spoke to resolution 15-005 and his supporting issue report.

Resolution #15-005

Moved By: D. Edgar

Seconded By: L. Turco

- 5.3 "Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board approve the recommendation of the Investment in Affordable Housing Program Evaluation Committee to select the Ontario Finnish Resthome Association as the successful recipient of the funds from the Rental Housing Component of the Affordable Housing for Ontario 2014 Extension in the amount of \$303,294."

CARRIED

ONTARIO WORKS

M. Nadeau addressed the SAMS concerns and resulting resolution. Parry Sound is presenting the exact same resolution to their board as well.

Discussion regarding the president set by not recovering an over payment to OW clients. Conversation and debate took place for a good period of time. There are not accurate reports to provide information about how many dollars are outstanding. It was noted that we should consider an insert into pay envelopes notifying the clients to report over payments or incorrect payment amounts.

The DSSMSSAB needs to meet with the MPP and have him represent us on this matter. A formalized communication needs to take place.

Discussion regarding amending, withdrawing or deferring the resolution ensued.

A motion to defer –

Moved By: M. Bruni

Seconded By: P. Christian

M. Nadeau will draft a letter to our MPP, D. Oraziotti, Mayor and Council will be included and copied on the correspondence.

Resolution #15-006

Moved By: S. Myers

Seconded By: M. Bruni

- 5.4 "WHERE AS the Social Assistance Management System (SAMS) which was implemented by the Ministry of Community and Social Services is not working properly; and

THAT people who are receiving OW and ODSP have received incorrect amounts due to the malfunctioning of the computer system and are often in amounts that are not cost effective to recover; and

THAT the recovery of errors in financial assistance poses a significant hardship on vulnerable people who are on social assistance and do not have the ability to repay; and

THAT the recovery of those errors from vulnerable people results in additional financial pressure on local and municipal poverty reduction programs such as local food banks, homelessness and emergency shelter programs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT system administrative errors should not be borne by vulnerable people and we urge the Minister to remove the recovery of overpayments that arise from system generated errors where it is not cost effective or where there is an undue hardship on social assistance recipients.”

DEFERRED

6. ADMINISTRATION

Resolution #15-007

Moved By: J. Hupponen

Seconded By: J. Krmpotich

- 6.1 "Be it resolved that the membership of the Sault Ste. Marie Housing Corporation Board include all members of the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Service Administration Board. They are: Judy Hupponen, Lou Turco, Joe Krmpotich, Paul Christian, Marchy Bruni, Susan Myers, Ken Lamming, David Edgar, and Janet Gawne"

CARRIED

7. OUTSTANDING / ACTION ITEMS / DISCUSSION

- Goulais River EMS Station RFP
- Contracts with City of Sault Ste. Marie

8. NEW BUSINESS

M. Nadeau provided some verbal updates. Next month will be draft budget. The 2014 budget will be forwarded tomorrow to provide some familiarity.

Local2News Random Acts of Kindness.

Discussions are taking place with Local2News in an effort to get our “stories” out to the community. They are working with us to prepare a plan to get our positive message out.

The second round of talks with a Canadian Manufacturer and Superior Skills to provide employment for Ontario Works stitchery workers.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution #15-008

Moved By:M. Bruni

Seconded By:S. Myers

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

CARRIED

NEXT BOARD MEETING- Thursday, February 19th, 2015 @ 5:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm.