



# District of Sault Ste. Marie

## Social Services Administration Board

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

### Minutes

#### *DSSMSSAB REGULAR BOARD MEETING*

*Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014 @5:00 p.m.*

*Biggings Room – 3<sup>rd</sup> Level - Civic Centre*

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<b>PRESENT:</b>	D. Edgar M. Bruni P. Mick	J. Gawne K. Lamming L. Turco	J. Krmpotich R. Niro B. Watkins
<b>STAFF:</b>	D. Petersson A. Kohler	R. Rushworth E. Shand	J. Bowen A. Nanne
<b>REGRETS:</b>	M. Nadeau		

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### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair D. Edgar called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm

Congratulations to all successful election candidates and offered thanks to P. Mick and B. Watkins as they “retire” from the Board.

### 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

#### **Resolution #14-080**

Moved By: K. Lamming

Seconded By: P. Mick

2.1 “Be it resolved that the Agenda for the November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014 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 #14-081**

Moved By:M. Bruni

Seconded By:J. Krmpotich

- 4.1 “Be it resolved that the Minutes from the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board meeting dated October 16<sup>th</sup>, be adopted as recorded.”

**CARRIED**

**5. CAO / COMMISSIONER / MANAGER REPORTS**

**FINANCE**

D. Petersson presented his Third-Quarter Financial Report. He noted that the increase in the Ontario Works client base is affecting the budget. The caseload is higher than was anticipated when the budget was passed.

Housing Programs and Child Care were reviewed in detail. The EMS budget is 50/50 funded with the exception of the Garden River base. The budget is on track with actual expenditures and expectations for the rest of the year. The Sault Ste. Marie Housing Corporation is on target as well.

**Resolution #14-082**

Moved By: J. Gawne

Seconded By:R. Niro

- 5.1 “Be It Resolved that District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board accept the Financial Update Report and Budget Summary dated September 30, 2014 (3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter) as prepared by the Social Services Finance Manager as information.”

**CARRIED**

**ONTARIO WORKS**

A. Kohler and E. Shand were present to discuss the Ontario Works Social Assistance Management System (SAMS) report. It was noted that there are some kinks in the program but the launch is moving along. E. Shand commented that there are contingency plans in place should glitches occur regarding cheque creation and dispersal.

The Board asked about training and preparedness for the program and were told that all is well and moving forward. The program is now live.

**Resolution #14-083**

Moved By: M. Bruni

Seconded By: L. Turco

- 5.2 “Be It Resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board accept the Update / Status Report regarding the launch of the new Social Assistance Management System (SAMS) as prepared by the Ontario Works Program Manager.”

**CARRIED**

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

D. Edgar spoke about the process followed by the EMS Goulais River Review Committee and their recommendation to move forward with a new ambulance base in the Soo North. He gave a summary of statistics and data supporting this initiative.

Board members asked for clarification regarding the proposed funding plan presented by the EMS Goulais River Review Committee. Questions regarding the DSSMSSAB reserves balances were posed. Finance Manager, D. Petersson responded that there are currently two (2) DSSMSSAB Reserve Accounts. There is a \$1million Reserve from last year's (2013) year-end surplus plus another Reserve Account with an approximate balance of \$5million as a result of the GST/HST reimbursements now being received.

Conversation ensued regarding the funding options for this additional base, use of reserve funds and maximizing the cost benefit while minimizing the levy impact. Different scenarios were discussed using varied amounts of the reserve, and whether to mortgage or not mortgage a new base.

Many comments and questions were posed from Tim Kelly's consultant report. Board members reviewed the matter in detail and requested clarification regarding the material presented.

It was noted that paramedic staff currently working within our EMS system are busy throughout their entire shift while the “quieter base” in Garden River is less intense. EMS staff is rotated through the different bases (scenarios) and some paramedics like the changes in work load while others don't. An ambulance base in Goulais River could pose a similar situation.

Comments were made regarding the normal occurrence of people from the Sault North driving sick or injured individuals to the Sault in their own vehicles rather than calling an ambulance. There is no way to quantify this number but it would be useful data to verify or disprove this theory.

R. Rushworth showed the iMedic program and some of the statistic visuals that could be useful for the EMS program and Board members.

The board agreed that they would like to approve the RFP / Tenders for the construction of the Goulais River base before committing to moving forward with the project. More information is required before proceeding.

The question was asked, do we need an architect or engineer to spearhead this project?

Deferred resolution #14-070 from October 16, 2014 was voted upon as procedure dictates. Resolution #14-084 to fully commit to the Goulais River project was withdrawn.

**Resolution #14-070**

Moved By: J. Gawne

Seconded By: J. Krmpotich

5.4 “WHEREAS the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board has spent a great deal of time and effort investigating the merits of strengthening our EMS service with the addition and implementation of a staffed ambulance base in Goulais River;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the DSSMSSAB approach the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care for building specifications for this Goulais River Ambulance base;

AND THAT the DSSMSSAB go out to tender seeking bids from qualified contractors to construct the specified ambulance base in Goulais River.”

**CARRIED**

In Favour – D. Edgar, J. Gawne, J. Krmpotich, M. Bruni, R. Niro, B. Watkins

Opposed – K. Lamming, P. Mick, L. Turco

**Resolution #14-084 – WITHDRAWN**

**6. ADMINISTRATION**

The DSSMSSAB Christmas dinner will be held at Barsanti’s at Root River.

**Resolution #14-085**

Moved By:P. Mick

Seconded By:J. Krmpotich

- 6.1 "Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board hold their annual Christmas Dinner on Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014."

**CARRIED**

**7. OUTSTANDING / ACTION ITEMS / DISCUSSION**

- Contracts with City of Sault Ste. Marie

D. Edgar updated Board members regarding the status of the City Agreements with the City of Sault Ste. Marie. Things now appear to be progressing.

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

**Resolution #14-086**

Moved By:M. Bruni

Seconded By:J. Gawne

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

**NEXT BOARD MEETING-** Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.  
(Plummer Room - Civic Centre)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm