



# District of Sault Ste. Marie

## Social Services Administration Board

**Minutes FOR THE  
DSSMSSAB REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
Thursday, March 23, 2006 - 5:20 PM  
Russ Ramsay Boardroom, Civic Centre**

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<b>PRESENT:</b>	D. Edgar B. Hayes V. Burns	D. Amaroso J. Curran	P. Mick L. Madonna
<b>CITY / DSSAB STAFF:</b>	K. Streich-Poser F. Lake A. Nanne	A. McRae D. Pauze	R. Cobean J. Crawford
<b>MCSS:</b>	R. MacKinnon	Lise L	Other person
<b>REGRETS:</b>	S. Butland L. McCoy	L. Turco C. Rosso	

Call to order by D. Edgar at 5:48 p.m.

### 1. Minutes

#### Resolution #06-014

Moved By: J. Curran

Seconded By: L. Madonna

- 1.1 "Be it resolved that the Minutes from the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board dated January 19, 2006 be adopted as recorded."

**CARRIED**

### 2. Accounts

Accounts previously reviewed by the Executive Committee

#### Resolution #06-015

Moved By: L. Madonna

Seconded By: V. Burns

- 2.1 "Be it resolved that the DSSMSSAB Accounts Payable dated  
January 06, 2006 in the amount of \$1,181,653.74  
January 13, 2006 in the amount of \$29,636.84  
January 19, 2006 in the amount of \$22,270.12

January 26, 2006 in the amount of \$60,162.91  
February 02, 2006 in the amount of \$1,868,211.18  
February 09, 2006 in the amount of \$22,633.31

be passed for payment."

**CARRIED**

Accounts NOT previously reviewed by the Executive Committee

**Resolution #06-016**

Moved By: J. Curran

Seconded By: L. Madonna

2.2 "Be it resolved that the DSSMSSAB Accounts Payable dated

February 16, 2006 in the amount of \$12,635.57  
February 23, 2006 in the amount of \$893,633.48  
March 02, 2006 in the amount of \$1,067,094.87  
March 09, 2006 in the amount of \$26,151.16

be passed for payment."

**CARRIED**

**3. Executive/Finance**

A. McRae spoke to the DSSMSSAB budget.

The 2006 Budget vs 2005 Actuals and Approved Budget were reviewed in detail. In 2005 there was an accumulated surplus of \$1,550,886. Almost every single section of the actual costs came in under budget and nothing exceeded budgeted costs.

The 2006 budget was then examined. The accumulated surplus brings the accumulated 2.43% levy increase with the City of SSM levy increasing 2.90%.

The Board viewed this as a good news budget and offered congratulations to A. McRae and his staff. It was noted that the financial unit is currently running at maximum capacity and has taken on a number of new reporting procedures in the last while. New staff has not been added with these duties as of yet. The Board asked to be kept apprised of this situation.

A. McRae noted that other DSSABs had much higher levy increases than we did and quoted statistics for the group.

**Resolution #06-017**

Moved By: D. Amaroso

Seconded By: V. Burns

- 3.1 "Be it resolved that the DSSMSSAB accept the 2006 Budget as prepared by the Financial Manager of Social Services and recommended by the Executive / Finance Committee."

**CARRIED**

**Resolution #06-018**

Moved By: D. Amaroso

Seconded By: J. Curran

- 3.2 "Be it resolved that the following reports previously reviewed by the Executive / Finance committee be accepted by the DSSMSSAB as information:

- Ontario Works – MCSS 2005 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Report
- Ontario Works Administration – LSS Staffing and Equipment – MCSS 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Report
- Ontario Works Addiction Services Initiative – Early Sites – MCSS 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Report
- Provincial Homelessness Initiative Funds – MCSS 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Report

**CARRIED**

**Resolution #06-019**

Moved By: V. Burns

Seconded By: L. Madonna

- 3.3 "Be it resolved that the minutes from the February 02, 2006 and February 15, 2006 Executive / Finance Committee meetings be accepted by the Board as information."

**CARRIED**

**Resolution #06-020**

Moved By: J. Curran

Seconded By: D. Amaroso

- 3.4 "Be it resolved that the Audit Planning Letters for the preparation of Financial Statements for the DSSMSSAB and SSMHC as prepared by BDO Dunwoody and reviewed by the Executive / Finance Committee be accepted as information."

**CARRIED**

**5. Land Ambulance**

**Resolution #06-021**

Moved By: L. Madonna

Seconded By: D. Amaroso

- 5.1 "Be it resolved that the January and February 2006 reports from the Fire Chief for the Sault Ste. Marie Emergency Medical Services be accepted by the Board as information."

**CARRIED**

## **6. Ontario Works**

### **Resolution #06-022**

Moved By: B. Hayes

Seconded By: J. Curran

- 6.1 "Be it resolved that the report prepared by the Ontario Works Program Manager be accepted by the Board as information."

**CARRIED**

K. Streich-Poser spoke to the Ontario Works Transition Directive 2006-01 and introduced R. MacKinnon, Laura Pitura and Lise Laforest whom he brought with him. R. MacKinnon spoke to the staffing and program changes at MCSS.

K. Streich-Poser spoke to the changes in the ODSP program. Savings realized through this program must be reinvested into the community.

R. MacKinnon added to K. Streich-Poser's comments noting that there have always been requirements for at home caregivers to get out in the work force but these changes will now offer new opportunities and incentives for these individuals.

There will be financial benefits for Ontario Works as well as social inclusion for this section of the population.

### **Resolution #06-023**

Moved By: V. Burns

Seconded By: J. Curran

- 6.2 "Be it resolved that the Ontario Works Transition Directive 2006-01, previously reviewed by the Executive / Finance Committee, be accepted by the Board as information."

**CARRIED**

## **7. Community Child Care**

### **Resolution #06-024**

Moved By: B. Hayes

Seconded By: P. Mick

- 7.1 "Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board accept the report prepared by the Community Child Care Services Manager be accepted by the Board as information."

**CARRIED**

F. Lake provided a copy of the Best Start Phase One Integrated Plan in the meeting packages. She gave members an overview of the report. It is uncertain what role the provincial government will play in the continuation of the best start program.

D. Amaroso asked what the potential liability to the DSSMSSAB would be with the continuation of this project after the redirection of the federal government. F. Lake responded that an "exit strategy" has been created and it has been decided that the DSSMSSAB would not be approached for additional funding. The spaces would be turned over to the local school boards instead. The Provincial government has not made any commitment to date or during today's budget announcements.

R. MacKinnon interjected that the MCSS is committed to best start and hopes to continue with the program. There is a meeting tomorrow with the best start leads and the Minister of Child and Youth Services to discuss this matter. Hopefully an announcement will be made soon.

**Resolution #06-025**

Moved By: L. Madonna

Seconded By: J. Curran

- 7.2 "Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board approve the Best Start Phase One Integrated Plan developed by the Sault Ste. Marie Best Start Network."

**CARRIED**

Holy Family, Eastview Public School and Parkview School projects will continue to move forward. J. Curran asked when the children would be able to arrive in the hubs. F. Lake responded that they would be ready for September.

**Resolution #06-026**

Moved By: B. Hayes

Seconded By: L. Madonna

- 7.3 "Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board approve the development of the three child care expansion projects in schools for year one."

**CARRIED**

**Resolution #06-027**

Moved By: V. Burns

Seconded By: J. Curran

- 7.4 "Whereas under the Best Start Initiative, the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board would have received an additional \$4,925,000.00 in federal child care funding over the life of the program, resulting in an increase of 102 licensed child care spaces to our local child care system;

And Whereas the cancellation of federal child care funding through the Best Start Initiative by the new Federal Government will jeopardize these new spaces;

And Whereas the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board has acted in good faith by advancing the development of three child care

projects funded through the unconditional grant provided in 2005/06, which will create a minimum of 40 new spaces;

Be it resolved that the Honourable Mary Anne Chambers, Minister of Children and Youth Services be advised that it is imperative that on-going annualized funding be approved in order to sustain the viability of the child care spaces that are being created in 2005/06;

And that Minister Chambers be advised that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board supports the position of the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA) with respect to the Best Start Initiative."

**CARRIED**

## **8. Homelessness**

D. Pauze addressed her report. She noted that the City of Sault Ste. Marie has just passed a resolution to have Social Services continue in their role as program supervisor.

D. Pauze reviewed the status of Pauline's Place Youth Shelter. She advised them in December of their requirement to compose a contingency plan should the closure of their establishment become a necessity. As a result of the process of creating a contingency plan – the option of examining a youth treatment foster home is being explored. Pauline's place has met their contingency requirement.

D. Edgar asked D. Pauze if she felt that the fundraising proposals put forth by Pauline's place are do-able. She still sees this as a possibility but it is a band-aid solution.

We will continue to work with them and keep the Board apprised of the situation.

### **Resolution #06-028**

Moved By: L. Madonna

Seconded By: B. Hayes

- 8.1 "Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board accept the Update on Homelessness Initiatives report prepared by the Community Coordinator as information."

**CARRIED**

## **9. Social Housing Programs**

R. Cobean spoke to his report and the Affordable Housing Program.

### **Resolution #06-029**

Moved By: B. Hayes

Seconded By: J. Curran

- 9.1 "Be it resolved that the report from the Housing Programs Manager be accepted by the Board as information."

**CARRIED**

R. Cobean submitted to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing for the Housing Allowance Take Up Plan in order to express our interest in this program. If we don't use the money allotted we will need to return any administration dollars forwarded and will have no other obligation. K. Streich-Poser added that this program does not fit into our current operations.

**Resolution #06-030**

Moved By: B. Hayes

Seconded By: L. Madonna

- 9.2 "Where the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board received confirmation of an allocation of funding under the "new" Canada/Ontario Affordable Housing Program (AHP) housing allowance, that authorizes the DSSMSSAB to enter into an administration agreement with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board approves the proposed Housing Allowance Take-Up Plan and expression of interest."

**CARRIED**

R. Cobean informed the group that this is the second of a two-year obligation. He is part of the group and feels that the benefits are well worth the money spent.

**Resolution #06-030 (A)**

Moved By: J. Curran

Seconded By: L. Madonna

- 9.3 "Be it resolved that the DSSMSSAB approve the Year 2 financial contribution of \$500 to support the Service Manager Housing Network (SMHN) Pilot Project."

**CARRIED**

**10. Sault Ste. Marie Housing Corporation**

**Resolution #06-031**

Moved By: P. Mick

Seconded By: V. Burns

- 10.1 "Be it resolved that the minutes from the Sault Ste. Marie Housing Corporation Meeting held January 19, 2006 be accepted by the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board as information."

**CARRIED**

## **11. Commissioner of Social Services**

K. Streich-Poser addressed her report. At the last NOSDA face-to-face it was revealed that the DSSMSSAB act and governance will be brought under review. The matter of TWOMO election specifics and 4-year terms for voted board members will be examined.

### **Resolution #06-032**

Moved By: D. Amaroso

Seconded By: P. Mick

- 11.1 "Be it resolved that the DSSMSSAB accept the Matrix of Ongoing DSSMSSAB Issues report prepared by the Commissioner of Social Services as information."

**CARRIED**

### **Resolution #06-033**

Moved By: P. Mick

Seconded By: V. Burns

- 11.2 "Be it resolved that the DSSMSSAB accept the information provided by the Commissioner of Social Services regarding changes to the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) as information."

**CARRIED**

## **12. DSSMSSAB Administration**

### **Resolution #06-034**

Moved By: V. Burns

Seconded By: L. Madonna

- 12.1 "Be it resolved that the DSSMSSAB accept the correspondence letters from legal council Miller, Maki LLP regarding the Cross Border Statement of Claim filed by the Manitoulin Sudbury District Social Services Administration Board as information."

**CARRIED**

## **13. New Business**

## **14. Old Business**

## **15. Correspondence/Information**



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

## **16. Adjournment**

### **Resolution #06-035**

Moved By: L. Madonna

Seconded By: D. Amaroso

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

**CARRIED**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

