



District of Sault Ste. Marie

Social Services Administration Board

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

**MINUTES OF
DISTRICT OF SAULT STE. MARIE SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARD
MEETING HELD Thursday March 27, 2003, 5:20 PM
Civic Centre, Council Chambers**

PRESENT:	D. Amaroso N. DelBianco L. Turco	D. Edgar D. Jones P. Mick	W. Pickard B. McHale
DSSMSSAB STAFF:	K. Streich-Poser	S. French (Minutes)	
CITY STAFF:	D. Overboe C. Rosso L. McCoy	A. McRae G. Avery J. Crawford	F. Lake R. Cobean A. Granic
MCFCFS STAFF:	R. MacKinnon		
GUESTS:	J. Fratesi	J. Luszka	D. Pauze
REGRETS:	P. Vaudry		

Debbie Amaroso called the meeting to order at 5:20pm.

Presentations to the Board:

- Joseph Fratesi, CAO - City of Sault Ste. Marie & Lynn McCoy, Fire Chief, regarding potential EMS Facility. Chief Lynn McCoy provided background outlining the issues associated with the existing Ambulance Base facilities. Joseph Fratesi added that the City has been reviewing the accommodation needs. The City Council of Sault Ste. Marie has approved the development of a business case and feasibility study. The Ministry of Transportation of Ontario (MTO) site on Old Garden River Road has been identified as an ideal location with respect to emergency medical and fire services needs. The completed business case will be presented to SSM City Council in the near future. To update the MTO site it will cost approximately 1 to 1.3 million dollars versus 7 to 8 million dollars to build another building that would be comparable. There was discussion regarding the potential multi-uses of the building, access to Willow and/or Pine Street, and the possibility of securing Provincial funding. It was mentioned that the Board at onetime had expressed interest in the MTO site for the EMS Service. The Board supported the resolution unanimously.

4.2 Resolution #03-29

Moved by: P. Mick

Seconded by: D. Jones

"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board support the Corporation of City of Sault Ste. Marie's business case to create a centralized EMS Base at the former Ministry of Transportation of Ontario (MTO) site on Old Garden River Road."

Carried

- John Luszka, Commissioner of Human Resources - City of Sault Ste. Marie & Lynn McCoy, Fire Chief, regarding Paramedic Collective Agreement. John Luszka gave an update to the Board on the final collective agreement. The agreement is competitive with respect to Paramedic Wages. The Board commended both Lynn and John for all their work.

- Dree Pauze, Community Coordinator, Social Services Department - City of Sault Ste. Marie, regarding National Child Benefit Supplement (NCBS) Program & the Provincial Homelessness Initiatives Fund (PHIF) 2003. Dree gave an overview of the two reports. 24 out of 27 programs are being funded. The review committee is comprised of Florence Lake, Lynn Rosso and Dree Pauze. The committee evaluated each proposal against objectives that are set by the Province. The goal of the National Child Benefit Supplement Program is to promote attachment to the workforce and to eliminate child poverty. Statistics and financial information are to be submitted by each proponent that receives NCBS and PHIF funding. Periodically throughout the year Dree will conduct site visits. Further clarification was asked for regarding the decision-making and approval of the funding. Dree stated that the each member of the Review Committee evaluates each proposal first. After that is completed the Committee meets to review all proposals as a group. The Committee bases approval on consensus not by a scoring scale. A Board Member enquired if the baby formula and diaper program was part of one of the programs being funded. The Algoma Health Unit (AHU) ran that program, there were people taking advantage of the program and it had gotten out of hand. Now the AHU refers individuals to the Community Assistance Trust program for those needs. Dree will provide the DSSMSSAB office with a copy of the proposal evaluation tool (written criteria and process) that will be distributed to the DSSMSSAB Board for their information.

5.2 Resolution #03-33

Moved by: D. Edgar

Seconded by: P. Mick

"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board approve the allocation of the 2003 National Child Benefit Supplement (NCBS) Funds as per the recommendations from Dree Pauze, Community Coordinator, Social Services."

Carried

5.3 Resolution #03-34

Moved by: D. Jones

Seconded by: B. McHale

"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board approve \$9,825.00 of the 2003 Provincial Homelessness Initiative Fund for the Community Assistance Trust Program to assist with those that are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless."

Carried

1. Minutes

1.1 Resolution #03-15

Moved by: W. Pickard

Seconded by: D. Edgar

"Be it resolved that the Minutes of the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board dated January 16, 2003 be adopted as recorded."

Carried

2. Accounts

Accounts reviewed by the Executive Committee (February 20 & March 24, 2003)

2.1 Resolution #03-16

Moved by: W. Pickard

Seconded by: D. Edgar

"Be it resolved that the DSSMSSAB Accounts Payable dated

January 10, 2003 in the amount of \$1,035,721.68

January 16, 2003 in the amount of \$981,593.06

January 30, 2003 in the amount of \$98,629.21

February 6, 2003 in the amount of \$1,764,450.66

February 13, 2003 in the amount of \$1,498.55

February 27, 2003 in the amount of \$1,917,775.62

be passed for payment."

Carried

3. Executive/Finance

Recommendations from the February 20, 2003 Executive Committee Meeting

3.1 Resolution #03-17

Moved by: W. Pickard

Seconded by: L. Turco

"Be it resolved the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board endorse the weighted percentages as outlined in the 2002 Current Value Assessment for 2003 Taxation and Resulting Levy Allocation report as submitted by the Financial Manager."

Carried

- 3.2 Resolution #03-18
Moved by: W. Pickard
Seconded by: D. Edgar
"Be it resolved that the Ontario Works, MCFCS Fourth Quarter Report for 2002 be accepted as information."

Carried

- 3.3 Resolution #03-19
Moved by: W. Pickard
Seconded by: L. Turco
"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board approve the business case and recommendations regarding Territory Without Municipal Organization (TWOMO) levy billings for Emergency Medical Services and that it be forwarded to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and all other affected parties."

Carried

Both the Executive and Land Ambulance Committees have reviewed the business case. The way that the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care calculates the funding for the TWOMO jurisdiction only works out to 50% of the cost.

There was some discussion regarding the fact that the residents in the unorganized areas pay an Interim Provincial Land Tax, which is to be applied to social services. The Ministry of Finance collects these monies and the information from the ministries is not clear on how the collected funds are applied to social services. Wayne Pickard and Kim Streich-Poser will investigate the collection of and use of the Interim PLT. The resolution will be forwarded to the annual NOSDA meeting for support and copied to all related Ministries including Ministry of Finance.

There was discussion regarding the Ambulance co-payment that the Hospital collects. After some discussion it was agreed that this item would be appropriately addressed at NOSDA. It is also an item that could be identified under funding issues at the Provincial-Ministerial Social Services Working Group (PMSSWG) table.

The Board congratulated Kim on her 3rd year anniversary working for the DSSMSSAB.

- 3.4 Resolution #03-20
Moved by: W. Pickard
Seconded by: D. Edgar
"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board approve the Policy for Disposal of Surplus DSSMSSAB Equipment and Obsolete Goods, as submitted by the Director of Performance Standards."

Carried

Recommendations from the March 24, 2003 Executive Committee Meeting

3.5 Resolution #03-21

Moved by: D. Edgar

Seconded by: L. Turco

"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board approve the 2003 Budget as presented by the Financial Manager, Social Services."

Carried

The Financial Manager guided the Board through a review of the 2003 DSSMSSAB Budget. The Executive Committee conducted a thorough review of the 2003 Budget at the March 24, 2003 meeting.

On behalf of the Board, Debbie Amaroso thanked Andrew McRae and all of his staff for the work they have done.

3.6 Resolution #03-22

Moved by: L. Turco

Seconded by: P. Mick

"Be it resolved that the Ontario Works – CVP, MCFCS Fourth Quarter Report for 2002 be accepted as information."

Carried

3.7 Resolution #03-23

Moved by: D. Edgar

Seconded by: L. Turco

"Be it resolved that the Community Childcare – MCFCS 4th Quarter Report be accepted as information."

Carried

3.8 Resolution #03-24

Moved by: L. Turco

Seconded by: P. Mick

"Be it resolved that the Housing Programs – Service Manager Annual Information Return be accepted as information."

Carried

Reports not reviewed by the Executive Committee

3.9 Resolution #03-25

Moved by: L. Turco

Seconded by: D. Edgar

"Be it resolved that the report for the Provincial Homelessness Initiative Fund - 2003 Ministry of Community, Family and Children's Services (MCFCS) Budget Submission be accepted as information."

Carried

- 3.10 Resolution #03-26
Moved by: L. Turco
Seconded by: D. Edgar
"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board accept the Financial Division Activity Update dated March 21, 2003 as information."

Carried

Andrew highlighted areas of the Activity Report for the Board. Andrew gave recognition to his staff for all their hard work and dedication.

- 3.11 Resolution #03-27
Moved by: L. Turco
Seconded by: P. Mick
"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board accept the Community Childcare and Ontario Works Childcare 2003 MCFCS Budget Submission as information."

Carried

4. Land Ambulance

- 4.1 Resolution #03-28
Moved by: D. Edgar
Seconded by: P. Mick
"Be it resolved that the January 2003 and February 2003 report from the Fire Chief for the Sault Ste. Marie Emergency Medical Services be accepted as information."

Carried

Lynn McCoy gave a verbal update on several issues including First Response Teams, part-time staffing of paramedics and the Seniors Program.

There was discussion regarding the interfacility transfers and waiting times. Lynn explained that we are making progress in this area; the challenge is that there needs to be a change in the mindset of various groups and individuals. The legislation is very prescriptive and describes 3 criteria for transporting in Ambulances of which interfaciltiy transfers are not included.

- 4.3 Resolution #03-30
Moved by: D. Jones
Seconded by: P. Mick
"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board approve the 2003 Capital and Equipment Budget Request, not to exceed \$20,000.00."

Carried

Recommendations from the February 26, 2003 Land Ambulance Committee Meeting

4.4 Resolution #03-31

Moved by: P. Mick

Seconded by: D. Edgar

"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board approve the purchase of the emergency response vehicle (not to exceed \$80,000.00) and further approve the implementation of the deployment strategy recommendations contained in the report from the Fire Chief dated March 17, 2003."

Carried

In efforts to try to reclaim the money spent on the vehicle, a business case will be submitted to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

5. Ontario Works

5.1 Resolution #03-32

Moved by: D. Jones

Seconded by: B. McHale

"Be it resolved that the report from the Manager of Ontario Works submitted March 24, 2003 be accepted as information."

Carried

Carl Rosso gave an overview of the report.

5.4 Resolution #03-35

Moved by: P. Mick

Seconded by: D. Jones

"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board request the additional funding under phase two of the Enhanced Family Support Initiative (EFSI) for the period of April 1, 2003 to March 31, 2006 from the Ministry of Community, Family and Children's Services."

Carried

6. Community Child Care

6.1 Resolution #03-36

Moved by: P. Mick

Seconded by: D. Edgar

"Be it resolved that the report from the Community Child Care Services Manager dated March 27, 2003 be accepted as information."

Carried

Florence Lake gave a summary of the report. The Board thanked Florence for her work on the Early Years project and for her patience, tack and professionalism.

Recommendations from the February 20, 2003 Community Child Care Committee Meeting

6.2 Resolution #03-37

Moved by: B. McHale

Seconded by: D. Jones

"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board approve the recommendation of the Child Care Committee to apply a sliding scale to the Exemption on Net Earnings which decreases in 5% increments, from a maximum of 25% to 0%."

Carried

6.3 Resolution #03-38

Moved by: P. Mick

Seconded by: W. Pickard

"Whereas there have not been any increases to the number of regulated child care spaces in the province of Ontario since 1995, and;

Whereas there have not been any increase to the number of subsidized child care spaces in the province of Ontario since 1994, and;

Whereas there exists waiting lists for these programs across the province of Ontario, and;

Whereas the DSSABs and the CMSMs are responsible for the management of the Child Care System,

Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board request that the Province of Ontario utilize the Federal Government Child Care funding announced on February 18, 2003, towards increasing the number of Regulated Child Care Spaces and Subsidized Child Care spaces in the Province of Ontario."

Carried

This resolution has been brought forward as there was concern the Province would not move in this direction once the federal funding was released. A summary of the information is attached to Director of Performance Standard's report.

7. Social Housing

7.1 Resolution #03-39

Moved by: D. Jones

Seconded by: W. Pickard

"Be it resolved that the report from the Housing Programs Manager dated March 27, 2003 be accepted as information."

Carried

Rick Cobean gave an update on Housing Programs. Rick informed the Board that to date there still has not been a letter of response from the Ministry regarding the federal funding shortfall issue. Kim has talked to the Sudbury Field

Office; they are aware of the letter and will follow up with the Minister's Office to see where the response is. There was discussion regarding one of the Federal Housing Providers they are in need of a lot of repair including a new roof, siding and windows. The concern is that they may become a Project in Difficulty. Rick will report to the Board at a future meeting with recommendations.

Recommendations from the March 5, 2003 Social Housing Committee Meeting

7.2 Resolution #03-40

Moved by: D. Edgar

Seconded by: B. McHale

"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board approve the Revised Housing Programs Directive #2002-09a regarding the Definition of Disabled/Handicapped In Regards to Modified Units."

Carried

7.3 Resolution #03-41

Moved by: P. Mick

Seconded by: D. Jones

"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board enter into agreements with the Non-Profit Housing Providers to manage their waiting lists for modified units."

Carried

All of the housing providers but 2 have responded with a supporting resolution.

7.4 Resolution #03-42

Moved by: D. Jones

Seconded by: D. Edgar

"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board approve the Housing Programs Manager's recommendation regarding the Financial Plan with Liuna Local 1036 Non-Profit Housing Corporation to address their accumulated deficit."

Carried

Rick Cobean provided a written and verbal summary of the issues and how this strategy will help resolve it.

8. Social Services

8.1 Resolution #03-43

Moved by: P. Mick

Seconded by: B. McHale

"Be it resolved that the report from the Commissioner of Social Services received March 20, 2003 be accepted as information."

Carried

David Overboe gave a highlight of the report.

8.2 Resolution #03-44

Moved by: B. McHale

Seconded by: D. Edgar

"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board accept the recommendations from the Commissioner of Social Services regarding the allocation of Enhanced Placement Funding."

Carried

David attached a comparative analysis to his report regarding the costs of Social Services. In 1997 General Welfare costs were 4.2 million dollars. In 2001, the estimated net cost to the City for all programs after CRF is applied works out to approximately 2 million dollars. CRF is the Community Reinvestment Fund, these are dollars provided by the Province to Municipalities to offset various costs including social services.

9. Director of Performance Standards

9.1 Resolution #03-45

Moved by: W. Pickard

Seconded by: D. Jones

"Be it resolved that the report from the Director of Performance Standards dated March 21, 2003 be accepted as information."

Carried

9.2 Resolution #03-46

Moved by: P. Mick

Seconded by: W. Pickard

"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board approve Kim Streich-Poser, Director of Performance Standards to travel to Kingston, Ontario May 12, 13 and 14 for the Association of Municipal Emergency Medical Services Meetings."

Carried

10. New Business

Resolution #03-47A

Moved by: D. Jones

Seconded by: P. Mick

"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board shall go into closed session to discuss one item concerning a personnel issue."

Carried

Resolution #03-47B

Moved by: W. Pickard

Seconded by: L. Turco

"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board shall now enter back into open session."

Carried

11. Old Business

None

12. Correspondence/Information

- 12.1 Letter dated January 24, 2003 from Malcolm Bates, Director, Emergency Health Services Branch regarding Approval of Additional Severance Costs.
- 12.2 Letter dated January 27, 2003 from Toni Farley, Director, Social Housing Branch – MMAH regarding Social Housing Branch Organization and New Manager Appointments.
- 12.3 SHBnotification, Releases 03-03, 03-04, from Toni Farley, Director, Social Housing Branch – MMAH received January 27, 2003
- 12.4 Letter dated February 4, 2003 from James M. Flaherty, Minister – Ministry of Enterprise, Opportunity & Innovation regarding *Government Efficiency Act, Bill 179*.
- 12.5 Letter dated February 6, 2003 from Ron MacKinnon, Program Supervisor, Municipal Services – MCFCS regarding 2002 Service Contract Amendment (Ontario Works CVP – 2002 CVP Incentive Funding).
- 12.6 Letter dated February 10, 2003 from Toni Farley, Director, Social Housing Branch – MMAH regarding improving Social Housing Regulations Summary of Input from Service Managers.
- 12.7 Letter dated February 11, 2003 from Ron MacKinnon, Program Supervisor, Municipal Service – MCFCS regarding 2002 Service Contract Amendment.
- 12.8 Letter dated February 24, 2003 from Malcolm Bates, Director, Emergency Health Services Branch – MMAH regarding Grant for Salaries, Wages and Other Operating Costs Increases.
- 12.9 Letter dated February 26, 2003 from Richard Adams, President – Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities supporting the NOSDA resolution regarding TWOMO Funding/Template issues.
- 12.10 Letter dated February 26, 2003 from Malcolm Bates, Director, Emergency Health Services Branch – MOHLTC regarding Reconciliation of 1998, 1999 and 2000 Pre-Assumption Costs.
- 12.11 Newsletter, *Children's Rehab News* dated March 2003.
- 12.12 Letter dated March 4, 2003 from Cliodhna McMullin, Director, Ontario Works Branch – MCFCS in response to the DSSMSSAB's letter of February 21, 2003 addressed to John Fleming, Deputy Minister.
- 12.13 Letter dated March 5, 2003 co-signed by Andrew Ferguson and Clayton Bond, Child and Family Support Coordinators – Brain Injury Association of Sault Ste. Marie and District regarding the Child/Youth and Family Support Project.
- 12.14 Letter dated March 6, 2003 from Ron MacKinnon, Program Supervisor, Municipal Services – MCFCS regarding Annual Service Provider Verification.
- 12.15 Letter sent March 7, 2003 to Honourable David Young, Minister of MMAH from Michael A. Brown, MPP Algoma-Manitoulin RE: the letter sent by the DSSMSSAB December 10, 2002 regarding Housing concerns.
- 12.16 Facsimile dated March 12, 2003 from Pat Vanini, Executive Director – Association of Municipalities of Ontario regarding EMS cross border billing issue.
- 12.17 Newsletter, *OMERS* dated March 2003.

- 12.18 Letter dated March 21, 2003 from Frank Malvaso, A/Regional Program Manager, Municipal Services – MCFCS regarding Ontario Works 2003 Service Plan Guidelines.
- 12.19 SHBnotification, Releases 03-05, 03-06, 03-07 from Toni Farley, Director, Social Housing Branch – MMAH received March 21, 2003.

13. Adjournment

Resolution #03-48

Moved by: W. Pickard

Seconded by: D. Edgar

"Be it resolved that we do now adjourn."

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.