

**MINUTES OF  
DISTRICT OF SAULT STE. MARIE SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION  
BOARD  
MEETING HELD September 21, 2000, 4:30 PM  
Russ Ramsay Boardroom, Civic Centre**

**PRESENT:** W. Pickard D. Amaroso B. McHale  
D. Edgar P.Vaudry D. Jones  
C. Swift

**DSSAB STAFF:** K. Streich-Poser S. French

**CITY STAFF:** W. Lamming D. Overboe F. Lake  
A. McRae

**MCSS STAFF:** S. Bergamin

**MNDM STAFF:** C. Jensen

**MMAH GUESTS:** Lynn Buckham Ray Hunt Denis Desmeules

**REGRETS:** S. Lepore B. Irwin

**1. Minutes**

Resolution #00-108

Moved by: P. Vaudry

Seconded by: D. Amaroso

"Be it resolved that the Minutes of the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board dated August 17, 2000 be adopted as recorded."

**Carried**

**2. Social Housing**

The transition team consisting of Lynn Buckham, Ray Hunt and Denis Desmeules from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing were present to discuss the devolution and new state of social housing.

Lynn explained that there are three business lines that are being transferred to the municipal sector: 1/ Public Housing, 2/ Non-profit and Coop housing, and 3/ Federal non-profit projects.

The proposed transfer plan has two stages:

1. Public Housing will be devolved on January 1 2001, depending on legislation. The existing housing authority will be converting into a local housing corporation of which the only shareholder will be the DSSAB. For the current Algoma District this means that the Algoma District Housing Authority will be split between the Algoma District Services Administration Board and the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board. DSSAB as the sole shareholder of the new entity will be responsible for administration

and funding. DSSAB will have the authority to structure the new housing corporation infrastructure as they best see fit.

2. Non-profit and Coop housing: The transition team will work with the DSSABs during the 6 months after legislative approval to develop local plans for systems, resources, staff, and business around the transfer. The actual transfer will occur within 12 months from legislative approval. (Anticipated by May 2002. Although, if all is in order then the actual transfer may occur sooner.)
3. Transition Funding: Lynn Buckham continued to explain that transition funds are available. There is 5.6 million dollars set aside in transition funding that is to be spread across 46 DSSABs. This funding available will be by application and each DSSAB will be expected to account for the dollars spent. The first installment of this funding will be available in December 2000 after legislative approval. Funds will be available for things such as: housing software package, to assist with the transfer cost of property titles, and to assist with any associated severances.

The transition team is the primary contact regarding any social housing issue. They will be available through the entire transfer process including post transfer.

**Comments:**

- The transition team will work hand and hand with the local housing authority and assist with the development of a communications plan.
- Has it been communicated with housing staff that severance will be available from MMAH?

Lynn responded by stating that all staff will be transferred to the new housing corporation along with all employee rights. She stated that the employees would only be affected if DSSAB at some point in the future restructured. The board asked if severance happens what is MMAH going to fund? Lynn responded by stating that the transition team would have to get more information as they only have the amount of available initial funding. There has not been a decision made about the urban native housing program and whether it will become DSSAB's responsibility.

Resolution #00-109

Moved by: P. Vaudry

Seconded by: C. Swift

"Be it resolved that the report from the Social Housing Committee for September be accepted as information."

**Carried**

Peter Vaudry gave the verbal report and stated that the Social Housing Committee met with the Local Housing Authority. The City of Sault Ste. Marie is looking at developing a proposal regarding the delivery of Social Housing. The

Social Housing Committee has asked the Algoma District Housing Authority to develop a proposal given their experience in social housing.

Resolution #00-110

Moved by: C. Swift

Seconded by: D. Jones

"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board nominate Wayne Pickard, Dave Edgar and Brent McHale - alternate for consideration of appointment to sit on the Sault Ste. Marie Housing Authority Board."

**Carried**

To create a full interim board, the MMAH requested the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board to nominate individuals to the Algoma District Housing Authority Board. These members will be transferred to the new Sault Ste. Marie District Housing Authority Board on January 1, 2001.

### **3. Director of Ontario Works**

Resolution #00-111

Moved by: P. Vaudry

Seconded by: D. Amaroso

"Be it resolved that the report from the Director of Ontario Works for September be accepted as information."

**Carried**

Dave Overboe went through the highlights of his report. The Job Fair for NUCOMM was a huge success, staff went through files and there was a dedicated effort by all.

### **4. Accounts**

Resolution #00-112

Moved by: D. Jones

Seconded by: C. Swift

"Be it resolved that the DSSAB Accounts Payable dated:

August 3, 2000 in the amount of \$3,600.00

August 11, 2000 in the amount of \$843,209.01

August 24, 2000 in the amount of \$554,877.38

August 31, 2000 in the amount of \$4,122.88

be passed for payment."

**Carried**

The board inquired as to what the 2 vans and chain saws listed in the Activity report were for. Andrew McRae explained that the equipment was for a program to help put more people into placements. The board was concerned as to who will drive the vans and where will they be stored? It was explained that the vans

will be purchased through the City and will be located at the transit station or at City Hall. Community placement individuals will drive the vans themselves (the program will be developed so that the driver will be on placement as well). Ontario Works will be responsible for vehicle maintenance. It was explained that Ontario Works decided to purchase the vehicles through the City since insurance cost less than going through DSSAB. The Province is funding 100% of this initiative through the Community Placement Innovation Fund. There was concern about compensation coverage regarding the use of saws. Dave Overboe stated that the Province covers this separately.

Resolution #00-113

Moved by: C. Swift

Seconded by: D. Amaroso

"Be it resolved that the report from the Financial Manager for September be accepted as information."

**Carried**

### **5. Community Child Care Manager**

Resolution #00-114

Moved by: D. Amaroso

Seconded by: P. Vaudry

"Be it resolved that the report from the Community Child Care Manager for September be accepted as information."

**Carried**

Florence Lake, Child Care Manager went through her report. The board asked why the School Boards were not responsible for the Early Childhood Development project. Florence explained that the Early Childhood Development project was designed for children from the ages of 0 to 6, after the age of 6 the school boards will assume responsibility for the children.

### **6. Director of Performance Standards**

Resolution #00-115

Moved by: C. Swift

Seconded by: P. Vaudry

"Be it resolved that the report from the Director of Performance Standards for September be accepted as information."

**Carried**

The Director of Performance Standards received correspondence from the City Solicitor confirming that DSSAB needs insurance for board members, which is separate from the councils that they have been appointed from.

Resolution #00-116

Moved by: P. Vaudry

Seconded by: D. Amaroso

"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration

Board accept the Chair's decision to approve Kim Streich-Poser's and Wayne Pickard's travelling expenditures to attend the Annual Northeastern Ontario Municipal Conference, Devolution of Social Housing session, in Blind River September 14, 2000."

**Carried**

Resolution #00-117

Moved by: P. Vaudry

Seconded by: D. Jones

"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board authorize travelling expenditures for Kim Streich-Poser to attend the North East EMS Managers Meeting in Parry Sound, Ontario on October 10, 2000."

**Carried**

Resolution #00-118

Moved by: D. Amaroso

Seconded by: D. Jones

"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board authorize travelling expenditures for Kim Streich-Poser to attend the Provincial EMS Managers and Directors Meeting in Parry Sound, Ontario on October 11 - 12, 2000."

**Carried**

## **7. Provincial Homelessness Initiative**

Kim Streich-Poser, Director of Performance Standards, reviewed a chronology of events regarding the proposals for Provincial Housing Initiative Funds. The original proposal and the additional information provided were evaluated using the proposal checklist. Feedback on the draft agreement was offered. Kim Streich-Poser will follow up on these recommendations and the final draft will be sent to the City Solicitor for review.

The Director of Performance Standards recommended to the Board to accept the Homelessness Committee's proposal for approval.

Resolution #00-119

Moved by: P. Vaudry

Seconded by: B. McHale

"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board accept the Community Housing Association's (CHA) proposal for:

- a) Mobile Support Housing Worker,
- b) The development of a Housing Registry Booklet,
- c) The establishment of a Rent Bank.

Funding for these projects will be provided through the Provincial Homelessness Initiative Fund from the Ministry of Community and Social Services. An Agreement outlining mutual expectations (financial, program reporting and evaluation) will be signed by the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board and the Community Housing Association."

**Carried**

## **8. Public Education/Communication Committee**

No report. The Public Education/Communication Committee will be meeting on September 22, 2000.

## **9. Land Ambulance Committee**

Resolution #00-120

Moved by: P. Vaudry

Seconded by: D. Amaroso

"Be it resolved that the report from the Land Ambulance Committee for September be accepted as information."

**Carried**

Brent McHale explained that the Land Ambulance Committee had met September 13, 2000. The committee is working on a terms of reference and have developed a work plan to address outstanding issues. The completed service contract was sent to the Sault Area Hospitals for signature. (The Hospitals are two separate entities and as a result the name on the contract had to be changed from Sault Area Hospitals to Plummer Memorial Public Hospital and the Sault Ste. Marie General Hospital Inc.).

At some point in the future DSSAB may want to express interest in CACC should the Ministry of Health and Long-term Care look at devolving it to Upper Tier Municipalities or DSSABs.

## **9. Outstanding Action Items:**

9.1 Update NOSDA – All the Northern DSSABs have been contacted and due to the upcoming elections most of the politicians will not be able to attend. The structure of the meeting will be tailored more to the staff. The dates of the NOSDA meeting will be November 1 & 2, 2000.

9.2 Credit Card, Royal Bank Visa:

Resolution #00-121

Moved by: D. Amaroso

Seconded by: P. Vaudry

"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board approve the application for a Royal Bank Visa. Policies and procedures for the use of cards will be developed and presented to the Board."

**Carried**

## **10. New Business** – None.

## **11. Fall 2000 Election**

Shannon French, Administrative Assistant, updated the board on the election progress. It was explained that the some of the responsibility would be contracted out to the Algoma District School Board including hiring the Poll

Clerks, Returning Officers, running the Election Booths, ordering Ballot Boxes etc. Advertising, receiving and screening nominations will be administered from the DSSAB office. The Algoma District School Board will be contracted by the Huron-Superior School Board as well, so the costs will be shared three ways. Kim Streich-Poser further explained to the Board that there are 7 townships that are not in the School Board's jurisdiction. The DSSAB office will advertise where constituents in those townships can vote.

Resolution #00-122

Moved by: D. Jones

Seconded by: P. Vaudry

"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board contract with the Algoma District School Board to assist with the administration of the Fall 2000 Election of Members to Represent Territory Without Municipal Organization (TWOMO)."

**Carried**

Resolution #00-123

Moved by: D. Amaroso

Seconded by: D. Jones

"Be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board approve the dates of Saturday November 4<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday November 8<sup>th</sup> for advance polling of the Fall 2000 Election of Members to Represent Territory Without Municipal Organization (TWOMO)."

**Carried**

## **12. Correspondence:**

Due to time constraints correspondence was not reviewed.

- 12.1 Letter from Jason Ducharme, KPMG, dated August 30, 2000.
- 12.2 Letter from Mary Kardos Burton, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, dated September 1, 2000.
- 12.3 Letter from Walter Lamming, dated August 14, 2000 regarding National Housing Policy Option Teams (NHPOT).
- 12.4 Letter from Joe Torlone, CAO District of Cochrane Social Services Administration Board, dated August 17, 2000 regarding Land Ambulance – One Time Start-up Funding.
- 12.5 Letter from John Baird, Ministry of Community and Social Services dated August 18, 2000.
- 12.6 Letter from Lorie Bottos, City Solicitor dated August 29, 2000 regarding Insurance for Council Members to sit on DSSAB.
- 12.7 Letter from Joe Fratesi, CAO dated August 28, 2000 regarding Social Housing Business Transfer.
- 12.8 Letter sent by Wayne Pickard, DSSAB Chair dated September 5, 2000 in response to Joe Fratesi's above mentioned letter.

**13. Adjournment**

Resolution #00-124

Moved by: D. Amaroso

Seconded by: P. Vaudry

"Be it resolved that we do now adjourn."

**Carried**

The next board meeting will be on Thursday, October 26, 2000.