



MANITOULIN-SUDBURY DSB BOARD MEETING

Draft Minutes

April 18, 2024

11:00 a.m.

Board Room

Members Present: Paul Branconnier
Vern Gorham
Angela Kelly
Kevin Burke
Bruce Killah
Rob Campbell
Al MacNevin
John Deforge
Denise Portelance-Godin
Ian Anderson
Ken Duplessis
David Santi
Steven Olsen

Regrets: Ryan Bignucolo

Staff Present: Donna Stewart
Lori Clark
Connie Morphet
Paul Myre
Bryan Welsh
Ehren Baldauf
Josh Parkinson
Rhonda McCauley

1. Call to Order

Chair Burce Killah called the meeting to order at 10:50 a.m.

2. Land Acknowledgement

We begin this meeting by acknowledging that we are all on land that has been inhabited by Anishnawbek Nations for 10's of thousands of years.

We'd like to acknowledge that we are here in the Robinson Huron Treaty territory and the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Atikameksheng Anishnawbek and we would like to give thanks for sharing this land in order for us to continue in our work.

Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Anishnabek nations from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to unite, live, work and play on this land.

3. Business Arising from Closed Session

3.1 Property Committee Resolution

Resolution 24- 20

Moved by: Kevin Burke

Seconded by: Denise Portelance-Godin

WHEREAS the Property Committee has reviewed the tender results for the Asbestos Abatement in the Gogama Paramedics Services Station; and

WHEREAS the Property Committee is recommending that the Board proceed with the abatement and award the tender.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB accepts the Property Committees recommendations and awards the tender to Tri-Phase in the amount of \$280,805.00; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB approves \$230,000 to be used from the Paramedic Capital Reserves to cover the remaining expenses.

CARRIED

3.2 Program Planning Committee Resolution

Resolution 24- 21

Moved by: Angela Kelly

Seconded by: Ian Anderson

WHEREAS the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB Program Planning Committee has reviewed the Fleet Maintenance - Issue Report and is recommending approval of this report to the Board, and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB accepts the Program Planning Committee recommendation and approves the Fleet Maintenance - Issue Report and directs staff to proceed with contracted services from Northern Fleet Services prior to the end of contracted services with the Greater City of Sudbury Fleet Services on June 20, 2024.

CARRIED

4. Adoption of Agenda

Resolution 24- 22

Moved by: John Deforge

Seconded by: Rob Campbell

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Agenda be adopted.

CARRIED

5. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

None declared.

6. Adoption of the Minutes

Resolution 24- 23

Moved by: Kevin Burke

Seconded by: David Santi

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the February 15, 2024 Board meetings be approved as presented.

CARRIED

7. Committee Meetings

7.1 HR Committee

7.1.1 By-Law Revisions

Vern Gorham, Chair of the Human Resources Committee, asked Natalie Schryer to walk the Board through the General Administration Policy B.2.01 By-Law Revisions.

The revisions were presented to the Board for their review and a resolution will be proposed at the next Board meeting allowing the Board to review the revisions for 21 days.

7.1.2 New HR Policy

Ehren Baldauf, Human Resources Consultant, briefed the Board through the new Human Resources Policy C.3.15 Retirement Benefits.

Resolution 24- 24

Moved by: Vern Gorham

Seconded by: Denise Portelance-Godin

WHEREAS the Human Resources Committee has reviewed the New Human Resources Policies C.3.15 Retirement Benefits and is recommending approval to the Board.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB accepts the Human Resources Committees recommendation and approves the new Human Resources Policy C.3.15 Retirement Benefits within the Human Resources Manual.

CARRIED

7.2 Program Planning Committee

7.2.1 2023 Child Care Data

Lori Clark, Director of Integrated Human Services provided the board with an update on the 2023 Annual Report and licensed child care data profiles. This information covers data province wide down to the local level.

Historically the DSB has provided verbal updates to the Board, this year the staff are pleased to provide a more comprehensive overview of the information as presented in the Issue Report.

The Director of Integrated Human Services presented the key points for our District to the board.

Staff will continue to keep the Board updated on developments in the early years and childcare system.

Resolution 24- 25

Moved by: Kevin Burke

Seconded by: Paul Branconnier

WHEREAS the Program Planning Committee has reviewed the Ontario's Early Years and Child Care Annual Report and Licensed Child Care Data Profiles - Issue Report and is recommending approval to the Board.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board accept the Program Planning Committee's recommendation and approve the Ontario's Early Years and Child Care Annual Report and Licensed Child Care Data Profiles - Issue Report and direct staff to action the recommendations in the report.

CARRIED

7.2.2 Community Paramedicine Expansion and 2023/24 Base Funding for Alternate Level of Care

Paul Myre, Chief of Paramedic Services, walked the Board through the funding and new models of care.

Paramedic Services have developed and deployed a Community Paramedicine program largely due to the advent of the Community Paramedicine for Long Term Care (CPLTC) 3-year funding the DSB

received in 2021. This 100% provincially funded program focuses exclusively on seniors in three categories of eligibility:

- Those on the waitlist for long-term care;
- Those who have been assessed as eligible for long-term care by a LHIN Care Coordinator (but not yet on the waitlist); and,
- Those who are soon to be eligible for long-term care.

Based on the successes and the system capacity enhancements realized to date, the Ministry of Long-Term Care announced an extension to the initial CPTLC funding for another 2 years.

There is another “branch” of Community Paramedicine that the DSB has also been working with Ontario Health on developing and expanding community services that support and assist higher-needs patients by allowing them to stay at home rather than occupying Alternate Level of Care (ALC) beds in Hospital. Over the last several years, the DSB has regularly received one-time in year funding to provide High-Intensity Supports in the DSB communities which was not sufficient to solidify a sustainable, ongoing model.

The DSB has recently received notice from Ontario Health that our one-time funding from 2022 for \$250,000 for High-Intensity Supports would become annualized base funding under the CP Expansion portfolio once a Multi-Sector Service Accountability Agreement could be signed.

Additionally, the DSB received notice of an additional \$369,806 in base funding under the ALC and a new models of care portfolio through a business case submitted to Ontario Health in early 2023.

This new additional base funding will be dedicated to enhancing the frequency of home visits, supporting additional health and wellness clinics in the community, support additional in-home assessments, testing and follow-up. It will also connect individuals to additional services and supports; including but not limited to: financial support, housing stabilization, health support and safety planning.

The total combined annual base funding, which is 100% Ministry funded, for our Community Paramedicine Program, is now \$1,636,806.00 until at least April 1st, 2026. These much-needed additional base funds will ensure we can continue to provide vital services to our most vulnerable and marginalized community members for the next 2 years.

7.2.3 Response Time Standard

Paul Myre, Chief of Paramedic Services, walked the board through the [Response Time Standard – Issue Report](#).

As described in previous reports to the board, Paramedic Services across Ontario are required by law to establish a performance plan for the following calendar year regarding overall response times to calls for service. Response times are defined as a measure of time from when a Paramedic crew is notified of an emergency call to the time they arrive on the scene.

The Ministry of Health sets the expectation for the highest acuity calls and the Paramedic Service establishes all other response time targets based on the Deployment Plan and response capacity. Paramedic Services must ensure that the established plan is continuously maintained, enforced, and evaluated.

A complete report of the previous year's performance must be submitted to the Ministry by no later than March 31st. The process for assessing the service's response time performance involves data mining from the Ministry of Health's database (Ambulance Dispatch Reporting System aka ADRS) and filtering through over 10,000 calls for service we responded to in 2023, excluding emergency standbys.

What these results demonstrate is that our implemented countermeasures have been effective in closing our response time gaps. These include the addition of a second transporting unit in Wiikwemkoong, the addition of the PRU in Little Current, and the Tiered Response agreements with the French River and Killarney Fire Departments. Additionally, ceasing the practice of sending the Hagar crew to Noëlville for Standby whenever the Noëlville crew were called away from their service area proved to be an effective strategy to improve response times.

By comparing our 2021 response times performance to our 2022 & 2023 results, the Paramedic Services deployment plan and permanently implemented countermeasures continue to effectively address some of our previous gaps in the DSB's response capacity.

Resolution 24- 26

Moved by: Kevin Burke

Seconded by: Steven Olsen

WHEREAS the Program Planning Committee has reviewed the 2023 Response Time Standards - Issue Report and is recommending approval to the Board;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board accept the Program Planning Committee's recommendation and approve the 2023 Response Time Standards - Issue Report and direct staff to action the recommendations in the report.

CARRIED

7.2.4 National Housing Strategy Action Plan

Lori Clark, Director of Integrated Human Services, walked the Board through the [National Housing Strategy Action Plan - Issue Report](#).

Just days before the new funding year was to begin, staff received an announcement from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing which indicated anticipated Federal Funding was being cut by \$355 million.

The announcement was made because of talks between the Federal and Provincial governments regarding a disagreement over the number of units reported to have been created under the National Housing Strategy.

The Federal Government has indicated to the province that they must revisit the way that Service Managers have been funded to demonstrate greater progress towards the number of units that were to be created under the strategy.

The Board was presented with an action plan for the DSB's 2024-2025 allocations under the COCHI-OPHI funding program that has been provided within the Issue Report.

At this time, as the DSB has engaged with some of the consultants for the design work for these projects, the DSB will complete this work and are hoping that the funds will be issued to allow for this work to continue.

The DSB's capital contribution budgeted to sustain the portfolio which has seen an increase due to the aging of the properties and the substantial elevation to construction material and labour.

Several of the DSBs partners have reached out to the Government to encourage action to reverse this decision including AMO, NOSDA, OAHS, and other DSSABs.

At this time, the DSB will hold all projects not under contract until the decision on funding has been finalized.

Resolution 24- 27

Moved by: Kevin Burke

Seconded by: David Santi

WHEREAS the Program Planning Committee reviewed the National Housing Strategy Action Plan Update - Issue Report and is recommending approval to the Board; and

WHEREAS the housing crisis in Canada has reached a critical level, with rapidly increasing rents and a severe shortage of affordable rental units, which disproportionately affects vulnerable persons; and

WHEREAS the National Housing Strategy 10-Year plan by the Federal Government was designed to address the needs of Canadians for safe affordable housing; and

WHEREAS the National Housing Strategy provided our organization with funding through several initiatives since its 2017 inception, including the Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative, the Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative, and the Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit; and

WHEREAS the Federal Government recently announced a cut of \$355 million in funding that was earmarked for this initiative; and

WHEREAS the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB's capital budget has seen an increase due to aging properties and the substantial increase in construction material and labour; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT community housing projects planned for 2024-2025 through COCHI and OPHI for the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB housing portfolio are impacted by this decision and have been put on hold.; and

FURTHERMORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB call on the Federal government to consider the devastating impact to low-income families and individuals; and

FURTHERMORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB call on the Federal Government to reverse the decision to cut the funding for all eleven NOSDA members; and

AND FURTHER THAT the Board accept the Program Planning Committees recommendation and approve the National Housing Strategy Action Plan Update - Issue Report and action staff to send a copy of the issue report and a copy of this motion be sent to the Federal and Provincial Government, MPP Michael Mantha, MP Marc Serre and the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB member municipalities for endorsement and support via Council resolutions.

CARRIED

8. New Business

8.1 CAO 2023 Fourth Quarter Activity Report

Donna Stewart, CAO, informed the Board that the [4th Quarter Activity Report](#) will be shared with all 18 member municipalities and board members are encouraged to add it to Council agenda packages.

Resolution 24- 28

Moved by: Angela Kelly

Seconded by: Vern Gorham

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the 2023 CAO Fourth Quarter Activity Report be approved as presented.

CARRIED

8.2 Fourth Quarter 2023 Unaudited Financial Report

Connie Morphet, Director of Finance and Administration, walked the Board through the [Fourth Quarter 2023 Unaudited Financial Report](#), which is forecasting a year-end surplus of \$557,518.

Resolution 24- 29

Moved by: Al MacNevin

Seconded by: Rob Campbell

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the 2023 Fourth Quarter Unaudited Financial Report be approved as presented.

CARRIED

8.3 TWOMO Land Ambulance Funding

Connie Morphet, Director of Finance and Administration, walked the Board through the TWOMO Land Ambulance Funding.

On March 5, 2024, Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB CAO and Board Chair received a [letter](#) from the Ministry of Health informing us that the organization would receive \$100,597 in additional base funding for land ambulance service for Territories Without Municipal Organization (TWOMO) for the calendar year 2023.

This funding was expected and has been included in the 2023-year-end surplus.

8.4 Ontario's Workforce Strategy and the Canada Wide Early Learning and Child Care System

Lori Clark, Director of Human Services, briefed the Board on the Ontario's Workforce Strategy and the Canada Wide Early Learning and Child Care System.

Staff were notified by email from the [Ministry of Education](#) on March 28th regarding updates to Ontario's Workforce Strategy and 2024 CWELCC Guidelines.

Staff have shared previously that the DSB has already implemented increases to the wage floor and eligibility ceiling for eligible staff effective January 1, 2024.

Starting in June 2024, payments to Service System managers will include the incremental funding related to the 2024 workforce strategy allocation.

The Ministry continues to work on finalizing a new childcare funding approach that aims to integrate current childcare funds into the new CWELCC funding formula.

9. Other Business

9.1 NOSDA AGM and HSC Share Innovation Forum

Donna Stewart, CAO, informed the Board that the HSC Share Event will take place on June 25th in conjunction with the NOSDA AGM which takes place June 26 and 27, 2024.

The Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB are co-hosting the NOSDA AGM with Greater City of Sudbury, the Chair and Vice-Chair will be in attendance.

10. Next Meeting - May 16, 2024

11. Adjournment

Resolution 24- 30

Moved by: Ian Anderson

Seconded by: Denise Portelance-Godin

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we do now adjourn at 11:35 a.m. until the next regular meeting to be held on May 16, 2024.

CARRIED

Board Chair

CAO