



District of Timiskaming Social Services Administration Board

Minutes Of The Meeting Held
Wednesday January 25, 2006
At The Olde Towne Inn, Englehart

PRESENT: Al French, Chair
Norm Menard, Vice Chair
Dan Cote
Bill Enouy
Bob Hobbs
Jo-Ann Thompson
Jim Whipple

Eddie Alton, CAO

REGRETS: Tom Wells

GUESTS: Monique Legault, Director Best Start Program

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting opened at 6:30 pm.

1.0 DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None

2.0 BEST START UPDATE

Each Board Member was given a binder which contained the Best Start Plan. Monique Legault gave a brief overview of the status of Best Start implementation and where the program was headed and the financial impact to-date. Numerous questions were asked and it was noted that the Best Start Initiative has put a strain on DTSSAB resources and that every effort needed to be made to reduce this impact.

Monique will be attending a meeting in March to provide a further update as well as answer any questions on the plan. A concern was also raised on the impact that the Federal election may have on this if there is a change in leadership and this will be follow-up with the Ministry.

3.0 IN CAMERA SESSION

MOVED BY: B. Enouy
SECONDED BY: B. Hobbs

THAT the Board resolves to move into closed session to discuss human resource and accommodation issues.

CARRIED

MOVED BY: B. Enouy
SECONDED BY: B. Hobbs

THAT the Board resolves to rise from the in camera session with no report and reconvene with the regular Board meeting.

CARRIED

4.0 ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES – JANUARY 18, 2006

Clarification on an issue was provided.

MOVED BY: B. Hobbs
SECONDED BY: B. Enouy

THAT the minutes of the previous Board meeting held January 18, 2006 be hereby approved as amended.

CARRIED

5.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

None.

6.0 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

A question was asked regarding the issue of parking at 100 Market Street as well as clarification sought on the proposed entranceway construction that is being discussed and who is going to be responsible to pay for this. CAO to report back.

The potential impact of an Influenza Pandemic was discussed as it relates to the DTSSAB's ability to deliver service. A questionnaire was completed and sent to the Health Unit regarding the Enumeration Process for the Planning for Antiviral/Vaccine Distribution during an Influenza Pandemic. The CAO was instructed to ensure that this issue was further followed-up with the Health Unit and to determine if perhaps vaccine could be provided in advance.

7.0 MANITOULIN-SUDBURY DSSAB – STATEMENT OF CLAIM

The CAO was served with a statement of claim from the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB for the cross border bills received but not paid. Several of the DDA's served have decided to pool resources and hire a lawyer to fight these charges and a concern was raised as to whether the DTSSAB would be interested in participating. It was decided that since the bill was for \$47,977.50 and that the EMS Manager indicates that other DDA's owe the DTSSAB approximately \$630,355 for 2001, 2002 and 2003, that the DTSSAB should invoice for these costs and once paid, pay the amount we owe to Manitoulin-Sudbury.

The CAO is to advise the EMS Manager to have invoices prepared and sent to those DDA's that owe the DTSSAB funds.

8.0 EMS VEHICLE REPLACEMENT REPORT

A report was presented which outlined certain criteria that would be used when looking at replacing an ambulance, namely age of the vehicle and kilometers driven and this concept was approved. The report also touched upon potentially replacing three vehicles in 2006 and the Board did not deal with this issue but wanted a separate report on purchasing new vehicles.

MOVED BY: B. Enouy
SECONDED BY: B. Hobbs

THAT the Board approves the EMS Vehicle Replacement Report Guidelines.

CARRIED

9.0 MOHLTC EMS FUNDING LETTER

A letter was received indicating that the DTSSAB will receive \$99,084 for new and upgraded medical equipment. The purchases of this equipment can be from April 1, 2005 to March 31, 2006 and the DTSSAB purchased an ambulance during this period. A sign-off sheet will need to be completed in order to ensure that the funds are provided and the CAO was instructed to complete this.

10.0 CHILD CARE HEALTH & SAFETY FUNDING

The Ministry has approved an allocation of \$93,532 100% Ministry funded dollars for the purchase of Health & Safety Equipment for the Child Care Centres. These funds are distributed each year based on a list of needs identified by each Child Care Centre and then prioritized by the Child Care Manager.

MOVED BY: Jo-Ann Thompson
SECONDED BY: Jim Whipple

THAT the Board approves accepting and distributing the 100% Ministry funded Child Care Health & Safety dollars in the amount of \$93,532 based on a priority basis to the Child Care Centres.

CARRIED

11.0 SOCIAL HOUSING PRELIMINARY WRITE-OFF REQUEST

A report from the Social Housing Program was reviewed requesting permission to write off \$19,392.38 as uncollectible. These accounts have been submitted to a Collection Agency for collection.

Of the 29 tenants appearing on the write-off list, 20 had maintenance charge arrears. It was recommended that when the Social Housing staff receives notice that a tenant is leaving, that

they should conduct an inspection of the unit immediately and try to collect the funds before the tenant leaves the building, as once they have moved out it makes it much harder to recover the funds.

MOVED BY: Jim Whipple
SECONDED BY: Jo-Ann Thompson

THAT the Board approves the Social Housing write-off of outstanding balances totaling \$19,392.38 in December 2005 representing former tenant accounts who vacated during the twelve month period ended December 31, 2005.

CARRIED

12.0 CANADA-ONTARIO AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAM

The Board requested clarification on the following issues:

Impact on tenant of RGI vs Rent Supplement;
Is there enough appropriate units available;
What are the true admin costs to offer this program vs what is being funded;
Will there be any additional costs to the DTSSAB if this program is offered.

It was requested that the information be brought back to the next meeting in order to meet the March 15, 2006 deadline for acceptance of the program.

13.0 TEMISKAMING DISTRICT ASSESSMENT AND RESOURCE SERVICE NEWSLETTER REQUEST

A request was received to put in an article in the above newsletter regarding the DTSSAB.

MOVED BY: Jim Whipple
SECONDED BY: Jo-Ann Thompson

THAT the Board approves the DTSSAB being mentioned in the Temiskaming District Assessment and Resource Service Newsletter.

CARRIED

14.0 TEACHING AND LEARNING CONFERENCE REQUEST FOR FUNDING

A request from the Health Unit for funding to support the above conference was discussed. This conference is normally supported by staff attending the conference and as the DTSSAB receives it's funding from the same source as the Health Unit, the request was denied.

15.0 CORRESPONDENCE

A brief discussion took place on the correspondence and some clarification provided,

- Copy of MMAH Federal Funding Allocation
- Copy of SHSC Powerlines
- Copy of SHSC Hydro One Release
- Copy of SHSC Hydro One Q & A's
- Copy of MOHLTC Changes to health Care System

It was recommended that Social Housing apply for the funding for the Energy Audits.

MOVED BY: Dan Cote
SECONDED BY: Jim Whipple

THAT the Board accepts the correspondence as presented.

CARRIED

16.0 OTHER BUSINESS

The Ministry is asking for another redeployment plan for the use of the computers as some of the allocations were not approved. A revision has been made which identifies the area that the computers are to be used but not specifically who will be receiving them as this level of detail is not required.

MOVED BY: Dan Cote
SECONDED BY: Jim Whipple

THAT the Board approves the REVISED Technology Refresh/Redeployment Plan.

CARRIED

Revisions to the Employee Education and Development policy have been made to provide a cap on the amount that anyone individual can access in a year as well as to ensure that the amount paid out is budgeted for in the current year. Currently several staff members are taking courses under this policy.

MOVED BY: Jim Whipple
SECONDED BY: Dan Cote

THAT the Board approves the revisions made to the Employee education and development policy IV – 6.

17.0 NEXT MEETING

MOVED BY: Jim Whipple
SECONDED BY: Dan Cote

THAT the regular Board meeting of Wednesday January 25, 2006 is hereby adjourned at 8:12 p.m. to meet again on March 9, 2006 unless otherwise changed, or at the call of the Chair.

CARRIED