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MINUTES of the REGULAR MEETING of the BOARD  
THURSDAY, February 15, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.  
RRDSSAB Office, Fort Frances, ON  
MEETING #02/18

**PRESENT:** Ross Donaldson, Rainy River West (Vice-Chair)  
Harold Mosley, Town of Atikokan  
Debbie Ewald, Town of Rainy River  
Robert Burns, Rainy River East  
Lori-Ann Shortreed, Town of Emo  
Ken McKinnon, Township of LaVallee  
Colleen Fadden, Township of Lake of the Woods  
Ken Perry, Town of Fort Frances (Chair)  
Don Canfield, Rainy River Central  
George Heyens, Township of Morley  
Bill Langner, Township of Dawson  
James Gibson, Township of Chapple

**REGRETS:** Jennifer Johnson, Township of Alberton

**STAFF:** Dan McCormick, CAO - Secretary/Treasurer  
Leanne Eluik, Director of Finance & Asset Management  
Sandra Holt, Administrative Assistant/Recorder

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**1. Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

**2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

None.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including Board employees was added to the "In Camera" portion of the Agenda.

Resolution #07/18 MOVED BY Debbie Ewald and SECONDED BY Bill Langner:

**RESOLVED THAT** the Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board approve the agenda of February 15, 2018, as amended.

**Carried.**

**4. Presentations/Delegations**

None

**5. In-Camera**

The meeting moved in-camera.

Resolution #08/18 MOVED BY Colleen Fadden and SECONDED BY Debbie Ewald:

**RESOLVED THAT** the Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board now meet in-camera in order to address a matter pertaining to:

- Labour relations or employee negotiations.
- A proposed or pending acquisition of land for Board purposes or disposal of land no longer needed for Board purposes.
- Personal matters about an identifiable individual, including Board employees.

**Carried.**

The Chair reconvened the meeting to its regular session.

**In-Camera Report**

Issues discussed pertained to employee negotiations, a proposed or pending acquisition of land for Board purposes or disposal of land no longer needed for Board purposes and personal matters about an identifiable individual, including Board employees.

The Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board directed administration to proceed with changing the status of the Community Homeless Liaison position from contract to permanent full-time.

Resolution #09/18 MOVED BY George Heyens and SECONDED BY Bill Langner:

**RESOLVED THAT** the Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board approve the change in status of the Community Homeless Liaison position, from contract to permanent full-time, and the position be 100% provincially funded through the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI).

**Carried.**

**6. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the Regular Board Meeting held January 18, 2018 were reviewed.

Resolution #10/18 MOVED BY James Gibson and SECONDED BY George Heyens:

**RESOLVED THAT** the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board held January 18, 2018 be approved.

**Carried.**

**7. Business Arising from the Minutes**

**7.1 Annual General Meeting – May 17<sup>th</sup>**

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 17, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. Regular Board Meeting to be held at 2:00 p.m., with Dinner for Board Members and RRDSSAB Management Staff at 4:00 p.m. Location to be determined.

Resolution #11/18 MOVED BY Debbie Ewald and SECONDED BY Colleen Fadden:

**RESOLVED THAT** the Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board change the time of the Regular Board meeting scheduled for May 17, 2018 from 6:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Carried.**

**7.2 Transitional Housing (United Way)**

CAO updated board members on the Homeless Partnering Strategy (HPS) Application submitted in the amount of \$478,293 for Transitional Housing. There is only about \$1 million available for funding. However, due to the fact we have no shelter or transitional housing, it sounds like we may be a top priority.

## 8. New Business

### 8.1 Fire/Medic Pilot

A press release from the Canadian Union of Public Employees, dated February 2, 2018 was included in this evening's package.

A new provincial poll released shows that Ontarians are not on board with recent Liberal government changes that would redirect 911 medical calls away from paramedic ambulance services to fire departments.

To date, no municipality has volunteered to run a pilot, although the province has said trials would be in place by March 2018. In fact, municipalities, through their provincial umbrella group, have come out against moving to a medical response through fire departments. A paramedic fire model would increase costs for municipalities as an hour of fire service is 55% higher in cost than an hour of ambulance service. Municipalities pay 100% for fire services through the local tax base, while the province pays 50% of ambulance-based paramedic services.

CAO explained to board members the liabilities that would fall on us if this is passed, the question of public safety, and how this could gradually affect the fire departments.

The Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board directed administration to proceed with the resolution to call on the Government of Ontario to act immediately, so that legislative amendments, that will protect unwilling municipalities from being forced by arbitrators to have a fire medic pilot or program, are placed within the upcoming Budget Bill before the Ontario legislature rises for the provincial election.

Resolution #12/18 MOVED BY Colleen Fadden and SECONDED BY Debbie Ewald:

**WHEREAS** Bill 160, the *Strengthening Quality and Accountability for Patients Act* amended the *Ambulance Act* to permit the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care to enable two pilot projects hosted by willing municipal governments to allow fire fighters, certified as paramedics, to treat patients while on duty with a fire department; and

**WHEREAS** the Government of Ontario is committed to proceeding with the pilots and enabling the fire-medic model despite the absence of objective evidence to show that it would improve patient outcomes or response times; and

**WHEREAS** the current interest arbitration model, particularly in the fire services sector, allows arbitrators to impose awards on unwilling employers that directly impact the employer's ability to determine how it will deploy its workforce, as

evidenced by the experience of many municipalities in regards to the 24-hour shift; and

**WHEREAS** in the absence of legislative protection, unwilling municipalities may be forced to enter into a pilot or adopt a fire-medical model as a result of interest arbitration; and

**WHEREAS** the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and its municipal members have called on the Government of Ontario to introduce legislative amendments to the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997 and the Ambulance Services Collective Bargaining Act to preclude arbitrators from expanding the scope of work for fire fighters and paramedics respectively through interest arbitration awards; and

**WHEREAS** there is precedent for a restriction on the scope of jurisdiction of arbitrators in section 126 of the Police Service Act, which precludes arbitrators from amending the core duties of police officers; and

**WHEREAS** the Government of Ontario has committed that no unwilling municipal government will have a fire-medical pilot or program imposed upon them.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that:

1. The Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board calls on the Government of Ontario to act immediately so that legislative amendments, that will protect unwilling municipalities from being forced by arbitrators to have a fire medical pilot or program, are placed within the upcoming Budget Bill before the Ontario legislature rises for the provincial election.
2. A copy of this resolution be forwarded to The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario; The Honourable Dr. Eric Hoskins, Minister of Health and Long Term Care; The Honourable Marie-France Lalonde, Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services; The Honourable Kevin Flynn, Minister of Labour, The Honourable Bill Mauro, Minister of Municipal Affairs; Sarah Campbell, MPP (Kenora-Rainy River); Don Rusnak, MP (Thunder Bay-Rainy River); and Monika Turner, Director of Policy for the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

**Carried.**

## **8.2 Year End Reconciliations**

Administration is seeking approval to write-off \$12,406 in accounts receivable for the Heart and Stroke Foundation, and \$54,480.71 in Tenant Ledger accounts receivables.

The Director of Finance and Asset Management explained to Board Members the process and circumstances surrounding these write-offs. This does not take away the opportunity for collection of the tenant accounts receivables.

Resolution #13/18 MOVED BY James Gibson and SECONDED BY George Heyens:

**RESOLVED THAT** the Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board approve the write-off of the Heart and Stroke Foundation accounts receivable in the amount of \$12,406.00.

**Carried.**

Resolution #14/18 MOVED BY Bill Langner and SECONDED BY Harold Mosley:

**RESOLVED THAT** the Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board approve the write-off of Tenant Ledger accounts receivables in the amount of \$54,480.71.

**Carried.**

## **9. Reports**

### **9.1 CAO & Human Resources Report**

The CAO Report was included in this evening's package.

The dates for the ROMA AGM and Annual Conference were incorrectly noted on the report. It should read January 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Highlights included a meeting with Tony Brutto from the Ministry of Housing. All topics discussed focused on issues that directly affect our DSSAB and are being followed up with a formal submission.

Meeting was held with The Northwest Catholic District School Board to review their architect's proposals for the new child care centre.

The Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board hosted a meeting in Atikokan with several health related community partners to discuss suggested concepts for repurposing the Northstar School once the new JK to 12 school with a childcare centre is built.

We have been advised by the LHIN that we will be receiving \$180,000 to facilitate Opioid education and training for first line staff, service providers and community stakeholders across the Rainy River District. We will be working with Riverside Health Care Facilities to hold a 1 or 2 day event, which will include speakers,

education and training.

Discussion around the recent "Letters to the Editor" in the Atikokan Progress, The Fort Frances Times and the Westend Weekly, in regards to changes to the childcare centres in the district.

The CAO reminded board members of the NOSDA meeting in June. We will be looking for 3 board members to attend.

The Board received the Human Resources Report as part of this evening's package.

## **9.2 Finance**

There were no financial reports to review, due to year end.

Board Members were informed of the resignation of our Finance Supervisor.

## **9.3 Board Chair**

Board members discussed letters received from previous tenants.

Updated Board Members on the recent ROMA delegation meetings that were attended with the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Housing.

## **9.4 Committee Reports**

Board Members received an update on recent employee negotiations "In Camera".

The next meeting of the ad hoc Service Delivery Committee Meeting will be held on February 22, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

## **10. Other Business**

None

## **11. Information Items Attached**

The Board received an information package as part of this evening's agenda.

## **12. Information Items Available Upon Request**

None

**13. Next Meeting**

The next Regular Board meeting will be held March 15, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at the Rainy River District Social Services Administration Office, 450 Scott Street, Fort Frances.

**14. Adjournment**

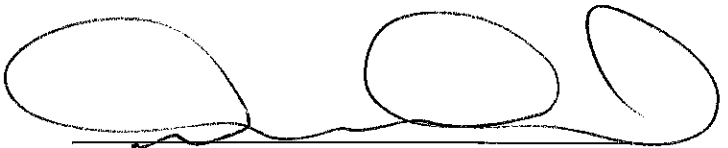
Resolution #15/18 MOVED BY George Heyens and SECONDED BY James Gibson:


**RESOLVED THAT** the Rainy River District Social Services Administration Board meeting be adjourned.

**Carried.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

  
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CHAIR (Ken Perry)

  
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SECRETARY-TREASURER (CAO)

  
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DATE APPROVED