

Regular Monthly Meeting April 29, 2019

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of Fundy Regional Service Commission held on Monday, April 29, 2019, at 10 Crane Mountain Rd., Saint John NB.

1. Call to Order

The Board Chairperson, Gary Clark, called the regular board meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

2. Record of Attendance

Gary Clark	Chairperson
Bette Anne Chatterton	Mayor, St. Martins
Don Darling	Mayor, Saint John
Grace Losier	Mayor, Grand Bay-Westfield
Nancy Grant	Mayor, Rothesay
Brenda Rathburn	Local Service District Representative
Jim Bedford	Local Service District Representative
John Cairns	Local Service District Representative
Cindy MacCready	Local Service District Representative (Alternate)

Absent

Glen Baxter, Vice Chairperson

OTHERS

Marc MacLeod, Executive Director, FRSC
Alicia Raynes, Recording Secretary, FRSC
Nick Cameron, Recreation Facilitator, FRSC
Brian Shannon, Building Inspector/Development Officer, FRSC
Tom Simpson, Chair CMEI
Les Weber, Regional Emergency Management Coordinator – Region 9, NBEMO
General Public

3. Approval of the Order of Business

The Chairperson asked for approval of the Order of Business

Motion: To approve the April 29, 2019 Agenda as presented

Moved:

Director Losier

Seconded:

Director Grant

Vote:

Motion Carried

4. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

None

5. Approval of the Minutes

Motion: To approve the March 25, 2019 minutes.

Moved:

Director Losier

Seconded:

Director Chatterton

Vote:

Motion Carried

6. Planning - Building Inspection - Q1

Brian Shannon, Building Inspector/Development Officer, FRSC presented the 1st Quarter Report for Building, Development & Planning for the Village of St. Martins & FRSC Rural areas.

Motion: To receive and file as presented

Moved:

Director Grant

Seconded:

Director Rathburn

Vote:

Motion Carried

7. EMO - Flood Update - Les Weber

Les Weber, Regional Emergency Management Coordinator-Region 9, NBEMO provided an overall update presentation (attached) on the 2019 flood. The River Watch Program began on March 11, 2019 and will end when the water level at the Jemseg gauge is at or below 3.6m. He also provided the different Alert definitions and criteria for each which included alert bulletins, advisories, watches, and warnings. Public information sessions were held to inform the public on how to sandbag as well as where to get sandbags in their areas. Mr. Weber reiterated that Municipalities have the 1st responsibility to deal with flood emergencies and the Province of NB has the 2nd responsibility.

Mr. Weber also provided the statistics for this year's flood including when sandbags became available to residents, the level of activation/response for each area to date, current water levels and the outlook over the next several days. It was indicated that we are not quite into the recovery phase as there are still many residents that haven't been able to return to their homes, but the planning has already started. Once we reach the recovery phase, water distribution centers will be established to provide residents access to clean water. Flood kits will also be made available.

A request was made to clarify the reasoning that Rothesay was at Level 1 Activation but Quispamsis and Saint John were at Level 2 Activation and Level 3 Activation. It was clarified that each municipality has the ability to select their own level of Activation. A request was made for Mr. Weber to discuss with EMO that sand bags should be available to anyone, anywhere, not just in the area in which they live.

Motion: To receive and file as presented

Moved:

Director Darling

Seconded:

Vote:

Director Bedford Motion Carried

8. Finance

a. Tender – Compact Loader

The low price from Tender #2019-01 was discussed and recommended out of 6 bids.

Motion: To approve purchase of the Case 321 F Compact Loader with extended warranty from Maritime Case Ltd. for up to \$123,958.50 including taxes in the Capital budget from the operating budget.

Moved:

Director Bedford

Seconded:

Director Losier

Vote:

Motion Carried

b. Emergency Purchase – Security System

In November, the security camera system had several failures due to the age of the system as well as rodent infiltration. The system failed on a number of occasions and eventually the site was operating without a camera system in place. The decision was made to repair the security system immediately for safety concerns under an emergency purchase. The timing of the motion was discussed and it was explained that the full cost was not available until labour was complete.

Motion: To approve and file the emergency purchase of a new security camera system for \$42,327.33 before tax for capital from the operating budget.

Moved:

Director Grant

Seconded:

Director Rathburn

Vote:

Motion Carried

9. CMEI – Host Community Projects - Tabled

At the March 25, 2019 meeting, the Commission requested further information from the KBM Outing Association in order to consider approval of funding for the annual host community projects. The item was tabled. Information was requested regarding the stability of the KBM, the status of our previous investments and the financial plan moving forward. The Executive Director reiterated that the information provided answered the questions in his opinion.

Motion: To take from the table consideration for approval of the annual host community projects evaluated and recommended by CMEI.

Moved:

Director Losier

Seconded:

Director Grant

Vote:

Motion Carried

The criteria for decisions of applications was discussed including the requirements under the application itself, current contracts with CMEI and regulatory requirements as provided. Specifically, concern was expressed about how low population impact projects like Hunter's education received funding verses larger population impact projects like RV Soccer. Tom Simpson,

Chair, CMEI was invited to speak. Mr. Simpson outlined the process including the subjectivity of the decisions. It was questioned whether or not the approval should be put on hold until the criteria for approval is revisited. It was suggested that a special sub-committee be developed to help with weighing the criteria for all applications for funding.

Motion: To have the Executive Director develop a scope for a special committee on criteria development for community projects.

Moved: Director Darling
Seconded: Director Losier
Vote: Motion Carried

The Executive Director stated that though the process could improve, delaying decisions could cause some projects to not move forward and this was an annual requirement under Order in Council 2005-112, so the recommendation was to approve.

Motion: Recommendation to approve the funding for host community projects as presented.

Moved: Director Darling
Seconded: Director Rathburn
Vote: Motion Carried

10. Recreation - Ice Strategy - Don Darling

Director Darling reiterated that the City of Saint John's proposal is to redistribute operating costs based on rink usage. Without a regional funding formula, the city will have to implement non-resident user fees to cover costs. The concern is that this will mean individual families from surrounding communities will be forced to pay more for their children to participate in ice sports. Some families will simply no longer to be able to afford it.

Motion: To commit to the principles of a regional arena funding formula that shall redistribute the applicable total operating cost deficit of all regional arenas among taxpayers of the respective municipalities and LSDs based on proportion of usage in the respective jurisdictions, understanding that operating cost deficits determined not to be applicable shall not be included in the funding formula and shall remain the responsibility of the host municipality.

Additionally, external consulting services be hired to define the applicable operating cost deficits by accessing, and reviewing for consistency, usage and financial data related to each regional arena and the Commission members agree the applicable operating cost deficits and usage data defined by the consultant will be binding.

Moved: Director Darling
Seconded: No Second
Vote: Motion Defeated

The importance of not disregarding and supporting the time and work of the experts on the committee which included all municipalities including Saint John was discussed.

Motion: To move forward with original timeline of the Regional Ice Strategy, and apply for a grant to fund a 3rd party consultant as recommended.

Moved:

Director Losier

Seconded:

Director Chatterton

Comment was requested from the Recreation Facilitator, Nick Cameron, regarding feedback from communities. The lack of information was seen as the major barrier. Director Losier made a request to withdraw previous motion and replace it. The request was approved.

Motion: To hire a consultant ONLY to bring greater clarity to the financial and usage information in the region.

Moved:

Director Losier

Seconded:

Director Chatterton

Vote:

Motion Defeated

Nay: Don Darling, Jim Bedford, Cindy MacCready, Brenda Rathburn, John Cairns

Chairperson Clark called for a motion to adjourn.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 2:47 pm.

Moved:

Director Rathburn

Seconded:

Director Losier

Vote:

Motion Carried

APPROVED (date)

Gary Clark, Chairperson

Alicia Raynes, Recording Secretary