

**Board of Directors
Minutes of the Meeting – February 17, 2022
Via Zoom**

In Attendance:

Alma Kiffoi, **Secretary**, LSD, Kent
Brent Pearson, **Vice-Chair** LSD, Glassville
Brian Hayden, LSD, Woodstock
Darryl Demmings, Mayor, Aroostook
Joseph Trevors, LSD, Peel
Karl Curtis, **Chair** - Mayor, Florenceville-Bristol
Lee Reed, LSD, Gordon
Marianne Bell, Mayor, Perth-Andover
Michael Allen, Mayor, Bath
Michael Stewart, Mayor, Centreville
Stephen Manuel, LSD, Canterbury
Tanya Cloutier, Mayor, Canterbury
Tom Eagles, Mayor, Plaster Rock
Tracy Demerchant, Mayor, Hartland

Regrets:

Arthur Slipp, Mayor, Woodstock
Graham Gill, LSD, Northampton
Lance Graham, Mayor, Meductic

Absent:

Connie Boone, LSD, Brighton
Gregory Boone, LSD, Coldstream
McKenzie McConnell, LSD - Simonds

Staff In Attendance:

Katelyn McGrath, Executive Director
Joan Kennedy, Financial Administrator
Bev Gullison, Office Administrator

Others Present:

Maurice Robichaud, Local Governance Reform Transition Facilitator

Call to Order:

The Chairperson, Karl Curtis called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest:

None

Adoption of Agenda:

22-02-01

Motion: To approve the agenda of the February 17, 2022 meeting.

Moved: Brent Pearson

Seconded: Tom Eagles



Marianne Bell requested that a brief update regarding the Local Governance Reform process, as it relates to the Regional Service Commission, be added to the February 17, 2022 Agenda.

Resolved, "that the February 17, 2022 agenda be approved with the addition of a Local Governance Reform update item".

Motion Carried

Adoption of Minutes:

22-02-02

Motion: To approve the minutes of the December 9, 2021 meeting.

Moved: Stephen Manuel

Seconded: Alma Kilfoil

Resolved, "that the minutes of the December 9, 2021 meeting be accepted and approved as presented".

Motion Carried

Presentations:

ESIC - Economic and Social Inclusion Corporation

A presentation from the Economic and Social Inclusion Corporation (ESIC) was provided by ESIC's Executive Director, Stephane LeClair.

Stephane LeClair thanks the Board for providing him the opportunity to meet and discuss the future partnership that will be formed between the Regional Service Commission and ESIC. Stephane LeClair stated that because of the recent local government reforms, additional responsibilities are being placed on the RSC and advised that ESIC connects to some of these expanded mandates, such as, Community Transportation Services and the integration of the Community Inclusion Networks.

Stephane LeClair advised that ESIC would provide the knowledge, expertise, resources, and funding to support the RSC team with these additional responsibilities, and a presentation titled, "Working Together Towards Community Development" was provided. This PowerPoint presentation outlined the mandates, roles and vision of ESIC, as it relates to regional collaboration within the Community Inclusion Network and Community Transportation Services and available funding opportunities.

Stephane LeClair informed the members that the transition of the Community Inclusion Networks must occur before the end of December 2022, and a memorandum of understanding/contract must be signed by January 2023, which will state that ESIC will provide funding to hire staff and that progress reports will be required at least twice annually outlining the progress made. Stephane LeClair advised that the contract will be very clear about the expected outcomes and the support that will be provided.

Katelyn McGrath advised that further documentation will be provided to the Board for review by the current working committee regarding the transition process when finalized.



Business Arising:

Canadian Municipal Network of Crime Prevention – Community Safety and Well-Being Plan

Katelyn McGrath advised that she wished to thank Mayor Karl Curtis and CAO, Sarah Pacey of the Town of Florenceville-Bristol for bringing this organization to our attention, as this organization is doing interesting work.

Katelyn McGrath stated that great feedback was received from community members who had attended the Canadian Municipal Network on Crime Prevention meeting conducted on February 3, 2022. The Executive Director stated that this organization would fall under the new Community Development and Public Safety mandates, and that next steps would be to create a committee once the Community Inclusion Network has been established under the Regional Service Commission.

Committee Reports

Katelyn McGrath stated that the next meeting of the Solid Waste Committee is scheduled for next week and advised that Barb Sharp, Waste Diversion Manager, should be provided with additional information relating to the progress of the Packaging and Printed Paper Program, which is a provincial legislated program, and an update will be provided when more information is available.

New Business:

Local Governance Reform Update

Katelyn McGrath introduced Maurice Robichaud, Transition Facilitator, for the Western Valley Regional Service Commission.

Maurice Robichaud offered a summary of his working experience and stated that there would be many challenges ahead during the transition period but advised there are also many opportunities exist to increase the level of cooperation to provide additional and better services to the residents of the Western Valley and noted that he looked forward to working with Katelyn McGrath and the Board.

Maurice Robichaud stated that a Transition Advisory Committee has been chosen and the initial meeting has been conducted. Maurice Robichaud advised that the Transition Advisory Committee members consisted of Mayors Karl Curtis, Tom Eagles, and Arthur Slipp, Local Service District members Brent Pearson and Steve Manuel, and Regional Service Commission staff Katelyn McGrath and Joan Kennedy. Maurice Robichaud advised that the role of this committee is to stay abreast of the processes, as we integrate the new services into the RSC. Maurice Robichaud also stated that we are also establishing additional working groups consisting of CAOs and Clerks from communities within the RSC.

Maurice Robichaud advised that the additional services that will be integrated within the RSC include Economic Development, Tourism promotion, Community Development, Regional Transportation, Recreation infrastructure cost sharing and the establishment of a Public Safety committee.



Maurice Robichaud stated that Community Development is the initial priority and Economic Development and Tourism promotion is also a high priority, and advised that more information regarding the integration process with these services will be available in the coming weeks.

Marianne Bell inquired about any big decisions that may be made by the Transition Advisory Committee related to the new municipalities, such as council composition and name changes. Maurice Robichaud stated that in the short-term he does not see any major decisions being made.

Marianne Bell requested that an update regarding Local Reform progress be provided at every Board meeting. Maurice Robichaud advised that the Board will be provided with an update at each Board meeting with information provided from the working group and the transition advisory committee and feedback from the Board will also be requested.

Brian Hayden inquired regarding local reform and First Nation's involvement, and he was advised that these questions should be directed to his Entity Facilitator.

Executive Director Update

Katelyn McGrath stated it is going to be a busy but exciting year and looks forward to assisting with facilitation of the new services and collaborating with the Board for the best interest of the entire Western Valley.

Brent Pearson questioned if we have sufficient office space to accommodate the new staffing requirements and Katelyn McGrath stated that our current office is capable of housing more staff.

Lee Reed inquired if the province will be providing any resources to the new Entities to assist with these additional services. Maurice Robichaud stated that he is not aware of any additional resources.

Maurice Robichaud stated that the Board members are encouraged to share the information provided with their communities.

In Camera Session:

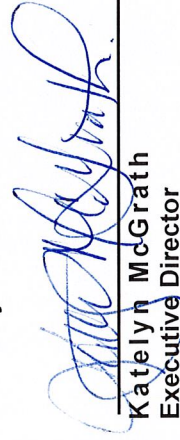
None

Adjournment:

Motion: The Chair, Karl Curtis, called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.
Moved: Brent Pearson

Recording Secretary: Bev Gullison


Alma Kilfoil
Secretary


Katelyn McGrath
Executive Director