

# Western New Brunswick

## Service Commission

Board of Directors  
**Minutes of the July 12, 2024, Special Meeting**  
**Western Valley Multiplex**

**Special meeting and discussion regarding Economic Development with the Board and:**  
**Donald Hammond – ONB**  
**Natalie Dubois – ELG**  
**Denis Rousel – ELG**  
**Emily Clark – PETL**  
**Stephanie Paul – PETL**

**Board Members In Attendance:**

Chair, Tom Eagles, Mayor, District of Tobique Valley  
Cindy McLaughlin, Mayor, Village of Southern Victoria  
Andrew Harvey, Mayor of Carleton North  
Leonard Foster, Mayor, Lakeland Ridges  
Tracey DeMerchant, Mayor, Hartland  
Lynn Hambrook, Chair, Western Valley Rural District

**Regrets:**

Trina Jones, Mayor, Woodstock

**Absent:**

**Staff In Attendance:**

Katelyn McGrath, CEO  
Andrea Callahan, Director of Operations (Recording Secretary)

**Call to Order:**

The Chair, Mayor Tom Eagles called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

No conflict of interest was proclaimed by those in attendance.

There were introductions of those present followed by a robust discussion of the economic development mandate and the path forward for the Commission to provide the mandate after the termination of the MOU with Ignite including the opportunity to ask questions to Provincial Staff.

After the discussion concluded, the Provincial Staff then departed the meeting.

Katelyn McGrath explained that ELG advised that the social mandate including homelessness is coming to the RSCs in the future and that ELG is considering our request to use RSSF funds to match the funds that Woodstock is receiving to employ two outreach workers

to gather data from the homeless in our entire region.

The Board expressed the desire to have Friday morning meetings going forward.

Chair, Tom Eagles explained that we need a map going forward for Economic Development. All are assured that Donald Hammond of Opportunities New Brunswick along with all of the other government departments want Economic Development to help our region succeed. He feels that it is the wish of the Board of Directors that it be delivered internally by the Western NB Service Commission. The job ad for a new candidate for the Director of economic Development can go out as soon as the termination agreement with Ignite is signed.

There was clarification of the resolution at the past meeting that the resolution gives the Chair authority to sign the termination agreement, that was the consensus of the Board, no need to call a meeting to approve the termination agreement.

**Motion to go in camera**

**24-0-23**

**Moved: Andrew Harvey**

**Seconded: Cindy McLaughlin**

**Motion Carried.**

**Motion to go out of camera**

**24-0-24**

**Moved: Tracey DeMerchant**

**Seconded: Cindy McLaughlin**

**Motion Carried.**

Katelyn asked to confirm the direction of the Board to her is that after the termination of the MOU with Ignite, she shall pursue the hiring of an individual for economic development, and that is what she should develop her budget based on. Tom asked if she wanted a motion on that, she confirmed that a motion would be best. Andrew asked if she was going to advertise already, she indicated, no, only after the termination has been signed. He agreed that yes, that was fine.

No questions on the motion, the Chair asked for confirmation that everyone understood what was going on, there were no questions.

**Motion to Advertise Internal Economic Development Position upon termination of Existing Ignite Contract**

**24-0-25**

**Moved: Tracey DeMerchant**

**Seconded: Cindy McLaughlin**

**Motion Carried.**

Next meeting will be early September.

**Motion to Adjourn 11:30 a.m.**

**Moved: Cindy McLaughlin**

**Seconded: Leonard Foster**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair, Mayor, Tom Eagles

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Secretary, Mayor, Trina Jones