

**Regular Monthly Meeting
June 24, 2014**

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of Fundy Regional Service Commission held on Tuesday, June 24, 2014 at Place 400, 400 Main Street, Saint John.

1. Call to Order

The Board Chairperson, Grace Losier, called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm

2. Record of Attendance

BOARD MEMBERS

Grace Losier, Mayor, Grand Bay-Westfield, Chairperson
Murray Driscoll, Mayor, Quispamsis, Vice-Chairperson
Bill Bishop, Mayor, Rothesay
Bette Ann Chatterton, Mayor, St. Martins
Mel Norton, Mayor, Saint John
Brenda Rathburn, Local Service District Representative [absent]
David Rogers, Local Service District Representative
Joan Seeley, Local Service District Representative
Sandra Speight, Local Service District Representative

OTHERS

Jack Keir, Executive Director
Mark McLeod, Fundy Region Solid Waste
Brian Shannon, Fundy Regional Service Commission
Ian Macdonald, Department of Environment and Local Government
Members of the Media

3. Approval of Order of Business

The Chairperson asked for approval of the agenda as presented.

Motion: To approve the agenda June 24, 2014 with the requested additions.

- Motion to have Board Meetings recorded and posted audio on Website.
- Redemption Centre
- Survey

Moved: Director Seeley
Seconded: Director Speight
Vote: Motion Carried

4. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

None

5. Approval of the Minutes

Motion: To approve minutes of the May 26, 2014 with the noted changes as circulated.

Moved: Director Seeley
Seconded: Director Chatterton

Discussion: Director Speight advised that under item 7, Election of Officers, paragraph two, nomination of Chairperson, should read Director Speight nominated Director Norton for Chairperson.

Vote: Motion Carried

6. Building and Planning Report

Motion: To receive and file the Building and Planning Report as presented.

Moved: Director Seeley
Seconded: Director Speight

Discussion: Director Seeley asked for clarification on what the criteria for issuing a development permit, how many site visits are performed for issued permits.

Building Inspector Shannon advised that detached buildings are exempted under the code in rural areas. For development permits it is usually one site visit and for building permits usually 4 visits.

Director Seeley asked about the conference content and attendance that the Building Inspector attended in May.

Mr. Shannon advised it was a planning conference which included a presentation on the 2010 National Building Code and the Flood Risk Reduction Strategy.

Vote: Motion Carried

7. Update on Regional Policing

7.1 - Terms of Reference

Executive Director Keir advised that this ToR is in response to the motion from the May meeting regarding studying the cost for Regional Policing. Following last month's meeting the Executive Director forwarded the motion and subsequently met with Police Chief Reid to discuss the parameters and the necessary steps going forward. Following approval from the Board of Police Commissioners to proceed with the study, the Executive Director and Chief Reid again met and drafted the TOR.

Director Seeley asked why there was a letter included from Mr. Waldschutz.

Executive Director Keir advised that it was to explain where they have been regarding this issue and the model used in the past.

Director Seeley asked if there will be details regarding the current costs and level of service from the RCMP outlined in the report.

Executive Director Keir confirmed that the report will include details on the level of service provided currently in the region as well as individual LSD's as well as the level of service and costs to be provided by the SJPF.

Director Seeley asked for further clarification regarding the draft report timeline of the 4th quarter.

Executive Director Keir advised that this is not an easy process, it is very complex and detailed, but would hazard to guess it would be sometime in the vicinity of October to December.

Chairperson Losier advised that having gone through the process in the past which at the time was done by the Solicitor General's Office and it involved gathering and analyzing a lot of information.

Director Seeley asked if the Board could receive regular updates.

Executive Director Keir advised that it will be included on the agenda going forward.

Motion: To approve Terms of Reference: Policing Services Report as presented.

Moved: Director Seeley

Seconded: Director Norton

Discussion: Director Bishop asked if this analysis and costing will be for the entire FRSC region as well as the individual communities so if an individual community wants to buy in they will know their cost.

Chairperson Losier advised that is the case and that if a community wishes to opt out that will be allowed as well.

Vote: Motion Carried

7.2 - \$10,000 for budget studies

Executive Director Keir advised that at the recent meeting of the Board of Police Commission he advised that he was coming with "hat in hand" as there was no budget available for the funding of the policing services study. Mayor Norton discussed the subject of accessing the funding of \$10,000 which is allocated under the Cooperative & Regional Planning Services for the study into Regional Policing.

Director Norton advised that he brought forth the idea of using the \$10,000 which is designated for different studies with the thought of opening a discussion as well as showing that FRSC would have some skin in the game.

Director Rogers asked if the funds would go to the City of Saint John.

Executive Director Keir advised that the funds would go towards the cost of the study, to help pay for the research and drafting of the study, from staff and any necessary resources which could include using a consultant.

Director Rogers commented that it is a big price to pay for people that may not want the services.

Director Speight asked what exactly the funds are.

Chairperson advised that they are for Planning, Policing Collaboration, Emergency Measures Planning and Regional Sports, Recreation and Culture.

Director Seeley commented that rather than allocating the full \$10,000, that for now only use the \$2,500 designated for Policing Collaboration.

Director Norton commented that this study will require city staff and resources to be dedicated to assist the Executive Director in drafting the report and that pooling funds will albeit in a very small way help to offset some of the costs.

Motion: To approve allocation of the funds in the amount of \$10,000 in the Cooperative & Regional Planning Services for the study into Regional Policing.

Moved: Director Norton
Seconded: Director Chatterton

Discussion: Director Seeley commented that the board approve the \$2,500 in the Policing Collaboration fund and then as the year comes to a close approve the balance of the other funds to the study.

Director Norton comment this study will involve countless hours, days, and the money, salary etc. normally paid to staff to work for the city of Saint John it will now be spent working for the region.

Director Bishop commented as he finds it difficult to spend money on a study that his people have said they are not interested in period. Maybe there will be interest, it is difficult to say, but it is not a lot of money.

Director Rogers commented being not too thrilled to spend the \$10,000, and asked if there will be more funding requests in the future related to this study?

Executive Director Keir advised that it is the Board's decision on what money they wish to spend on the study.

Director Chatterton commented with Rothesay and Quispamsis not interested in changing their current policing services that there would be a slim chance of the SJPF coming out to their community. Having said that, she would like to have the study done and have it finally resolved.

Director Driscoll asked if we will be agreeing to the \$10,000 and everything else is off the table. Although his community is happy with the current policing services, perhaps it is not a bad thing to go down that road, others working with the City of Saint John could be a benefit.

Chairperson Losier commented that it would be nice to have a study done on all available options, but realized that this is not possible given the fact that the City of Saint John cannot go with the RCMP. Having said that she would support the wishes of the board regarding the funding.

Chairperson Losier commented that when the Regional Facilities Commission was set up it was set up with the City of Saint John paying the lions share, and the other communities paying based on tax base. This has worked because it is important to support the regions city.

Director Norton commented that this discussion is about value for tax payers and working toward delivering value for the service.

Vote: Motion Carried
(Yea) Directors Norton, Bishop, Driscoll, Chatterton and Chairperson Losier
(Nay) Directors Rogers, Seeley and Speight

8. Motion to Record Fundy Regional Service Commission Meetings

Director Seeley asked for a motion to have all Fundy Regional Service Commission meetings recorded and those recordings placed on our website for immediate public consumption. The purpose for the motion is to have transparency. If the meeting is recorded and posted it is available for the public to access at anytime.

Chairperson Losier advised that the Town's staff looked into this when the council was considering recording their meeting. It was found that it is a fairly costly venture as it would require a microphone for each member then the equipment for the recording as well as the box for running the microphone etc. As there are no designated funds in this year's budget, it could be added to the discussion for the 2015's budget.

Director Seeley asked if the Chair could provide the cost received by the Town for the system.

Director Driscoll advised that the minutes of the meeting do not become official minutes until they are approved by the Board. He did not feel it necessary to record the meeting and post on the website.

The Chair asked if Director Seeley would be willing to withdraw the motion and she would provide the cost information as mentioned.

Executive Director Keir advised that he had contacted the Department of Local Government to discuss the idea and what the ruling is regarding translation of the recordings given the FRSC falls under the bilingual legislation. Unlike the recordings of the Saint John Council, which is recorded by a third party and not under contract by Saint John, if we were to record our proceedings it would be necessary to have it translated, which would be very costly.

Director Seeley agreed to withdraw the motion.

9. Redemption Centre

Director Seeley advised that she had been told that returnable cans, bottles etc. are deposited in the Blue Recycling Bins and are then separated by FRSW staff and sold for 5¢ to the redemption locations, who then sell them to Encorp Atlantic for 9¢. She asked why is staff separating the product and why is FRSW taking a loss of 4¢.

General Manager MacLeod stated that one of the issues is the number of licenses that the Province issues for redemption centres. Currently there are two which FRSW works with, one in Grand Bay-Westfield and the other is located on Saint John's Westside. The other issue is that the revenue from what is collected, even at 9¢ does not cover the overhead cost. A redemption centre would call for a good deal of additional capital investment.

Director Driscoll advised that licenses are limited so as not to flood the market and at this time Saint John have exhausted licenses. At the present an automated system is being looked at, which would possibly only require 1 staff.

10. Survey

Director Seeley asked the Executive Director to do a survey of the other RSC's on their successes. She would like to see what the other Boards are doing that is working so well as it seems in the media that they having more successes than our region.

Chairperson Losier commented that our Board has a unique composition which is much different. Our board is made up of 89% municipal and 11% unincorporated. But in saying that we could all have a better understanding of what is being done and accomplished.

Executive Director Keir advised he could put together a report; however it would be subjective in his view; as no one has had any big successes, they all have issues as well, but perhaps they may be a bit more cordial around the table.

The Chair commented the difference here is our region have already worked collaboratively on big items, but are not being given credit such as Regional Facility Commission.

11. Motion to Adjourn.

Chairperson Losier called for a motion to adjourn at 3:15

APPROVED (date) July 22, 2014



Grace Losier, Chairperson



Jeanne DeCourville, Recording Secretary

