



**Fundy Regional  
Service Commission**

Commission de Services  
Régionaux de Fundy

**Regular Monthly Meeting**

**October 26, 2020**

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Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of Fundy Regional Service Commission held on Monday, October 26, 2020, at 10 Crane Mountain Rd., Saint John NB.

**1. Call to Order**

The Board Chairperson, Nancy Grant, called the regular board meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. noting that all COVID-19 regulations have been followed including physical distancing and the use of masks.

**2. Record of Attendance**

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

**Absent**

**OTHERS**

Marc MacLeod, Executive Director, FRSC

Alicia Raynes, Recording Secretary, FRSC

Brenda MacCallum – Public Relations & Program Development Officer, FRSC

Ryan Donaghy – Assistant Deputy Minister, Department of Environment and Local Government

**3. Approval of the Order of Business**

The Chairperson asked for approval of the Order of Business

**Motion:** To approve the October 26, 2020 Agenda as presented.

Moved: Director Clark  
Seconded: Director McAlary  
Vote: *Motion Carried*

#### **4. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest**

None

#### **5. Approval of the Minutes**

**Motion:** To approve the September 28, 2020 minutes as presented.

Moved: Director Losier  
Seconded: Director McAlary  
Vote: *Motion Carried*

#### **6. Regionalization of Solid Waste Collection – Ryan Donaghy**

Chairperson Grant introduced Ryan Donaghy, Assistant Deputy Minister, Department of Environment and Local Government. Mr. Donaghy provided a presentation regarding the regionalization of solid waste collection in the Fundy Region. It was explained that there appears to be opportunity for regionalization in the Fundy Region looking at the current collection routes and contracts. It was noted that there are less players in today's market, so there has been an increase in the cost of contracts. Currently, LSDs in the Fundy Region have two contracts.

Mr. Donaghy explained that some areas in the province have contracts going to their own equipment and others have optimized their contracts. It was suggested that a path forward would be to study the case for optimization of contracts versus having own service. Additionally, a cost sharing formula should be agreed upon based on principles before putting in numbers as there will be both winners and losers with this approach. It appears that the bulk of savings would be in the pickup and labor costs.

Mr. Donaghy also spoke about the status of the printed paper and packaging program in the province. It was explained that New Brunswick is progressing down the road to have a regulation brought in. Once the draft regulation is complete, it will be posted for feedback. Industry will then design a program in consultation with the RSCs. Once approved, industry would have a time period to implement the program. The timeline for implementation would be set out in the regulation. Industry will also be looking at such things as how they deal with packaging once it is collected.

Mr. Donaghy explained that from today to implementation, we would likely be looking at a couple of years.

Chairperson Grant thanked Mr. Donaghy for his presentation.

#### **7. Finance**

##### **a. Q3 2020 Financial Statements**

Chairperson Grant introduced the new format of the FRSC Financial Statements. The new format provides columns for percentage of annual budget, pro-rated annual budget and percentage of pro-rated annual budget, which provides year to date numbers for comparison.

Executive Director MacLeod provided a brief overview of the new format, explaining that the new columns show where we are expected to be at this point in time. It was decided to go with the percentage as it gives a quick snapshot of where we are today and clearly indicates if we are where we expected to be. Currently, the Q3 results show a surplus of over \$650,000.

**Motion:** To receive and file the Q3 2020 Financial Statements as presented.

Moved: Director Clark  
Seconded: Director McAlary  
Vote: *Motion Carried*

Executive Director MacLeod asked for feedback regarding the new format and whether board members would rather see the dollar value or the percentage. The current format using percentage was agreeable to everyone.

**b. 2021 Budget**

Chairperson Grant explained that the 2021 draft budget has been presented and circulated for approval as per the Legislation for the 45-day review. To date, no written comments have been received.

Executive Director MacLeod noted that there were some concerns about not increasing the tipping fees but nothing negative.

**Motion:** To approve the 2021 Budget as presented.

Moved: Director Losier  
Seconded: Director Clark  
Vote: *Motion Carried*

**8. Security Access**

Executive Director MacLeod provided a brief background of the security access system at the Crane Mountain Landfill. It was explained that the current security system was rendered inoperable due to a lightning strike on August 25, 2020. Because the system was obsolete, it will need to be replaced.

It was further explained that because the site is remote in nature and the FRSC has expanded operations to include evening and overnight operations, we would like to expand the current system to make the site more secure and control access to the site. This new system would allow electronic access for the gate as well as other facilities onsite for each employee. Three reputable companies were contacted and two of those companies have responded with quotes. Staff is proposing that the Security Access project be funded from the capital reserve fund due to the cost of the construction and 'tie-in' of the gas system for cell #5 and #6 coming in lower than anticipated. This would mean no budgetary concerns as we are still spending the amount that was agreed upon.

The level of security required at the facility was also discussed. It was explained that although the FRSC does not have a history of major thefts, it is better to be proactive rather than reactive. In addition, it was noted that improving employee safety was an important consideration as there have been increasing industry concerns and regulation about domestic violence and harassment in the workplace.

**Motion:** The Commission authorize the purchase of a new security access system for the Crane Mountain landfill site for up to \$37,000 plus HST to be funded from the capital reserve fund.

Moved: Director Losier  
Seconded: Director Clark  
Vote: *Motion Carried*

**9. Update Plastic Checkout Bag Bylaw – Brenda MacCallum**

Chairperson Grant introduced Brenda MacCallum, Public Relations & Program Development Officer, FRSC, who provided an update on the Plastic Checkout Bag Bylaw. In summary, the bylaw being considered would state that plastic checkout bags can no longer be handed out at retail locations. The retailer may choose to provide a paper bag; however, they would be required to charge a small fee, the amount of which can be decided by the retailer. It was explained the reason businesses have to charge for paper bags is because the goal is not to switch from plastic bags to paper bags, as paper has a larger carbon footprint. The goal is to encourage people to choose better options such as reusable bags. This bylaw is aligned with what is currently in place in PEI, and Nova Scotia, as well as in Moncton, Riverview and Dieppe.

It was explained that plastic bags have already been removed from the recycling stream, however, there are still lots of plastic bags showing up at the recycling depot locations in the region. In addition, the Federal Government has announced that they are planning to implement a ban on all single use plastics and would like to see it in place by 2021. The FRSC would like to keep things on track to align with the other Atlantic Provinces.

Ms. MacCallum explained that the FRSC and the Saint John Region Chamber of Commerce conducted a survey for local businesses to see how they would be affected if a plastic checkout bag bylaw was introduced. The survey found that 75% of respondents would support a plastic checkout bag ban, with only 10% strongly opposed and 8% somewhat opposed.

It was explained that the next step moving forward would be working with councils to have the bylaw implemented by the fall of 2021. This date was suggested by the retail council in order to allow businesses time to use up their current stock of plastic bags.

A discussion was had surrounding the timeline and a suggestion was made to lobby the provincial government to make this a province wide bylaw.

**Motion:** To ask municipalities to have the plastic checkout bag bylaw in place by June 30, 2021 and have the FRSC send a letter to municipalities about the new timeline.

Moved: Director Clark  
Seconded: Director McAlary  
Vote: *Motion Carried*

**Motion:** To have the Executive Director elevate the discussion to the Provincial level with the intent to get a provincial approach.

Moved: Director Losier  
Seconded: Director Clark  
Vote: *Motion Carried*

Chairperson Grant called for a motion to adjourn.

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 11:25 am.

Moved: Director Losier  
Seconded: Director MacCready  
Vote: *Motion Carried*

APPROVED (date) Nov. 23, 2020

*Nancy Grant*  
Nancy Grant, Chairperson

*Alicia Raynes*  
Alicia Raynes, Recording Secretary