

GENERAL MEETING

DATE: Wednesday November 23, 2016
LOCATION: 78 Principale
Municipal Building Community Room
Rivière-Verte, NB
TIME: 7 :00 p.m.

MINUTES OF MEETING # 23

1.2. Attendance and Call to Order

Before proceeding to the official agenda, the Chair, Mr. Pierre Michaud, wanted to make a few comments on the amalgamation of Upper Madawaska. November 14 was a memorable and historic date for the Upper Madawaska municipalities. He said that if we want to encourage regional collaboration in order to make our regions stronger and richer, voluntary amalgamations are desirable. That's what the members of the Board realized when they participated in the day of reflection. The mayors of the four municipalities subsequently expressed their agreement by a municipal council resolution. Mr. Pierre Michaud thanked Mr. Louis Labrie, who was heavily involved in the process.

Mr. Michaud also said that the Village of Clair had fulfilled all the conditions involving capital borrowings for their health project. It's a project for the entire Upper Madawaska region, even though the Village of Clair is leading it. The support of nearby communities and the involvement of local businesspeople made a significant contribution to bringing it to fruition.

The meeting came to order at 7:10 p.m. Mr. Pierre Michaud, Chair of the Board, welcomed everyone.

Members attending

Bouchard, Pierrette
 Caron, Francine
 Chouinard, Louis
 Deschênes, Marcel
 Desjardins, Allain
 Dubé, Roland
 Labrie, Louis

Leblond, Michel
 Levesque, Roger, Vice-Chair
 Martel, Alain
 Martin, Brigitte
 Michaud, Pierre, Chairman
 Roussel, France
 Roy, Paul
 Simard, Cyrille

Deputy mayor of Saint-François
 Mayor of Baker Brook
 Mayor of Lac Baker
 Mayor of Grand Falls
 Mayor of the Rural Community of Saint-André
 Mayor of Saint-Hilaire
 Representing the LSD (Local Service District) and
 president of the province of New Brunswick
 LSD committee
 Mayor of Rivière-Verte
 Mayor of Sainte-Anne de Madawaska
 Representing the LSD
 Representing the LSD
 Mayor of Clair
 Mayor of Drummond
 Representing the LSD
 Mayor of Edmundston

Somers, Nicole	Mayor of Saint-Quentin
St-Amand, Carmel	Mayor of Saint-Léonard
St-Jarre, Luc, Executive committee member	Representing the LSD
Staff attending	
Picard, François	Executive Director
Rioux, Nicole	Administrative Assistant – Head Office
Guest from 7:15p.m. to 7:30p.m.	
Ouellette, Lise	Chairwoman of the Core Leadership Team of Acadia of the Lands and Forests
Guests from 7:30 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.	
Darveau, Marie-Josée	Sergeant, Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Sergeant Marc Violette	Sergeant, RCMP
Media	
Goulet, Daniel	Info weekend
Fournier, Gilles	L'Étoile – Édition Nord-Ouest

3. **Approval of Agenda**

Ms. Somers suggested that the RCMP presentations be held either at the end of the meetings or separately because not all members are concerned by the service.

The Chair read the agenda in the notice of meeting.

Motion No. 1

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Roland Dubé, seconded by Mr. Marcel Deschênes and unanimously carried, it was

MOVED To adopt the agenda for the general meeting of November 23, 2016, as circulated.

CARRIED

4. **Presentations:**

a) Mrs. Lise Ouellette, Chairwoman of the Core Leadership Team of the Acadia of the Lands and Forests

According to Ms. Ouellette, things are going well and the team is obviously heading in the right direction. The Core Leadership Team (CLT) is the legacy of the economic summit held as part of the 2014 World Acadian Congress. It is an independent organization incorporated in New Brunswick, Québec and the State of Maine. She mentioned that Mr. Allain Desjardins is a new and very active Board member and that currently around one hundred people are regularly involved in various committees. Ms. Lise Ouellette gave an overview of the Core Leadership Team's activities and results. She indicated that the CLT is organizing a day for purchasers and suppliers in February 2017. These purchasers are large manufacturers that define/identify their needs for subcontractors, representing about \$15 million in local purchases. Currently, the work consists of matching service providers in the region with the needs expressed by the businesses. CLT wants to bring suppliers and purchasers together to pursue discussions and continue to work together after the event.

The report will be emailed to members.

Mr. Allain Desjardins said that he feels lucky to be part of a dynamic team and to work on very interesting matters. Participation from the southern Madawaska region is important. He congratulated and thanked Ms. Lise Ouellette for her great work. He hoped that all members of NWRSC would become members of the CLT because every \$1 invested brings in \$3 in regional economic development, besides economic spin-offs. He said that it is a win-win situation for everyone.

Mr. Cyrille Simard noted that the CLT's slogan is "Succeed Here". That's the movement, to demonstrate that you can succeed here, in a large territory that is completely natural even though there are different challenges and barriers. The project knows no borders. It's a demonstration that these people can work together as they always have.

The Chair, Mr. Pierre Michaud, reiterated that the CLT is a great match for our mandate to collaborate and create wealth in our area. Revenir

Ms. Lise Ouellette said that the CLT wants to be accountable and she would like to return to make presentations to the members of NWRSC's Board and show the progress made, because NWRSC is part of this movement. www.succeedhere.org

b) Royal Canadian Mounted Police – Sergeant Marie-Josée Darveau and Sergeant Marc Violette

Sergeant Marie-Josée Darveau introduced the new RCMP officers patrolling the region. Sergeant Darveau and Sergeant Violette gave an overview of activities during the third quarter at the Clair, Grand Falls, Rivière-Verte and Saint-Léonard detachments. The report will be emailed to Board members.

5. Minutes of general meeting of September 28, 2016 for approval

Motion No. 2

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Allain Desjardins, seconded by Mr. France Roussel and unanimously carried, it as

REVOLVED To accept the minutes of the general meeting of September 28, 2016, as circulated. **CARRIED**

6. Minutes of the executive committee meeting of November 9, 2016 for approval

Motion No. 3

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Cyrille Simard, seconded by Mr. France Roussel and unanimously carried, it was

RESOLVED To accept the minutes of meeting of the executive committee meeting of November 9, 2016, as presented. **CARRIED**

7. Business arising from the minutes

None

8. Statement of earnings to end of September 2016

The ED told members that the new Director of Finance, Ms. Johanne Thibodeau, had been hired and would start work on December 5, 2016. Ms. Thibodeau worked for Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton for 14 years. The ED presented the income statement as of September 30, 2016. The members asked for explanations on shared services and regional planning, as well as on the criteria used to decide whether to fund or contribute to a project. This year, the regional planning budget was substantially reduced because the province had not yet set framework policies for the regional plan. The ED listed a few value-added projects carried out for our clients, the municipalities. The latter highly value the involvement of NWRSC employees in developing their projects.

Motion No. 4

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Luc St-Jarre, seconded by Mr. Michel Leblond and unanimously carried, it was

MOVED To accept the statement of earnings as of September 30, 2016 as presented by the ED with the following results: gross income of \$ 3 682 601.42, operating expenses of \$3 581 225.4 net income of 101 376.18 dollars.

CARRIED

9. Motions: For the planning service and for the solid waste services

Motion No. 5

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Michel Leblond, seconded by Mr. Louis Labrie and unanimously carried, it was

RESOLVED That for the solid waste sector,

- **That as** a surplus is anticipated in the solid waste sector, the Commission transfer \$50,000 from NWRSC's account, folio 29434, for the Manulife Securities closing fund. At the general meeting on November 25, 2015, members had already approved this amount as indicated in the 2016 budget. Prepared as per the information received from the directors of each sector;
- **That as** a surplus is anticipated in the solid waste sector, the Commission transfer \$150,000 from NWRSC's account, folio 29434, to the capital reserve at the Royal Bank of Canada, account 005 00774-1006774. At the general meeting on November 25, 2015, members had already approved an amount of \$100,000 as indicated in the 2016 budget. Prepared as per the information received from the directors of each sector;
- **THAT The NWRSC authorize** a stop payment on cheque #4906, issued on September 26, 2016, to *Démarreurs des Maritimes (1990) Ltée* in the amount of \$316.40. Following a review, the suppliers have never received the cheque in question. This stop payment will be approved by two signing officers, including Messrs. Pierre Michaud and François Picard by Internet using the Caisse populaire's AccèsD system in November 2016;

For the planning sector,

- **That as** a surplus is anticipated in the planning sector, the Commission authorize future transfers from NWRSC's current account, folio 29434, to the existing reserve funds, to the maximum allowed in the planning sector operating budget for the current year, distributed as follows:

- Operations reserve fund, folio 10254 ES-1	\$10,000.00
- Capital reserve fund, folio 10254 ES-2	\$10,000.00
- Legal Fees reserve fund, folio 10254 ES-3	\$10,000.00
- Special Projects reserve fund, folio 10254 ES-4	<u>\$10,000.00</u>
For a grand total of	<u>\$40,000.00</u>

This transfer will be approved by two signing officers, including Messrs. Pierre Michaud and François Picard by Internet using the Caisse populaire's AccèsD system in November 2016. Prepared as per the information received from the directors of each sector;

- **That the NWRSC authorize a** transfer of funds to reimburse permits to the municipalities and LSDs for July to September 2016. The amount of the transfer of funds is \$98,796.60 from account 29434 ES-2 to NWRSC's current account, folio 29434. Since certain payments have already been made by Interac into NWRSC's current account, folio 29434, the amount of the transfer will be \$89,423.25. This transfer will be approved by two signing officers, including Messrs. Pierre Michaud and François Picard by Internet using the Caisse populaire's AccèsD system in November 2016;

Baker Brook	\$ 362.00
Clair	\$ 263.00
Lac Baker	\$ 3 165.60
Rivière-Verte	\$ 2 884.50
Saint-François	\$ 1 932.00
Ste-Anne-de-Madawaska	\$ 1 086.50
Saint-Hilaire	\$ 805.00
Rural Community of Saint-André	\$ 584.00
Saint-Léonard	\$ 53 692.50
Saint-Quentin	\$ 3 311.50
LSD	<u>\$ 26 710.00</u>
	<u>\$ 98 796.60</u>

- As mentioned in Motion # 8 in the minutes of the general meeting of September 28, 2016, and if the NWRSC 2017 budget is adopted as presented, **that** the Commission transfer \$20,000 from account 10254 ES-1, operations reserve fund, to NWRSC's account, folio 29434, as well as \$26,000 from account 10254 ES-4, special projects reserve fund, to NWRSC's account, folio 29434, for a total of \$46,000, in order to reduce members' contributions for the 2017 fiscal year;
- **That** NWRSC reimburse \$9,751.75 to the Core Leadership Team of Acadia of the Lands and Forests; being the sum collected by NWRSC from participating municipalities for October to December 2016.

CARRIED

10. 2017 Budget for Approval

The Chair noted that the municipalities have had longer than 45 days to look at the budget. Mr. Marcel Deschênes suggested that in future a meeting be organized with the municipal GMs and clerks to discuss the budget. Ms. Nicole Somers suggested that as we are a Regional Service Commission all members should be participating in all services, something that would allow us to maintain the operating costs and maintain the expertise of human resources. Mr. Doris Blanchard said that there is going to be a meeting for municipal GMs and administrators on December 1 at the E & P Sénéchal Centre in Grand Falls on improvements to the CSRs. Anybody with suggestions can pass them on to their GM and/or administrator.

Motion No. 6

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Cyrille Simard seconded by Mr. Luc St-Jarre, it was

PROPOSED To accept NWRSC's 2017 budget, presented this past September 28, in the amount of 4 499 811 dollars.

A vote was called:

For: 17 votes (94.4% of members) representing 97.2% of the population (Mrs. Francine Caron, Mr. Pierre Michaud, Mr. France Roussel, Mr. Cyrille Simard, Mr. Marcel Deschênes, Mr. Louis Chouinard, Mr. Allain Desjardins, Mr. Roger Levesque, Mrs. Pierrette Bouchard, Mr. Roland Dubé, Mrs. Nicole Somers, Mr. Luc St-Jarre, Mrs. Brigitte Martin, Mr. Louis Labrie, Mr. Paul Roy, Mr. Alain Martel, Mr. Michel Leblond).

Against: 1 vote (5.6% of members) representing 2.8% of the population (Mr. Carmel St-Amand)

CARRIED BY A MAJORITY

11. Core Leadership Team of Acadia of the Lands and Forests 2017 Budget for Approval

After a discussion, funding for the Core Leadership Team of Acadia of the Lands and Forests regional collaboration project will be on a voluntary basis.

Motion No. 7

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Allain Desjardins, seconded by Mr. Michel Leblond, it was

MOVED To approve a voluntary contribution of \$1 per capita to the Core Leadership Team of Acadia of the Lands and Forests.

A vote was called:

For : 13 votes (72.2% of members) representing 77.4% of the population (Mrs. Francine Caron, Mr. Pierre Michaud, Mr. Cyrille Simard, Mr. Louis Chouinard, Mr. Allain Desjardins, Mrs. Pierrette Bouchard, Mr. Roland Dubé, Mr. Luc St-Jarre, Mrs. Brigitte Martin, Mr. Louis Labrie, Mr. Paul Roy, Mr. Alain Martel, Mr. Michel Leblond).

Under study/Against: 5 votes (27.8% of members) representing 22.6% of the population (Mr. France Roussel, Mr. Marcel Deschênes, Mr. Roger Levesque, Mr. Carmel St-Amand, Mrs. Nicole Somers).

Note that these members want to consult their respective Councils, and that if they make a contribution it will be confirmed at a later date.

CARRIED BY A MAJORITY

Mr. Cyrille Simard explained why NWRSC is acting as an intermediary for funding the CLT. He said that the concept was established after the World Acadian Congress and the first group that decided to contribute \$1 per person to the CLT was the Témiscouata CRM. NWRSC was identified

as the organization representing all of northwestern New Brunswick. During his speech in favor of the CLT, Mr. Simard added that NWRSC has existed since 2013 and faced a number of challenges in establishing things. He continued by saying that we can decide to vote for a project that brings people together, contributes to economic development and is to everyone's advantage. We need to find initiatives and projects that none of us can carry out individually, but that are possible if we work collectively.

12. Regional Emergency Measures and Training – Mrs. Nicole Somers

Motion No. 8

Upon motion duly made by Mrs. Nicole Somers, seconded by Mrs. Francine Caron, it was

MOVED that the NWRSC take steps to obtain training on emergency measures in the region.
MOTION WITHDRAWN

It was decided to invite Ms. Katie Elisio, the new Regional Emergency Measures Coordinator, to our next meeting to identify the training needs for each municipality.

13. Correspondence Report

Motion No. 9

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Alain Martel, seconded by Mr. Carmel St-Amand and unanimously carried, it was

RESOLVED That the correspondence report from September 22, 2016 to November 16, 2016, be accepted as circulated.
CARRIED

14. Executive Director's Report

Motion No. 10

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Cyrille Simard, seconded by Mr. Louis Labrie and unanimously carried, it was

RESOLVED That the Executive Director's report from September 22, 2016 to November 23, 2016, be accepted as circulated.
CARRIED

15. Other Business

- Follow-up from the workshop with Minister Serge Rousselle – Mr. Marcel Deschênes

Mr. Marcel Deschênes informed members that the Town of Grand Falls is holding talks with the Rural Community of Saint-André and the Town of Saint-Léonard about working together more closely. The four mayors have met several times and these municipalities share the same Chamber of Commerce. Someone will be hired to look after economic development. He confirmed that their urban planning department is getting along fine and that extra staff will be hired.

Mr. Allain Desjardins expressed his frustration and dissatisfaction with and concerns about the planning department and warned that things had to change. He requested a meeting with the GM and the planning department to clarify and define their respective roles. He invited the three other communities to participate in this discussion table.

In the Chair's opinion, a meeting will definitely take place to bring the parties closer together, because our region faces many challenges. However, the fact that NWRSC has representation from

all communities in our territory is an asset and a strength. NWRSC is accountable to the municipalities, the region and the province. He said that the wealth created in the Upper Madawaska and in the Lower Madawaska and Restigouche regions is complementary and that everyone has something to gain by being at the same table.

It was decided to hold the January meeting behind closed doors.

16. Ajournment

Motion No. 11

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Roland Dubé, seconded by Mrs. Nicole Somers, it was

RESOLVED To adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m.

CARRIED

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PIERRE MICHAUD
Chairman

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FRANÇOIS PICARD
Executive Director