



GENERAL MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, March 17th, 2021

LOCATION: Videoconference

“ZOOM”

TIME: 6 :30 p.m.

MINUTES OF MEETING # 46

1.2. Attendance and call meeting to order

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 p.m. Mr. Jean-Pierre Ouellet, Chair of the Board, welcomed everyone, especially to our guests. Mr. Alex Berry, Project Manager - Community Funding - GNB. Ms. July Synnott, Coordinator - Economic and Social Inclusion Society of NB. Mr. Stéphane Leclair, Executive Director of SIES. Mr. Marcel Vienneau, asset project coordinator - AFMNB. Mr. Joël Olivier, Director of Member Services. He asked people to take a few minutes to review the document on Public Meeting by Video Conference - Public Information Documents.

Members attending

OUELLET, Jean-Pierre, president
CHOUINARD, Louis
BOSSÉ, Jules
ROY, Paul
LEVESQUE, Josée
MARTEL, Alain
SIMARD, Cyrille
LEVESQUE, Marcel
DESCHÊNES, Marcel
ROUSSEL, France
ST-AMAND, Carmel
LEBLOND, Michel

Mayor of Haut-Madawaska Community
Mayor of Lac Baker
Representing the LSD
Representing the LSD
Representing the LSD (District de services locaux)
Representing the LSD
Mayor of Edmundston
Mayor of Rural Community of Saint-André
Mayor of Grand Falls
Mayor of Drummond
Mayor of Saint-Léonard
Mayor of Rivière-Verte

Members absent

SOMERS, Nicole
LEVESQUE, Roger, Vice-Chair

Mayor of Saint-Quentin
Mayor of Sainte-Anne-de-Madawaska

Staff attending

BELLEFLEUR, Lise
THIBODEAU, Johanne
PRADO, Adrian
CASTONGUAY, Marie-Eve
MAAREF, Alaa

Executive Assistant
Financial Director
Territorial Analyst – Research and Sustainable Development
Acting Executive Director
Geomatics coordinator

Guests

LEVESQUE, Tom
BERRY, Alex
SYNNOTT, July
LECLAIR, Stéphane
OLIVIER, Joël
VIENNEAU, Marcel

Regional Emergency Management Coordinator
Project Manager - Community Funding - GNB
Coordinator - Economic and Social Inclusion Society of NB
Executive Director of SIES
Director of Member Services - AFMNB
Asset project coordinator - AFMNB

Media
ROY, Allison

Acadie Nouvelle

3. Disclosure of interest

None was declared

4. Approval of agenda

Motion No. 1

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

RESOLVED That at the request of a member the agenda of the general meeting of March 17, 2021 be accepted as amended, adding in Other businesses a) Petition on social networks on behalf of the CSRNO.

CARRIED

5. Minutes of the General meeting of January 27th, 2021, for approval

Motion No. 2

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

RESOLVED To accept the minutes of the General meeting of January 27th, 2021.

CARRIED

5. a) Business arising from the minutes

i) Follow-up: Unsightly premises – Agreement between the NWRSC and its members

Following the last meeting, Ms. Castonguay and Mr. Scott Couturier finalized the draft agreement. The letter of agreement was presented to the members of the Board of Directors.

Motion No. 3

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

RESOLVED that, on a voluntary basis, the municipalities and LSDs will have the option to landfill debris from unsightly premises that have been demolished, without cost, up to a maximum of two or three residential buildings per member per calendar year.

The CSRNO accepted the agreement – incentive, landfilling at no cost, as presented.

CARRIED

6. Minutes of the executive committee meeting of February 16th, 2021, for approval

Motion No. 4

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Eric Marquis, seconded by Mr. Marcel Levesque and unanimously carried, it was

RESOLVED To accept the minutes of the executive committee meeting of February 16th, 2021.

CARRIED

6. a) Business arising from the minutes

None

7. Motions : For the Planning Services and the Solid Waste Services for approval

Motion No. 5

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

RESOLVED

Development Sector

- That the CSRNO authorize reimbursement to the payee of a type-1 subdivision application in the amount of \$225 which ended up not being necessary. The receipt number is 3874 . This subdivision application, which was supposed to be reimbursed to the LSDs at the end of 2021, will not be reimbursed.

Solid Waste Sector

- That the Executive Director, the Director of Finance or the Chairman be authorized to issue and to sell to the New Brunswick Municipal Finance Corporation a Northwest Regional Service Commission debenture in the amount of \$2,000,000, under the conditions stipulated by the New Brunswick Municipal Finance Corporation, and it is RESOLVED that the Northwest Regional Service Commission shall agree to issue postdated cheques to the order of the New Brunswick Municipal Finance Corporation, on request, to pay the capital and interests of the said debenture.

We will receive a debenture for a total of \$2,000,000, \$900,000 of which to be repayable over 5 years and the other \$1,100,000 of which to be repayable over 10 years.

CARRIED

8. Income Statement to end of February 2021

The Director of Finance, Ms. Johanne Thibodeau, read out the income statement. She clarified that a generator outage explained the lack of income from biogas. Repairs are taking longer than expected because the firm responsible for the repairs is in Ontario. With the legislation and restrictions in effect due to COVID-19, it is almost impossible for them to come to New Brunswick. Mr. Tom Levesque mentioned that since this is an essential piece of equipment it might be possible to get WorkSafe NB to approve an isolation plan. Mr. Levesque will take the necessary steps and advise Ms. Castonguay as soon as he gets an answer.

Motion No. 6

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Eric Marquis, seconded by Mr. Alain Martel and unanimously carried, it was **MOVED To accept the income statement as at the end of February 2021, as presented by the Director of finance, Mrs. Johanne Thibodeau.**

CARRIED

9. Solid Waste Sector – Opening of tenders

Ms. Marie-Eve Castonguay gave a brief background presentation . The CSRNO – Solid Waste sector is supposed to be calling for tenders soon for construction of landfill cell # 10. Ms. Castonguay estimates that the CSRNO will receive the bids by mid-April. Since the cost of construction materials changes regularly, estimates in bids are only valid for 15 days.

To accelerate the process, as soon as the CSRNO receives the bids an email will be sent to members to approve the contractor who is the lowest bidder.

**10. CSRNO named project sponsor /
Public rink project proposed to the Gas Tax Fund on behalf of the Saint- Joseph LSD**

Ms. Josée Levesque gave a brief background presentation. Municipalities in the region regularly take advantage of the Gas Tax Fund to develop and renew their infrastructure, but in general it is harder for an LSD to access these funds. This year, the province called on the LSDs to apply to the Gas Tax Fund for projects using a form. There is still an obstacle to the process, since an applicant has to be incorporated, and by their very nature Local Service Districts are unincorporated.

Following communications with the fund managers, the latter indicated that the Regional Service Commissions could be selected as applicants and sponsors for projects on behalf of the LSDs. The advisory committee for the Saint-Joseph LSD then asked Marie-Eve and her team to evaluate the possibility of the CSRNO applying to the Gas Tax Fund on behalf of Saint-Joseph.

Ms. Marie-Eve Castonguay noted that the RSCs play an important role in the development of their regions and she believes that the request from the Saint-Joseph LSD will be an opportunity to strengthen this role as well as bring money into the region. We are also used to applying for funds on behalf of our municipalities through our regional projects.

Mr. Alex Berry, Project Management – Community Funding – GNB was in attendance to answer questions from members.

Motion No. 7

RESOLVED that the CSRNO be designated as sponsor for the rink project on behalf of the Saint-Joseph LSD. The project will be submitted to the Gas Tax Fund. This project will be considered as a pilot for a potential service in support of projects submitted to the gas tax fund by the region's LSDs.

CARRIED

11. Host organization – RIC-NO

Ms. July Synnott, Coordinator – Economic and Social Inclusion Corporation, and Mr. Stéphane Leclair, Executive Director of the ESIC, gave a short background presentation. The Economic and Social Inclusion Corporation wants to establish a partnership with the CSRNO with respect to the North West Community Inclusion Network (RIC-NO) that could be advantageous to both bodies. The present RIC-NO serves communities in Madawaska County, Grand Falls and Drummond.

If the CSRNO takes over the RIC-NO it will speed up achieving some of the organizations' shared goals.

The NB Economic and Social Inclusion Corporation is therefore asking the CSRNO to act as host organization for the RIC-NO. Taking on this project will have no budget impact, but it will require human resources efforts by CSRNO employees.

Motion No. 8

RESOLVED that the CSRNO will continue to collect data on this matter and make a final decision at the next Board meeting.

CARRIED

12. AFMNB

Mr. Joël Olivier, Director of Member Services – AFMNB, and Mr. Marcel Vienneau, Coordinator, Asset Project – AFMNB, provided background on the situation. The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) awarded funding to the AFMNB for its asset management program. In light of the restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the AFMNB had to modify its delivery method. Instead of returning these funds to the FCM, the AFMNB is proposing to allocate this budget surplus to a new pilot project.

This pilot project consists of: - Collecting data from municipalities produced during the cadre du development of their respective asset management plans. – Developing a municipal data infrastructure that makes the data easier for staff to use on a daily basis. – Integrating the data into a mapping tool via a Geographical Information System (GIC).

The AFMNB would like to work with the CSRNO because of the latter's expertise in geomatics in order to develop a model and create a working environment that could eventually be shared by all the municipalities belonging to the AFMNB.

Motion No. 9

RESOLVED that the CSRNO's staff work with key staff at the AFMNB to devise a project model to disseminate the CSRNO's mapping tool for the benefit of municipalities belonging to the AFMNB, New Brunswick municipalities and the province's other RSCs.

CARRIED

13. Correspondence Report

Motion No. 10

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

MOVED To accept the Correspondence Report.

CARRIED

14. Other Business

a) Petition on social networks on behalf of the CSRNO

A member of the Board asked for clarification on a petition presently circulating on social media. Mr. Ouellet stated that the Community of Upper Madawaska is entirely responsible for this petition. The only connection to the CSRNO is that the CSRNO created the form at the request of the Community of Upper Madawaska. Mr. Ouellet was asked, as Mayor of the Community of Upper Madawaska, to send a letter to the municipalities requesting their support for the request to open the borders.

A member recommended that in future the minutes of the Executive Committee be moved and seconded entirely by members of the Executive Committee.

** The next board meeting will be on April 28th, 2021.

15. Adjournment

Motion No. 11

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Michel Leblond unanimously carried, it is
RESOLVED To adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

CARRIED

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JEAN-PIERRE OUELLET
Chair

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MARIE-EVE CASTONGUAY
Executive Director

.....
LISE BELLEFLEUR
Session secretary