

Area Services Board Working Group

Minutes

5.00 p.m. Thursday, August 2, 2001
Community Meeting Room
Blind River Marina
Blind River

Note: The regular meeting of the Algoma District Services Administration Board followed this meeting

ASB Working Group Board Members in attendance:

L. Aelick
R. Capillo
J. Currie
G. Farkouh
B. Gallagher
R. Hamilton
H. Pelky
G. Tremblay
S. Reinhardt
A. Swanson
P. Wesselius

ASB members absent with regrets: H. Whent
ASB members absent: none

1. Opening of meeting

Mr. George Farkouh, ASB Working Group Chair opened the meeting and welcomed all members and guests.

2. Opportunity for Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the June 28 meeting were passed as distributed.

4. Correspondence:

4.1 Bill #140 letter to Ministries (previously distributed)

The Board's consultant developed a letter that was sent out under the ASB

Working Group Board Chair's signature. The letter was sent to the Minister of Northern Development and Mines and to the Minister of Finance. It sought clarification as to how Bill 140 would impact Area Services Boards. Specifically, what would be the impact on the unincorporated assessment of Bill #140 as part of the revenue base for ASBs.

This letter was very similar to an earlier letter (April 30, 2001) sent to Aime Dimatteo – Director Northern Services Improvement Project by the ADSAB CAO on the same issue. To date there is no answer on these issues.

A brief discussion followed. It was noted that without clear assessment information, the impact of Bill #140 and the impact of Provincial Land Tax reform accurate financial forecasts of the formation of an ASB could not be completed. It was noted these issues had been identified early in the ASB Working Group discussions. It was also noted that accurate financial impacts would be crucial to the vote process that will occur prior to the ASB decision being finalized.

A resolution suspending the planning process was passed.

5. ASB Consultants Report

The Consultant submitted a report that was distributed at the meeting. The Consultant concurred that planning would be delayed until such time as financial impacts are known.

6. Review of ASB plan and decision timetable

As noted above a resolution was passed to suspend the ASB planning process.

7. Open Questions and Answers None

8 Next Steps / Next Meeting

No next meeting date was set. The ADSAB CAO will keep the ASB Working Group Chair advised as new information on financial impacts becomes available. When there is sufficient information to develop the detailed cost implications of an ASB a meeting will be called.

Resolutions

Moved By: Rosario Capillo

Seconded By: Heather Pelky

Resolve That: The minutes of the June 28th, 2001 ASB Working Group meeting be passed as distributed.

Moved By: Lorraine Aelick

Seconded By: Peggy Wesselius

Resolve That: Whereas neither the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines or the Ministry of Finance have been able to provide the ASB Working Group with a detailed financial impact of Bill #140 on the establishment of an Area Services Board

And whereas Provincial land Tax (PLT) reform is necessary to determine the financial impacts of an ASB and this reform has not occurred

And whereas the ASB Working Group agreed at its meeting on May 24 that when the Stage#2 and Stage#3 plan had been finalized they would be distributed to all member municipalities and the unincorporated for a final vote

And whereas the financial impacts are crucial components of the Stage #2 and Stage #3

Therefore be resolved that the ASB Working Group meetings and the planning process be suspended until such time as the financial impacts of PLT reform and Bill#140 are known. Furthermore, the other agencies impacted by the proposal be advised that the tentative start date of January 1, 2002 for an ASB is no longer viable.

Moved By: Rick Hamilton

Seconded By: Art Swanson

Resolve That: The August 2nd meeting of the Area Services Board be adjourned.