



## Southwest New Brunswick Service Commission Board Meeting – March 24, 2022

### **Commission Members, Guests & Staff Present:** **(Absent members printed in bold and italic)**

Allan MacEachern – St. Stephen	Brian Glebe – LSD
Heather Hatt – LSD	John Detorakis – St. George
Sam Walsh – LSD	Brad Henderson – Saint Andrews
Wayne MacQuarrie – LSD	Harvey Matthews – Campobello
Wade Greenlaw – LSD	Bonnie Morse – Grand Manan
John Craig – Blacks Harbour	Sheena Young – LSD
Jim Tubbs – LSD	Ken Stannix – McAdam
Dennis Blair – LSD	Glenn Hawkins – LSD
Annette Townes – LSD (guest)	Winston Gamblin - Harvey
Rhonda Hulan – REMC (guest)	Hollis Bartlett – Staff
Claudette MacLean - Staff	

### ***Call to order***

Chair, K. Stannix called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

### ***Declaration of Quorum, Acknowledgement of Visitors***

Live streamed via You Tube.

### ***Conflict of Interest Declarations***

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

### ***Adoption of Agenda***

**22-07** It was moved by G. Hawkins and seconded by B. Henderson to accept the agenda as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**22-08** It was moved by W. Gamblin and seconded by J. Tubbs to accept the February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022 minutes as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### ***Business Arising from Previous Meetings***

#### **Mining Exploration Act Update**

H. Bartlett gave the following update:

The recently introduced Bill 75 amends and repeals several sections of the Mining Act dealing with ground staked mineral claims. This is not an issue which directly touches on the land use planning regulations that SNBSC administers on behalf of municipalities or the province. I communicated with the Provincial Planning Director about this, and he confirmed that staking and claiming minerals is not regulated under the



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Community Planning Act. The regulations dealing with this matter fall under the purview of the Mining Act, which is administered by the Department Natural Resources and Energy Development. In fact, to provide clarity on the matter, several rural plans in the region have included this general provision: 2.2(4) In all zones created by this Regulation, the use of land for the purposes of staking, claiming, exploration and extraction of minerals and carboniferous deposits shall be permitted, subject to applicable regulations. While providing clarity to the reader, such a provision is redundant because any rural plan that would attempt to regulate the staking and claiming of minerals could either be rejected by the province or appealed based on a misapplication of the Community Planning Act. What the Community Planning Act can do is regulate any mining developments on the surface of land. This includes any new buildings or open-air excavations. Zoning can either permit, regulate, or prohibit, the development of the surface of land for the purposes of a quarry, gravel pit, or surface mining operation. Zoning cannot prohibit or regulate underground mining tunnels, nor can it prohibit someone from staking or claiming minerals on a piece of land.

J. Detorakis voiced his displeasure with these changes to the Act.

### **Local Governance Reform Update**

Meetings were held earlier this month with the main topic being economic development and how to tackle this new service. The consensus was that the RSC should host a workshop with the Board, transition facilitator, representatives from Musquash & Lepreau, and facilitator(s) to define a strategy for economic development for our region. The results of this planning session should yield a guiding document on how to proceed and what level of service is appropriate for RSC10. It was felt that this will be an all-day session, similar to our previous strategic planning session and so it will likely be held at the Algonquin or similar and should happen either April or May at the latest. Planning is underway and more details will follow.

On March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022 there was another meeting with the executive director and representatives from ONB, CBDC, ECDC, PETL, ACOA and Future St Stephen. The discussion centered around economic development again, the involvement that these organizations might have, and the upcoming strategy session. PETL agreed to provide funding for this session, and all agencies present agreed to have some involvement with the process.

Vibrant Communities Charlotte County have formed a transition committee which have met with the executive director on March 9. We should have a written agreement with ESIC in the near future, and are working out the terms of the transition.

B. Henderson felt municipalities should be more involved with the whole reform process and to be part of the strategy. K. Stannix noted we need to be proactive with a vision of where we are going in the new year. W. Greenlaw asked the ED to investigate all entities in the area, who they are, where there funding is coming from and what their purpose is in regard to Economic Development. Considerable discussion ensued with a lot of different ideas around the table.

### ***New Business***

#### **Election of Officers**

In the by-laws, it specifies states in years where there are municipal elections, we skip the election of officers until the electors are sworn into office.



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**22-09** It was moved by W. Gamblin, seconded by S. Walsh that it be resolved that SNBSC will suspend the election of officers at the 2022 AGM until the first regular Board meeting after the 2022 municipal elections in accordance with 2.5.1 of the SNBSC by-laws.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**22-10** It was moved by S. Walsh, seconded by D. Blair that it be resolved that SNBSC will continue to hold regular Board meetings for the remainder of the year with the current Executive Officers in place until November 2022.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **Discussion on SNBSC mileage rate**

Presently the Commission pays .41 cents per km. A discussion ensued regarding increasing this to reflect current fuel costs. S. Walsh noted it is not just the price of fuel, but all costs associated with operating a vehicle. K. Stannix suggested more research be done by checking CAA rates and Consumer Report. W. Greenlaw suggested a premium rate variable mileage rate based on market conditions.

**22-11** It was moved by D. Blair seconded by J. Tubbs that a notice of motion be given to change the by-laws be remove the reference in the appendix pertaining to the mileage rate referencing the Provincial mileage rates.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### ***Committee & Staff Reports***

#### **Executive Director's Report**

H. Bartlett presented his report which was included in the Board Packages distributed by email.

#### **Planning Management Committee Report**

D. Blair presented his report which was included in the Board Packages distributed by email.

**22-12** It was moved by D. Blair and seconded by W. Gamblin that the Board remove Dean Fletcher from PRAC and that a written notice be provided to Dean and the PRAC regarding his removal.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**22-13** It was moved by D. Blair and seconded by W. Gamblin that the Board appoint David Chessie to PRAC but with a membership that expires at end of 2022 and that a written notice be provided to David and the PRAC regarding his appointment.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **Finance Report**

H. Bartlett presented his report which was included in the Board Packages distributed by email.



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### ***Date & Time of next regularly scheduled meeting***

The next regular meeting of the Board be Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022 @ 6:00 pm. With the Annual General Meeting directly following.

### ***Q&A with the Public***

J. Detorakis asked about PRAC members. H. Bartlett informed the Committee will stay as it is as it has members of the public on it already.

### ***Adjournment***

**It was moved by D. Blair that the board meeting be adjourned at 7:31 pm.  
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Minutes recorded via You Tube and transcribed by Claudette MacLean, Staff.

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**Ken Stannix, Chair, SNBSC**

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**Hollis Bartlett, Executive Director**

### **Action Points:**

- Consumer Report, CAA, CRA and other Regional Service Commission – mileage rate
- Horizon Health follow up – John Detorakis

