



THUNDER BAY DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

DATE OF THE MEETING: FEBRUARY 19, 2025

TIME OF THE MEETING: 1:00 PM

PLACE OF THE MEETING: FIRST FLOOR BOARDROOM /
VIDEOCONFERENCE

CHAIR: MR. JAMES MCPHERSON

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Grant Arnold
Ms. Cindy Brand
Mr. Paul Malashewski
Ms. Kasey Etreni
Mr. James McPherson
Mr. Jim Moffat
Ms. Donna Peacock
Mr. Don Smith
Mr. Todd Wheeler
Ms. Lucy Belanger
Ms. Cynthia Olsen
Ms. Kristine Thompson

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:

Dr. Janet DeMille, Medical Officer of Health and
Chief Executive Officer
Ms. Diana Gowanlock, Director – Health Protection
Mr. Dan Hrychuk, Director – Corporate Services
Ms. Shannon Robinson, Director – Health
Promotion
Ms. Dana Wilson, Associate Director –
Communications & Strategic Initiatives
Ms. Shelley Oleksuk, Administrative Assistant –
Health Promotion

REGRETS:

Allan Mihalcin

RECORDER:

Ms. Sunena Shetty, Executive Assistant and
Secretary to the Board of Health

ABSENT:

Dr. Mark Thibert

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM.

2. ATTENDANCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair presented regrets from the above noted.

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

The agenda was approved as presented.

Resolution No. 12-2025

Moved By: J. Moffat

Seconded By: P. Malashewski

THAT the Agenda for the Regular Board of Health Meeting to be held on February 19, 2025, be approved.

CARRIED

5. INFORMATION SESSION

J. Carastathis provided a presentation on the Northern Fruit and Vegetable Program (NFVP) and responded to questions and comments from the board.

6. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

6.1 Thunder Bay District Board of Health

The minutes of the Regular Session Meetings held on January 15, 2025 were approved with a minor amendment.

Resolution No. 13-2025

Moved By: P. Malashewski

Seconded By: J. Moffat

THAT the Minutes of the Thunder Bay District Board of Health (Regular Session) Meeting held on January 15, 2025, be approved

AMENDED

7. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

8. BOARD OF HEALTH (CLOSED SESSION) MEETING

No closed session was scheduled for this meeting.

9. DECISIONS OF THE BOARD

9.1 BOH Annual Holiday Dinner

A memorandum from S. Shetty, on behalf of K. Etrene relative to the Board of Health Annual Holiday Dinner was presented to the board.

The resolution was amended and an additional resolution was added to this item to appoint ad hoc committee members to find an alternative option to the annual dinner.

Resolution No. 14a-2025

Moved By: K. Etrene

Seconded By: P. Malashewski

THAT as TBDHU has faced increased operational costs, resulting in a heavier financial burden on municipalities and these rising costs require municipalities to exercise fiscal restraint and demonstrate a commitment to preserving taxpayer money; the Board will not host its annual holiday dinner;

AND THAT the Board will explore alternative, cost-effective options to celebrate the holiday season in a manner that reflects its commitment to fiscal responsibility and the prudent management of public funds;

AND THAT the Board direct staff to investigate the options of BBQ with staff and spouses.

LOST

Resolution No. 14b-2025

Moved By: D. Smith

Seconded By: K. Etrene

THAT the Board will not host its annual holiday dinner;

AND THAT, the Board will create an ad hoc committee of the Board that will explore alternative, cost-effective options to celebrate the

holiday season in a manner that reflects its commitment to fiscal responsibility and the prudent management of public funds.

Ad hoc committee members:

1. Brand
2. Thompson
3. Etreni

CARRIED

9.2 Provincial Government Advocacy Policy

A memorandum from S. Shetty, on behalf of K. Etreni relative to providing information on drafting a Provincial Government Advocacy policy for the Board, was presented to the Board.

Resolution No. 15-2025

Moved By: G. Arnold

Seconded By: J. Moffat

THAT with respect to Item 9.2 'Provincial Government Advocacy' on the February 2025 Regular Board of Health meeting agenda, we recommend that the Executive Committee be directed to review the Board's approach to provincial advocacy and to consider whether a Board policy and procedure should be developed and adopted to document this approach,

AND THAT the Executive Committee make recommendations to the Board of Health with respect to provincial government advocacy, including developing a draft board policy and procedure should that be recommended by the committee;

AND THAT these recommendations be brought to the Board of Health no later than the September 2025 Regular Board meeting.

CARRIED

10. COMMUNICATIONS FOR INFORMATION

10.1 alPHa Winter Symposium Report

A report was presented on the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) Winter Symposium held on February 14, 2025, from the members that attended.

10.2 MOH/CEO Update

Dr. J. DeMille (Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer) presented Report No. 05-2025 to the Board, relative to Strengthening Public Health as it relates to the Thunder Bay District Health Unit. It was noted that the Audit Timing memo was included because Audit is delayed due to snap elections.

10.3 Harm Reduction Report

Report No. 06-2025 (Harm Reduction) relative to providing the Board with information on the program was presented to the Board. Dr. DeMille provided input on the report. K. Belanger also spoke on the report and highlighted the value of evidence-based harm reduction programs.

J. McPherson declared a conflict of interest and subsequently, stepped out of the meeting at 2:23 PM, returning at 2:25 PM.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 1:00 PM.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution No. 16-2025

Moved By: J. Moffat

Seconded By: D. Smith

THAT the Board of Health meeting held on February 19, 2025, be adjourned at 2:26 PM.

CARRIED