



**Fundy Regional
Service Commission**

**Commission de Services
Régionaux de Fundy**

**Regular Monthly Meeting
August 23, 2021**

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors of Fundy Regional Service Commission held on Monday, August 23, 2021, at 10 Crane Mountain Rd., Saint John NB.

1. Call to Order

The Board Chairperson, Brittany Merrifield, called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

2. Record of Attendance

Brittany Merrifield	Chairperson
Jim Bedford	Vice Chairperson
Bette Anne Chatterton	Mayor, St. Martins
John MacKenzie	Deputy Mayor, Saint John
Nancy Grant	Mayor, Rothesay
Libby O'Hara	Mayor, Quispamsis
Ray Riddell	Local Service District Representative
John Cairns	Local Service District Representative

Absent

Cindy MacCready, Local Service District Representative

OTHERS

Marc MacLeod, Executive Director, FRSC

Alicia Raynes, Recording Secretary, FRSC

Nick Cameron, Assistant Development Officer, FRSC

3. Approval of the Order of Business

The Chairperson asked for approval of the Order of Business

Motion: To approve the August 23, 2021 Agenda as presented.

Moved: Director Grant
Seconded: Director O'Hara
Vote: Motion Carried

4. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

None

5. Approval of the Minutes

Motion: To approve the July 26, 2021 minutes as presented.

Moved: Director MacKenzie
Seconded: Director Bedford
Vote: *Motion Carried*

6. Planning – Building Inspection – July

Nick Cameron, Assistant Development Officer, FRSC, presented the July 2021 Report for Building, Development & Planning for the Village of St. Martins & FRSC Rural areas. Year-to-date total estimated cost of construction at the end of July, 2021 was \$7,198,240 compared to 2020 which was \$7,316,000.

Mr. Cameron also noted that a Similar compatible use application was received by PRAC and it received a lot of opposition from residents in the area. The application is for a Bare Land Condo in the West Quaco area of the Local Service District of St. Martins. There have been indications that this decision may be appealed.

Motion: To receive and file as presented.

Moved: Director O'Hara
Seconded: Director MacKenzie
Vote: *Motion Carried*

7. Finance – 2022 Budget

Executive Director MacLeod presented the 2022 Budget noting that last year, there was a discussion regarding the budget reflecting the draining of our capital reserves and therefore, the likely need to move to borrowing for all future capital purchases; the 2022 budget reflects this condition. As a result, one of the main highlights of this year's budget is a recommended increase in tipping fees which would help to start building back our reserves. This budget also reflects the continuing closing of the blue bin recycling depot sites which are due to be closed by the end of 2022.

Further highlights included the increase in expenditures for Planning Services due to additional work required for updating the LSD Rural Plans. Additionally, Brian Shannon, Senior Building Inspector has announced that he will be retiring at the end of 2021 which means the FRSC will need to hire a new building inspector. This should not affect the 2022 budget if the hiring process is successful, so the budget was not adjusted.

There was a detailed discussion on the recommended increase to tipping fees, including the reasons for the suggested increases as well as other available options. It was asked why the FRSC doesn't increase fees by a percentage each year. It was explained that any issues have always been addressed through mitigation measures through operations, such as re-building instead of buying new equipment. It was felt that the mitigation measures could handle extra expenses as historically, they were able to; additionally there were always reserves to help. However, this year, the expected costs have exceeded the COLA projections by 25% so an incremental cost would likely have been ineffective. The question was asked whether or not the FRSC has an asset management plan in place. It was explained that there is an asset management plan in place, however, for the next few

years, we will have to borrow for capital purchases until we are able to build the reserves back up. It was indicated we will likely see increases to tip fees over the next couple of budgets as costs seem to be increasing with inflation, exchange rates and possible interest increases.

Motion: That the 2022 Budget be approved for distribution to its constituent communities to meet the 45-day notice requirement as required by the Regional Service Delivery Act with an amendment to increase the price for municipal solid waste by five dollars per metric tonne and no changes to the compost tipping fees.

Moved: Director Chatterton
Seconded: Director O'Hara
Nay: Director Grant
Vote: *Motion Carried*

Chairperson Merrifield called for a motion to adjourn.

It was noted the September meeting would be cancelled and we would meet on the regular October meeting.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 11:42 a.m.

Moved: Director MacKenzie
Seconded: Director Riddell
Vote: *Motion Carried*

APPROVED (date) October 25, 2021



Brittany Merrifield, Chairperson



Alicia Raynes, Recording Secretary