



Board of Directors
Minutes of the Meeting – March 15, 2023, 6:00 p.m.

In Attendance:

Chair, Tom Eagles, Mayor, District of Tonique Valley
Trina Jones, Mayor, Woodstock
Andrew Harvey, Mayor, District of Carleton North
Cindy McLaughlin, Mayor, Regional Community of Southern Victoria
Tracy DeMerchant, Mayor, Hartland
Tanya Cloutier, Mayor
Lynn Hambrook, Chair, Western Valley Rural District

Regrets:

Joe Gallant, ELG

Absent:

Staff In Attendance:

Katelyn McGrath, Executive Director, via Zoom
Andrea Callahan, Director of Operations

Others Present:

Call to Order:

Chair, Mayor Tom Eagles called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Adoption of Agenda:

23-0-12

Motion: Resolved, “that the March 15, 2023, agenda be approved as presented.”

Moved: Mayor, Tracey DeMerchant

Seconded: Mayor, Cindy McLaughlin

Motion Carried

Declaration of Conflict of Interest:

None

Adoption of Minutes:



23-0-13

Motion: Resolved, “that the minutes of the February 23, 2023, meeting be accepted and approved as presented.

Moved: Mayor, Trina Jones

Seconded: Mayor, Tracey DeMerchant

Motion Carried

Presentations:

No presentations

Business Arising:

Mayor Harvey asked if the Ignite MOU would be discussed and Katelyn indicated that it is included in her Executive Director’s report.

New Business:

Katelyn asked the Board to consider appointing the executive committee as the Regional Plan RFP review committee to meet next week after the proposals are submitted on Monday, March 20, 2023, to bring their recommendations to the Board.

23-0-14

Motion: Resolved that, “The Board of Directors of the Western Valley Regional Service Commission appoint the executive committee of Chair Tom Eagles, Vice-Chair, Tracey DeMerchant and Secretary, Tanya Cloutier as the committee to review the proposals for the Regional Plan.”

Moved: Cindy McLaughlin

Seconded: Tanya Cloutier

Motion Carried.

The meeting to make the decision on the winning bidder will be at 6p.m. on Thursday, March 23 via Zoom.

Health:

Katelyn mentioned to the Board that there is \$100,000 funding available to each RSC from the Department of Health to create a retention and attraction initiative. We did include Health in our Regional Plan so that we will be eligible for any funding going forward and the only thing that is required is that we form a committee. The Board will have the final say on the composition of that committee.

Katelyn suggests that we include Horizon Health so that we do not duplicate any services that they are already doing or have planned for their own employees.

We will help to provide the documents that they need to have on hand to “sell” our region to recruit health care workers to move and live here.



23-0-15

Motion: Resolved that, "The Board of Directors of the Western Valley Regional Service Commission allow Katelyn McGarth to apply for the \$100,000 funding available to the regional service commissions for a Health Worker Attraction and Retention Strategy for our region."

Moved: Tanya Cloutier

Seconded: Cindy McLaughlin

Motion Carried.

Committee Reports:

Public Safety Committee

Each mayor reported on the Fire Chiefs that will be sitting on the Public Safety Committee.

23-0-16

Motion: Resolved that, "The following Fire Chiefs be added to the Public Safety Committee: Tim Corbin – Tobique Valley; Phillip Walker – Southern Victoria; Stephen Armour – Carleton North; Michael Walton – Hartland; Harold McLellan – Woodstock."

Moved: Andrew Harvey

Seconded: Cindy McLaughlin

Motion Carried.

Economic Development

The conversation regarding the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Ignite and the WVRSC was discussed. There has been a delay in finding the correct candidate for the position of Executive Director of Ignite Western Valley. Mayor, Trina Jones commented that it is important to set this portfolio up for success since it is such a vital file. It is not looking like we will meet the April date for KPIs as listed in the MOU, so is it possible to move that date? Or, if there is no person in place, what portion are we expected to pay?

Chair, Mayor Tom Eagles noted that he was under the impression from Sarah Corey-Hollohan, CEO of Ignite, that she will step into the role in the interim if the right candidate is not available right away.

Sarah is away this week, but Katelyn will get an update as soon as Sarah returns from vacation.

Five-minute break before going into an In-camera session. Katelyn thanked all the observers for attending.

Observers left the meeting.

23-0-17

Motion: Resolved that, "the WVRSC Board of Directors move to an in-camera session."

Moved: Trina Jones

Seconded: Andrew Harvey



Motion Carried.

23-0-18

Motion: Resolved that, "The WVRSC Board of Directors meeting move back to an open session."

Moved: Trina Jones

Seconded: Cindy McLaughlin

Motion Carried.

Executive Director Update

Katelyn asked the Board if they would prefer for the RCMP and Budget working meetings be two separate meetings. It was decided to wait until the RCMP confirm that they can attend a meeting in March.

Katelyn explained that the branding exercise that Barb Sharp referred to will have to wait until we know how much the Regional Strategic Plan will cost. RDC has committed \$50,000 and Katelyn had budgeted an extra \$25,000 for 2023 for the plan, so once we know the cost of the regional plan, we will know the amount of the funds that we have to spend or figure out where we will obtain the funds for the branding exercise.

Katelyn reported that shared trails should be a conversation that Councils have as this will be a key component of the Tourism Plan.

Katelyn noted that in 2019, the RSC Board at the time sent a letter of support for shared trails. Mayor Trina Jones reported that the current Council of Woodstock has not discussed the bridge span topic at all.

Mayor Tracey DeMerchant noted that it would be very beneficial for all mayors to be given any and all information and updates as they become available, as this is something that the entire region may potentially benefit from.

The next meeting is set for Wednesday, March 15, 2023, at 6 p.m. and will be in person.

Adjournment:

Motion: The Chair, called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Moved: Cindy McLaughlin

Seconded: Tracey DeMerchant

Recording Secretary: Andrea Callahan

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Tanya Cloutier
Secretary

Katelyn McGrath
Executive Director