



705-382-2900  
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**Minutes:** October 6, 2022, 11:00 am via Zoom and in the AHC boardroom

Present: Rod Ward (Chair), Cathy Still, Dennis Banka, Brad Kneller, Norm Hofstetter, Tom Bryson, Camille Barr (Secretary)

Regrets: Joe Vella, Barbara Belrose, Marianne Stickland (Vice Chair), Carol Ballantyne

Guests: Kevin MacLeod (BFFHT), Margaret Ann MacPhail (Perry Township)

Called to order at 11:00 am by Chair R. Ward

1. 2022-23 Moved by B. Kneller - Seconded by C. Still

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Almaguin Highlands Health Council adopt the minutes from the regular meeting of September 2, 2022, as circulated. Carried.

2. **DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY OF INTEREST:** None

3. **DELEGATIONS:** None

4. **RESOLUTIONS PASSED:** None

5. **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

- A) **Funding Support for the Health Human Resources Recruiter Position Discussion**

Effort is being made by the MAOHT to hire a permanent Health Human Resource Recruiter to tackle the challenges of recruitment and retention for the region (Gravenhurst to Sundridge). The position will focus first on family medicine doctors and nurse practitioners; however, it will also recruit all types of health care providers. To support the position initially, MAOHT will reach out to municipalities to provide financial support for the position while they work to fund it permanently. It has been said that the ask could be approx. \$1000.00 per municipality per year for three years. The ask will come post-election.

- B) **Terms of Reference**

Adjustments were made to the draft Terms of Reference with the final draft sent to Council. The Terms, now in effect, will act as a guide for new members and will be reviewed next term. A copy will be sent to Clerks, along with meeting minutes and Progress Report.

**C) Update on the Intent to Appoint AHHC Members Next Term**

Almost all current member municipalities shared their intent to appoint an AHH Council representative next term of council. The ask was sent to Machar and South River. No response received yet.

**D) Update on Local Share**

C. Still and R. Ward met with MAHC Vice Chair, Chair, and CEO this week. It was a positive meeting however it was made clear that municipalities will be impacted by the local share for the two new hospital builds. At this time the dollar amount is not known. It can be anticipated that with the inflated costs the build will be significantly more than initially projected. The hospital will fundraise for the builds and a commitment from municipalities must be in place by the end of 2023. Individual municipalities will each have to figure out how they will come up with the funding.

AHHC wishes to be a part of the conversations regarding the new build as the AHHC building acts as a satellite to MAHC. The importance of the MAHC services in the building and maintaining them was highlighted. CEO Cheryl will attend the AHHC meetings on a quarterly basis to provide an update on the builds.

**E) Monthly Progress Report Review**

Chair R. Ward reviewed the Progress Report with Council.

**F) Meeting Time and Boardroom Access**

Due to a scheduling conflict, meetings of the AHHC will now be held the first Thursday of the month at 10:00 am. Location remains the AHHC boardroom.

**G) Other business**

The AHH Council has approx. \$4770.00 in unallocated funds. It was suggested this may be used to offset renovation costs for the BFFHT. Further discussions may occur in the next meeting.

Kevin MacLeod and the FHT met too with CAO of MAHC highlighting the importance of physio, diabetes education, blood lab and x ray services staying. Additionally highlighted was the importance of this satellite branch for accessibility with the cost to visit Huntsville and Bracebridge not being feasible for residents. It was clarified that there are no plans to close to programs and that the recent closures have strictly been an HHR matter; an issue they are working on.

The FHT has a tender out for renovations in the main floor of the AHHC for doctor space as well the upstairs for OTN and mental health. Tender closes on the 11<sup>th</sup> with the goal of the work completed by December.

2022- 24 Moved by N. Hofstetter - Seconded by T. Bryson

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Almaguin Highlands Health Council adjourn at 11:58 am to meet again on November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 am.

Location will be in person at the AHHC unless notified otherwise.