



FIREFLY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

September 29, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

Sioux Lookout/MS Teams

PRESENT:	Kim Vares	Alisha Dasti-Hill	Debbie Larson
	Sarah-lynn Klassen	Crystal Page	Chris Bonner-Vickers
ABSENT:	Carlynn Bell		
REGRETS:	Bruce Meisner	Jackie Hummelbrunner	
STAFF:	Karen Ingebrigtsen	Kirby Parks	Michelle Gaudet
	Jenn Marquis	Darcia Curtis	Tammy Hanstead

Ms. Vares acknowledged that FIREFLY offices operate on the original lands and territories of the Anishinaabeg, the Mushkegowuk and the Métis peoples. Treaties 3, 5 and 9 were signed upon these lands. We strive as guests on these lands to honour our responsibilities to care for this land and uphold the Treaties that were signed therein. Ms. Vares shared that September 30th is National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, acknowledging that there were children that did not return home. Ms. Vares noted that FIREFLY staff were wearing orange shirts and acknowledged Orange Shirt Day on September 30th a day to reflect on and learn about residential schools. Every Child Matters. Ms. Vares shared that there are resources available on SharePoint for staff and Board members.

Ms. Vares called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

FIREFLY MOMENT

NOSM Summer Studentship Wrap Up

Ms. Gaudet provided a FIREFLY moment on behalf of Ms. Hummelbrunner. Ms. Gaudet shared her screen to present Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM) Summer Studentship Wrap Up to the Board. Ms. Gaudet shared the process that FIREFLY follows to hire NOSM summer students. Ms. Gaudet highlighted the five students and the projects they worked on during the summer. Ms. Vares thanked Ms. Gaudet and Ms. Hummelbrunner for the presentation.

PRESENTATION

Ms. Vares welcomed Ms. Goodman, Speech Therapist and Clinical Manager in the CYDS program to the meeting. FIREFLY Board of Directors member introductions followed. Ms. Goodman presented “Pediatric Videofluoroscopy” to the Board. Ms. Goodman highlighted the partnership with the Lake of the Woods District Hospital (LWDH) to provide the videofluoroscopy program for clients in our region. Ms. Goodman shared a video with the Board to demonstrate normal versus abnormal swallowing. Ms. Goodman described the referral process for a client to access the program. Ms. Goodman shared that this is a very exciting partnership for the region. A question and answer period followed. Ms. Vares thanked Ms. Goodman for attending the Board meeting and providing a presentation to the Board.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

MOTION #1 Moved by Sarah-lynn Klassen
 Seconded by Crystal Page
 That the agenda of September 29, 2023 be accepted as presented.
 CARRIED

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Consent agenda items:

- June 14, 2023 FIREFLY Fiscal Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
- June 14, 2023 FIREFLY Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

MOTION #2 Moved by Alisha Dasti-Hill
 Seconded by Debbie Larson
 That the consent agenda of September 29, 2023 be approved.
 CARRIED

ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

None

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Fiscal Advisory

Ms. Dasti-Hill provided an update, sharing that Ms. Parks reviewed the draft financial statements for the month ending August 30, 2023, noting that Ms. Parks will review them with the Board as well. Ms. Dasti-Hill shared that Ms. Parks reviewed the Finance policies with the committee, highlighting the work that Ms. Parks did to update all of the policies. Ms. Dasti-Hill shared that the policies will go to the Strategy and Performance Team for review. Ms. Vares thanked Ms. Parks for all the work involved in updating the Finance policies.

Board Development Committee

Ms. Vares shared that the committee planned for the date, location and agenda for the Board retreat in April. Ms. Vares noted that the committee also reviewed the Director's Terms of Service. Ms. Vares will reach out to Board members with terms ending in June of 2024 regarding their intent for staying on with the FIREFLY Board of Directors.

CEO and LEAD AGENCY REPORT

Ms. Ingebrigtsen welcomed the FIREFLY Board of Directors back after the summer break. Ms. Ingebrigtsen highlighted the reports that were included in the Board meeting package, noting that FIREFLY staff were busy over the summer months.

Ms. Ingebrigtsen provided an update regarding the meeting with Minister Rickford. Ms. Ingebrigtsen shared that Jennifer Churchill, the Executive Director of Empowered Kids Ontario, Jackie Hummelbrunner, FIREFLY Director of Service Excellence and Partnerships and herself met with the Minister to advocate for full funding to support autism services for northern children and families. Ms. Ingebrigtsen noted that Minister Rickford proposed a meeting of northern Children's Treatment Centre (CTC) leaders with the Provincial Northern Caucus. Ms. Ingebrigtsen shared that Minister Rickford's constituency and ministerial offices will follow up to finalize the meeting.

Ms. Ingebrigtsen provided an update on the progress of the child care space renovation. Ms. Ingebrigtsen highlighted that the renovation is proceeding close to schedule, noting that additional work was required due to mold being found that required remediation. Ms. Ingebrigtsen added that needed additional electrical work and sound barrier added to the cost. Funds to address these needed additions were available through program funding to support physical changes to support services.

Ms. Ingebrigtsen shared that the FIREFLY Foundation's new strategic plan was included in the Board meeting package, noting that the Foundation is proceeding with a plan to promote the Foundation.

Ms. Ingebrigtsen provided a Lead Agency update, highlighting the Lead Agency Consortium and the Community of Practice will be meeting in October to develop a workplan aligned with the new strategic plan.

MOTION #3 Moved by Alisha Dasti-Hill
 Seconded by Crystal Page
 That the September 2023 CEO and Lead Agency Reports be accepted as presented.
 CARRIED

FINANCE

Review Financial Statements

Ms. Parks shared that the draft financial statements for the months ending July 31, 2023 and August 31, 2023 were included in the meeting folder. Ms. Parks reviewed the draft financial statements for the month ending August 31, 2023 with the Board. A question and answer period followed.

MOTION #4 Moved by Sarah-lynn Klassen
 Seconded by Debbie Larson
 That the draft financial statements for the months ending July 31, 2023 and August 31, 2023 be accepted as presented.
 CARRIED

Review Investment Statements

Ms. Parks reviewed the investment statements with the committee. A question and answer period followed.

OPERATIONS AND CLIENT SERVICE REPORT

Ms. Curtis reviewed the polar graphs with the Board, highlighting progress made in each pillar. Ms. Curtis reviewed FIREFLY highlights, noting the new partnership between Lake of the Woods District Hospital and Canadian Mental Health Association in Fort Frances providing care giver support. Ms. Curtis shared that Ms. Daignault, FIREFLY Parenting Mental Health Support Worker will be invited to a

Board meeting to provide more information to the Board about the new program. On the Horizon, Mr. Colvin and Ms. Campbell will present “Dungeons and Dragons: Defeating the Social Anxiety Enemy!” at the Children’s Mental Health Ontario Conference in November. A question and answer period followed.

MOTION # 5 Moved by Crystal Page
 Seconded by Chris Bonner-Vickers
 That the June, July and August 2023 Service Report be accepted as presented.
 CARRIED

QUALITY OF CARE

Ms. Marquis presented “Measuring strategic plan outcomes” to the Board. Ms. Marquis shared the process that is followed from the development of the strategic plan to the preparation of the monthly Operations and Client Service report that is provided to the Board at each Board meeting. Ms. Marquis noted that following Board approval, the report is then shared with staff so that they can see the progress being made. Ms. Marquis shared that the Operational plan is developed based on the strategic plan, with a separate page for each strategic pillar. Ms. Marquis shared that a document was developed to define success, noting that each page has a theme, with an overarching measure to tell us how we are doing. Ms. Marquis shared that Directors update their section of the spreadsheet, including highlights. Mr. Hill reviews the data and updates the polar graphs for the report. Ms. Marquis shared that the data and polar graphs are included in the monthly report to the Board. A question and answer period followed.

CORRESPONDENCE/READING

- CMHO Report to the Board
- Community Foundation annual Agency fund statement for 2022
- NOSM Summer Studentship Wrap Up
- Knowledge Institute on Child and Youth Mental Health and Addictions
- Letter to Honourable Greg Rickford
- One Stop Talk Media Release

Ms. Vares thanked Ms. Ingebritson for including the reading material in the Board meeting package.

NEW BUSINESS

None

IN CAMERA

Motion #6 Moved by Debbie Larson
 Seconded by Sarah-lynn Klassen
 That the Board moves to in-camera at 8:03 p.m.
 CARRIED

Rise and Report from In-Camera Meeting

Motion #10 Moved by Debbie Larson
 Seconded by Sarah-lynn Klassen
 That the FIREFLY Board of Directors approves the ratification of the Memorandum of Settlement reached through the Collective Bargaining process with OPSEU Local 743 dated September 29, 2023.
 CARRIED

EVALUATION

Ms. Larson provided an evaluation of the meeting, highlighting the NOSM summer student presentation by Ms. Gaudet. Ms. Larson thanked Ms. Ingebrigtsen for the reports that the Board received over the summer. Ms. Larson appreciated the Operations and Client Service report that Ms. Curtis presented. Ms. Larson thanked Ms. Marquis for the strategic plan process presentation. Ms. Larson thanked Ms. Hanstead for sharing the meeting material with the Board with plenty of time to prepare for the meeting. Ms. Larson noted that Ms. Vares kept the meeting on track and finished on time. Ms. Larson thanked everyone for their participation.

NEXT MEETING

Friday, October 27, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in Dryden

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, the Chairperson accepted a motion to adjourn at 8:26 p.m.



Tammy Hanstead
Recorder

October 27, 2023

Date



Kim Vares
Chairperson

October 27, 2023

Date