

**FORT VERMILION & AREA**  
**SENIORS AND ELDERS LODGE BOARD 1788**  
**Approved Meeting Minutes – October 30, 2024**

**Present:** Kevin Marten, Michael Congo, Vina Marten, William Ducharme, Wendy Ward, Raymond Friesen and Jed Randle.

**Absent:** Gary Smith, Raymond Friesen

**Guests:** Jeff Anderson, Board Advisor and Bobbi Paul-Alook (Metis Nation within Alberta)

**1. Call to order:** Meeting called to order by Kevin Marten at 7:04pm.

**2. Approval of Agenda:** William Ducharme **MOVED** acceptance of the Agenda **CARRIED**

**3. Financial Report:** Kevin Marten reviewed the current bank statement at \$30,297.10

Michael Congo **MOVED** to accept. Second by Wendy Ward. **CARRIED**

**4. Adoption of Previous Minutes:** September 26, 2024, minutes read by Kevin Marten.

Vina Marten **MOVED** to accept minutes with name correction. **CARRIED**

**5. Open Issues/Business**

a) Business Case Development (FVASELB1788 - L7 Architecture)

a. Phase 3 Progress Report submitted on October 16, 2024. Highlights:

- i. The Steering Committee confirmed that the Preliminary Business Case Report submitted by MAKE is really just an addendum to the Progress Report itself and not a draft business plan. MAKE just wanted to provide the Board with a snapshot of where things are sitting at the moment. Everyone knows that the primary data collection and securing a project sponsor will significantly impact the business plan processes.
- ii. In depth discussions regarding the Project pause to allow time to address the community engagement and project sponsor. Steering Committee and L7 have agreed that to achieve these two critical pieces and stay within the scope of the agreement community engagement data needs to be into MAKE by DECEMBER 15, 2024, as well a project sponsor to be identified by then as well.

- iii. L7's latest invoice reflects the pause and was submitted for 85% of Phase 3. The Steering Committee does not anticipate another invoice until such time after the pause is lifted.
- b. Kevin/Jeff discussed the meetings with the Lacrete Community Municipal Nursing Association (LCMNA) and the Boreal Housing Foundation (BHF). LCMNA is not interested in sponsoring our project in any way, however wished us the best in our endeavor. BHF passed a motion to support the project and on October 8, 2024, wrote to the Board indicating that they are willing to give full support for the operation of a new Seniors Lodge in Fort Vermilion.
- c. Kevin/Jeff/Bobbi discussed the very positive meeting the Steering Committee had with the MNA – Metis Urban Housing Corporation Senior Executive Officer Aaron Barner. MNA is interested in being the projects sponsor, which may include all 3 pillars being to build and own, operate, and manage the health services contracts. A small Working Group has been struck which includes the Steering Committee and key leaders from MNA including Bobbi as the Secretary of Health and Seniors, MNA's Secretary of Housing and MNA's SEO.
  - i. The Working Group's first meeting is scheduled for Monday November 4, 2024.
  - ii. Kevin advises the Board to be prepared for a SPECIAL MEETING within the next few weeks to meet, review and approve an MOU with the MNA.
- d. In depth discussion regarding comments received regarding the community engagement and data collection.
  - i. The Board directs Kevin, and his Steering Committee to reach out to L7 and share the matters discussed for their own investigation and input.
  - ii. The Board directs Kevin and his Steering Committee to say that they deeply expect L7 and IndigenUS Consulting to attend the planned community engagement session in-person.
  - iii. Wendy has finished the collection of Tallcree Tribal Council's primary aggregate health data and expects Dene Tha' First Nation's very soon. Wendy is also working with Beaver First Nation's new Health Director and hopes to have their primary aggregate health data shortly.
  - iv. Sharon has connected with Little Red River Cree Nation, and it looks like we may be able to obtain their primary aggregate health data as well.
  - v. Bobbi comments that the MNA will also share its health data and the request for staff to collect the data has been sent forward.
- e. Raymond and Jeff provide a background and update regarding the K-Land and the B-Lands.

- i. K-Lands: Old Bay House Society approved the provision of a charity receipt to the Knelsen family and will hold the land for the purpose of constructing a senior's and elder's care facility.
    - Raymond will reach out to the Old Bay House Society to see if the charity process is finalized.
  - ii. B-Lands: Offer to purchase the land completed with final sign-off anticipated by early December 2024.
    - The Board discussed and agreed that it will formalize a simple Letter of Understanding with the Friesen family once title has been obtained by the Friesen family.
    - The Friesen family will provide the environmental GEO-Tech report on the land for the purposes of the Senior's Care project processes.
- f. On October 2, 2024, the Honourable Adriana LaGrange, Minister of Health wrote to Kevin indicating that the Honourable Dan Williams, MLA, Peace River forwarded the Board's correspondence regarding the appropriate contact for the Board's real estate inquiry. Len Klausner, Director of Real Estate, Edmonton and North Zones is AHS's new contact.
  - i. On October 10, 2024, Kevin wrote to Mr. Klausner requesting to meet. The Board's September 2023 AHS Land Acquisition Proposal and historic correspondence were attached.
  - ii. AHS immediately responded, indicating that they will be in contact with us in the next few weeks after some internal conversations. Samuel Alexander is still the manager on the file so this should go quite smoothly. To date we have yet to hear from AHS.
- b) Charity Status Application – On October 16, 2024, Rhys Volkenant completed his review of the final draft application. Rhys provided a couple comments and a couple areas where we still need some more information. Jeff is currently reviewing the feedback and aims to report his findings to Kevin and Mike shortly.

Michael Congo **MOVED** and Raymond Friesen seconds that the Board provide a further \$2000.00 in funding towards the charity application project. **CARRIED**

- c) AREF Interim Project Update – Kevin and Jeff met with AREF earlier today on Wednesday October 30, 2024, to discuss where the Advancing Seniors Supportive Living through a Rural Lens Project is at. Jeff reads the draft Interim Report letter that Kevin will sign and send by the end of this week with up-to-date project financials attached.

AREF commented that the Board is meeting its objectives as outlined within the funding agreement and is very supportive of seeing this project through. AREF supports the Board adjusting the Advancing Seniors Supportive Living through a Rural Lens Project to a further 4 to 6 months so as to allow the Board's consultants to complete the community engagement along with the necessary time to accommodate the aggregate health data into the business plan and the time to explore a Memorandum of Understanding with the Metis Nation within Alberta.

## 6. New Issues/Business:

- AGM 2024
  - Meeting set for Thursday November 28, 2024, at the FV Seniors Centre
    - Doors open at 6:30PM
    - AGM starts at 7:00PM
    - Coffee/Tea and refreshments to be organized and provided.
    - Raymond will work with Bill and get the info to Rudy for the event poster. Raymond will ensure that Rudy provides an electronic version of the event poster for the website. Event posters **MUST** be advertised within the community by **NEXT WEEK**.
  - Kevin and Mike will work to set the Agenda for the AGM.
- BYLAW Review
  - Jed Randle **MOVED** to amend the FVASELB1788 Bylaws to add an Appointed Director position from the Otipemisiwak Metis Government for the Metis Nation within Alberta. **CARRIED**
- Discussion regarding positions up for election.

## 7. Committee Updates: Nothing to Report.

**8. Correspondence:** BHF Letter for Support of Operations dated October 8, 2024. AHS Real Estate Contact email correspondence from the Honourable Adriana LaGrange, Minister of Health.

## 9. Round Table: Nothing to Discuss.

**10. Next Meeting:** December 5, 2024, at 7:00 pm.

**11. Adjournment:** Wendy Ward **MOVED** to adjourn at 9:30pm **CARRIED**