

The Pictou County Shared Services Authority met by video-conference on Monday, May 11, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Jim Ryan, Chair, Town of Pictou
Warden Robert Parker, Municipality of the County of Pictou
Mayor Nancy Dicks, Town of New Glasgow
Mayor Danny MacGillivray, Town of Stellarton
Mayor Shannon MacInnis, Town of Trenton
Mayor Lennie White, Town of Westville

IN ATTENDANCE

Brian Cullen, CAO, Municipality of the County of Pictou
Lisa MacDonald, CAO, Town of New Glasgow
Dan Troke, CAO, Town of Pictou
Susan Higdon, Town Clerk, Town of Stellarton
Wayne Teasdale, CAO, Town of Trenton
Linda Brown, CAO, Town of Westville
Jane Johnson, Recording Secretary

PCSSA STAFF

Earle Cameron, Chief Operating Officer
Deborah Searle, Regional Coordinator
John Rawding, Finance Manager
Anthony Sheehan, Operating Manager, ERECC

AGENDA

It was moved by Mayor MacInnis and seconded by Mayor Dicks that the agenda be approved as circulated.

Motion carried.

MINUTES

It was moved by Warden R. Parker and seconded by Mayor MacGillivray that the minutes of March 9, 2020 be approved as circulated.

Motion carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

There was no business arising from minutes.

DIVISION MANAGER'S REPORT – SOLID WASTE

The Chief Operating Officer presented the report for Pictou County Solid Waste dated May 1, 2020 to Board members.

Warden R. Parker asked what communication is being provided to residents with regard to burying recyclables.

Mr. Cameron replied that information was provided on the website and was also in the package sent out to Board members.

Warden R. Parker asked if there was any way for the people who live in the rural areas who do not have internet services to get that information.

Mayor Ryan reported that recycling services are to continue as is and curbside pick-up is still being provided.

Mr. Cameron pointed out that they are following the same line as the other units in the Province who have posted information on their websites.

Warden R. Parker advised that he was concerned that residents not come back at a future time complaining that they were not told that recyclables were being buried.

Mayor Ryan reported that communication is important but he does not think people will change their way of recycling when they find out the recyclables are being buried.

Warden R. Parker reported they could get the Communications Officer to provide something to the public in an informative way.

Mr. Cameron pointed out that we would have to do it in such a way that people are not confused. The Landfill Site is already being bombarded with calls from people wanting to deliver items to the site.

Mayor Ryan referred to the Ministerial Variance that is in place until June and asked if we have contacted Colchester MERF about what is going to happen moving forward.

Mr. Cameron reported that we have not formally requested information but they have not looked at other options. We could go to tender to see if anyone wants to take it but Colchester is providing such a poor service whereas other MERFs in the province are still operating. There are operating issues in Colchester and this problem has certainly helped them financially. He can send a request for information on a future plan.

MOTION

It was moved by Mayor MacInnis and seconded by Mayor Dicks that the Pictou County Solid Waste Report be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

DIVISION MANAGER'S REPORT – ERECC

The Operating Manager presented the report of the East River Environmental Control Center dated May 4, 2020. Mr. Sheehan informed the Board that there is a need for a back-up if he gets sick so he would like to hire someone with a Level 3 or 4 certification. There are 3 operators at the facility that have a Wastewater Collection Certificate that could be his back-up. He would like to have a temporary back-up with 3 operators so he is going to go through the hiring process to see if there is 1 person who has both a Level 3 and 4.

MOTION

It was moved by Warden R. Parker and seconded by Mayor MacInnis that the East River Environmental Control Center Report be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

FINANCE REPORT – SOLID WASTE

The Finance Manager presented the Financial Report for the Pictou County Solid Waste year ending March 31, 2020.

Warden R. Parker thanked both Mr. Cameron and Mr. Sheehan for all the work they do with the financial aspects of both operations.

MOTION

It was moved by Mayor MacGillivray and seconded by Warden R. Parker that the finance report for Solid Waste's year ending March 31, 2020 be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

FINANCE REPORT – ERECC

The Finance Manager presented the Financial Report for ERECC year ending March 31, 2020.

MOTION

It was moved by Mayor MacGillivray and seconded by Mayor Dicks that the finance report for ERECC's year ending March 31, 2020 be approved as presented.

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Certificate of Variance

Mayor Ryan pointed out that the variance approved by the Minister to allow for the burying of recyclable materials is only valid until June 30, 2020 and he asked if the blue bag process is still the same.

Mr. Cameron replied that it is still business as usual as far as the curbside collection is concerned but when we get to a point where we have to relieve the pressure then he would send trailers of blue bags to the Guysborough site for landfilling.

Mayor Ryan asked do we keep a record of what was sent to Guysborough and Mr. Cameron explained that Guysborough does that for us.

Biosolids Contract

Mr. Sheehan informed the Board that the current contract between the Pictou County Shared Services and Archibald Farms expires May 28, 2020. Mr. Sheehan recommended the Shared Services Authority enter into an agreement with Archibald Farms over the next 5 years at a 1.75% increase in each of the 5 years from 2020/2021 to 2025/2026.

Mr. Sheehan informed the Board that the current contract with Archibald Farms works well but if we did find a different partner it would cost more so he saw no reason to change.

Warden R. Parker commented that they were very fortunate that Archibald Farms makes good use of this product.

MOTION

It was moved by Warden. R. Parker and seconded by Mayor MacInnis that the Pictou County Shared Services Authority approve the Biosolids Contract with Archibald Farms for 5 years at 1.75% increase in each of the 5 years.

Motion carried,

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Pictou County Shared Services Authority will be held on July 13th, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

ADJOURN

It was moved by Mayor MacInnis and seconded by Warden R. Parker that the meeting adjourn.

Motion carried. (10:10 a.m.)

CHAIRMAN

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER