

Regular Board Meeting
Wednesday, September 13, 2023
Via Zoom – 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Janice Lowry, Chair Yves Combot
Darryl Langrell Diane Bottrell
Lana Cowling-Mason, GM/CDC Shanto Mathew, BA
Keith McLelland, Vice-Chair Bill Eyolfson
Kelynda Springer, OA

ABSENT: Jason Bittner Kristy Hill
RM of St. Laurent representative Jim Scharf

The meeting was called to order at 6:39 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Diane Bottrell, seconded by Darryl Langrell **THAT** the agenda be adopted with the addition to Item 10: New Business – CF Manitoba/Saskatchewan Manager Exchange.

CARRIED

R2023/2024-23

ADOPTION OF JUNE 21, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

Moved by Bill Eyolfson, seconded by Keith McLelland **THAT** the June 21, 2023 meeting minutes be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

R2023/2024-24

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Regional Development Strategy – See the 6 signage is going up slowly in the municipalities, as they are dealing with Highway's Department.

ROF 2.0 – Train the Trainer session happened September 11 – 13th. We have 15 new trainers certified. Will be offering the regional training to municipal leaders, CAO's and community champions in October. Modules 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be offered at 10 different regional locations across the province, delivering up to 1200 people sessions. Starting to promote the modules and a 20-minute presentation will be premiered at the AMM convention to delegates. CF Heartland is helping with the registration portal.

RM of St. Laurent Board Rep & Investment Review Committee Appointment – Greg Morden, a business owner in St. Laurent, has agreed to join the board.

OPERATING FINANCIAL REPORT / ACCOUNTS PAYABLE / INVESTMENT FUND FINANCIAL REPORT

Total Investments as of August 31, 2023 was 183 for a total amount of \$5,885,133.33. 11 investments were in arrears by \$136,611.57. One business plan was approved in July in the service sector for \$50,000.

Growing communities one idea at a time.

Providing financial and community economic development assistance to the West Interlake.

Moved by Darryl Langrell, seconded by Yves Combot **THAT** the board has reviewed the June 1 to August 31, 2023 accounts payable pre-authorized payments and cheques numbered 1286 – 1308 in the amount of \$201,739.53, and the investment fund financial report account balances as at August 31, 2023 and adopts the reports as presented.

CARRIED

R2023/2024-25

STAFF ACTIVITY REPORTS – for the period of June 1 to August 31, 2023 was circulated.

OPEN FORUM

Darryl Langrell – Construction costs went over budget, adjustments made on some municipal projects. School bus accident near Warren. The bus hit a semi, all involved seem to be okay.

Yves Combot – Busy summer. The RM of St. Laurent EDO left and the RM is in search to replacement. Roads have been built, some issues with the developers regarding specs and costs. Ongoing conversations with two major developers, but on hold, due to their lagoon being at capacity. The golf course is open. The Clubhouse will be open in October and operational year round. Brand new day care facility opening in November. The project was championed by the MMF. Employing 30 positions. The Town Hall project is nearing completion. YVES WILL CHECK WITH THE CLUBHOUSE REGARDING HOSTING A CFWI MEETING IN OCTOBER.

Keith McLelland – New laundromat started in the building on Station Lane, hoping to open a hair salon as well. A new handi-van was purchased and currently in the lot development stage of building a two-bay handi-van garage across from the Hospital. In process of interviewing a coordinator for the handi-van (part-time position that could turn into full-time). EMS secured capital funding over 8 years ago to build a six-bay garage for the ambulances, with the director spending one day a week in Eriksdale. It will be situated across from the Eriksdale hospital beside the handi-van. The Eriksdale hospital is getting a lot of political promises. Eriksdale Plaza is on the way to rebuilding/renovating after the fire. Havakeen sold and is under new management.

Bill Eyolfson – New cannabis store, The Vault, in the CIBC vacant building. Sigfusson Northern purchased the old community hall. They will be constructing a new office building south of town along #6 Highway, Sigfusson Northern is building a massive shop to build pre-fab homes, which will be built inside. The museum flooring is being installed in the new building east of town. The RM is thinking of moving to the brand new building and revamping the floor plan, with the addition of two lean-tos on each side. One will be a show room for old tractors and picnic tables, with the other side being the RM office. Brand new board for the Lundar Golf course. Trying to secure grants for rebuilding the deck and they received a grant to redo the bathrooms making them accessible.

Diane Bottrell – July 1 and 2nd was Creamery Days, great turnout. August 18, 19 and 20th was the RoGerKimLee Music Festival. November is the Christmas craft sale at the Rec Centre.

Janice Lowry – Moosehorn Wayside Park is complete with 5 spaces for campers to stay overnight. Playground constructed. Co-op is building a new gas station, with opening by end of October. Steep Rock, Faulkner and Hilbre had their Community Pride Celebration with a steak BBQ and numerous events throughout the weekend. All the community groups worked well together. Surveying for cottage development back lots along Lafarge Road and Little Steep Rock Road. Possible sales of lots by late fall. Not a lot of development with summer at Steep Rock. Not as busy a summer as in the past. Fall supper in Steep Rock this Saturday

PRIORITY AREAS

ONGOING HELP FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS – time spent on Recreation organizations supporting changes.

TOURISM – ITA has their awards returning to an in-person event this fall for the first time since Covid. Working on regional meet and greet connect meetings. They are committing to try to hosted events throughout the Interlake with opportunities for tourism and local business representatives to discuss what is happening in their communities. First meeting in Riverton

tonight. CFWI will be assisting with a board orientation session at the end of October. ITA has six new board members out of 12.

CF MANITOBA – They had a board meeting at the end of June. A lot of discussion around the RRRF fund.

NEW BUSINESS

Small Business Week – October 15 to 21, 2023 – Will be showcasing success stories of our clients on Facebook and our fall newsletter. As well as promoting the Build a Better Business and Rural Entrepreneurship Hub Program delivered by CF Parkland.

CFWI Strategic Planning – October 11th meeting.

CF Manitoba Representative – Diane's 9-year term on the CFWI board expires next year. We need a board member to take over her seat on the CFM board. Diane is willing to mentor her replacement.

Pan Wet Conference – February, 2024 – Kelowna, BC – Western Canada conference. One staff and one executive board member to attend. Keith has expressed interest in attending. Diane may also be interested. LANA to sort out details.

CF Network of Canada Pre-Budget Submission – What we submit into Treasury and other Departments to consider improving our operational funding. They have asked for two major things:

1. \$120,000 increase per year. CF Partnership of Canada believes this is what the inflationary deficit is since the last operational increase. Has not increased in the last 13 years.
2. Asked for better responsiveness to our businesses. We can currently lend up to \$150,000, if we need a higher amount to the \$250,000, we need to ask for special permission. They have asked for blanket approval across the country for \$250,000 at the control of each CF's to expedite our services.

CF Manitoba/Saskatchewan Manager Exchange – Community Futures Provincial Association has a budget if an office in Saskatchewan would like the opportunity to spend the day in an office in Manitoba (and vice versa). We have had a request from Community Futures Manitoba to do a swap with CF Outlook in Saskatchewan. They have done some creative things on their lending side but have very little experience on the community development side. Our GM and Chairperson will travel by vehicle to Outlook, SK for two days. All out of pocket expenses are covered up to \$1000.

Moved by Keith McLelland, seconded by Darryl Langrell **THAT** the board go in camera. Shanto Mathew and Kelynda Springer were excused from the meeting.

CARRIED

R2023/2024-26

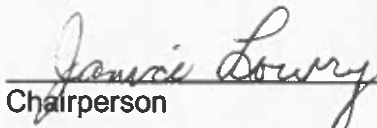
Moved by Bill Eyolfson, seconded by Diane Bottell **THAT** the meeting come out of the In Camera Session at 8:25 pm.

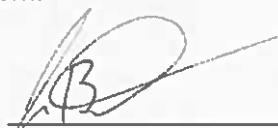
CARRIED

R2023/2024-27

NEXT MEETING – October 11, 2023

ADJOURNMENT – the meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.


 Chairperson


 Sec.-Treasurer