North Country Council Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 21, 2023 | 6:00 pm

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Robitaille, Chair; Ben Gaetjens-Oleson, Vice Chair; Treasurer; Mark Decoteau, Treasurer, Martland Member

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Michelle Moren-Grey, Executive Director; James Steele, Finance Manager & Special Projects Planner (virtual)

Call to Order

Chair Robitaille, called the meeting to order at 6:05.

Attendance

• Paul Robitaille, Chair; Ben Gaetjens-Oleson, Vice Chair; Mark Decoteau, Treasurer, Carl Martland, Member

Minutes of 05/18/2023 Approval

MOTION Vice Chair Gaetjens-Oleson made a motion to approve the 05/18/2023 minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Treasurer Decoteau.

The motion carried - 4 in favor/ 0 opposed / 0 abstention

Financial

Review and approval of revised financial policy

Ms. Moren-Grey reminded the Board that the revision was in the meeting materials and reviewed at a previous meeting but could not be adopted until thresholds in bylaws were revised.

MOTION Vice Chair Gaetjens-Oleson made a motion to approve the revised financial policy. The motion was seconded by Treasurer Decoteau.

The motion carried - 4 in favor/ 0 opposed / 0 abstention

Other Business

- Ms. Moren-Grey staffing increased now that the budget is approved staffing increased will be reflective of what was budgeted. She asked that the Board of Directors consider Mr. Steele's increase if, at the amount budgeted, it would bring him over the internal range of his position. Treasurer Decoteau asked what the range is derived from Ms. Moren-Grey & Mr. Steele commented that it is a range that is determined internally and can be adjusted as needed and according to the current employment climate. Mr. Steele stated that staying within the range is fine and not expected to go beyond. The Board discussed the current hiring climate, historic knowledge of Mr. Steele, and cost of living and determined to exceed the internal position range.
- Vice-Chair Gaetjens-Oleson asked about a rate increase for Ms. Moren-Grey. Ms. Moren-Grey commented that she is not anticipating a rate increase at this time and it can be discussed at a future meeting. Treasurer Decoteau reminded that group that during the last rate increase, Ms. Moren-Grey declined to accept the pay increase and proposed a

counter that was revised by the Board to bring her in alignment with the position salary range. The offer was to increase rate immediately with an additional increase in June of 2023. Treasurer Decoteau asked if the current budgeted rate increase would bring Ms. Moren-Grey above the position range Mr. Steele felt that it would not but would bring it to the level agreed to the prior year.

The Board of Directors recognized the efforts of Mr. Steele and Ms. Moren-Grey to turn the Council around as well as expressed their appreciation for their work.

MOTION Treasurer Decoteau made a motion to approve a 5% rate increase for Mr. Steele effective in the first full pay period of July and a rate increase for Ms. Moren-Grey to the amount indicated in the offer letter of August 2022. It was seconded by Vice-Chair Gaetjens-Oleson.

The motion carried - 4 in favor/ 0 opposed / 0 abstention

Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (if needed)

None was needed

Public Comment

Chair Robitaille asked for public comment – there was none.

Adjournment

MOTION Vice Chair Gaetjens-Oleson made a motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Member Martland.

The motion carried - 4 in favor/ 0 opposed / 0 abstention The meeting adjourned at 6:19

Respectfully Submitted, Michelle Moren-Grey, Executive Director