

INTERIM INTERMUNICIPAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, March 25, 2025 – 3:00 p.m.

Valley Waste-Resource Management Boardroom with Virtual Attendance Option

MINUTES

A meeting of the Interim Intermunicipal Services Agreement Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, March 25, 2025, at 3:00 p.m., based in the Valley Waste-Resource Management Boardroom with a virtual attendance option.

Attendees:

Board Members

Municipality of Annapolis County:	Diane Le Blanc, Warden
Town of Annapolis Royal:	Amery Boyer, Mayor
Town of Berwick:	Mike Trinacty, Mayor
Town of Kentville:	Debra Crowell, Deputy Mayor, regrets from Andrew Zebian, Mayor
Municipality of the County of Kings:	Dave Corkum, Mayor
Town of Middleton:	Gail Smith, Mayor
Town of Wolfville:	Jennifer Ingham, Deputy Mayor, regrets from Jodi MacKay, Mayor
Mun of Digby:	

Also in Attendance:

Town of Annapolis Royal	Sandi Millett-Campbell, CAO
Town of Berwick:	Justin Serino, Councillor, and Jen Boyd, CAO
Town of Kentville:	Kevin Matheson, Interim CAO
Town of Middleton:	Ashley Crocker, CAO
Municipality of the County of Kings:	
Municipality of Annapolis County:	
Town of Wolfville:	
Municipality of Digby:	

IMSA Executive Director:	Dwight Whynot - also Acting General Manager, Kings Transit
Valley Waste:	Andrew Garrett, General Manager
Kings Transit and Valley Waste:	Dan L'Abbe
IMSA:	
Recording Secretary:	Brenda Davidson

Agenda Item No. 1 –Welcome and Call To Order

Chair Corkum welcomed everyone calling the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. A roundtable of introductions was held.

Agenda Item No. 2 – Approval of Agenda

ON MOTION OF MAYOR TRINACTY AND SECONDED BY MAYOR SMITH THAT THE INTERIM INTERMUNICIPAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE THE MARCH 25, 2025, AGENDA, AS CIRCULATED.

MOTION CARRIED.

Agenda Item No. 3 – Approval of the Minutes

Agenda Item No. 3.1 – Approval of the Minutes from meeting held February 19, 2025

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR CROWELL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR JUSTIN SERINO THAT THE INTERIM INTERMUNICIPAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 19, 2025, MINUTES, AS CIRCULATED.

MOTION CARRIED.

Agenda Item No. 4 – Kings Transit Authority

Agenda Item No. 4.1 – General Manager’s Report

Acting General Manager Whynot referred to the Kings Transit Authority General Manager’s Report, dated March 25, 2025, as circulated and attached to these minutes. Mr. Whynot focussed on the Selection Committee’s unanimous decision to engage Meg Hodges as General Manager for the Kings Transit Authority noting that Ms. Hodges will be able to take on the role on April 3, 2025, which is earlier than originally anticipated.

Chair Corkum indicated that he is looking forward to working with Ms. Hodges adding that in the past she has proven to be an enthusiastic supporter of public transit and further that she will bring a strong understanding to the position due to her past involvement when she served as a Councillor for the Municipality of the County of Kings.

Chair Corkum also extended a hearty thank you to Mr. Whynot for the outstanding job he has done serving as the Acting General Manager during what have been turbulent and challenging times over the past months. Mr. Whynot noted that he will do all that he can to help Ms. Hodges as she tackles her new responsibilities. Mr. Whynot further noted that key steps have been taken to secure external funding and that staff continue to explore all funding options available to mitigate costs for the participating municipalities into the future.

Mr. Whynot then touched on they key points in his General Manager’s report for the information of the Board.

ON MOTION OF MAYOR TRINACTY AND SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR CROWELL THAT THE INTERIM INTERMUNICIPAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECEIVE THE KINGS TRANSIT AUTHORITY GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT DATED MARCH 25, 2025.

MOTION CARRIED.

Agenda Item No. 5 – Valley Region Solid Waste-Resource Management Authority

Agenda Item No. 5.1 – General Manager’s Report

General Manager Garrett provided the Board with an overview of the Valley Waste-Resource Management General Manager’s Report dated March 25, 2025, as circulated and attached to these minutes, touching on the key items.

Extended Producer Responsibility for Packaging and Printed Paper – Mr. Garrett reminded the Board that during the January 2025 meeting the Board confirmed the decision to opt-in with Circular Materials which will result in financial compensation in the range of \$2.1 million dollars a year. Since that time, and quite unexpectedly, staff have been advised that Circular Materials has now imposed restrictions on the management of non-eligible

recyclable materials from the industrial, commercial and institutional sectors, prohibiting the co-mingling of these materials with the residentially-generated materials in the curbside collection stream, at the transfer stations and at the recyclable processing facility.

It was previously understood that the co-mingling of materials would be permitted with Circular Materials being compensated for the handling of the materials not covered under the regulatory framework. However, this has become a significant concern for all regions across the Province. In response, Solid Waste managers across the Province convened to discuss the matter, followed by a Regional Chairs Committee meeting where the concerns were further examined, leading to two key decisions. The Regional Chairs Committee will send a letter to the Honourable Tim Halman, Minister, Nova Scotia Environment and Climate Change, outlining the issue and its impact on municipalities. Additionally, the Chair of each waste management region will be asked to prepare and release a similar letter to Minister Halman reiterating these concerns. Chair Corkum emphasized the importance of conveying the negative consequences of this approach, highlighting the financial strain and inefficiencies it would create across the Province.

General Manager Garrett noted that staff are actively working with collection services and recyclables processing services representatives to develop options should Circular Materials not retract the prohibition; however, staff do hope that cooler heads will prevail, and that the matter will be resolved to the satisfaction of all involved.

A short discussion was held with Mr. Garrett explaining how Minister Halman may be able to work with Divert NS, the PRO overseeing the Extended Producer Responsibility Regulations, to exert pressure on Circular Materials to reverse the prohibition that they are imposing so that there is limited disruption to recycling collection services.

ON MOTION OF MAYOR TRINACTY AND SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR CROWELL THAT THE INTERIM INTERMUNICIPAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE THE PREPARATION AND ISSUANCE OF A LETTER, SIGNED BY THE CHAIR, TO THE HONOURABLE TIMOTHY HALMAN, MINISTER OF NOVA SCOTIA ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE, TO CONVEY THE BOARD'S CONCERNS REGARDING THE REGULATORY IMPACT OF CIRCULAR MATERIALS' PROHIBITION ON INTERMINGLING CURBSIDE-COLLECTED NON-ELIGIBLE RECYCLABLE MATERIALS FROM THE INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL SECTORS.

MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Garrett continued the review of the General Manager's Report, adding that Scotia Recycling is now operating at full capacity and working to process stockpiled materials. With that in mind, the processing service contract with the Halifax Regional Municipality has been terminated.

In response to the question, Mr. Garrett noted that the 2026 Waste-Resource Management calendar will include a strong focus on the move to the bi-weekly collection of bulky items and further that staff will be developing a comprehensive education campaign to raise awareness regarding this change in service provision across the Region.

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR CROWELL AND SECONDED BY MAYOR SMITH THAT THE INTERIM INTERMUNICIPAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECEIVE THE VALLEY WASTE-RESOURCE MANAGEMENT GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT DATED MARCH 25, 2025.

MOTION CARRIED.

Agenda Item No. 5.2 – Request for Decision: Resolution for Pre-Approval of Debenture Issuance

Mr. Garrett referred to the Request for Decision: Resolution of Pre-Approval of Debenture, dated March 25, 2025, as circulated and attached to these minutes, providing an overview of the report for the information of the Board.

ON MOTION OF MAYOR TRINACTY AND SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR CROWELL THAT THE INTERIM INTERMUNICIPAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BOARD FORMALLY AUTHORIZE THE CHAIR AND INTERIM GENERAL MANAGER, SERVING AS SECRETARY TO THE VALLEY REGION SOLID WASTE-RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY, TO EXECUTE THE RESOLUTION FOR PRE-APPROVAL OF DEBENTURE ISSUANCE SUBJECT TO INTEREST RATE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,202,845.74 AND FURTHER TO SUBMIT THE FULLY EXECUTED RESOLUTION TO THE NOVA SCOTIA DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE & TREASURY BOARD FOR APPROVAL AND RELEASE OF FUNDS.

MOTION CARRIED.

Agenda Item No. 5.3 – Roundtable – Status of 2025-2026 Operating and Capital Budget Approval

General Manager Garrett asked representatives to provide an update regarding the status of the 2025-2026 Operating and Capital Budget approvals within their respective municipalities. Responses are as follow:

- Town of Kentville – will be dealt with next week
- Municipality of Kings – budget meeting to be held tomorrow
- Town of Berwick – will be dealt with during April Council meeting
- Town of Middleton – will be dealt with during April Council Meeting
- Town of Annapolis Royal – will be dealt with during April Council Meeting
- Town of Wolfville – will be dealt with during the next Council meeting

It was indicated that it is anticipated that the budget will move forward successfully with all parties.

Agenda Item No. 6 – Next Meeting

The April Regular Monthly Meeting of the Interim Intermunicipal Services Agreement Board of Directors will be held on April 16, 2025, beginning at 10:00 a.m. in keeping with the normal meeting schedule. A meeting invitation will be released as soon as possible.

Agenda Item No. 7 – Adjournment

ON MOTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR CROWELL AND SECONDED BY DEPUTY MAYOR INGHAM AS THERE WAS NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO BRING FORWARD, THE MARCH 25, 2025, REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE INTERIM INTERMUNICIPAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BOARD ADJOURNED AT 3:37 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Davidson
Recording Secretary
Administration and Policy Manager
Valley Waste-Resource Management