

INTERIM INTERMUNICIPAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

10:00 a.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 Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at 10:00 a.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:	Andrew Zebian, Mayor
Municipality of the County of Kings:	Dave Corkum, Mayor (arrived at 10:29 a.m.)
Town of Middleton:	Gail Smith, Mayor
Town of Wolfville:	Jodi MacKay, Mayor
Mun of Digby:	Linda Gregory, Warden

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:	Tyler Pulley, CAO

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

Agenda Item No. 1 –Welcome and Call To Order

As Chair Corkum had not yet arrived and Vice-Chair MacKay was participating virtually, Mayor Mike Trinacty agreed to Chair the meeting.

Mayor Trinacty called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m., extending a hearty welcome to Meg Hodges who is attending her first Board meeting in her role as General Manager to the Kings Transit Authority. At Mayor Trinacty's suggestion, Ms. Hodges provided a brief overview of her experiences indicating that she has extensive involvement with municipal government including transit operations and is pleased to have been selected as

the successful candidate to serve as General Manager. Ms. Hodges added that she is looking forward to leading the Kings Transit Authority into the future.

Agenda Item No. 2 – Approval of Agenda

ON MOTION OF WARDEN GREGORY AND SECONDED BY MAYOR ZEBIAN THAT THE INTERIM INTERMUNICIPAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE THE APRIL 16, 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 March 25, 2025

It was the consensus to approve the minutes from the March 25, 2025, meeting of the Interim Intermunicipal Services Agreement Board of Directors, as circulated.

Agenda Item No. 4 – Kings Transit Authority

Agenda Item No. 4.1 – General Manager's Report

Mr. Whynot noted that this will be his last Kings Transit Authority General Manager's Report, as General Manager Hodges will be submitting the reports going forward. Mr. Whynot referred to the Report, as circulated and attached to these minutes, highlighting the key issues.

Mr. Whynot noted that he met with the Chief Administrative Officers Committee last week and did have the intention of bringing a Request for Decision regarding the acquisition of battery electric buses to the Board for consideration today; however, since that time, a meeting was held with representatives from the Halifax Regional Municipality where representatives were open and honest regarding the challenges they are experiencing in rolling out their electric bus fleet. They have taken possession of 59 buses, but only 3 of those are actively in service. Several issues have been identified including the condition of the new buses when delivered, operational attributes, bus operators and charging infrastructure.

In follow-up to the meeting with HRM transit representatives, it was decided to slow the process for Kings Transit down to ensure that all aspects of the operation of an electric fleet are identified with any associated challenges mitigated. Work will continue with HRM to secure any data and associated information related to successes and challenges for consideration. Staff will also be investigating all fleet options including continuing with diesel buses, adding battery electric buses and the possible use of hydrogen fueled equipment, or a combination of available technologies.

Mr. Whynot noted he met with the Honourable John Lohr, MLA, to discuss the challenges being identified and any consideration around funding applying to the acquisition of hydrogen fueled buses. While there was not an immediate commitment, Mr. Lohr did acknowledge that he would further consider the matter.

Mr. Whynot stressed the importance of flexibility in the system to ensure the right technologies can be accessed to achieve success with the service into the future. Mr. Whynot also noted that when HRM continues to roll out electric buses, there may be an opportunity for Kings Transit to acquire their used diesel buses to meet immediate fleet needs.

Staff will move forward with investigating all options considering the challenges identified by HRM representatives and bring further information before the Board during an upcoming meeting.

In response to the question, Mr. Whynot confirmed that having the opportunity for the open and frank discussion with HRM representatives is proving to be valuable. Ms. Hodges stressed the importance of ensuring the required infrastructure to operate an electrified fleet efficiently is in place with Mr. L'Abbe adding that one of the things that the HRM representatives stressed is that having dedicated resources in place to manage the project is critical to success.

ON MOTION OF MAYOR ZEBIAN AND SECONDED BY WARDEN GREGORY THAT THE INTERIM INTERMUNICIPAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECEIVE THE KINGS TRANSIT AUTHORITY GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT DATED APRIL 16, 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 April 16, 2025, as circulated and attached to these minutes, touching on the key items as follow:

- Extended Producer Responsibility – as per the report noting that a copy of the letter to the Honourable Minister Timothy Halman and the presentation as provided by Circular Materials on April 8, 2025 were both circulated with his report and are attached to these minutes.
- Annual Education and Enforcement Contracts – as per report
- Markets for construction and demolition debris – as per report
- Capital projects – as per report
- Annual tonnage data – as per report.

Chair Corkum arrived at 10:29am and assumed the Chair's role apologizing for his late arrival.

In response to the question, Mr. Garrett explained that generally, there is a 100% success rate cleaning up reported illegal dumping and that the actual offender is identified in approximately three quarters of the cases adding that Bylaw Enforcement Officer Roberts could confirm.

In response to the question, General Manager Garrett confirmed that the Emera Biomass facility in Liverpool being unable to accept waste wood from municipalities is disappointing, but the opportunity to send materials to the Port Hawkesbury biomass facility is a financially viable option. Mr. Garrett further noted that staff will be preparing and releasing a Request for Proposals for the transportation of materials to the receiving facility and will use the new Authority-owned grinder to prepare the materials for shipment.

ON MOTION OF MAYOR TRINACTY AND SECONDED BY WARDEN GREGORY THAT THE INTERIM INTERMUNICIPAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECEIVE THE VALLEY WASTE-RESOURCE MANAGEMENT GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT DATED APRIL 16, 2025.

MOTION CARRIED.

Chair Corkum then took a moment to extend a welcome to Meg Hodges apologizing for not being present for the earlier welcome, indicating that he looks forward to seeing Ms. Hodges lead Kings Transit into the future. In response to the question, General Manager Garrett noted that the collection service allows for 1 black bag per collection welcoming any reports of overuse. The collection contractor should reject any solid-coloured bags over the 1 bag limit.

In response to the question, Mr. Whynot explained that discussions are underway with the Managers of the Superstore and Walmart stores in Digby who have volunteered to put a bus shelter in place with staff awaiting further word. If they are unable to secure the necessary funding to move forward with the project, Kings Transit can take the steps to install the shelter using existing funds.

Agenda Item No. 5.2 – Request for Decision: Temporary Borrowing Resolution – Installation of Ground Water Monitoring Wells

Mr. Garrett referred to the Request for Decision: Temporary Borrowing Resolution – Installation of Ground Water Monitoring Wells, dated April 16, 2025, as circulated and attached to these minutes, providing an overview of the report for the information of the Board.

ON MOTION OF MAYOR ZEBIAN AND SECONDED BY MAYOR TRINACTY THAT THE INTERIM INTERMUNICIPAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVES THE ADDITIONAL VALUE OF \$146,845.84 IN AN UPCOMING TEMPORARY BORROWING RESOLUTION TO COVER THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE COMPLETION OF GROUND AND SURFACE WATER MONITORING PLANS.

A short discussion regarding the request was held with it being noted that these funds were overlooked as a carry-forward item when the 2025-2026 capital budget was developed and presented and therefore will be an additional spend beyond what was presented in the budget. The project was expected to be completed the previous year.

MOTION CARRIED.

Agenda Item No. 6 – Next Meeting

The May Regular Monthly Meeting of the Interim Intermunicipal Services Agreement Board of Directors will be held on May 21, 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

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, CHAIR CORKUM DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:46 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,


Brenda Davidson

Recording Secretary
Administration and Policy Manager
Valley Waste-Resource Management