

**DISTRICT OF KENORA UNINCORPORATED RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION
P. O. BOX 1245
KEEWATIN, ONTARIO
P0X 1C0**

The Annual General Meeting of DoKURA took place on August 21, 2009 at Longbow Lake Fire Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by the Chair, Bill Blower. The Approval of the Agenda was moved by Ken Pride, seconded by Nick Vander Zande. There were no additions or deletions to the Agenda.

Bill Blower welcomed and thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He reported that Jack McKenzie had attended the AMO in Ottawa in August and spoke to the Minister of Community and Social Services. Jack will give a report later in the Meeting. Bill also said that DoKURA has applied to KDMA for an Associate Membership. This is the only way we can know what is happening in the district. We need to be invited to a meeting. The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 2008 were missing. The Secretary apologized for this error. However, she had the minutes in the rough and spoke about what had taken place in 2008. She said she would e-mail or mail a copy to anyone wanting a copy.

Gale Tucker moved, Ingrid Parkes seconded the Minutes of the 2008 AGM as presented by the Secretary.

The Treasurer had copies of the Financial Statement and went through it. She explained our financial situation and that we are going backwards with no money coming in, only money going out.

It was moved by Gord Dingman, seconded by Bob Stewart that the Financial Report be accepted as presented.

Jack McKenzie reported on how to apply for a Federal/Provincial Grant. A notice comes to Roads Boards via e-mail stating that there is money available, a short time frame and an application form to fill out. The group applying must have a corporation number, Letters of support, maps of the area involved, Board of Directors, occupations, experience at handling projects, bank statement, budget and financial statement. Preference is given to organizations that can spend the money quickly.

He was told by a Cabinet Minister that there would be infrastructure money for each of the next 10 years.

He told the group not be afraid of application forms. He said to include a contact person who is reliable; not one who would be out of the country.

Jack also spoke about the formation of a Local Services Board. He gave an overview of a Local Services Board is, the Formation and Operation of a Local Services Board. The Ministry of Northern Development and Mines are the contact if any community is interested in forming a LSB.

Bill Blower gave a history of The Common Voice Initiative. He said it was started by NOMA (Thunder Bay, Kenora and Rainy River Districts) to deal with issues of the North. The Municipalities were on side with the Common Voice. The Unincorporated were never mentioned. Bill sent letters to Ian Angus, the Premier and various cabinet Ministers. Ian Angus responded and said it was a mistake that the Unincorporated were

omitted. DOKURA stated that since the Unincorporated cover 3 districts, the Unincorporated should have 3 seats. Rainy River never answered Bill's letter; Thunder Bay didn't want anything to do with Ian Angus. DoKURA sent a letter to Ian Angus asking for a membership. We could join but would have to pay \$200.00 for a seat. This money was sent to Ian Angus. Penny Lucas was moving to Thunder Bay around this time and offered to attend meeting on our behalf. She has attended 2 meeting. She was appointed to a Tourism Committee. To date, they haven't finished anything. Kenora had opted out of NOMA & KDMA but have since joined both groups.

Jack spoke with the Minister of Community and Social Services when he attended the AMO in Ottawa in August. He told her DoKURA doesn't want the DSSB telling us who is going to be our replacement if a representative has to withdraw from the DSSB before his/her term is up. He also spoke to her about the inability of seasonal property owners to vote in an election. Senior Staff told him two years ago that seasonal people could vote. He asked for a letter of proof. He is still waiting for the letter.

The Municipalities and Unincorporated Area appoint members to the KDSB. If the designated person can't make the meeting, an Alternate replaces him/her for that meeting. Alternates can speak but not vote. DoKURA feel Alternates should be able to vote. DoKURA has no means of funding meetings, conferences, etc. Jack will be in Toronto in November and has asked to meet again with the same Ministers he met with in August. He is to notify them a week prior to his arriving in Toronto.

Barry Baltessen moved that thee meeting approve all the acts, contracts, proceedings, payments passed, made or mistaken as well as all decisions of the Board of Directors and Officers as set out or referred to in the record book of The Minutes of the Meetings of Directors, since the last Annual Meeting of the District of Kenora Unincorporated Areas Ratepayers Association. This motion was seconded by Ralph Webb. The motion carried. The Nominating Report was given by Gord Dingman. He reported that Ken Pride, Jack McKenzie and Bob Wall are up for re-election. He then reported that Bob Wall is retiring.

Jack McKenzie and Ken Pride said they would let their names stand again.

Bill Latham would replace Bob Wall as the Alternate for the Oxdrift Area on the KDSB. Barry Baltessen would be added to Lake of the Woods North and Ian Clark, Lake of the Woods south as Directors at Large on DoKURA. There were no nominations from the floor.

NEW BUSINESS AND QUESTIONS

Jack McKenzie has arranged a meeting with Greg Rickford next week. On the Agenda are:

1. When Ministers and important people come to the area, VIP's are invited to attend. The Unincorporated are never invited.
2. Gas Tax Problem.

Ken Pride spoke about the Home Retro Fit Program. He said there is \$130 Million allotted to this district for low income people. The average loan is \$25,000.00. The KDSB will handle the money and write cheques. KDSB is supposed to be advertising this program.

The meeting was adjourned by Jim White.