

Minutes (draft form) of the Annual General Meeting of the District of Kenora Unincorporated Areas Ratepayers Association held on Thursday, September 9, 2021 at the KDSB Boardroom & via teleconference (Zoom)

The meeting commenced at 4:10 PM, called to order by Vice-President Ed Murray, who chaired the meeting.

Attending at KDSB Boardroom: Barry Baltessen, Ed Murray, Mark Sobchuk

Attending via ZOOM: Jack McKenzie, Bob Stewart, Irene Kember, Dennis Wallace, Robert Wares, Andrea Strawson, Arlene Williams, Jamie Beach

1) Minutes from September 19, 2020 AGM

The minutes of the 2020 annual meeting were approved as submitted, copy attached. Moved by Robert Wares, seconded by Mark Sobchuk. Called, carried.

2) President's Report

President Jack McKenzie presented report (copy attached).

3) Financial Report

Irene Kember presented the annual financial report (April 1, 2020-March 31, 2021).

Also provided an update on the current bank balance as at August 31, 2021 - \$15574.34.

Statements approved by members on a motion moved by Irene Kember, seconded by Barry Baltessen. (Copies of statements attached).

4) Reports

All Nations Health Partners Committee

Bob Stewart presented his report on activities associated with his participation on ANHP (copy attached).

Broadband Activities

Barry Baltessen presented his report on activities undertaken by DoKURA related to improving access to internet and cellular service for residents in the unincorporated area (copy attached).

TWOMO Election - 2022

Barry Baltessen gave a verbal report on the anticipated changes for the election of representatives for the four unincorporated area representatives. Henry Wall, the KDSB Chief Administrative Officer, has been participating on a Provincial Government committee looking at ways to improve participation in the election. As a result of privacy concerns associated with vote-by-mail or use of the internet, the KDSB will be running this election, with DoKURA providing consulting assistance. This is the first time that the election will not be run by DoKURA.

Report on KDSB activities by TWOMO (Territories Without Municipal Organization) Directors

Barry Baltessen presented his report on activities of the 4 TWOMO representatives, copy attached.

5) Director's Actions

Approval of the director's actions since the 2020 AGM was given. Motion made by Arlene Williams, seconded by Andrea Strawson.

6) Nominating Report & Election of Directors

Barry Baltessen presented his report on the status of DoKURA's directors and the election of officers (copy attached). Report approved on a motion moved by Barry Baltessen and seconded by Robert Wares. The following are the DoKURA board of directors and officers for the Sept 2021 – Sept 2022 term.

Officers

President – Vacant

Past-President – Jack McKenzie (to 2023)

Vice-President – Ed Murray (to 2022)

Treasurer – Irene Kember (to 2023)

Secretary – Barry Baltessen (2022)

Directors at large

Ken Bracken – Lake of the Woods South (to 2022)

Dennis Wallace – Lake of the Woods South (to 2022)

Robert Wares – Lake of the Woods North (to 2023)

Kenora District Service Board TWOMO representatives

Ed Murray – Oxdrift (to Dec 2022)

Barry Baltessen – Lake of the Woods North (to Dec 2022)

Mark Sobchuk – Lac Seul (to Dec 2022)

Bob Stewart – Lake of the Woods South (to Dec 2022)

7) New Business

- Jack McKenzie moved to send a letter of support on behalf of DoKURA for the Highway 17 Twinning project, seconded by Irene Kember. Called, carried.

ACTION: Secretary to draft and send letter to WSP Canada Group Limited via 4lanehighway17kenora.ca.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:25 pm

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the District of Kenora Unincorporated Areas Ratepayers Association held on Thursday, September 19, 2020 via teleconference (Zoom)

The meeting commenced at 7:05 PM.

Attending: Jack McKenzie, Barry Baltessen, Bob Stewart, Ed Murray, Irene Kember, Mark Sobchuk, Dennis Wallace, Ken Bracken.

1) President's Report

President Jack McKenzie called the meeting to order and read his president's report (text copy to follow).

2) Financial Report

Irene Kember presented the annual financial report (April 1, 2019-March 31, 2020)

Current surplus - \$15,616.47 and an update on the current bank balance (Aug 31, 2020) - \$15616.47.

Statements approved by members on a motion moved by Irene Kember, seconded by Bob Stewart.

(Copies of statements attached)

3) Minutes from past meetings

Minutes of the 2019 annual meeting were approved as submitted by Secretary Bob Stewart (copy attached). Motion by Bob Stewart, seconded by Barry Baltessen.

4) Reports

All Nations Health Partnership

Bob Stewart gave a verbal update on his involvement as DoKURA's representative with the All Nations Health Partnership. Highlights were noted in the Fall 2020 Newsletter. Bob Stewart noted CoVID restrictions have limited his involvement since March as meetings moved to a teleconference format and were limited to health agency representatives, however the partnership work is moving ahead with work on creating one of the province's new Ontario Health Teams locally a major focus. The major aim of the partnership is to improve health system service levels and community level delivery to the 10 First Nations and two municipal signatories to the partnership memorandum as well as the non-municipal area surrounding the First Nation communities and Kenora and Sioux Narrows Nestor Falls.

Meeting with MPP Greg Rickford

Bob Stewart, Jack McKenzie and Barry Baltessen provided verbal updates on issues raised in a January meeting with MPP Greg Rickford. Issues raised were Provincial Land Tax measures, Hydro One rates for rural areas, Turtle Portage transfer system, and government support for local roads. With CoVID issues dominating the government agenda, the only issue to have had any major action is Turtle Portage. Provincial funds were allocated, and work begun this fall to repair the marine rail transfer system. While only a one-time repair/upgrade, it was noted the improvements should make it easier to find a local group to take over the facility.

Municipal Association meeting

Barry Baltessen gave a verbal report on the 2020 Association of Municipalities of Ontario meeting which was held via teleconference. He noted housing was the main issue raised with most ministries the Kenora District Service Board delegation met with and progress is being made to increase the variety and stock of social housing in the district.

Local Elections

Barry Baltessen and Jack McKenzie provided a verbal update on the involvement of KDSB CAO Henry Wall with a government committee looking at increasing voter participation, especially with regards to TWOMO (Territory Without Municipal Organization) representatives on district service boards. The aim is to increase voter turnout through the use of vote-by-mail and/or electronic voting over the Internet.

Ambulance service

Barry Baltessen reported DoKURA's 2019 request to have the KDSB review ambulance service needs in the Vermilion Bay area resulted in the service board undertaking a review and deciding an upgrade in service is needed. The service board will likely decide in early 2021 whether that will be through adding an ambulance base in Vermilion Bay (the preference of DoKURA), or an additional crew and vehicle in Dryden.

5) Director's Actions

Approval of the directors actions since the 2019 AGM was given. Motion made by Ken Bracken, seconded by Dennis Wallace.

6) Election of officers

Barry Baltessen gave an oral report on the status of DoKURA's directors and the election of officers. Current director positions expiring at the end of 2021 are the vice-president's position (vacated by Gord Dingman in August 2020 as he no longer owns property in the unincorporated area). Secretary position (Bob Stewart has said he wishes to give this up). Laurie Huffman – Director-at-large-Oxdrift area. Director-at-large-Lac Seul (Gord Dingman). Bill Deschamps – Director-at-large-Lac Seul area has also indicated he is stepping back from his director's position.

Laurie Hoffman was not present and Barry Baltessen said he would contact her to inquire about her interest in carrying on as a director and her interest in taking on the secretary position.

Barry Baltessen noted the DoKURA board also needs to begin a search for potential KDSB candidates for TWOMO representatives on the Kenora District Service Board in the Lake of the Woods South area and Lac Seul area as Bob Stewart and Mark Sobchuk, current elected members for those areas, have announced they will not be seeking re-election in the 2022 local elections.

DoKURA directors and officers, except for the four service board TWOMO directors, are elected for two-year terms on an alternating basis.

Following a call for nominations from the floor and approval of a motion by Barry Baltessen and seconded by Mark Sobchuk, the following are the DoKURA board of directors and officers for the Sept 2020 – Sept 2021 term.

Officers

President – Jack McKenzie (to 2021)

Vice-President – Ed Murray (to 2022)

Treasurer – Irene Kember (to 2021)

Secretary – Bob Stewart (interim)

Kenora District Service Board TWOMO representatives

Ed Murray – Oxdrift (to Dec 2022)

Barry Baltessen – Lake of the Woods North (to Dec 2022)

Mark Sobchuk – Lac Seul (to Dec 2022)

Bob Stewart – Lake of the Woods South (to Dec 2022)

Directors at large

Jack McKenzie – Lake of the Woods North (to 2021)

Irene Kember – Lake of the Woods South (to 2021)

Ken Bracken – Lake of the Woods South (to 2022)

Dennis Wallace – Lake of the Woods South (to 2022)

7) New Business

- Jack McKenzie raised the question of how DoKURA can become involved in the ongoing All Nation Hospital planning process. It was suggested Jack contact the hospital board through its CEO Ray Racette to find out how this can be done.

- Dennis Wallace suggested some of the board's efforts in the coming year should be focused on lobbying for changes for the Northern Services Board act and the Local Roads Board act to improve the way these boards operate. Several issues were raised about these acts. One is the inability of LSB's under current legislation to access the government tax roll and mailing addresses and contact information for property owners within their jurisdiction; for Roads Boards the current legislation allocates one vote to each registered property owner or tenant, a problem in some areas where there are tenants-in-common ownership that allows the owners of single property or several properties to dominate. Improvements to Hydro One reliability of service in the area and the need for hi-speed Internet service are also issues of concern.

Dennis Wallace suggested meetings should be sought with MPP Greg Rickford, MP Eric Melillo and Hydro One officials at the local and regional level to raise these issues and members agreed directors should proceed with this.

- **Municipal meetings for 2021**

Barry Baltessen noted there has been no decision he is aware of on how the Kenora District Municipal Association, the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario will hold their 2021 meetings. DoKURA normally tries to have observer status at these meetings. Barry Baltessen noted the meetings will likely be held by teleconference given the status of the CoVID pandemic. He will act as a DoKURA observer at any he takes part in on behalf of the Kenora District Service Board.

- Mark Sobchuk noted Common Voice, a regional lobby group he was the DoKURA representative to in the past has effectively disbanded due to a lack of funding.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm

DISTRICT OF KENORA UNINCORPORATED AREAS RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION
A NON-PROFIT ONTARIO CORPORATION

Report to 2021 Annual Meeting

It's been an interesting twenty-five plus years since I first joined the DoKURA Board. I am happy to report that I have enjoyed all of it.

We started off as an informal association and then after several years of fighting with the Province of Ontario over whether or not they would allow the incorporation of a group with the word "Unincorporated" in its name, we reached a successful conclusion by adding the word "Areas" to our name.

We worked hard in our early years trying to have the Kenora District Social Services Board (KDSB) replaced by an Area Services Board. After having been successful in obtaining a local double majority vote in favor of such a move, the province discontinued this program.

That led us next to leading the effort to have all Local Roads Boards included in the Federal Gas Tax rebate program. We were successful in this program that continues to this day.

Unfortunately, our efforts to see this funding expanded to the area's many Local Road Associations has yet to meet with success. Hopefully the new DoKURA Board will continue with this fight.

As I am retiring from the position as President of DoKURA following this meeting, I want to start off by saying thank-you to the four elected officials who represent the DoKURA wards on the KDSB. They are to be commended for having done an excellent job making sure our concerns are taken into consideration with respect to the business of this level of local government.

DoKURA has been fortunate in having had some hard-working volunteers during my years of involvement and I would like to note, and say a special thank-you to the following individuals in addition to those presently serving on the Board;

Bill Blower	-	Lac Seul
Ken Pride	-	Lake of the Woods North
Penny Lucas	-	Lake of the Woods North
Gord Dingman	-	Lac Seul
Tony Nickle	-	Oxdrift

This past year has been an extremely difficult one in getting the Board together for meetings due to Covid-19, however with the increased use of computers, we have been able to get on with business. Thanks to all who made the effort to participate in such meetings.

Looking back at the year, we were successful in meeting with both the Provincial MPP and the Federal MP, although not as often as we would have liked. I like to think that our efforts, as well

as letter writing activities, contributed to some of the positive results we've seen in the Kenora District.

We supported the continued operation of the Turtle Portage marine transfer station on the Lake of the Woods. Somehow, magically, after first announcing that the facility would be discontinued, the provincial government found funds to keep this equipment in operation.

We lobbied long and hard on the subject of the need for improved Internet service in the District. It appears from initial results that progress is being made. A special thanks is due to Barry Baltessen, Bob Stewart and Dennis Wallace who continue to lead out association's efforts in this area.

In other activities, support for the establishment of a land ambulance base in Vermillion Bay is moving along slowly. At this point in time, reports indicate that KDSB management will be presenting a business case for this expansion either late this fall or at an early winter meeting of the full KDSB Board. Hopefully this much needed base will be approved.

Our continued strong involvement in the All Nations Health Partners committee, which meets monthly, is due in part to the dedicated effort of Director Bob Stewart. Thanks Bob.

It should be noted that a committee has been established looking into possible locations for a new hospital in Kenora. We have made a formal application to have one our Directors appointed to that committee.

A meeting has been held with the hospital confirming our desire to be included and we await a reply. Hopefully we can be included in this working group.

We have been successful in attracting three new Board Members over the past year. Dennis Wallace and Ken Bracken from the Lake of the Woods South ward and Robert Wares from the Lake of the Woods North ward. Their addition and on-going contribution to the day to day activities of DoKURA, is appreciated. We continue to look for additional Directors from both the Oxdrift and Lac Seul areas.

There is but a short year left until an election must be held to select representatives from each of our four wards, to sit on the KDSB. Since the inception of the KDSB in the mid 1990's, DoKURA has conducted this election under contract from the KDSB. It appears that for the election in the fall of 2022, that our involvement may be more of a consulting roll. The hope is that some form of vote by mail can be used in the hope of increasing the voter participation.

Thank you.

Jack McKenzie, President
DoKURA

DoKURA AGM September 2021

All Nations Health Partners Report by Bob Stewart

During 2021, DoKURA continued its involvement with the All Nations Health Partners. The ANHP concept grew from joint efforts of the medical community, local municipalities and First Nations to recruit more physicians to the Kenora area and was created following a meeting of area First Nation and municipal leaders in 2017 and the signing of a memorandum of agreement between the municipalities of Kenora, Sioux Narrows Nestor Falls and 10 Kenora area First Nations.

In 2018 DoKURA was asked if they would like to appoint a representative to the All Nations Health Partners to provide input and perspective on the health system service needs of year-round and seasonal residents in rural areas. DoKURA board member Bob Stewart has been the representative since then.

Partners in the group include the Kenora Chiefs Advisory, Grand Council Treaty 3, the Kenora Metis Council, the municipalities of Kenora and Sioux Narrows Nestor Falls and various health agencies including the Lake of the Woods District Hospital, Northwest Health Unit, Canadian Mental Health Association (Kenora), Waasegiizhig Nanaandawe'iyewigamig (First Nations Primary Care), Kenora Physicians Recruit Committee, the Sunset Country Family Health Team, Kenora District Services Board (land ambulance/social services), Firefly (children's services), and several local area family physicians.

The group meets monthly. Physician recruitment efforts and lobbying to remove barriers to Kenora area residents using Manitoba health care services are ongoing, as is the group's involvement with planning for a new All Nations Hospital and Health Education campus in Kenora.

Major accomplishments to date have included supporting the Kenora District Services Board and Wabaseemoong Independent Nations (Whitedog) in creating an ambulance service for that community and in supporting the Kenora Chiefs Advisory council in acquiring the Birchwood Terrace Nursing Home and eventually relocating and expanding the facility to the Wauzushk Onigum (Rat Portage) community immediately south of Kenora. This will add 64 available long term care beds the 212 now in the community.

The goal, once the new long term care facility is opened, is to convert the existing Birchwood Terrace building to student housing for the Seven Generations Education Institute in Kenora. During 2021 the ANHP focus has been on providing a forum and assisting in any way possible the various health and social service agencies in dealing effectively with the CoVID pandemic; secondly the group has continued its work on developing an Ontario Health Team for Kenora area.

The province announced the OHT initiative in 2019. Its aim is to create local level organizations that can better integrate and deliver health care services than the regional Local Health Integration Networks that will eventually be phased out.

ANHP decided to apply to be the lead organizer for such a team locally as the aim of the initiative was in line with what the ANHP was already doing and the ANHP was among the first group of applicants approved by the province to move forward.

Broadband Improvements in the Kenora District

The District of Kenora Unincorporated Areas Ratepayers Association (DoKURA) has been working on your behalf to determine how every resident in our catchment area will have access to high-speed internet at reasonable installation cost and monthly rates comparable to other jurisdictions. In late 2020, members of the board began to review the current state of internet accessibility in the unincorporated areas of the Kenora District. We identified a need to secure government investments to improve service and looked into applying for the Federal Government's Universal Broadband Fund (UBF). Realizing that the requirements were beyond the scope of a non-profit, volunteer run organization, we engaged the Kenora District Services Board (KDSB) and actively supported their application to the Rapid Response Stream of the UBF. As a result, KDSB was able to secure \$4.9 million to connect as many as 3,000 homes across the region to the Starlink satellite service. The funding was announced in June of 2021 and installations are proceeding.

Early in 2021, we canvassed area residents and received anecdotal feedback that supported our belief that the unincorporated area is underserved. As part of the Starlink project the KDSB identified 1,000 households with no access to internet service and another 2,000 with limited or low-speed access. There is no doubt many more. We also made a presentation to the Ontario Ministry of Finance Budget Consultations via Zoom on January 29th, 2021.

In early May, we participated in the Broadband NOW webinar. The area represented by DoKURA was featured as one of the case studies. The issue of Public Private Partnerships (P3) applicability for broadband expansion was the key topic of discussion.

Following the webinar, we reached out to both Bell and Tbaytel. We have met with both telcos and are working with them to scope out potential projects to improve broadband service in the unincorporated territory.

The Province of Ontario recently announced that the Ontario Connects process will involve "auctioning off" government funding to focus on underserved areas of the province. We are currently advocating on behalf of Kenora District unincorporated residents to ensure this area is recognized as under-served. Service expansion and improvement in this region must be a priority. This has been communicated to our MPP, Greg Rickford and our MP, Eric Melillo. The Kenora District does not have capacity similar to many rural areas in Ontario, since we do not have large population centres. Our municipalities are smaller and do not have the same capital capability to invest in internet infrastructure. The volume of business, due to low population densities, is not there to draw internet service similar to Southern Ontario. We must work with government to provide support for internet infrastructure. The unincorporated areas may have to seek partnerships with municipalities and First Nation communities to create the business case to move forward. These partnerships would permit us to take advantage of internet infrastructure being put in place by telcos. In addition, we must press on internet service providers with respect to existing infrastructure that is not being maintained. These issues will be our priority for the near term.

We want every DoKURA resident to have high speed internet access at reasonable cost and competitive monthly rates. Internet is essential in the 21st century for quality education, health, community services and business development.

Appendix A – Investments in Kenora Region

KDSB Starlink Project - KDSB and FSET have acquired roughly \$4.9 million from federal government funding streams that they hope to use to get more than 3,000 homes across the region connected to high-speed internet. The total amount of setups per community is currently limited, as the number of Starlink units that can be activated in any given area — referred to as a “cell” by SpaceX — is capped at around 60 installations. Owing to FSET pioneering the use of the technology in the country by bringing it to Pikangikum back in November 2020, Starlink is currently still in its beta phase within Canada, although SpaceX is hopeful that it will be cleared to expand its coverage capabilities to a global scale with more cells sometime in the fall. Up until Aug. 18, permanent residents in Pickle Lake will be able to apply to have a ground-level Starlink receiver installed at their home. Those who had previously applied for the service on their own also have the option of applying with the KDSB to have their installation fees — which fall in the range of \$1,000 — subsidized, either partially or completely. The project will move quickly, with more and more communities being invited to apply moving westward until Kenora itself can be brought into the loop. Wall also said that if all goes well in Pickle Lake, it is likely that during future rounds of the rollout more than one community will be able to participate and apply at the same time. Those who are interested or who have questions about eligibility are encouraged to call KDSB and FSET’s toll-free number 1-844-266-9466 or visit www.kdsb.on.ca: <https://surveyhero.com/c/628eb507>. Full project details and information can be found here: <http://www.kdsb.on.ca/KDSB%20Connect.html>

Telesat – Federal Government Investment of \$1.44B into Telesat’s advanced low Earth orbit (LEO) satellite constellation, Telesat Lightspeed. The implementation of this agreement-in-principle would provide financing to Telesat through a \$790-million repayable loan and a \$650-million preferred share equity investment for which the government would receive a dividend. As part of this investment, the government would also receive warrants that can be converted into common shares in Telesat so that Canadians can share in the financial upside from Telesat Lightspeed. Telesat Lightspeed will enable broadband Internet and LTE and 5G connectivity in Canada starting in 2024, ultimately connecting approximately 40,000 households in rural and remote regions. It will also allow for significantly better service offerings in many regions of the country where current speeds struggle to meet the demands of an increasingly digital world, and it will improve the company’s service for business clients in industries like air transport and shipping.

This investment comes with many benefits to Canadians. Telesat has committed to:

- investing \$3.6 billion in capital expenditures in Canada
- spending over \$1.6 billion in Canadian operating expenses over the next 15 years
- maintaining up to 700 jobs
- supporting post-secondary students through 100 co-op jobs and \$800,000 in scholarships, with a focus on women in STEM programs

Federal/Provincial Funding Announcements

The federal and provincial governments are pledging up to \$148 million to bring high-speed Internet connections to rural northwestern Ontario. The funding will see more than 11,200 homes and businesses connected, the province said in a media release. A full list of communities receiving funding to expand their broadband Internet access is [available on the province's website](#).

The federal and provincial governments also announced an investment of \$252 million to bring high-speed internet (fibre-optic) to 60,000 rural southwestern Ontario residents. In addition, the Canada Infrastructure Bank is assessing opportunities proposed through the Universal Broadband Fund to provide additional financing on a project-by-project basis toward significant expansion of broadband in partnership with private and institutional investors. Canada-wide, more than 890,000 rural and remote households are on track to be connected to high-speed internet as a result of federal investments. At the end of March 2021, 175,000 rural and remote households had been connected to high-speed internet under projects supported by the Government of Canada. By the end of this year, over 435,000 households will be connected thanks to support from the federal government. This investment represents a concrete step forward that will move Ontario almost 40 per cent of the way in its ambitious plan to achieve 100 per cent connectivity for all regions in the province by the end of 2025. This investment builds on Ontario's recently announced [investment of up to \\$14.7 million](#) for 13 new projects under the [Improving Connectivity for Ontario \(ICON\) program](#). This will provide up to 17,000 homes and businesses with access to reliable high-speed internet and builds on a range of provincial initiatives under way that will connect another 70,000 homes and businesses. The District of Kenora got \$63,322 out of \$14.7 million, less than 0.5%.

Treaty 3 Territorial Internet Connectivity Project - \$50 Million. This funding will provide the Anishinaabe Nation in Treaty #3 and its partners with the tools to connect 21 First Nations to high-speed fibre. The Treaty #3 Territorial Internet Connectivity Project (TIC) is a joint effort of the Social and Economic Chiefs Committees at Grand Council Treaty #3. Originally conceived as a project of Health Transformation in Treaty #3 communities, the TIC Project has expanded to become one of the most important projects of Grand Council Treaty #3 due to educational and economic connectivity needs that significantly expanded during the COVID-19 pandemic. The aim is to see all 28 First Nation communities in Treaty #3 achieve reliable Internet connectivity by 2025. There is a commitment to expand the opportunity to municipalities and unincorporated area communities along the proposed route.

Tbaytel Wireless Spectrum – Tbaytel paid over \$1 million for wireless spectrum in federal auction, supporting plans to offer higher speeds in 5G network. The company [began preliminary work](#) to build its 5G network this year.

The blocks it won in the 3500 MHz frequency band, which are ideal for urban and suburban areas, will complement wireless spectrum it [acquired in 2019](#) in the 600 MHz band, which travels further and is more suited to rural areas. Bell, Rogers, and Xplornet Communications also secured blocks in the spectrum in Thunder Bay. The licences come with 20-year terms, with the government promising licensees “a high expectation of renewal” afterwards.”

Canada’s spectrum auction raised a record \$7.2 billion, with 80% going to the big 3: BCE Inc spent C\$2.1 billion, Rogers C\$3.3 billion and Telus Corp C\$1.9 billion.

Report from KDSB Representatives

The four DoKURA board members who have been elected to the Kenora District Services Board (KDSB) continue to represent the interests of unincorporated residents. We have been meeting with Henry Wall, the CAO of the KDSB regularly. The services offered to unincorporated residents by the KDSB will be the focus of Mr. Wall's presentation at today's meeting. Specific initiatives that we have been advocating on include:

Broadband – We actively supported the KDSB's application and are currently working on securing internet connectivity for unincorporated area residents as part of this project.

Vermilion Bay Ambulance Base – We advocated for the addition of an ambulance service in Vermillion Bay. This project is in the early stages, with a needs assessment & proposal to proceed expected in the fall of 2021. We will continue to advocate for funding in the 2022 budget.

DSSAB Election 2022 – Discussions are currently on-going to determine DoKURA's involvement in the election process. A formal agreement with KDSB is expected early in 2022. Barry Baltessen continues in the role of Chair at the KDSB and Mark Sobchuk is currently the Chair of the Finance/Audit Committee.

DoKURA AGM – September 9, 2021 – Nominating Report

Currently, there are 9 board members as follows:

1. Jack McKenzie – President
2. Ed Murray – Vice-President
3. Irene Kember – Treasurer
4. Barry Baltessen (Member at Large)
5. Mark Sobchuk (Member at Large)
6. Bob Stewart (Member at Large)
7. Dennis Wallace (Member at Large)
8. Ken Bracken (Member at Large)
9. Robert Wares (Member at Large)

The position of Secretary is vacant.

Four members are representatives on the Kenora District Services Board, as follows:

1. Barry Baltessen (Lake of the Woods North)
2. Bob Stewart (Lake of the Woods South)
3. Mark Sobchuk (Lac Seul Area)
4. Ed Murray (Oxdrift Area)

The term of office for these positions will expire at the end of 2022, with an election occurring in October of 2022.

All current board members have agreed to continue as follows:

1. Jack McKenzie – Past President
2. Ed Murray – Vice-President
3. Irene Kember – Treasurer
4. Barry Baltessen (Secretary)
5. Mark Sobchuk (Member at Large)
6. Bob Stewart (Member at Large)
7. Dennis Wallace (Member at Large)
8. Ken Bracken (Member at Large)
9. Robert Wares (Member at Large)

Jack McKenzie has stepped down as President and will continue on the Board as Past President. Barry Baltessen has agreed to step into the Secretary role. Your organization will operate for the next year with a President by Committee structure, while actively seeking to fill the President role. The Secretary has technical assistance from Amanda Brabant, Pink Toad Studio, who has refreshed our website and is assisting with Newsletter formatting and distribution.