

**SOUTHERN INTERIOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**  
**Minutes of Executive Meeting – March 15, 2024**  
**Via Zoom**

---

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

President	Councillor Aimee Grice, Oliver
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Councillor Louise Wallace Richmond, Salmon Arm
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Councillor Bill Sarai, Kamloops
Directors	Councillor Barb Wiebe, Lillooet Mayor Spencer Coyne, Princeton Councillor Tasha Da Silva, W. Kelowna Councillor Gord Lovegrove, Kelowna (arrived 9:40 am Mayor Ward Stamer, Barriere (left 9:12 am) Councillor Keith Thom, Peachland Director Karen Cathcart, CSRD General Manager Alison Slater
Absent	Councillor Lori Mindnich, Lumby

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Grice called the regular board meeting to order at 9:02 am.

**CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA**

**Moved/Seconded by Ward Stamer/Bill Sarai THAT:**

The agenda be adopted as presented

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**Moved/Seconded by Bill Sarai/Tasha Da Silva THAT:**

The draft minutes of the Executive Meeting held via teleconference on January 26, 2024 be adopted.

**CARRIED**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

N/A

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**1. Forest and Wildfire Management Webinar Feedback**

- Around 65 logins for the webinar with more in attendance
- Great information from presenters. It's up to everyone, including individuals, to help prevent forest fires.
- Communities wanted more concrete ways to mitigate.
- Need to get consistent branding on our documents.
- Need to have questions pre-vetted

2. Strategic Plan follow up
  - Have up to three ministers in attendance (virtually) at the convention.
  - Continue to work on completion after the convention.
3. Area Association Conventions – VP Wallace Richmond to attend AKBLG

## NEW BUSINESS

N/A

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 1. Finance Report

- As at February 29, 2024 SILGA had \$51,17 in the bank and \$89,276 in the MFA account.
- Interest earned was \$779 to date in 2024.
- 2023 Draft Financial Statements
  - They show the association has resumed operations similar to pre-pandemic levels, including bringing two students to UBCM, doing a strategic planning session and updating the website and branding for the association. The CEBA loan has been repaid.
- Five Year Plan – shows a balanced budget over the next five years.
- Directors were in receipt of the General Ledger and MFA account reconciliation to February 29, 2024, 2024.

**Moved/Seconded by Louise Wallace Richmond/Barb Wiebe that:**

The financial report be received and the 2023 Draft Financial Statements are approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

### 1. Conventions

- 188 registered to date (had 268 in 2023) so probably smaller convention numbers this year.
- Financially to date: \$105,000 in sponsorships and \$86,000 in registrations.
- Tentatively have three ministers to speak virtually at the convention.
  - Minister of Municipal Affairs
  - Forests
  - Water, Lands and Natural Resources
- Using Slido to get questions for the presentations ahead of time.
- Use different colour name tags to differentiate between delegates and sponsors.

### 2. Nominations – these are the following individuals running for election:

President – Louise Wallace Richmond, Salmon Arm  
1<sup>st</sup> VP – Bill Sarai, Kamloops  
2<sup>nd</sup> VP – Tasha Da Silva, West Kelowna

## Directors at Large

- Spencer Coyne (Princeton), Rolf De Bruin (Lillooet), Adam Etchart (Merritt), Isaac Gilbert (Penticton), Gord Lovegrove (Kelowna), Ward Stamer (Barriere), Keith Thom (Peachland), Tricia Thorpe (TNRD)
- Staff are looking into electronic methods for voting to streamline voting procedures and save time. This will require a constitutional change. Staff to find out what procedures UBCM is currently using.
- If using online platform, there are concerns around using individual emails and ensuring only elected officials are voting. Allowing an independent person to handle the information may alleviate these concerns.
- Resolution to be drafted and submitted to the membership for consideration at the convention.

**Moved/Seconded by Louise Wallace Richmond/Keith Thom that:**

The SILGA executive to get SILGA membership endorsement for electronic voting for board elections and the use of electronic means for resolution voting, similar to UBCM voting procedures.

**CARRIED**

**3. Resolutions**

- 42 have been received and the file is at UBCM for comments
  - As above, looking to streamline the voting process. Use voting cards unless it's close – then go to electronic methods?
- Vernon resolution re: fossil fuel sponsorship of SILGA convention
  - a) Politically polarizing – pitting urban centres with no resource-based companies vs rural areas where these companies provide jobs/economic benefits.
  - b) Freedom of Speech is a slippery slope. Where do you draw the line at what type of business isn't allowed to sponsor?
    - i.e. weapons manufacturer, pornography, tobacco not allowed but should fossil fuel / mining companies / forestry companies be allowed?
    - UBCM continues to allow fossil fuel sponsors.
  - c) Financial impacts of not getting fossil fuel sponsorships. How to recover?
    - Options are an increase in membership dues, an increase in registration fees and/or find different sponsors.
  - Discussion centered around balance and freedom of speech to put SILGA on a neutral playing field. SILGA recognizes that they also lobby.
  - SILGA needs to establish a convention sponsorship policy.

**4. Community Excellence Awards Winners**

## Economic Development

1. Princeton - ReDiscover Princeton
2. RDCO - OKGo

## Social Responsibility

1. Kelowna People Peer Navigator and Capacity Building
2. TNRD - Aberdeen tiny library

Environmental Sustainability

1. Armstrong
2. Lumby

Moved into a closed Meeting at 10:45 am

- SILGA executive asked staff to investigate the municipal pension plan to see what the financial implications for the association are.

**Next meeting: April 30, 2024 at 4:00 pm**

**Adjournment**

**Moved/Seconded Spencer Coyne/Gord Lovegrove that:**

At 11:00 am the SILGA Executive Meeting of March 15, 2024 be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

---

Alison Slater  
General Manager