

Doug Anderson – Chair Betty's	P	Chamber of Commerce Representative Annely Armstrong	P
Ted Debenetti – Co-Chair A Buck or Two	A	RRFDC – Geoff Gillon	A
George Emes IPC Securities	P	John Albanese – Town Councilor Town of Fort Frances	P
Richard Boileau McTaggart's	A	Shelley Wepruk Secretary	P
Marie Therese Metke Pharmsave	P		
Pat Gartshore Gartsh's	P		
Mike Tullio Nirvana Spa	P		



1.Call to Order , Call for Conflict of Interest, Call for Agenda Additions

George Emes opened the meeting with Doug Anderson chairing after his appointment. The meeting to was called to order at 8:00 a.m. The Agenda and minutes were circulated to the members for review. Members were asked for any agenda additions or conflicts of interest, none were noted.

2. Approval of Minutes

B.I.A Board of Management Meeting – 14 November , 2012

Copies of the minutes from the 14 November, 2012 Board of Management Meeting were circulated for review and approval. The following motion was made;

Motion #1 John Albanese/George Emes

TO accept the minutes presented of the 14 November, 2012 Regular Board of Management Meeting as presented.
Also to ratify all motions made on that date.

**No against or abstentions
CARRIED**

3. Accounts Payable & Financial Report

Accounts payable for November were circulated for review.

Motion # 2 George Emes/Doug Anderson

To accept the total payable dated September for payment in the amount of \$2,599.43

No against or abstentions

All in agreement - **CARRIED**

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Finance and Administration Committee – George brought in the current financial statement and ran thru the figures. There is still a surplus of approximately \$18,000.00 to date. The board now needs to look at what to do with the surplus money – but this will all be contingent on the future of the Rainy Lake Hotel. If there is something

The finance committee would like to have the new budget set by our February meeting. The committee will be meeting in January to go over the figures and set the new budget before presenting to the board at the February meeting.

Promotions Committee – Doug would like to see a “china collection” put in museum. In days past, china was a huge American tourist draw to our town. He feels that if a collection was presented and advertised, it could entice visitors to the museum and the downtown in general.

“Best-Start” network would like to be put on agenda for our January meeting. They would like to partnership with the BIA to promote the downtown.

The Board of Management is working on developing a “MISSION STATEMENT” for the BIA.

Maintenance Committee – The maintenance committee will starting to think about helping to beautify the area with spring coming.

NEW BUSINESS – Doug Anderson has volunteered to become our new Chairperson and was successfully appointed.

Chamber of Commerce: a motion was made to become a member of the Chamber of Commerce.

Motion # 3 George Emes/Marietheres Metke

To join the Chamber of Commerce as a group and pay a fee of \$500.00 for our membership.

No against or abstentions

All in agreement – CARRIED

Board Member Number Reduction - The current by-law regarding the number of required board members was reviewed and discussion was held regarding passing a motion to have the current number of 13 reduced to 5 or 7. The number decided on was 7 and a motion was filed. John Albanese took the motion himself to present to Town Council for immediate approval. Copy of motion to be filed with monthly minute report.

Mill Employee Reduction – Discussion was held regarding the number of lay-offs experienced at Resolute Forest Products recently. Pat would like to send a letter to Danny Williams of Newfoundland and to the Mayor of Mercy, Nova Scotia to ask them how they are dealing with Resolute and their closures. Education and health care are now the two major employers in the town. Mike would like to meet with the councils or chambers of commerce of both Kenora and Dryden to discuss their re-building of economy after their mills closed.

George is to contact Rainy River Futures re the report “Mill on the Park” that was compiled when Mr. Marty O’Brien was still the manager of the mill here in Fort Frances.

The board needs to get together with International Falls Chamber of Commerce to promote “Borderland” and have both towns working in conjunction with each other. It will make for a stronger business area if we help each other instead of working against each other.

Annely would like to see a “Young Entrepreneur” club here to help keep young business persons in the town and encourage new young business to open.

Go Local – 26 businesses on line as to this date. Things are going ahead and looking at the beginning of the year for a startup.

5. Closing & Setting of Next Board Meeting

The next meeting date will be 9 January, 2013 @ 8:00 a.m. at the BIA office.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL MEETINGS WILL NOW BE HELD ON THE SECOND WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 8:00 A.M. AT THE BOARD ROOM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTIFIED.

Meeting closed at 8:55 a.m.

Motion #4 George Emes