

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BIG LAKES
COUNCIL MEETING
May 24, 2006**

Minutes of the Municipal District of Big Lakes Regular Council Meeting held at the M.D. Administration Building in High Prairie, Alberta on Wednesday, May 24, 2006, at 10:00 a.m.

PRESENT WERE:

Reeve: Myler Savill, Joussard
Deputy Reeve: David Marx, Prairie Echo/Salt Prairie
Councillor: Alvin Billings, HP East/Banana Belt
Craig Bissell, Enilda
Violet Campiou, Faust
Randy Ehman, S. Sunset House/Gilwood
Ken Killeen, Kinuso
Ken Melnyk, N. Gilwood/Triangle
Fern Welch, Grouard

Administration: John Eriksson, C.A.O.
Jeff Renaud, A.C.A.O.
Gilles Lussier, Sup't of P.W.
Gerald Loewen, Treasurer
Pat Olansky, Community Development Officer
John Gould, Fire Chief
Amanda Backs, Recording Secretary

Delegation: Rennie Cauchie, Don Johnson, Gerald Rhodes,
Shawn Hathaway, - AAMD&C

Observer: Peter Pedersen

Press: Chris Clegg, South Peace News
Raffaele Papaiani, CKVH

CALL TO ORDER:

Reeve Savill called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

MINUTES:

2006-11-323 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR BILLINGS** that the minutes of the May 8, 2006 Special Council Meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2006-11-324 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR BISSELL** that the minutes of the May 10, 2006 Regular Council Meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ADDENDUM
TO AGENDA:**

ATV Bylaw
Landfill Policy
Westend Water Co-op

2006-11-325 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR BISSELL** that the agenda with addendum for the May 24, 2006 Council Meeting be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**BUSINESS ARISING
FROM MINUTES:**

Councillor Welch informed Council that a selection committee has been formed for the new Heart River Housing units in Grouard. The committee has not met, but she will keep Council updated on its progress.

Councillor Campiou entered the meeting at 10:06 a.m.

REPORTS:**REEVE:**

Reeve Savill reported on several items discussed during the May 16th meeting with the M.D. of Greenview including discussions for the upgrading of an access road into Snipe Lake. The M.D. of Greenview advised that they feel it may be necessary at some point to review the joint agreements regarding cemeteries and landfill.

Reeve Savill attended the grand opening of the Pomeroy Inn on May 18th.

C.A.O.:

Mr. Eriksson mentioned that he has adopted the publicized kitten from the Prairie Animal Rescue.

Mr. Eriksson commented on the major fire that occurred Friday night at Buchanan's. He was asked to stand by in the absence of the Town Manager in the event that the Town's emergency plan was put into place.

Mr. Eriksson spoke in length with Pearl Calahasen's office in regard to a possible grant application for water and sewer installation in Grouard. The executive assistant was not aware of what grant the Hon. Calahasen may have been referring to. Mr. Eriksson further indicated that the M.D. may also seek funding to replace the force main in Grouard.

Mr. Eriksson noted that Mr. Renaud is working to obtain a copy of the fire services agreement between the M.D. of Opportunity and its first nations neighbours. There has been no response from that M.D. to date.

Mr. Eriksson informed Council that Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation has indicated that applications can be submitted under the Resource Road Program for more than one road because approval is based on criteria on an overall provincial basis and not cost.

The initial enhanced policing agreement should be mailed by Friday.

Mr. Eriksson reported that signs indicating public access to Lesser Slave Lake will be installed at the laneways of concern in Jousard.

Mr. Eriksson reported on disorders within the federal census and his discussions with Stats Canada. Councillor Welch noted that enumerators have not yet been in Grouard. Mr. Eriksson will look into it.

Mr. Eriksson has dealt with lawyers in regard to tax recovery properties. Some money has been collected. Mr. Renaud has prepared briefing notes for the M.L.A. on one of the properties.

Tax notices have been mailed out. Assessment open houses are scheduled for June 21st from 2:00 – 7:00 p.m. at the M.D. administration office and on June 22nd from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Jousard Homesteaders.

Mr. Eriksson advised that Northern Sunrise County is arranging to hold a synergy group meeting on June 20th in either Peace River or Falher. Mr. Eriksson suggested that Reeve Savill and another councillor attend. Mr. Renaud will look after the details.

Mr. Eriksson stated that the audit is not entirely complete and therefore the auditor's 1:00 p.m. delegation will be deferred to the May 29th Public Works Committee meeting. Mr. Loewen will distribute draft financial statements after lunch.

Most of Mr. Eriksson's comments with regard to the proposed annexation have been addressed by the Town of High Prairie's consultant. A final report will be presented to Council shortly.

Mr. Eriksson asked that Councillors requiring an advance prior to the FCM Conference submit their requests as soon as possible.

Reeve Savill reported that the M.D. of Greenview is exploring the possibility of establishing a regional fire training centre. Councillors attending the May 16th meeting expressed some interest.

2006-11-325

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR BILLINGS that the Reeve and C.A.O.'s Reports be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PUBLIC WORKS:***MINISTER OF
INFRASTRUCTURE &
TRANSPORTATION:***

Correspondence was received from the Hon. Ty Lund, Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation, advising of funding approval under the 2006 Alberta Municipal Infrastructure Program, New Deal for Cities and Communities, Rural Transportation Grant, and Streets Improvement Program.

2006-11-326

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KILLEEN that the correspondence from the Hon. Ty Lund, Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation, dated May 4, 2006 regarding funding approval under 2006 Infrastructure and Transportation grant programs be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***HIGHWAY 750 –
GROUARD:***

Correspondence was received from the Hon. Pearl Calahasen, M.L.A., regarding recommendations made in the safety assessment completed on Highway 750 at Grouard.

2006-11-327

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MELNYK that the correspondence from the Hon. Pearl Calahasen, M.L.A., dated May 4, 2006 regarding recommendations made in the safety assessment completed on Highway 750 at Grouard be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***GILWOOD ROAD &
PEAVINE NORTH
CONNECTOR ROAD:***

The item regarding resource road applications for the Gilwood Road and Peavine North Connector Road was tabled at the previous meeting.

2006-11-328

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR BILLINGS that applications under the Resource Road Program be submitted for the Gilwood Road and Peavine North Connector Road.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***LANDFILL POLICY:***

Councillor Melnyk reported that the operator at the Banana Belt transfer station has encountered problems with farmers bringing in unrolled barbed wire, which in turn makes it difficult to haul the wire away. He advised that the operator would like Council to develop a policy to address the issue. Mr. Lussier suggested placing a notice in the M.D. newsletter advising people to roll or bundle barbed wire for disposal.

Mr. Loewen left the meeting at 10:23 a.m.

The item will be referred to the Regional Landfill Authority.

***WESTEND
WATER CO-OP:***

Councillor Melnyk reported that a meeting of the Westend Water Co-op was held last night. He stated that there appears to be a lack of interest and the members in attendance felt it is time to request that the M.D. assume operations of the water co-op.

Mr. Renaud left the meeting at 10:28 a.m.

Mr. Eriksson explained that initially Council will require a letter of request. He proceeded to review the procedure for the transfer of ownership and operations and added that he would be willing to attend a future co-op meeting if necessary. Councillor Melnyk noted that the Board has also requested to hold their next meeting at the M.D. office.

***PUBLIC WORKS
REPORT:***

Council reviewed the Public Works Superintendent's written report included in the agenda package. Mr. Lussier added that he recently obtained information that Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation is tendering intersection and sideslope improvements at Faust and Spruce Point Park Road. The consultant was under the impression that the M.D. is funding the improvements. Mr. Lussier will inquire during his meeting with Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation on May 25th and the consultant will be faxing a copy of the contract provisions for his review.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding Alberta Environment's request for a wetland impact assessment in order to encroach on a beaver pond in relation to the Enilda-East Prairie connector road construction along the Sucker Creek Drainage project. Mr. Lussier is waiting for a response from Alberta Environment whether an assessment is necessary.

Councillor Ehman questioned if the 15% increase in contract gravel truck rates will affect the amount of gravel allocated in the regravelling program. Mr. Eriksson noted that there are no plans to reduce the gravel program. Mr. Lussier added that the budget for the gravel program was increased from previous years.

Mr. Lussier reported that the deadline for responses from the grader contractors regarding contract extensions is today. The item has been included on the agenda for the May 29th Public Works Committee meeting.

Councillor Campiou inquired whether Mr. Lussier checked into the lot in Faust with no approach. Mr. Lussier advised that there are some exceptions relating to access if the subdivision was created prior to the 1960's. However, chances are the owner will have to put in an access. Mr. Lussier will look into when the subdivision was created.

Councillor Ehman commented that a good job was done of the regravelling on the new construction along the curves on Range Road 180 and was done in a timely manner.

2006-11-329 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CAMPIOU** that the Public Works Superintendent Report be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

A break was taken from 10:45 a.m. to 10:59 a.m. Mr. Rennie Cauchie, AAMD&C Northern Zone Director, and Mrs. Olansky joined the meeting.

AGRICULTURE:

APPOINTMENT OF WEED INSPECTORS:

Mr. Braithwaite recommended that Council appoint Katherine Lewchuk, Katie McNeil and Richard Blackmore as Municipal Weed Inspectors for the 2006 season.

2006-11-330 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR EHMEN** that Katherine Lewchuk, Katie McNeil and Richard Blackmore be appointed as Municipal Weed Inspectors for the 2006 season.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PLANNING/DEVELOPMENT COMM. SERVICES:

GROWTH ALBERTA: Correspondence was received from the Grizzly Regional Economic Alliance Society (Growth Alberta) providing information on their alliance and extending an invitation to Council to learn more about Growth Alberta through a presentation to Council.

2006-11-331 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CAMPIOU** that the correspondence from the Grizzly Regional Economic Alliance Society (Growth Alberta) regarding a presentation on the alliance be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

SENIOR CITIZENS WEEK BBQ:

Council received an invitation from Jessie Kay, Summer Program Coordinator for the High Prairie & District Recreation Board, to attend and serve at the annual Senior Citizens Week Barbecue on June 9th.

2006-11-332 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CAMPIOU** that any councillor who is available for the Annual Senior Citizens Week Barbecue on June 9, 2006 be approved to attend.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BYLAW # 14-2005:

Bylaw No. 14-2005 to amend the Land Use Bylaw to redesignate part of SW 28-74-17-W5 from Agriculture (A) District to Country Residential (CR) District to accommodate a multi-lot country residential subdivision was presented to Council for third reading.

2006-11-333 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CAMPIOU** that Bylaw No. 14-2005 be approved for third reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TOWN OF HIGH PRAIRIE:

Correspondence was received from Mayor John Brodrick confirming that Council for the Town of High Prairie passed a resolution in support of providing annual funding up to

\$35,000 per year in support of an additional RCMP officer dedicated to drug and alcohol enforcement issues in the region.

2006-11-334

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CAMPIOU that the correspondence from Mayor John Brodrick, Town of High Prairie, dated May 9, 2006 regarding funding for enhanced policing be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**KEYANO DAYS
PARADE:**

Correspondence was received from Ms. Joan Kuntz, Economic Development Officer – Town of Swan Hills, inviting Council to participate in the annual Keyano Days Parade to be held on Saturday, June 3rd.

2006-11-335

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR EHMAN that Councillor Campiou be approved to attend the Keyano Days Parade on June 3, 2006 in Swan Hills.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**2006 AB FIRE CHIEFS
ASSOCIATION
CONFERENCE:**

Fire Chief Gould recommended that Council approve the M.D. Fire Chief and Senior Fire Officers or their representative to attend the 2006 Alberta Fire Chiefs Association Conference and Trade Show on June 18 to 21, 2006 in Red Deer, Alberta.

2006-11-336

MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MARX that the M.D. Fire Chief and Senior Fire Officers or their representative be approved to attend the 2006 Alberta Fire Chiefs Association Conference and Trade Show on June 18 to 21, 2006.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**FIRE CHIEF'S
REPORT:**

Council reviewed the Fire Chief's monthly report to Council for the month of April 2006.

2006-11-337

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KILLEEN that the Fire Chief's report to Council for the month of April 2006 be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**REG'L ECONOMIC
DEV'T ALLIANCE:**

Correspondence was received from Ms. Sherry Anderson, Gift Lake Settlement Chairperson, expressing interest in working cooperatively towards the regional economic development alliance initiative.

2006-11-338

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR EHMAN that a letter be sent to the Gift Lake Metis Settlement thanking them for the timely response in regard to the regional economic development alliance initiative and advising that Council is pleased to have them involved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**H.P. SPORTS
COMPLEX SOCIETY:**

Council considered a request from the High Prairie & District Sports Complex Society to waive the \$60.00 development permit application fee for the Summer Dream Sweepstakes Project.

2006-11-339

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR EHMAN that the \$60.00 development permit application fee for the High Prairie & District Sports Complex Society be waived.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ENHANCED
POLICING:**

Correspondence to Staff Sgt. Mike Pierson, High Prairie RCMP, was received from Mr. Ken Noskey, Peavine Metis Settlement Chairman, in support of the enhanced policing initiative to focus on drug crimes in the region.

2006-11-340

MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MARX that the correspondence to Staff Sgt. Mike Pierson, High Prairie RCMP, received from Mr. Ken Noskey, Peavine Metis Settlement Chairman, dated April 25, 2006 in support of the enhanced policing initiative to focus on drug crimes in the region be received for information.

CARRIED

2006-11-341 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR BILLINGS** that a letter be sent to the Peavine Metis Settlement requesting that they identify an individual to be a member of the R.C.M.P. enhanced policing negotiating committee.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

***REG'L ECONOMIC
DEV'T ALLIANCE:***

Correspondence was received from Mayor John Brodrick, Town of High Prairie, to Alberta Economic Development in support of creating and confirming a financial contribution towards a regional economic development alliance.

2006-11-342 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR BILLINGS** that a letter be sent to the Town of High Prairie thanking them for the timely response in regard to the regional economic development alliance initiative and advising that Council is pleased to have them involved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ATV BYLAW:

Reeve Savill suggested that administration research existing ATV bylaws in place in other municipalities for Council's consideration. He made reference to an RCMP News Release in the last FCSS newsletter advising that the Faust detachment would be enforcing a zero tolerance policy in regard to off-highway vehicles within Kinuso, Faust, and Joussard. Reeve Savill advised that many residents of Joussard are displeased and feel that zero tolerance is too restrictive. Council discussed the suggestion.

2006-11-343 **MOVED BY REEVE SAVILL** that administration research ATV bylaws in place by other municipalities and find out whether the bylaw has resolved any problems and whether the municipality would make any amendments to the bylaw and further that the information be reported back to Council.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION:

CHEQUE LIST: Council reviewed the current cheque list.

Mrs. Olansky left the meeting at 11:21 a.m.

2006-13-344 **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MARX** that cheques #33677 to #33860 in the total amount of \$537,034.52 for the period of May 15, 2006 be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATION:

AAMD&C: Mr. Rennie Cauchie, AAMD&C Northern Zone Director, provided Council with an update on a meeting he attended on May 23rd with Mr. Doug Griffiths, M.L.A., in regard to Alberta's Rural Development Strategy. He explained the committee structure and how the funding will be distributed. Applications for funding will be reviewed sometime after September.

Fire Chief Gould and Mr. Clegg left the meeting at 11:24 a.m.

Mr. Cauchie advised that the program is aimed at enhancing the rural areas; however, no set of guidelines has been developed yet. General discussion took place on the program. Mr. Cauchie noted that it is hopeful there will be a workshop at the fall AAMD&C conference. He added that the Task Force is not accepting members from elected bodies and suggested that Council forward resumes from interested area residents to Mr. Griffiths.

Reeve Savill informed Mr. Cauchie that Council sent a letter to Mr. Don Johnson, AAMD&C President, concerning issues arising from the spring convention. He stated that Council did not feel it was appropriate that no one appeared to be given the opportunity to discuss or ask questions with regard to the review of the organization. He further noted that Council would have commented against the proposed electronic voting.

Mr. Eriksson mentioned that he felt it was not necessary to distribute an e-mail on AAMD&C logo protocol to the membership.

Reeve Savill advised Mr. Cauchie that Council is also looking for a better understanding of the mechanics and calculations behind the fuel purchasing process and buyers group. Mr. Cauchie advised that the AAMD&C is attempting to improve its trade division and noted that the trade division is the AAMD&C's largest source of revenue.

Don Johnson, President, Gerald Rhodes, Executive Director, and Shawn Hathaway, Manager Marketing Trade and Technology - AAMD&C joined the meeting at 11:37 a.m. Fire Chief Gould and Mr. Renaud returned to the meeting.

Reeve Savill welcomed the delegation and provided background information on the Municipal District as well as current initiatives being pursued by Council including enhanced policing and a regional economic development alliance.

Mr. Johnson advised that the most important part of member visits is to hear concerns from the membership. He commended Council on their progressive work with the RCMP in regard to drug enforcement.

Reeve Savill reported that an organization led by the City of Grande Prairie mayor has been attempting to create an alliance of cities, towns, M.D.'s and counties in the peace country to lobby the government. He advised that Council is opposed and have made it clear that they already belong to and support their provincial organization.

Councillor Bissell presented a map showing those municipalities in attendance at the last Northern Alberta Mayor and Reeves Caucus chaired by Edmonton Mayor Mandel. He expressed concern that the group speaks on behalf of northern Alberta and the largest percentage was from central Alberta. Mr. Johnson extended his appreciation of Council's support for the AAMD&C.

Councillor Ehman asked for clarification on the current fuel tender. Mr. Hathaway provided an explanation of the tendering process and advised that the timeline for requests for proposals was extended in order to allow local Petro Canada dealers to submit bids after the head office declined to bid. Mr. Hathaway stated that municipalities participating in the buyers group would see such advantages as monthly pricing and advance notification of price changes, consolidated invoicing, and bidding is done three provinces wide in an attempt to get volumes high enough for better pricing. He indicated that the fuel contract is on a two or three year term with the option for up to two terms, one year at a time. A one cent per litre administration fee is charged to members. Mr. Hathaway provided a general overview of the trade division and last years operations. A brief discussion ensued on membership fees and dividends.

Mr. Johnson commended Mr. Cauchie on the effort he puts forth as area representative.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:00 p.m. and reconvened at 1:08 p.m. The delegation did not return after lunch. Mr. Peter Pedersen joined the meeting.

PLANNING/DEVELOPMENT
COMM. SERVICES, CON'T:

M.D. LAND SALE: Council was provided with the results of the public bids received for the two parcels of land offered for sale in the Hamlet of Enilda. Only one bid was received for each lot.

2006-11-345 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR BISSELL** that the bid submitted by Peter A. Pedersen in the amount of \$2,256.00 for Lot 1, Block 3, Plan 2415HW be accepted and the bid submitted by Peter A. Pedersen in the amount of \$1,125.00 for Lot 2, Block 3, Plan 2415HW be accepted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Campiou, Pat Olansky and Fire Chief Gould returned to the meeting at 1:12 p.m.

FIREFIGHTER
INSURANCE:

The item regarding firefighter insurance was tabled at the previous meeting. Mr. Eriksson distributed information received from Jubilee Insurance relating to vehicle incidents involving volunteer firefighters. A lengthy discussion took place on to what degree, if any, the M.D. should assist in paying the deductible or vehicle repairs in the case of an accident involving its volunteer firefighters. Council further discussed expectations and the onus on individuals to carry appropriate insurance.

2006-11-346 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CAMPIOU** that Council consider covering an amount up to a maximum of \$500 for no fault vehicle accidents involving volunteer firefighters responding to or returning from an emergency call on an individual case by case basis.

CARRIED

Councillor Bissell further reported that community groups carrying insurance through Jubilee Insurance seem to be getting two different views from Jubilee in terms of additional liquor liability requirements for events hosted by the community group. Councillor Bissell further asked for clarification as to whether the volunteer fire departments require additional liability insurance to tend bar at functions in order to raise funds for the department.

Councillor Campiou stepped out of the meeting at 1:41 p.m.

2006-11-347 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR EHMEN** that a letter be sent to Jubilee Insurance outlining Council's concerns with regard to insurance requirements for community organizations hosting events and volunteer fire departments tending bar at functions for pay and request that they respond with definite answers.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORRESPONDENCE:

WOOD WORKS: Correspondence was received from Mr. Ken Glover, Executive Director of Wood Works, inviting Council to visit the Canadian Wood Council/Alberta Wood Works booth at the FCM conference trade show in Montreal from June 1st – 4th.

2006-11-348 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MELNYK** that the correspondence from Mr. Ken Glover, Executive Director of Wood Works, dated April 27, 2006 regarding the FCM conference trade show be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Fire Chief Gould left the meeting at 1:42 p.m.

MINISTER OF
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT:

Correspondence was received from the Hon. Denis Ducharme, Minister of Community Development, inviting the M.D. to consider submitting a bid to host the 2007 Alberta 55 Plus Winter Games.

2006-11-349 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR EHMAN** that the correspondence from the Hon. Denis Ducharme, Minister of Community Development, dated May 8, 2006 regarding the 2007 Alberta 55 Plus Winter Games be referred to the High Prairie & District Recreation Board.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

***AB ALCOHOL AND
DRUG ABUSE
COMMISSION:***

Council received an invitation on behalf of the Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission to attend an open house being hosted on June 1, 2006.

2006-11-350 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR EHMAN** that Councillor Billings be approved to attend the June 1, 2006 Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission open house in High Prairie.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

***HON. KEN
KOWALSKI, MLA:***

Correspondence was received from the Hon. Ken Kowalski, M.L.A., thanking Council for providing him with a copy of the letter to the Hon. Charles Strahl, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, regarding low sulfur diesel fuels.

2006-11-351 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KILLEEN** that the correspondence from the Hon. Ken Kowalski, M.L.A., dated May 10, 2006 regarding Council's letter to the Hon. Charles Strahl, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, regarding low sulfur diesel fuels be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

***HON. KEN
KOWALSKI, MLA:***

Correspondence was received from the Hon. Ken Kowalski, M.L.A., thanking Council for providing him with a copy of the letter to Ms. Wendy Mohuk, Policing Services Analyst, Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security, regarding enhanced policing.

2006-11-352 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR BISSELL** that the correspondence from the Hon. Ken Kowalski, M.L.A., dated May 11, 2006 regarding Council's letter to the office of the Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security regarding enhanced policing be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mrs. Olansky left the meeting at 1:44 p.m.

***CALGARY
CONGRESS:***

Council received an invitation to attend the Calgary Congress hosted by the Citizens Centre for Freedom and Democracy from September 29 – October 1, 2006.

2006-11-353 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KILLEEN** that the correspondence dated May 12, 2006 regarding the Calgary Congress be received for information.

CARRIED

NADC:

Correspondence was received from Mr. Dan Dibbelt, Executive Director – Northern Alberta Development Council, extending an invitation to the next meeting of the Northwest Alberta Mayors and Reeves to be held on June 9, 2006 in Girouxville.

2006-11-354 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR BISSELL** that a letter be sent to Mr. Dan Dibbelt, Executive Director – Northern Alberta Development Council, advising that Council will not be in attendance at the June 9th, 2006 Northwest Alberta Mayors and Reeves meeting as it is felt that attendance could be interpreted as weakening the AAMD&C northern zone.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

AAMD&C:

Correspondence was received from the AAMD&C requesting input on a trial process being initiated by the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board that expands existing practices for resolving conflicts between surface and subsurface rights' owners. Input from membership must be directed to the AAMD&C by June 7, 2006.

2006-11-355 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR EHMAN** that a letter be sent to the AAMD&C indicating that the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board's trial process expanding on existing practices for resolving conflicts between surface and subsurface rights' owners does not have much of an effect on the M.D. of Big Lakes but requesting that Council be kept informed.

CARRIED

Councillor Campiou returned to the meeting at 1:51 p.m.

Mr. Loewen distributed the draft audited financial statements for the period ending December 31, 2005.

**COUNCILLOR COMMUNITY/
COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

D. MARX: Deputy Reeve Marx reported that he attended the grand opening of the Pomeroy Inns on May 18th, an MPC meeting on May 11th, and a High Prairie Recreation Board meeting on May 23rd. Councillor Ehman informed Council that the Aquatic Centre has already reached 71% of the projected budget for the year. Deputy Reeve Marx added that a new wheelchair lift for the pool has been ordered.

F. WELCH: Councillor Welch reported that a group from Grouard joined to develop a strategy and meet with the Northern Lakes Board of Governors in regard to the Moosehorn Lodge. The group suggested that the Board work in partnership with the community.

Mr. Clegg left the meeting at 1:54 p.m.

The Board members assured that some sort of partnership would be established. The Board also agreed to remove a clause in the proposed business plan in relation to maintenance and demolition of the Moosehorn Lodge.

The Heart River Housing Selection Committee has been formed to review all applications received for the new housing units. Councillor Welch hopes to have more information for the next council meeting.

Councillor Welch reported that she attended a Big Lakes Library Board meeting on May 23rd.

Councillor Welch attended a reception for a Provincial Student Services Conference hosted by Northern Lakes College from May 15th – 18th. She was disappointed that upon request of donations for conference welcome bags administration offered a shirt while other municipalities involved with the College provided pins.

K. MELNYK: Councillor Melnyk reported that he attended the Pomeroy Inn grand opening last week.

K. KILLEEN: Councillor Killeen reported that he attended the May 11th MPC meeting.

V. CAMPIOU: Councillor Campiou reported that she attended the grand opening of the Pomeroy Inn on May 18th and the joint council meeting with the M.D. of Greenview on May 16th.

C. BISSELL: Councillor Bissell reported that he attended a Big Lakes Library Board meeting on May 23rd.

A. BILLINGS: Councillor Billings reported that he attended the May 16th meeting with the M.D. of Greenview. Councillor Billings indicated that he had a plan for the alternate route of the four-lane highway past Valleyview for information. He further commented on Greenview's GPS system.

Councillor Billings suggested that Council consider consolidating M.D. owned vacant lots for development as a light industrial district.

2006-11-356

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR BILLINGS that administration look into the possibility of acquiring land adjacent to the railway in Enilda owned by CN as well as the property where the elevators were formerly located in Enilda for consideration as a light industrial district.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion ensued on marketing potential of the Moosehorn Lodge in Grouard.

R. EHMAN:

Councillor Ehman reported that he attended the joint council meeting with the M.D. of Greenview on May 16th. He indicated that there is interest from ratepayers in the M.D. of Big Lakes improving the access road and putting in a boat launch at the south side of Snipe Lake. An issue has arisen with regard to the Sunset House Cemetery. As such, the Board has been opened up so that residents of Big Lakes are eligible to become members.

Councillor Ehman attended a High Prairie Recreation Board meeting May 23rd. Use of the pool has slowed down as expected. Reeve Savill noted that they were informed during the meeting with the M.D. of Greenview that several Valleyview and area residents are traveling to High Prairie to use the Aquatic Centre.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

2006-11-357

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR BISSELL that the July 26th, 2006 Regular Council Meeting be cancelled and duly advertised.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mr. Papaianni left the meeting at 2:09 p.m.

May 29, 2006	10:00 a.m.	Public Works Committee Meeting
May 30, 2006	10:00 a.m.	Regional Economic Development
June 1 - 5, 2006		FCM Conference
June 13, 2006	12:00 p.m.	Regional Landfill Authority
June 16, 2006	10:00 a.m.	Reeves and CAO's Meeting
June 20, 2006		Synergy Meeting
June 29, 2006	1:00 p.m.	McLennan/Peavine Connector Road

Discussion took place on the proposed Multiculturalism Day barbecue and pending grant application.

2006-11-358

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR WELCH that the M.D. host a public barbecue at the administration building in High Prairie on June 27, 2006.

CARRIED

Councillor Welch reported that the Big Lake Country Tourism Annual General Meeting will be held on May 26th in Kinuso at 10:00 a.m.

NEXT MEETING:

The next Regular Council Meeting will be held on June 14, 2006 at the M.D. Administration Building.

Mr. Eriksson recommended that someone attend the Northern CARE meeting in Nisku on June 2nd in Reeve Savill's absence.

ADJOURNMENT:

2006-11-359

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MELNYK that the meeting adjourn at 2:24 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

 Myler Savill, Reeve

 John Eriksson, .C.A.O.