

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BIG LAKES
COUNCIL MEETING
September 24, 2008**

Minutes of the Municipal District of Big Lakes Regular Council Meeting held at the M.D. Administration Building in High Prairie, Alberta on Wednesday, September 24, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.

PRESENT WERE:

Reeve: Alvin Billings, HP East/Banana Belt
Deputy Reeve: David Marx, Prairie Echo/Salt Prairie
Councillor: Ray Dupres, Enilda/Big Meadow
Randy Ehman, S. Sunset House/Gilwood
Ken Killeen, Kinuso
Guy L'Heureux, Jousard
Ken Matthews, N. Gilwood/Triangle
Fern Welch, Grouard

Absent: Violet Campiou, Faust

Administration: Gilles Lussier, C.A.O.
Jeff Renaud, Deputy C.A.O.
Mike Rudkin, Treasurer
Gary Braithwaite, Ag. Fieldman
Cory Bronson, Community Peace Officer
Sharon Strang, FCSS Director
Amanda Backs, Recording Secretary

Press: Chris Clegg, South Peace News
Keith Hopper, CKVH Radio

CALL TO ORDER:

Reeve Billings called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

MINUTES:

2008-17-625

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX that the minutes of the September 10, 2008 Regular Council Meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**BUSINESS ARISING
FROM MINUTES:**

Councillor Matthews questioned if the suggested candidates for the Regional EMS Foundation have been contacted. Mr. Lussier advised they had and noted that one community member has expressed interest.

Reeve Billings if a municipal drug policy has been developed yet. Mr. Lussier advised that a draft version can be distributed later in the meeting.

Councillor Matthews questioned if administration has followed up with the Canada Community Development Trust Program in regard to funding for the new seed cleaning plant. Mr. Lussier advised that being a corporate entity, funding is somewhat limited for the Seed Cleaning Co-op. Mr. Renaud indicated that he is looking into applying for funding under the Major Community Facilities Program. He further noted that he is still investigating the Canada Community Development Trust Program. Reeve Billings suggested that administration for the MD and Town of High Prairie meet with the seed cleaning plant manager to review funding applications.

**ADDENDUM
TO AGENDA:**

Lesser Slave Lake Watershed Council
Water and Sewer
Culvert

2008-17-626

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KILLEEN that the agenda with addendum for the September 24, 2008 Council Meeting be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**PLANNING &
DEVELOPMENT:*****DEVELOPMENT PERMIT
ENFORCEMENT:***

Council was presented with two letters that were received from landowners following correspondence from the Development Officer informing them of the requirements to obtain a development permit for existing structures on their property.

Councillor Dupres joined the meeting at 10:08 a.m.

Mr. Lussier explained that since the bylaw did not specifically state how far back the development enforcement should begin, discretion was used by administration. Typically, the unpermitted developments that are brought to administration's attention are those that occurred since the property's last assessment. He noted that the process as it existed did not change, only the penalty amount. General discussion ensued. Councillor L'Heureux suggested that the Land Use Bylaw be amended to include a date to which enforcement of development without a permit should affect.

2008-17-627 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR DUPRES** that letters be sent to Jean Sheldon and Terry and Angie Dow in response their concerns regarding penalty charges for development that has taken place without acquiring a development permit including an explanation of developments requiring permits.

CARRIED

2008-17-628 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX** that the MD Land Use Bylaw be brought forward to the next council meeting for review.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PUBLIC HEARING:

2008-17-629 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS** that the meeting go into public hearing at 10:19 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2008-17-630 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR EHMEN** that the meeting come out of public hearing at 10:25 a.m.

CARRIED

BYLAW #23-2008: Bylaw No. 23-2008 to amend section 11.18.1(b) of the Airport Vicinity (AV) District within the M.D. of Big Lakes Land Use Bylaw 8-97 was presented to Council for second and third readings.

2008-17-631 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS** that Bylaw No. 23-2008 be approved for second reading.

CARRIED

2008-17-632 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR EHMEN** that Bylaw No. 23-2008 be approved for third reading.

CARRIED

LSL WATERSHED: Discussion took place regarding the presentation made by representatives of the Lesser Slave Lake Watershed Council on the water management plan phase 1. Councillor Matthews noted that the Watershed Council requested comments on the draft plan and expressed concern that the study does not consider impacts to the west end of the lake. Councillor Dupres explained that the study is being done in manageable pieces and this is the preliminary study being submitted. He commented that it is hoped all studies combined will present a picture of the entire watershed.

PUBLIC WORKS:***ALBERTA******TRANSPORTATION:***

Correspondence was received from Mr. Wayne Franklin, Regional Director – Alberta Transportation, advising that a grant in the amount of \$195,910 is being transferred to the MD for 2007 and 2008 under the New Deal for Cities and Communities. Mr. Lussier advised that the funds will be used for hamlet lift station upgrades.

2008-17-633 **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MARX** that the correspondence from Mr. Wayne Franklin, Regional Director – Alberta Transportation, dated September 5, 2008 regarding the 2007 and 2008 grants under the New Deal for Cities and Communities be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BYLAW #27-2008: Bylaw No. 27-2008 to amend the water rates within the Schedule of Fees Bylaw was presented to Council. It was recommended to increase water rates from \$2.00/m³ to \$2.30/m³, which equates to an average cost recovery of 75%.

2008-17-634 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX** that Bylaw No. 27-2008 be approved for first reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2008-17-635 **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MARX** that Bylaw No. 27-2008 be approved for second reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2008-17-636 **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MARX** that Bylaw No. 27-2008 be given unanimous approval to proceed to third reading.

DEFEATED (not unanimous)

**SWAN RIVER
FIRST NATION:**

Administration recommended that Council set the rate for water supply to the Swan River First Nation in accordance with the recently approved long term water supply agreement.

2008-17-637 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR DUPRES** that the rate for water supply to the Swan River First Nation be set at \$2.85 per cubic meter.

CARRIED

A break was taken from 10:56 a.m. to 11:05 a.m.

**ALBERTA
TRANSPORTATION:**

Correspondence was received from Mr. Wayne Franklin, Regional Director – Alberta Transportation, advising that a grant in the amount of \$575,212 is being transferred to the MD for the 2007 and 2008 Rural Transportation Grant.

2008-17-638 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX** that the correspondence from Mr. Wayne Franklin, Regional Director – Alberta Transportation, dated September 11, 2008 regarding the 2007 and 2008 Rural Transportation Grant be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**CARDBOARD
RECYCLING:**

Correspondence was received from Jean Sheldon regarding cardboard recycling volumes at the Faust/Kinuso transfer site.

Councillor Welch returned to the meeting at 11:08 a.m.

2008-17-639 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KILLEEN** that Council instruct administration to further investigate cardboard recycling volumes for the Faust/Kinuso transfer site and, additionally, have cardboard recycling and power on the next High Prairie & District Regional Solid Waste Management Authority meeting agenda regarding all supervised transfer sites.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

A brief discussion took place regarding issues of timeliness in having used oil picked up from the Faust/Kinuso transfer site

CULVERT:

Councillor L'Heureux questioned the status of the culvert request at Podollan's in Jousard. Mr. Lussier explained that drawings submitted by an adjacent subdivision applicant show a drainage swale on the west property line which would negate the need for an approach culvert at this location. He noted, however, that ditching may be necessary on the east side. Councillor L'Heureux requested that public works staff meet with Mr. Podollan to outline proposed action.

WATER & SEWER:

Councillor L'Heureux reported on complaints brought forth by local plumbers that there appears to be varying degrees of acceptable standards and regulations for water and sewer installations between private developers and MD contractors. Mr. Lussier advised that the concerns were discussed with public works crews last week and ensured that the standards are consistent for all.

Councillor L'Heureux reported that a hydrant valve was not installed at a proper distance from the new hydrant was recently replaced in Joussard due to damages.

Discussion took place on remedial work on the road planned at the location of two water and sewer installations in Joussard.

AGRICULTURE:***AB TOURISM, PARKS & RECREATION:***

Correspondence was received from Mr. Dave Crooks, District Conservation Officer, expressing thanks to the MD and specifically trapper, Dennis Lauck, for the proactive efforts in removing beaver from several chronic problem areas within the Winagami and Hilliard's Bay Provincial Parks.

Discussion took place on the beaver control budget and the procedures for beaver control around provincial parks and invoicing.

2008-17-640

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR DUPRES that the correspondence from Mr. Dave Crooks, District Conservation Officer, expressing thanks for the removal of beaver from chronic problem areas within the Winagami and Hilliard's Bay Provincial Parks be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

AG. FIELDMAN'S REPORT:

Mr. Braithwaite provided an update on the spraying program, beaver control and beaver dam blasting operations. He noted under the information section of the addendum the draft Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting agenda and asked that any additional topics be forwarded on to him.

Mr. Braithwaite advised that a conference call has been arranged in response to the MD's letter concerning the review of Bill 23: Weed Control Act. He suggested that should any of the councilors have additional concerns with regard to the Bill to forward them on to himself or Reeve Billings. Mr. Braithwaite noted that the issue will also be a topic of discussion at the upcoming ASB regional meeting.

Mr. Braithwaite gave a status report on the roadside mowing program. He noted that pesticide containers were picked up from all sites last week and he is completing the last of the invoices for weed spraying services.

Councillor Killeen informed Mr. Braithwaite of a beaver house that has been built at the end of a culvert on the east side of the road just before the Kinoyayo Museum. He added that the beaver have been falling trees in behind the houses near the museum.

2008-17-641

MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MARX that the Agricultural Fieldman's Report to Council be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COMMUNITY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES:***PEACE OFFICER'S REPORT:***

Council reviewed the Community Peace Officer's report for the month of August 2008. Officer Bronson noted that the month's stats are lower than last year as he was away the first week of August.

2008-17-642

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX that the Community Peace Officer's Report for the month of August 2008 be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Reeve Billings thanked Officer Bronson for settling the matter concerning dogs in the Heart River area.

FIRE CHIEF'S

REPORT: Fire Chief Gould reviewed the Fire Chief's monthly report to Council for the month of August 2008.

2008-17-643 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR WELCH** that the Fire Chief's report for the month of August 2008 be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**FCSS DIRECTOR'S
REPORT:**

Council reviewed the F.C.S.S. Director's Report to Council for the month of August 2008. Mrs. Strang presented information on the Roots of Empathy program that will be implemented in two local schools this year that addresses bullying and child aggression. She advised that if the program is successful this year it will be introduced into other area schools. She mentioned that literature is available in her office for those interested. Councillor Dupres requested to see any information Mrs. Strang might have on studies done as to the reasons why aggression begins in school.

Mrs. Strang informed Council that she was approached to have a participant in the Katimavik program complete a nine-month placement in the FCSS office. She noted that participation would be very beneficial but declined the request as office space is limited. She provided an overview of the program.

2008-17-644 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KILLEEN** that the F.C.S.S. Director's Report to Council for the month of August 2008 be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION:

CHEQUE LIST: Council reviewed the current cheque list.

2008-17-645 **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MARX** that cheques #40896 to #41016 in the total amount of \$1,289,749.16 for the period ending September 10, 2008 be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**PERFORMANCE
MANAGEMENT
POLICY:**

A draft Performance Management Policy (Admin-31) was presented to Council for review.

2008-17-646 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS** that the Performance Management Policy (Admin-31) be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**MUNICIPAL
SPONSORSHIP
PROGRAM:**

Mr. Lussier explained that the Municipal Sponsorship Program grant is assigned to the Town of Swan Hills as part of the Inter-Municipal Cost Sharing Agreement. The funds will be utilized for pool decking repairs and fire hall heating upgrade completion.

2008-17-647 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX** that Council authorizes the Municipal District of Big Lakes to participate in a Municipal Sponsorship Program grant application for the Town of Swan Hills pool decking repairs and fire hall heating upgrade completion under the Alberta Municipal Affairs and Housing Municipal Sponsorship Program; further

That the Municipal District of Big Lakes agrees that the Town of Swan Hills be designated the managing partner of the Town of Swan Hills pool decking repairs and fire hall heating upgrade for the purposes of applying, receiving, administering, allocating, reporting, and accounting for the grant funds on behalf of the partners; further

That the Municipal District of Big Lakes agrees to allocate 100% of its Municipal Sponsorship Program base grant to the Town of Swan Hills pool decking repairs and fire hall heating upgrade; and further

That the Municipal District of Big Lakes agrees to abide by the terms of the Conditional Grant Agreement signed by the managing partner on behalf of the other eligible municipal partners governing the purpose and use of the grant funds.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting recessed for lunch at 11:45 a.m. and reconvened at 12:19 p.m.

C.A.O.'S REPORT:

Mr. Lussier reported that he and Mr. Braithwaite met with the consultants for the mountain pine beetle control program and discussed some concerns raised with regard to coordination of municipal and provincial programs on crown lands. A letter to Sustainable Resource Development outlining these concerns has been sent. Mr. Lussier noted that there are some provincial funds remaining from last year's program, and it is likely that the program will continue this year.

Mr. Lussier advised that an internal department head meeting was held to review timelines for the upcoming budget and goals and strategies related to the integrated community sustainability plan.

Mr. Lussier reported that he attended an inter-municipal committee meeting with the Town of High Prairie. The near final draft will be presented for review in camera.

Mr. Lussier attended a Lesser Slave Lake Economic Alliance meeting in Swan Hills. He commented that Northern Lake College is working on a number of interesting initiatives.

Mr. Lussier advised that the deadline for resumes for the recruitment of the public works superintendent has closed. He asked for council direction on who should sit on the interview panel. Consensus of council was that either the Reeve or Deputy Reeve participate in the interviews for public works superintendent.

Mr. Lussier advised that he has received a response from the Kinuso High School with regard to youth participation in council meetings. He requested that Council provide direction on a specific vision for the program that he may suggest to the school. Councillor Matthews advised that he spoke with the Principal from E.W. Pratt High School who indicated that his staff is prepared to discuss ideas on how to implement and proceed with the program.

Councillor Welch questioned if a response was received to Council's letter to Alberta Transportation regarding the Grouard Area Structure Plan. Mr. Lussier advised that the letter was sent, but no reply has been received. Councillor Welch requested a copy of the letter sent to Alberta Transportation.

2008-17-648

MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MARX that the C.A.O.'s Report be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DEPUTY C.A.O.'S REPORT:

Mr. Renaud advised that he attend an Emergency Preparedness Forum in Grande Prairie and reported on some of the sessions.

Mr. Renaud attended a meeting at the Town of High Prairie office along with Reeve Billings regarding Northern Lakes College and has been investigating funding options for the High Prairie Seed Cleaning Plant. Recently, Mr. Renaud has been working on the integrated community sustainability plan which must be submitted to provincial officials by year end following Council review and approval.

Councillor Matthews questioned if an official opening has been planned for the two new fire halls. Mr. Renaud advised that the engineer will be on site tomorrow to determine whether the facilities meet substantial completion. He has already contacted MLA Pearl Calahasen's office for options for grand opening dates.

2008-17-649

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX that the Deputy C.A.O.'s Report be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORRESPONDENCE:

EDSRC:

Correspondence was received from the Enilda and District Society for Recreation & Culture expressing interest in entering into a lease agreement with the MD for the now existing fire hall. Mr. Lussier advised that a generic lease agreement for the fire halls has been drafted. Mr. Renaud reviewed the terms of the lease.

2008-17-650

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR DUPRES that the MD proceed with entering into a lease agreement with the Enilda and District Society for Recreation & Culture for use of the existing Enilda fire hall once it becomes vacant.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**PEMBINA
PIPELINE:**

Information was received from Pembina Pipeline Corporation on open house events taking place regarding the proposed Nipisi Pipeline project.

2008-17-651

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR EHMAN that administration be approved to attend one of the Pembina Pipeline Corporation open houses regarding the proposed Nipisi Pipeline project.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**2008 AAMDC FALL
CONFERENCE:**

Correspondence was received from Reeve Gordon Svenningsen, Ponoka County, expressing concern with regard to the scheduling of the Reeves'/Mayors' meeting on November 11, 2008 (Remembrance Day).

Correspondence was also received from Reeve Allan Murray, Municipal District of Provost No. 52, objecting to the commencement of the fall conference on the afternoon of Remembrance Day.

2008-17-652

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS that a letter be sent to the AAMDC requesting that all attempts in the future be made to ensure that conferences do not commence on Remembrance Day and further, that the AAMDC be encouraged to continue providing secretarial and communications support to the Reeves'/Mayors' meetings.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Reeve Billings recommended that arrangements be made to have someone represent the MD at Remembrance Day ceremonies.

**PRAIRIE ECHO
COMM. LEAGUE:**

Correspondence was received from the Prairie Echo Community League expressing appreciation for the 2008 municipal operating grant.

2008-17-653

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX that the correspondence from the Prairie Echo Community League dated August 3, 2008 expressing appreciation for the 2008 municipal operating grant be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**MINISTER OF
MUNICIPAL
AFFAIRS:**

Correspondence was received from the Hon. Ray Danyluk, Minister of Municipal Affairs, accepting the MD's project application under the capital funding component of the Municipal Sustainability Initiative.

2008-17-654 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KILLEEN** that the correspondence from the Hon. Ray Danyluk, Minister of Municipal Affairs, dated September 3, 2008 accepting the MD's project application under the capital funding component of the Municipal Sustainability Initiative be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**MINISTER OF
EMPLOYMENT AND
IMMIGRATION:**

Correspondence was received from the Hon. Hector Goudreau, Minister of Employment and Immigration, providing an update on progress in the leading four key initiatives assigned by the Premier.

2008-17-655 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS** that the correspondence from the Hon. Hector Goudreau, Minister of Employment and Immigration, dated September 8, 2008 providing a progress update on four key initiatives be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ATHABASCA
WATERSHED:**

An invitation was received from Alberta Environment to attend a municipal focus group on October 6th in Hinton as part of the development of an Athabasca Watershed Planning and Advisory Council. Councillor Dupres will attend.

**VILLAGE OF
KINUSO:**

Correspondence to the Hon. Ray Danyluk, Minister of Municipal Affairs, was received from Mayor Darcy Hunt, Village of Kinuso, requesting that the Minister cause a dissolution study to be conducted for the Village of Kinuso.

2008-17-656 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX** that the correspondence to the Hon. Ray Danyluk, Minister of Municipal Affairs, dated September 17, 2008 from Mayor Darcy Hunt, Village of Kinuso, requesting a dissolution study to be conducted for the Village of Kinuso be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**PEARL
CALAHASEN, MLA:**

Correspondence was received from Pearl Calahasen, MLA, in response to Council's letter to Premier Ed Stelmach regarding the Alberta Health Services Board. Discussion took place on recruitment of board members.

2008-17-657 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR EHMAN** that the correspondence from Pearl Calahasen, MLA, dated September 15, 2008 regarding the Alberta Health Services Board be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**COUNCILLOR COMMUNITY/
COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

D. MARX: Deputy Reeve Marx reported that he attended the last High Prairie & District Recreation Board meeting. He advised that there will be an overrun on the recreation board's budget this year due to unforeseen repair costs at the aquatic centre.

F. WELCH: Councillor Welch reported that she has attended Heart River Housing meetings and a Grouard/Peace River Trail meeting. She was unable to attend the Big Lake Country Tourism meeting and Peace Library System meeting.

Councillor Welch requested approval to attend the Housing and Neighborhood Renewal Symposium on November 3rd & 4th in Edmonton as the MD's representative on Heart River Housing.

2008-17-658 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS** that Councillor Welch and Councillor Killeen be approved to attend the Housing and Neighborhood Renewal Symposium on November 3rd & 4th in Edmonton.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

K. MATTHEWS: No report

K. KILLEEN: Councillor Killeen reported that he attended a Barrhead Social Housing meeting on September 23rd and the inter-municipal cost sharing agreement signing with the Town of

Swan Hills October 8th. Councillor Killen reported that Barrhead Social Housing will be sending a letter to the government expressing concern with housing eligibility being based on income for applicants wishing to enter seniors' lodges.

G. L'HEUREUX:

Councillor L'Heureux reported that attended the recycling conference on September 12th and 13th in Valleyview. He provided a report on electronic recycling and suggested that administration investigate further the possibility of working with Recycle Logic to place containers at all transfer sites for electronic recycling. Councillor L'Heureux added that he could not attend the Alberta Lake Management Conference.

R. DUPRES:

No report

A. BILLINGS:

Reeve Billings reported that Councillor L'Heureux attended the Northern Alberta Recycling Conference rather than himself. Reeve Billings attended a Town of High Prairie inter-municipal committee meeting and a Lesser Slave Lake Economic Alliance (LSLEA) meeting in Swan Hills. Members of the LSLEA were presented with the organization's first publication, *Community Profiler*, which will be in print shortly. Copies will be made available in the MD office. Mr. Lussier provided an overview of the report presented by Northern Lakes College at the LSLEA meeting which highlighted attendance numbers, the Slave Lake campus oil & gas processing lab, Rural Alberta Development Fund monies, and opportunities for child care facilities on school property.

Reeve Billings attended a meeting with the Northern Lakes College President at the Town of High Prairie. Work is continuing on securing college facilities in High Prairie as well as a number of other initiatives.

Councillor Welch inquired as to the status of discussions with Northern Lakes College with regard to Moosehorn Lodge. Mr. Lussier advised that the college has applied for grant funding to bring native cultural awareness out to local schools. He noted that there is interest on behalf of both the MD and college to collaborate on a project, but no clear direction or budget. Mr. Renaud noted that long-term health and the future of the Grouard campus are agenda items for the administrative meeting confirmed for October 24th with the Town of High Prairie and Northern Lakes College. Councillor Welch suggested that a meeting specific to Moosehorn Lodge may be warranted.

Reeve Billings reiterated that administration will be arranging a meeting with the High Prairie Seed Cleaning Plant manager to prepare grant applications.

Councillor Matthews questioned if there has been further development on the Seal Lake Road project. Mr. Lussier reported that modifications to the drawings as requested by Sustainable Resource Development have been completed. Reeve Billings noted that he will be lobbying on behalf of Northern Sunrise County and local communities at the upcoming PC convention.

R. EHMAN:

Councillor Ehman reported that he recently attended a High Prairie & District Recreation Board meeting and a Town of High Prairie Inter-municipal Committee meeting.

2008-17-659

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS that the Councillor Community/ Committee Reports be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MEETING SCHEDULE:

September 29, 2008	10:00 a.m.	Public Works Committee
September 29, 2008	1:00 p.m.	Municipal Planning Commission
September 30, 2008	2:00 p.m.	East Prairie Bridge Opening
October 1, 2008	10:00 a.m.	Economic Development Committee
October 2, 2008	4:00 p.m.	Tolko/Town of HP/MLA
October 6, 2008	9:00 a.m.	Council Road Tour
October 7, 2008	11:30 a.m.	Joint Economic Development Committee
October 9, 2008	9:00 a.m.	LSL Economic Alliance AGM

2008-17-660 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR EHMAN** that the members of the MD Economic Development Committee be approved to attend joint Economic Development Committee meetings with the Town of High Prairie.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mr. Renaud advised that he will be attending an interview for potential board membership on the Health Quality Council of Alberta.

Council will hold a planning session on Thursday, November 6th, 2008.

2008-17-661 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR DUPRES** that the November 12, 2008 and December 24, 2008 Regular Council meetings be cancelled.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2008-17-662 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR DUPRES** that Special Council meetings be scheduled for December 2nd and 3rd, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEXT MEETING: The next Regular Council Meeting will be held on October 8, 2008 at the M.D. Administration Building.

A break was taken from 1:46 p.m. to 1:55 p.m.

IN CAMERA:

2008-17-663 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS** that the meeting go in camera to discuss inter-municipal negotiations at 1:55 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2008-17-664 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR DUPRES** that the meeting come out of camera at 2:29 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2008-17-665 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS** that the MD Drug and Alcohol Policy be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2008-17-666 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR DUPRES** that the Town of High Prairie Inter-municipal Cost Sharing Agreement be approved with an amendment to include joint MD and Town board dispute resolution by a consensus of the MD and Town CAO's.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT:

2008-17-667 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS** that the meeting adjourn at 2:31 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Alvin Billings, Reeve

Gilles Lussier, C.A.O.

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BIG LAKES
PUBLIC HEARING
(LAND USE BYLAW AMENDMENT 23-2008)
September 24, 2008**

Minutes of the Municipal District of Big Lakes Public Hearing for an amendment to the Land Use Bylaw held at the M.D. Administration Building in High Prairie, Alberta on Wednesday, September 24, 2008 commencing at 10:15 a.m.

PRESENT WERE:

Reeve: Alvin Billings, HP East/Banana Belt
Deputy Reeve: David Marx, Prairie Echo/Salt Prairie
Councillor: Ray Dupres, Enilda/Big Meadow
Randy Ehman, S. Sunset House/Gilwood
Ken Killeen, Kinuso
Guy L'Heureux, Joussard
Ken Matthews, N. Gilwood/Triangle
Fern Welch, Grouard

Absent: Violet Campiou, Faust

Administration: Gilles Lussier, C.A.O.
Jeff Renaud, Deputy C.A.O.
Mike Rudkin, Treasurer
Amanda Backs, Recording Secretary

Members of the Public: Larry Baran, Town of High Prairie
Dave Vanderwell, High Prairie Fire Dept

Press: Chris Clegg, South Peace News
Keith Hopper, CKVH Radio

CALL TO ORDER:

Reeve Billings called the public hearing to order at 10:19 a.m.

Mr. Lussier reported that the Public Hearing was being held on a matter of a proposed amendment to section 11.18.1(b) of the Airport Vicinity (AV) District within the M.D. of Big Lakes Land Use Bylaw 8-97 to include "fire department training facility" as a Discretionary Use.

The public hearing was duly advertised and notices were sent to referral agencies. No written submissions were received in favor of or opposed to the bylaw amendment.

Mr. Vanderwell commented that he believes the proposed facility would provide an excellent opportunity to offer training for local and neighboring fire departments. A brief discussion took place regarding cross training ventures.

Councillor L'Heureux expressed concerns with the production of smoke in a district that prohibits such emissions. Mr. Lussier advised that the AV District does not restrict smoke, rather it does not allow for excessive smoke. Mr. Vanderwell advised that consideration will be given to neighbors when the facility is in use in order to minimize potential conflict.

The public hearing was closed at 10:25 a.m.

Alvin Billings, Reeve

Gilles Lussier, C.A.O.