

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BIG LAKES
COUNCIL MEETING
November 26, 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, November 26, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.

PRESENT WERE:

Reeve: Alvin Billings, HP East/Banana Belt
Deputy Reeve: David Marx, Prairie Echo/Salt Prairie
Councillor: Violet Campiou, Faust
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

Administration: Gilles Lussier, C.A.O.
Jeff Renaud, Deputy C.A.O.
Len Racher, Sup't of Public Works
Gary Braithwaite, Ag. Fieldman
Pat Olansky, Community Development Officer
Cory Bronson, Community Peace Officer
Amanda Backs, Recording Secretary

Delegation: George Wright, Big Lake Country Tourism

Observer: Jordan Lewis, E.W. Pratt High School Student

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:

2008-21-789

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX that the minutes of the October 22, 2008 Organizational Council Meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2008-21-790

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR EHMAN that the minutes of the October 22, 2008 Regular Council Meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**BUSINESS ARISING
FROM MINUTES:**

Councillor Matthews questioned if a meeting has been arranged with Northern Lakes College. Mr. Renaud will follow up as he has not received a response back from the College.

Councillor Matthews questioned if the MD's contract beaver blaster has done some blasting work in the area of the Seal Lake-Peavine Connector Road. Reeve Billings confirmed that he had.

Councillor Matthews questioned if a letter in support of the regional training facility had been sent. Reeve Billings advised that he had signed the letter and it was sent.

Councillor Matthews further questioned if a letter had been forwarded to the AAMDC in response to the update on the resolution regarding immigration and certification process for medical staff. Mr. Lussier replied that the letter was sent.

**ADDENDUM
TO AGENDA:**

Hamlet Concerns
Peavine Access Road Pavement Assessment
In Camera: Inter-municipal Negotiations

2008-21-791

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KILLEEN that the agenda with addendum for the November 26, 2008 Council Meeting be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**PLANNING &
DEVELOPMENT:**

MD LAND SALE: A letter of interest was received regarding the possibility of the purchase of Lot 13, Block 3, Plan 782 1407 in the Hamlet of Grouard.

2008-21-792 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX** that Council proceed with the sale of Lot 13, Block 3, Plan 782 1407 in the Hamlet of Grouard as per the Sale of Municipal Lands Policy with a reserve bid of \$3,000.00.

CARRIED**DEV'T PERMIT
APP. 08-120:**

Mrs. Olansky reported that a development permit application was received from Terry Dow for a garage constructed on Lot 5A, Block 4, Plan 042 4683 west of Kinuso. The M.D. Land Use Bylaw designates this lot as being within the Direct Control District and accordingly, Council shall decide upon all development permit applications located within a Direct Control District. Prior to making a decision, Council must provide public notice that a decision is to be made and afford an opportunity to any interested person to make representation on the application.

2008-21-793 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS** that the Community Development Officer post a notice in the local newspaper informing the general public of the Development Permit Application received from Terry Dow and that the public notice contain a statement to the effect that:

- i) if no objection to the application is received within the time prescribed in the notice, then it will proceed without further notice; and
- ii) if objection to the application is received, then a public hearing will be held on a date and place specified in the notice.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**DEV'T PERMIT
APP. 08-138:**

Councillor Killeen declared interest and left the room at 10:11 a.m.

Mrs. Olansky reported that a development permit application was received from Ken Killeen for an addition to a dwelling constructed on Lot 3A, Block 4, Plan 042 4683 west of Kinuso. The M.D. Land Use Bylaw designates this lot as being within the Direct Control District and accordingly, Council shall decide upon all development permit applications located within a Direct Control District. Prior to making a decision, Council must provide public notice that a decision is to be made and afford an opportunity to any interested person to make representation on the application.

2008-21-794 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX** that the Community Development Officer post a notice in the local newspapers informing the general public of the Development Permit Application received from Ken Killeen and that the public notice contain a statement to the effect that:

- i) if no objection to the application is received within the time prescribed in the notice, then it will proceed without further notice; and
- ii) if objection to the application is received, then a public hearing will be held on a date and place specified in the notice.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Killeen returned to the meeting at 10:12 a.m.

**DEV'T PERMIT
APP. 08-139:**

Mrs. Olansky reported that a development permit application was received from Doug Beaupre for a garage constructed on Lot 2A, Block 4, Plan 042 4683 west of Kinuso. The M.D. Land Use Bylaw designates this lot as being within the Direct Control District and accordingly, Council shall decide upon all development permit applications located within a Direct Control District. Prior to making a decision, Council must provide public notice that a decision is to be made and afford an opportunity to any interested person to make representation on the application.

2008-21-795 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX** that the Community Development Officer post a notice in the local newspapers informing the general public of the Development Permit Application received from Doug Beaupre and that the public notice contain a statement to the effect that:

- i) if no objection to the application is received within the time prescribed in the notice, then it will proceed without further notice; and
- ii) if objection to the application is received, then a public hearing will be held on a date and place specified in the notice.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Dupres joined the meeting at 10:12 a.m.

BYLAW #31-2008:

Bylaw No. 31-2008 to amend the Land Use Bylaw to re-district part of SW 28-74-17-W5 from the Agriculture (A) District to the Country Residential - 2 (CR-2) District to accommodate a proposed subdivision was presented to Council for first reading.

Councillor Campiou stepped out of the meeting at 10:13 a.m.

2008-21-796

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS that:

- 1. Bylaw No. 31-2008 be approved for first reading.
- 2. A public hearing date be set for January 14, 2008.
- 3. Notices of the public hearing be placed in the December 31st, 2008 and January 7th, 2009 issues of the South Peace News.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mrs. Olansky noted that there will be an adjustment to the public hearing date for Bylaw No. 31-2008 as she was informed by Mr. Clegg that there will be no South Peace News published on December 31st.

BYLAW #33-2008:

Bylaw No. 31-2008 to amend the Land Use Bylaw to re-district Pt. SE 18-74-13-W5 from the Agriculture (A) District to the Bare Land Condominium - 2 (BLC-2) District to accommodate a seasonal recreation subdivision was presented to Council for first reading.

2008-21-797

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX that:

- 1. Bylaw No. 33-2008 be approved for first reading.
- 2. A public hearing date be set.
- 3. Notices of the public hearing date be placed in the South Peace News.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PUBLIC HEARING RE:
BYLAW #29-2008

2008-21-798

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KILLEEN that the meeting go into public hearing at 10:15 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Campiou returned to the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

2008-21-799

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX that the meeting come out of public hearing at 10:17 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BYLAW #29-2008:

Bylaw No. 29-2008 to amend the Land Use Bylaw to re-district a portion of SW 9-74-13-W5 in the Hamlet of Joussard from the Hamlet of Joussard Urban Reserve (HJUR) District to the Hamlet Commercial (HC) District to accommodate a proposed subdivision was presented to Council for second and third readings.

2008-21-800

MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MARX that Bylaw No. 29-2008 be approved for second reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2008-21-801

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CAMPIOU that Bylaw No. 29-2008 be approved for third reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Reeve Billings introduced Mr. Racher, Public Works Superintendent, and welcomed him to the staff of the MD. Mr. Racher thanked Reeve Billings and stated that he and his wife are looking forward to becoming involved in the community. He further noted that this MD is a very well run organization.

**APPOINTMENT OF
SDAB MEMBER:**

Reeve Billings reported that a vacancy was left on the MD Subdivision and Development Appeal Board following Mrs. Cathy Wilcox's appointment to the Municipal Planning Commission at the organizational meeting of council. The vacancy was advertised and a letter of interest was received from Mr. Hector Renaud.

2008-21-802

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS that Mr. Hector Renaud be appointed to the M.D. of Big Lakes Subdivision and Development Appeal Board.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ALBERTA
TRANSPORTATION:**

Correspondence to the Community Development Officer was received from Mr. Wayne Franklin, Regional Director – Alberta Transportation, regarding the proposed Grouard Area Structure Plan. Discussion took place on the correspondence and delays in adoption of the Area Structure Plan. It was noted that Alberta Transportation has the final report from the assessment of accesses into the Hamlet of Grouard.

2008-21-803

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR WELCH that a letter be sent to Wayne Franklin, Regional Director – Alberta Transportation, informing him that the MD intends to proceed with the Grouard Area Structure Plan and would like to work with Alberta Transportation staff in amending the proposed ASP.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**COMM. DEV.
OFFICER'S
REPORT:**

The Community Development Officer's Report for the month of October 2008 was presented to Council.

2008-21-804

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR DUPRES that the Community Development Officer's Report to Council for the month of October 2008 be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

SOUTH SHORE ASP:

Mrs. Olansky advised that a preliminary planning and supporting information report on the South Shore Area Structure Plan was just received from Barlow Surveying yesterday. Copies will be provided to council by the next meeting.

2008-21-805

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CAMPIOU that the status report from Barlow Surveying on the South Shore Area Structure Plan be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PUBLIC WORKS:**HP & DISTRICT REG'L
WASTE MANAGEMENT
AUTHORITY:**

Council was informed that the current High Prairie & District Regional Solid Waste Management Authority agreement has expired. A draft agreement expiring December 31, 2020 was presented. Members of the Authority at the last meeting had no objections to an extension of the agreement. Councillor Welch inquired as to the process for new partners interested in joining the Authority. Mr. Lussier explained previous discussion between the partners regarding capital contributions for new members.

2008-21-806 **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MARX** that the MD of Big Lakes continue with its partnership in the High Prairie & District Regional Solid Waste Management Authority until December 31, 2020 by agreeing to the terms and conditions of the December 19, 1994 to December 19, 2004 agreement.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**PUBLIC HEARING RE:
BYLAW #28-2008**

2008-21-807 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS** that the meeting go into public hearing at 10:30 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2008-21-808 **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MARX** that the meeting come out of public hearing at 10:32 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BYLAW #28-2008: Bylaw No. 28-2008 to amend the Land Use Bylaw to re-district a portion of NW 22-73-17-W5 from the Agriculture (A) District to the Country Residential (CR) District to accommodate a proposed subdivision was presented to Council for second and third readings.

2008-21-809 **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MARX** that Bylaw No. 28-2008 be approved for second reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2008-21-810 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS** that Bylaw No. 28-2008 be approved for third reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

***GPS MONITORING
POLICY:***

A draft GPS Monitoring Policy was reviewed by the Public Works Committee at its November 24th meeting and recommended for approval.

2008-21-811 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CAMPIOU** that the GPS Monitoring Policy be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BYLAW #04-2006: The Public Works Committee requested that the Rural Addressing Bylaw No. 04-2006 be provided to Council for review. Mr. Lussier noted that the Committee wanted to specifically address section 8 which assigns the responsibility for the supply and installation of municipal address signs for subdivisions to the developer. He noted that administration also recommends that the dimensions of the signs, lettering and minimum height of the signs should be amended to fit with the specifications that have been developed since the bylaw was enacted. Council concurred that the MD would supply the initial municipal address sign for new subdivisions created and the developer would be responsible for any replacement thereafter. An amended bylaw will be presented at the next meeting.

Councillor Killeen questioned if the signs that were missed in some locations have been installed. Mr. Lussier advised that an order has been placed for those signs that were missed, but he is not aware of the status of the order.

2008-21-812 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTEHWS** that Bylaw No. 04-2006 be brought forward to the next meeting with amendments.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

GOLDEN TRIANGLE: A request was received from the Towns of Whitecourt, Fox Creek, Swan Hills and Woodlands County for support of the revitalization of the Golden Triangle Snowmobile Trail. The Public Works Committee recommended that the MD support the project but not partner in it. Council discussed the merits of a possible partnership in the endeavor.

2008-21-813 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX** that a letter be sent to the Towns of Whitecourt, Fox Creek, Swan Hills and Woodlands County in support of the revitalization of the Golden Triangle Snowmobile Trail.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**PUBLIC HEARING RE:
BYLAW #30-2008**

2008-21-814 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR DUPRES** that the meeting go into public hearing at 10:45 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2008-21-815 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KILLEEN** that the meeting come out of public hearing at 10:46 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BYLAW #30-2008: Bylaw No. 30-2008 to amend the Land Use Bylaw to re-district Lot 1, Block 8, Plan 0822756 in the Hamlet of Jousard from the Hamlet Residential – Jousard (HR-J) District to the Hamlet Commercial (HC) District to accommodate a restaurant development was presented to Council for second and third readings.

2008-21-816 **MOVED BY REEVE BILLINGS** that Bylaw No. 30-2008 be approved for second reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2008-21-817 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX** that Bylaw No. 30-2008 be approved for third reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

***PUBLIC WORKS
REPORT:***

Mr. Racher reviewed the Public Works Superintendent's written report. He added that there will be a hold back on the Enilda South Drainage project to ensure of proper clean up in the spring. Councillor Ehman reported that he has been approached about putting up a barrier at the west end of the drainage ditch because of the steep embankment. Mr. Racher advised that he will look into the request.

Councillor L'Heureux questioned if an approach will be installed north of Highway 2 in the area where soil tests are being done for the new Jousard lagoon and forcemain. Mr. Lussier stated that an approach would be reasonable as it is on the road allowance.

2008-21-818 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS** that the Superintendent of Public Works' Report be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

***PEAVINE ACCESS
ROAD PAVEMENT:***

Mr. Lussier reported that there have been some concerns with premature failures along the Peavine access road pavement. He explained that a pavement assessment was completed at the MD's cost and the Peavine Metis Settlement paid for the portion that extends into their jurisdiction. Mr. Lussier further made note of a 1997 agreement between the MD, Peavine and Alberta Transportation & Utilities that indicated the Department will provide funding for a future rehabilitation project when required. Initial correspondence to Alberta Transportation requesting a funding agreement with the MD and Peavine to address the rehabilitation was distributed to Council. Discussion took place on one term of the agreement that Peavine will pass a bylaw declaring the roadway within the Settlement boundary to be open to public traffic.

2008-21-819 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS** that the CAO's report and correspondence regarding the Peavine Access Road pavement assessment be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

A break was taken from 11:00 a.m. to 11:13 a.m.

AGRICULTURE:

WILD BOAR

BOUNTY PROG: Mr. Braithwaite recommended that the MD participate in Alberta Agriculture & Rural Development's pilot Wild Boar Bounty Program in an effort to reduce, or eradicate the feral wild boars at large in the MD.

2008-21-820 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR EHMAN** that the MD enroll in Alberta Agriculture & Rural Development's Wild Boar Bounty Program.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

AG. FIELDMAN'S REPORT:

Mr. Braithwaite reported that a VSI meeting is taking place on November 27th at the High Prairie Provincial Building. He noted that an agenda for the Provincial ASB Conference was placed in each councillor's mailbox. Those councillors interested in attending the conference advised Mr. Braithwaite.

Mr. Braithwaite reported that the High Prairie Seed Cleaning Plant was approved to operate for another year following an inspection on November 25th. He added that they likely will not be moved to the new facility until next fall.

Mr. Braithwaite indicated that all seasonal staff are done for the year.

2008-21-821 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS** 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 October 2008. Councillor L'Heureux inquired if Officer Bronson had picked up any dogs recently in Jossard. He advised that he had not.

2008-21-822 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KILLEEN** that the Community Peace Officer's Report for the month of October 2008 be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:

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

2008-21-823 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CAMPIOU** that the Fire Chief's report for the month of October 2008 be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

FIRE HALL LEASE AGREEMENT:

Council was provided with a second draft of a lease agreement for use in the event that local community associations wish to lease the facilities currently housing the MD fire and FCS services. Mr. Renaud advised that he derived the agreement from a document received from Jubilee Insurance for facility rentals. He noted that potential leasees will be asked for a proposal for their intended use of the facility. Discussion ensued on the length of term for the leases.

2008-21-824 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CAMPIOU** that Council approves the format of the lease agreement to be utilized by the MD of Big Lakes in leasing of space currently housing the Grouard, Enilda and Faust Fire Departments and that a rate of one dollar (\$1) be set and a term of up to five (5) years.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

STARS:

Correspondence was received from Glenda Farnden, Major Gifts Manager – STARS Foundation, thanking the MD for its contribution towards the operation of STARS Air Ambulance – Grande Prairie Base.

2008-21-825 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX** that the correspondence from Glenda Farnden, Major Gifts Manager – STARS Foundation, dated September 22, 2008 thanking the MD for its contribution towards the operation of STARS Air Ambulance – Grande Prairie Base be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

***H.P. SEED
CLEANING CO-OP:***

Reeve Billings reported that the High Prairie Seed Cleaning Co-op is experiencing problems with applications for grant funding because they are not eligible to apply under certain programs. The Co-op is seeking assistance from the MD to make application under the Major Community Facilities Program for the new plant.

Mr. Lussier recommended that Council send a letter to the Hon. Lloyd Snelgrove, Minister of Treasury Board, with copies to the Ministers of Finance and Enterprise, Employment and Immigration, and Agriculture and Rural Development and MLA Calahasen asking for clarification on how the Community Development Trust Fund grants are to be distributed.

Mr. Lussier provided information on the Building Canada Fund, which has not yet been launched in Alberta. It was suggested that Council send a letter of concern to the Premier and requesting that the MD be provided with an application form as soon as they are available.

2008-21-826 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS** that the MD make application on behalf of the High Prairie Seed Cleaning Co-op for funding under the Major Community Facilities Program for the new seed cleaning plant project.

CARRIED

2008-21-827 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS** that a letter be sent to the Hon. Lloyd Snelgrove, Minister of Treasury Board, with copies to the Ministers of Finance and Enterprise, Employment and Immigration, and Agriculture and Rural Development and MLA, Pearl Calahasen, requesting guidelines and procedures for accessing funds under the Community Development Trust Fund.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion continued on the Building Canada Fund. It was further suggested that the letter to the Premier mention difficulties the MD is facing in communicating with the public and in delaying projects because the program is not operational.

2008-21-828 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS** that a letter be sent to Premier Ed Stelmach with a copy to MLA Pearl Calahasen concerning the Building Canada Fund and the negative impact of the delayed launch of the program.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting recessed for lunch at 11:52 a.m. and reconvened at 12:23 p.m. Councillor Campiou did not return to the meeting.

***G.P. REGIONAL
HEALTH FACILITY:***

Councillor Matthews provided Council with comments in an email from the Chair of the Central Peace Community Health Council regarding concerns with the possibility of downsizing of the new regional health facility in Grande Prairie. General discussion took place. Mr. Lussier noted that a list of the new Alberta Health Services board members is under the information section in the addendum. Councillor Ehman suggested that Council obtain a copy of the Premier's mandate for the Minister of Health and Wellness.

Councillor Welch stepped out of the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

2008-21-829 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX** that a letter be sent to Premier Stelmach and the Hon. Ron Liepert, Minister of Health and Wellness, in support of the original size for the Grande Prairie Regional Health Facility as well as the concept of training physicians in the north with copies to AAMDC Zone 4 members, the Central Peace Community Health Council and High Prairie Community Health Council.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TOURISM POLICY: Council was presented with a draft Tourism Policy as recommended by the Economic Development Committee.

Councillor Welch returned to the meeting at 12:33 p.m.

Councillor Dupres made note of a few grammatical errors.

2008-21-830 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX** that the Tourism Policy be approved as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**HAMLET
CONCERNS:**

Councillor L'Heureux advised that Jousard Community Association received an invoice from Jubilee Insurance for insurance premiums. He noted that the JCA has been added as an additional named insured through the municipality and questioned if the billing should now flow through the MD. Administration will check with Jubilee.

Councillor L'Heureux informed Council that the Jousard Community Association has not received payment yet following the motion passed last month to pay for 50% of the costs to install water and sewer to the campsite.

Councillor L'Heureux further advised that the Jousard Community Association submitted its financial statement and next year's budget in April and have yet to receive their operating grant. He expressed concern that JCA has experienced similar difficulties over the past five years. Mr. Lussier suggested that the community groups assign an invoice number to their grant requests for tracking purposes. He will have administration look into the issue.

FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION:

BYLAW #32-2008: Bylaw No. 32-2008 to appoint Mr. Jeff Renaud to the position of Chief Administrative Officer of the M.D. of Big Lakes was presented to Council for first reading.

2008-21-831 **MOVED BY REEVE BILLINGS** that Bylaw No. 32-2008 be approved for first reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2008-21-832 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR EHMAN** that Bylaw No. 32-2008 be approved for second reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2008-21-833 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR DUPRES** that Bylaw No. 32-2008 be given unanimous approval to proceed to third reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2008-21-834 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX** that Bylaw No. 32-2008 be approved for third reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CHEQUE LIST: Council reviewed the current cheque list. Concerns were expressed regarding costs for beaver trapping. The MD Beaver Control Policy will be provided for review at the December 2nd budget meeting.

2008-21-835 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR WELCH** that cheques #41297 to #41641 in the total amount of \$3,404,262.92 for the period ending November 17, 2008 be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**TANGIBLE CAPITAL
ASSETS POLICY:**

The draft Tangible Capital Assets Policy was tabled at the previous meeting. Section 30 was amended by including "as per policy".

2008-21-836 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS** that the Tangible Capital Assets Policy be approved as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DELEGATION:

***BIG LAKE COUNTRY
TOURISM:***

Mr. George Wright, Marketing Director for Lesser Slave Lake Regional Tourism Society (BLCT), joined the meeting to update Council on 2008 activities and upcoming plans for 2009.

Mr. Wright reported that a 25% increase in hits to BLCT's website from the previous year with 14,000 visitors to September 30th. As a result of data collected, they will be making improvements to the site.

Mr. Wright highlighted promotional activities that took place in 2008 including trade shows in Edmonton and Calgary along with other advertising. BLCT held a couple of open houses and are looking at holding more during the 2009 season.

Mr. Wright provided Council with a copy of articles that ran in the Edmonton Journal this past summer highlighting the BLCT region. He advised that he and his wife ran the visitor information centre in Slave Lake and as such, have the opportunity to receive immediate feedback from visitors to the area. They have been asked by the Town of High Prairie to operate their visitor centre, which they are interested in doing. Council was provided with additional statistics on emails received.

Mr. Wright informed Council that the main priority for 2009 is the website upgrades. Other plans include distribution of the visitor's guide, they will once again be running the visitors centre in Slave Lake, attendance at a number of tradeshow, development of trail maps for quadders, involvement in geocaching, and various advertising ventures. He noted that BLCT will not be looking for any additional funding from the partners.

Mr. Wright commented that the Town of High Prairie is considering renewing its partnership in BLCT.

Mr. Wright explained to Council the concept of geocaching. Councillor Matthews questioned if there were any plans for designated snowmobile trails. Mr. Wright advised that they are hoping the proposed quad trails that have been identified through GPS will also work for winter activities.

Reeve Billings thanked Mr. Wright for his presentation.

***SEPT FINANCIAL
REPORTS:***

Council reviewed the Financial Reports for the period ending September 30, 2008. Mr. Lussier will instruct administration to check on outstanding revenue under general administration and changes at year end to the capital and operating reserves.

2008-21-837 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR EHMANN** that the Financial Statements for the period ending September 30, 2008 be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

***TAX SALE
RESERVE BIDS:***

The reserve bids for the December 8th tax sale as determined by Compass Assessment Consultants were presented to Council for approval.

2008-21-838 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR EHMANN** that the reserve bids for the December 8, 2008 Tax Sale be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

FCM: Information was received from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities for municipalities receiving federal payments in lieu of taxes.

- 2008-21-839 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KILLEEN** that the information from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities dated November 3, 2008 for municipalities receiving federal payments in lieu of taxes be received for information.
- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**
- AAMDC RESOLUTIONS:** Council was provided with two draft resolutions for consideration for presentation at the February 2009 AAMDC zone meeting regarding member involvement in advocacy and nomination procedures.
- 2008-21-840 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS** that the resolution on nomination procedures for AAMDC board positions be approved for presentation at the February 2009 AAMDC zone meeting.
- DEFEATED**
- 2008-21-841 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR DUPRES** that the resolution on member involvement in advocacy be approved for presentation at the February 2009 AAMDC zone meeting.
- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**
- CAO FAREWELL DINNER:** A farewell dinner for Mr. Gilles Lussier, CAO, will be held on Friday, November 28th with council and staff.
- 2008-21-842 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR DUPRES** that an expenditure to a maximum of \$3,000.00 from the General Administration – CAO Discretionary Fund be approved for costs associated with the farewell dinner for Mr. Gilles Lussier, CAO.
- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**
- AAMDC RESOLUTIONS:** Councillor Matthews noted that he would also like a resolution drafted on long term provincial funding for agricultural programs and livestock age verification.
- 2008-21-843 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS** that draft resolutions on age verification for livestock and long term provincial funding for agricultural programs be brought forward to a future council meeting.
- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**
- C.A.O.'S REPORT:** Mr. Lussier reported that he has been working with the High Prairie Seed Cleaning Plant Manager to investigate funding avenues for the new plant. He has been working towards funding for various road initiatives including resource road applications for the Seal Lake-Peavine Connector Road and two other roadways, which are being sent out today in advance of the deadline.
- Mr. Lussier thanked Council and staff for the past eight years and commented that they were all great to work alongside.
- 2008-21-844 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS** that the C.A.O.'s Report be received for information.
- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**
- 2008-21-845 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR DUPRES** that Council thanks Mr. Gilles Lussier for his tremendous contribution to the MD of Big Lakes.
- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**
- DEPUTY C.A.O.'S REPORT:** Mr. Renaud noted that he has been working on budget issues including discussions with Town of High Prairie Manager in 2009 inter-municipal related costs. Mr. Renaud and Mr. Rudkin attended Jubilee Insurance's RiskPro Module 2 training session. He noted that by completing this module the MD will be receiving another 2% off its insurance premium.
- Councillor Welch left the meeting at 1:49 p.m.
- Mr. Renaud has also attended the AAMDC convention and the Lesser Slave Lake Economic Alliance meeting in Slave Lake.

2008-21-846 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR DUPRES** that the Deputy C.A.O.'s Report be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORRESPONDENCE:

***MINISTER OF
SRD:***

Correspondence was received from the Hon. Ted Morton, Minister of Sustainable Resource Development, in response to Council's letter regarding the Mountain Pine Beetle Municipal Grant Program.

***LESSER SLAVE
WATERSHED
COUNCIL:***

Correspondence to the Hon. Rob Renner, Minister of Environment, was received from the Lesser Slave Watershed Council requesting that a water quality monitoring station be installed in the Lesser Slave Watershed.

***TOWN OF HIGH
PRAIRIE:***

Correspondence to the Hon. Ron Liepert, Minister of Health and Wellness, was received from the Town of High Prairie regarding the High Prairie Health Facility.

***TOWN OF HIGH
PRAIRIE:***

Correspondence to the High Prairie Native Friendship Centre Society in support of their application for funding support from Urban Multipurpose Aboriginal Youth Centre was received from the Town of High Prairie.

***TOWN OF HIGH
PRAIRIE:***

Correspondence to the Hon. Jack Hayden, Minister of Infrastructure, regarding the old health facility in High Prairie was received from the Town of High Prairie.

***VILLAGE OF
KINUSO:***

Correspondence was received from the Village of Kinuso regarding council appointments made during the organizational meeting.

***BIG LAKE COUNTRY
TOURISM:***

An invitation was received to the Lesser Slave Regional Visitor Information Centre Open House being held on November 28, 2008.

2008-21-847

MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MARX that correspondence items 12a(i) to 12a(vii) be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

***PRAIRIE ECHO
COMM LEAGUE:***

A request for funding from Prairie Echo Community League for their 50th Anniversary Event was tabled at the previous meeting. It was noted that the request also mentions that the hall is presently undergoing renovations. Council noted that the Community League could submit a request under separate cover for a grant for capital improvements. Councillor Ehman commented that he would like to review both the Recreation Services Policy and Community Services Policy.

2008-21-848

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR EHMAN that the request for funding from Prairie Echo Community League for their 50th anniversary event be tabled until an Event Support Policy is in place.

CARRIED

***PEACE REGIONAL
AIRSHOW ASSOC:***

A request for sponsorship was received from the Peace Regional Airshow Association for the 2009 airshow taking place at the Peace River Airport.

2008-21-849 **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MARX** that the request for sponsorship from the Peace Regional Airshow Association for the 2009 airshow be tabled until an Event Support Policy is in place.

CARRIED

**MINISTER OF
EMPLOYMENT AND
IMMIGRATION:**

Correspondence was received from the Hon. Hector Goudreau, Minister of Employment and Immigration, regarding three awards for the Alberta Chamber of Commerce 2009 Alberta Business Awards of Distinction being sponsored by Employment and Immigration. It was noted that the deadline for submission was November 26th.

2008-21-850 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KILLEEN** that the correspondence from the Hon. Hector Goudreau, Minister of Employment and Immigration, regarding three awards for the Alberta Chamber of Commerce 2009 Alberta Business Awards of Distinction be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**HP & DISTRICT
GOLF CLUB:**

Council considered a request from the High Prairie & District Golf Club for a letter in support of their application for a Community Facilities Enhancement Program grant which will be used for further course improvements and equipment upgrades.

2008-21-851 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX** that a letter be sent to the High Prairie & District Golf Club in support of their application for a Community Facilities Enhancement Program grant.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

A break was taken from 2:02 p.m. to 2:12 p.m.

**COUNCILLOR COMMUNITY/
COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

D. MARX: Deputy Reeve Marx reported that he attended the AAMDC conference, a High Prairie & District Recreation Board meeting on November 17th, Economic Development meeting, Prairie Echo Community League 50th anniversary celebration on November 22nd, High Prairie light up on November 21st and the Public Works and Municipal Planning Commission meetings on November 24th.

K. MATTHEWS: Councillor Matthews reported that since the last council meeting he has attended two Economic Development Committee meetings, the ASB Regional Conference in Sturgeon Heights, and the Premier's dinner. During the dinner he had the opportunity to speak with the Minister of Culture & Community Spirit regarding his possible visit to Grouard in regard to historical initiatives. Councillor Matthews also attended a Regional Training Facility meeting and High Prairie & District Recreation Board meetings. He provided an overview of the Recreation Board's preliminary budget discussions. Councillor Matthews reported that the High Prairie Community Health Foundation met and updated Council on the status of physician housing and recruitment. Councillor Matthews also attended a Staff Negotiating meeting, and the Public Works Committee and MPC meetings on November 24th.

K. KILLEEN: Councillor Killeen reported that private donations have been received allowing the Kinuso Recreation Board to concrete around the skating rink purchase a zamboni. He is seeking to recruit a new member for the Kinuso Recreation Board. Councillor Killeen added that the Recreation Board received payment from Swan River First Nation for its share of operating costs for the skating rink last year.

G. L'HEUREUX: Councillor L'Heureux reported that he attended a High Prairie & District Regional Landfill Authority meeting. Discussion took place on the cost to upgrade the transfer site at Gilwood.

2008-21-852

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX that a meeting be arranged with the Town of High Prairie Inter-municipal Ad Hoc Committee to discuss upgrades to the Gilwood transfer site.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor L'Heureux advised that the Authority is considering solar power at the transfer sites in part because Alberta Environment does not fund off-site improvements, like the extension of power servicing. He added that they may also switch to a different type or bigger heater for the buildings for the transfer site operators.

Councillor L'Heureux attended a Joussard Community Association meeting last week. He reported that JCA would like Council to consider putting in a sidewalk on the south side of the ditch from the water treatment plant to the harbor.

Councillor L'Heureux also attended the AAMDC Conference, Public Works Committee meeting, MPC meeting and Staff Negotiating Committee meeting.

R. DUPRES:

Councillor Dupres reported that he missed the AAMDC Conference but did cancel his hotel reservation.

A. BILLINGS:

Reeve Billings reported that he attended the Public Works Committee and MPC meetings, as well as participated in interviews of CAO candidates. He also met with the Town of Swan Hills Mayor regarding the Golden Triangle revitalization project. He noted that Swan Hills is pleased with the recent inter-municipal agreement. On November 4th Reeve Billings spoke with three grade nine classes on local government. He also recently attended the ASB Regional Conference, the Premier's dinner, AAMDC Conference, Lesser Slave Lake Economic Alliance, Public Works and MPC meetings.

Reeve Billings reported that a letter has been sent under his signature to Tirmoil Energy requesting the release of their LOC for the Seal Lake-Peavine Road to proceed. He noted that the road has been opened up and is being utilized by traffic since it has frozen in.

Discussion took place on whether some of the meetings held with government department staff, in lieu of ministerial attendance, during the AAMDC conference were worthwhile.

Councillor Killeen questioned if a bylaw has been passed by the Peavine Metis Settlement to make their portion of the Seal Lake-Peavine Road a public roadway. Mr. Lussier advised that a resolution has been made but there is no bylaw.

R. EHMAN:

Councillor Ehman reported that he attended High Prairie & District Recreation Board meetings on November 3rd, 17th and 25th. Discussion continued on the proposed Recreation Board budget. Councillor Ehman also attended the AAMDC Conference, Public Works Committee meeting and Municipal Planning Commission meeting.

2008-21-853

MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MARX that the Councillor Community/ Committee Reports be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MEETING

SCHEDULE:

December 2, 2008	10:00 a.m.	Council Budget Meeting
December 3, 2008	10:00 a.m.	Council Budget Meeting
December 5, 2008		Regional Training Facility Meeting
December 15, 2008		HP Recreation Board Meeting
December 16, 2008		Peace Airshed Zone Association
December 18, 2008		Economic Development Committee
December 19, 2008	7:00 p.m.	MD Christmas Dinner
December 22, 2008	10:00 a.m.	Public Works Committee
December 22, 2008	1:00 p.m.	Municipal Planning Commission

NEXT MEETING:

The next Regular Council Meeting will be held on December 10, 2008 at the M.D. Administration Building.

IN CAMERA:

2008-21-854 **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MARX** that the meeting go in camera to discuss personnel matters and inter-municipal negotiations at 2:58 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2008-21-855 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR DUPRES** that the meeting come out of camera at 3:29 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2008-21-856 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX** that Council approves of the proposed new staff agreement including the following components and amendments:

- 80% direct payment medical expense card;
- \$600 annual personal health spending account that will be applied to Alberta health fees, if any;
- a one-year term of agreement; and
- a cost of living adjustment from 2008 – 2009 of 4%

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT:

2008-21-857 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR DUPRES** that the meeting adjourn at 3:31 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Alvin Billings, Reeve

Jeff Renaud, C.A.O.

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BIG LAKES
PUBLIC HEARING
(LAND USE BYLAW AMENDMENT 29-2008)
November 26, 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, November 26, 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:	Violet Campiou, Faust
	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
Administration:	Gilles Lussier, C.A.O.
	Jeff Renaud, Deputy C.A.O.
	Len Racher, Sup't of Public Works
	Pat Olansky, Community Development Officer
	Amanda Backs, Recording Secretary
	Karen Zelman, Development Clerk
Observer:	Jordan Lewis, E.W. Pratt High School Student
Members of the Public:	Debbie & Stacy Monteith
	Jeannie Cloutier
	Marc Goutier
Press:	Chris Clegg, South Peace News
	Keith Hopper, CKVH Radio

CALL TO ORDER:

Reeve Billings called the public hearing to order at 10:15 a.m.

Mrs. Olansky reported that the Public Hearing was being held on a matter of an application to amend the Land Use Bylaw to re-district a portion of SW 9-74-13-W5 in the Hamlet of Joussard from the Hamlet of Joussard Urban Reserve (HJUR) District to the Hamlet Commercial (HC) District to accommodate a proposed commercial subdivision of five lots.

The Municipal Planning Commission reviewed the application at their October 27th meeting and recommended approval of the Land Use Bylaw amendment.

The public hearing was duly advertised and notices were placed in every Joussard mailbox. Notices were also sent to adjacent landowners and referral agencies. No submissions for or against the proposed amendment were received.

Mrs. Cloutier indicated that she was in favor of the development noting that there is a need for commercial property in Joussard.

Mr. Goutier also agreed that there is a need for additional commercial property in Joussard. He commented that these developers are doing a good job.

The public hearing was closed at 10:17 a.m.

Alvin Billings, Reeve

Jeff Renaud, C.A.O.

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BIG LAKES
PUBLIC HEARING
(LAND USE BYLAW AMENDMENT 28-2008)
November 26, 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, November 26, 2008 commencing at 10:30 a.m.

PRESENT WERE:

Reeve:	Alvin Billings, HP East/Banana Belt
Deputy Reeve:	David Marx, Prairie Echo/Salt Prairie
Councillor:	Violet Campiou, Faust
	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
Administration:	Gilles Lussier, C.A.O.
	Jeff Renaud, Deputy C.A.O.
	Len Racher, Sup't of Public Works
	Pat Olansky, Community Development Officer
	Amanda Backs, Recording Secretary
	Karen Zelman, Development Clerk
Members of the Public:	Mike Sekulich
Observer:	Jordan Lewis, E.W. Pratt High School Student
Press:	Chris Clegg, South Peace News
	Keith Hopper, CKVH Radio

CALL TO ORDER:

Reeve Billings called the public hearing to order at 10:30 a.m.

Mrs. Olansky reported that the Public Hearing was being held on a matter of an application to amend the Land Use Bylaw to re-district a portion of NW 22-73-17-W5 from the Agriculture (A) District to the Country Residential (CR) District to accommodate a proposed subdivision.

The public hearing was duly advertised and notices were sent to adjacent landowners and referral agencies. No submissions for or against the proposed amendment were received.

The Municipal Planning Commission reviewed the application at their October 27th meeting and recommended to Council that the balance of the quarter have adequate access.

No one from the public had comments for or against the application.

The public hearing was closed at 10:32 a.m.

Alvin Billings, Reeve

Jeff Renaud, C.A.O.

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BIG LAKES
PUBLIC HEARING
(LAND USE BYLAW AMENDMENT 30-2008)
November 26, 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, November 26, 2008 commencing at 10:45 a.m.

PRESENT WERE:

Reeve:	Alvin Billings, HP East/Banana Belt
Deputy Reeve:	David Marx, Prairie Echo/Salt Prairie
Councillor:	Violet Campiou, Faust
	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
Administration:	Gilles Lussier, C.A.O.
	Jeff Renaud, Deputy C.A.O.
	Len Racher, Sup't of Public Works
	Pat Olansky, Community Development Officer
	Amanda Backs, Recording Secretary
	Karen Zelman, Development Clerk
Members of the Public:	Marc Goutier
	Linda Cox
	Debbie & Stacy Monteith
	Jeannie Cloutier
Observer:	Jordan Lewis, E.W. Pratt High School Student
Press:	Chris Clegg, South Peace News
	Keith Hopper, CKVH Radio

CALL TO ORDER:

Reeve Billings called the public hearing to order at 10:45 a.m.

Mrs. Olansky reported that the Public Hearing was being held on a matter of an application to amend the Land Use Bylaw to re-district Lot 1, Block 8, Plan 0822756 in the Hamlet of Joussard from the Hamlet Residential – Joussard (HR-J) District to the Hamlet Commercial (HC) District to accommodate a restaurant development.

The public hearing was duly advertised and notices were sent to adjacent landowners and referral agencies. Notices were also sent to each mailbox in Joussard. One letter of objection was received from Dr. Dean Higson and included in the addendum.

The Municipal Planning Commission reviewed the application at their October 27th meeting and recommended that the Land Use Bylaw amendment be approved

No one from the public had comments for or against the application.

The public hearing was closed at 10:46 a.m.

Alvin Billings, Reeve

Jeff Renaud, C.A.O.