

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BIG LAKES
COUNCIL MEETING
September 30, 2009**

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 30, 2009 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
Randy Ehman, S. Sunset House/Gilwood
Ken Killeen, Kinuso
Guy L'Heureux, Jousard
Ken Matthews, N. Gilwood/Triangle
Fern Welch, Grouard

Absent: Ray Dupres, Enilda/Big Meadow

Administration: Jeff Renaud, C.A.O.
Len Racher, Sup't of Public Works
Amanda Backs, Recording Secretary

Delegations: Michael Strebchuk
Phil Dirks, Hawkings Epp Dumont

Members of the Public: Doug Bellerose, High Prairie Detox Centre

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:

2009-17-696

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KILLEEN that the minutes of the September 16, 2009 Regular Council Meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

**BUSINESS ARISING
FROM MINUTES:**

No business arising

**ADDENDUM
TO AGENDA:**

Fire Chief's Report
Garbage
Swan Hills Synfuels Tour
AAMDC Conference
Economic Development Committee
Kinuso Library

2009-17-697

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR EHMAN that the agenda with addendum for the September 30, 2009 Council Meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

**PLANNING &
DEVELOPMENT:*****BYLAW #32-2009:***

Being a bylaw to amend the Land Use Bylaw section 11.22.2 Bare Land Condominium – 2 District with regard to property line set backs.

2009-17-698

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX that:

1. Bylaw No. 32-2009 be approved for first reading.
2. A public hearing date be set for October 28, 2009.
3. Notices of the public hearing be placed in the October 14th and 21st, 2009 issues of the *South Peace News*.

CARRIED

ECONOMIC**DEV'T COMMITTEE:**

The Economic Development Committee recommended that the committee be increased from three to four members and that a recording secretary be provided.

2008-17-699

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR WELCH that Council be recommended to appoint a fourth member to the Economic Development Committee during the October 28, 2009 organizational meeting.

CARRIED**PUBLIC WORKS:****CANCELLATION OF
ROAD PLAN 4317JY:**

2009-17-700

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR EHMAN that Council approves the cancellation of all that portion of Road Plan 4317JY lying west of a line drawn parallel to and 30 metres westerly from the east limit of Road Plan 092 7920 within NW 31-73-17-W5M, in accordance with Section 24 of the Municipal Government Act, Chapter M-26, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, as amended, and subject to rights of access granted by other legislation.

CARRIED**AWARD OF QUOTATION
GRADER/PLOW BLADES:**

2009-17-701

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX that:

1. The supply and delivery of 200 grader blades (5/8" x 8" x 8" HT) be awarded to the low bidder, Valley Blades, for the total amount of \$17,968.00 excluding GST; and
2. The supply and delivery of 40 plow truck blades (7/8" x 6" x 48") be awarded to the low bidder, Shaw's Enterprises Ltd., for the total amount of \$8,592.00 excluding GST.

CARRIED**PUBLIC WORKS
REPORT:**

Mr. Racher reviewed the public works written activity report.

Councillor Campiou will leave pictures with administration of the hole being cut into the gravel approach by traffic on Range Road 113 south of Highway 2.

Discussion took place regarding gravel being taken from MD roads for personal use. Council suggested that Officer Bronson speak with the accused landowner.

2009-17-702

MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MARX that the Superintendent of Public Works' Report be received for information.

CARRIED**DELEGATION:****M. STREBCHUK:**

Michael Strebchuk addressed Council to express concerns related to the condition of the gravel roads to the south and west of the Town of High Prairie in addition to the poor quality of gravel being purchased by the MD for its annual gravel program. Mr. Strebchuk thanked Council for their time and consideration.

General discussion on the MD gravel specifications and road maintenance took place.

Mr. Strebchuk left the meeting at 10:44 a.m. A break was taken from 10:44 a.m. until 10:53 a.m.

DELEGATION:**HAWKINGS EPP
DUMONT:**

Mr. Phil Dirks, of Hawkings Epp Dumont, provided a report on the actual results of the 2008 audit. He briefly commented on the audit report and continued with a review of the consolidated statement of financial position (balance sheet), schedule of operating fund activities, and schedule of capital fund activities as at December 31, 2008. An audit letter was issued to Council which was briefly reviewed by Mr. Dirks. A management letter will be issued to Mr. Renaud and the Financial Information Return will be completed for Alberta Municipal Affairs. Mr. Dirks thanked administration and staff for their assistance during the audit with a special thanks to Heather Lama. Reeve Billings thanked Mr. Dirks for his presentation.

Councillor Welch left the meeting at 11:38 a.m.

PUBLIC WORKS CON'T:

GARBAGE: Councillor L'Heureux informed Council that illegal dumping of garbage is still ongoing near the Drifpile gravel pit.

Councillor Campiou stepped out of the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

2009-17-703 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX** that administration investigate the possibility of installing a surveillance camera at sites prone to illegal dumping of garbage.

CARRIED

Councillor Campiou returned to the meeting at 11:42 a.m.

AGRICULTURE:

AG. FIELDMAN'S REPORT:

Mr. Braithwaite was in attendance to review his written activity report covering agriculture and waste departments. Council was provided with information regarding a combination mower/chemical applicator.

2009-17-704 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX** that the purchase of a combination mower/chemical applicator be referred to budget deliberations.

CARRIED

The meeting recessed for lunch at 11:50 a.m. and reconvened at 12:16 p.m.

Mr. Braithwaite continued with his activity report.

2009-17-705 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR EHMEN** that door prize items be provided for the 2009 Regional ASB Conference.

CARRIED

PEACE COUNTRY BEEF CONGRESS:

2009-17-706 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR EHMEN** that the sponsorship request for the 12th Annual Peace Country Beef Congress be referred to budget deliberations.

CARRIED

Mr. Braithwaite was asked to bring forth statistics regarding the proportion of users of MD transfer stations that are non-partners to the next council meeting.

2009-17-707 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CAMPIOU** that the Agricultural Fieldman's Report to Council be received for information.

CARRIED

COMMUNITY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES:

ENHANCED POLICING PROGRAM:

Correspondence was received from the Town of High Prairie and Gift Lake Metis Settlement in response to Council's letter to all municipalities within the boundaries of the MD regarding continuation of the enhanced policing program. A report on the enhanced policing program prepared by S/Sgt. Daley, High Prairie RCMP, was distributed for Council's review.

Mr. Braithwaite left the meeting at 12:39 p.m.

2009-17-708 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CAMPIOU** that the MD of Big Lakes continue with the agreement with the Solicitor General for the enhanced policing program for an additional three years commencing September, 2010 with the MD contributing the majority of the funding.

CARRIED

2009-17-709 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS** that a letter be sent to the Federal Minister of Justice urging that laws governing drug offences be stiffened with a copy being sent to the Alberta Solicitor General.

CARRIED

**LETTER OF
SUPPORT:**

2009-17-710 **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MARX** that a letter be sent to High Prairie Minor Hockey in support of their grant application under the Sport Participation Initiative for its female hockey division initiatives.

CARRIED

**FIRE CHIEF'S
REPORT:**

Fire Chief Gould distributed copies of the MD of Big Lakes Wireless Communication & Dispatch Review prepared by Glenbrie Consulting Ltd.

2009-17-711 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX** that administration proceed with a grant application under the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program (JEPP) for enhancements to the communication system in 2010 and the expenditure be referred to budget deliberations should the application be successful.

CARRIED

MD volunteer firefighters will be making fire safety presentations throughout the week of October 4-10, Fire Prevention Week.

KINUSO LIBRARY: Discussion took place on the status of the Kinuso Library since the Kinuso Library Board dissolved along with the Village of Kinuso.

Fire Chief Gould left the meeting at 1:20 p.m.

2009-17-712 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KILLEEN** that administration place an advertisement for a member at large from the Kinuso area to sit on the MD of Big Lakes Library Board.

CARRIED

FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION

CHEQUE LIST:

2009-17-713 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CAMPIOU** that cheques #44156 to #44345 in the total amount of \$3,699,958.36 for the period ending September 18, 2009 be received for information.

CARRIED

**INSURANCE
REQUEST:**

Request from the High Prairie & District Food Bank to be added as an Additional Named Insured under the MD insurance policy.

Councillor Welch returned to the meeting and Councillor Campiou stepped out of the meeting at 1:26 p.m.

2009-17-714 **MOVED BY REEVE BILLINGS** that a letter be sent to every organization covered as an additional named insured under the MD of Big Lakes' insurance policy, as well as the High Prairie & District Food Bank, requesting that they obtain independent quotes for insurance coverage and advising that Council may be eliminating ANI's from its policy in the future.

CARRIED

***GROWING THE NORTH
CONFERENCE:***

Request for donations

2009-17-715

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR EHMAN that the correspondence dated September 21, 2009 seeking sponsors for the 2010 Growing the North – A Community Economic Development Conference be received for information.

CARRIED

Councillor Campiou returned to the meeting at 1:29 p.m.

2008 AUDIT:

2009-17-716

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS that Council approves the transfer of \$60,307 from the Working Capital Reserve to offset an operating fund deficit for 2008.

CARRIED

2008-17-717

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX that the 2008 audit report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED***TABLED ITEMS:***

2009-17-718

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS that:

1. Motion 2006-18-602 be rescinded as Ms. Campiou has not contacted the MD administration;
2. Motion 97-26-1078 be rescinded as the Village of Kinuso was dissolved on September 1, 2009; and
3. Motion 2006-12-397 be rescinded as the Provincial Flood Mitigation Strategy is now the responsibility of the Alberta Emergency Management Agency and no workshops are currently scheduled.

CARRIED***TOWN OF SWAN
HILLS MEETING:***

2009-17-719

MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MARX that a tentative date of November 9th be set for a joint council meeting with the Town of Swan Hills.

CARRIED***C.A.O.'S REPORT:***

Mr. Renaud presented a verbal activity report. He reviewed the results of the informal survey sent to affected landowners with respect to the proposed sewer installation at the east end of Faust.

2009-17-720

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CAMPIOU that the MD of Big Lakes proceed with the installation of a low pressure sewer system at the east end of Faust.

CARRIED

2009-17-721

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

CARRIED**CORRESPONDENCE:*****ROAD PAVING:***

Council was advised that a petition is being circulated amongst landowners along Range Road 142 from Highway 2 east to the Mission Creek Bridge in Joussard for the MD to include this road in the 2010 paving program due to increased traffic volumes.

2009-17-722

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX that administration investigate various dust control options for problematic roads, including Range Road 142 from Highway 2 and extending east to Township Road 742A to the west boundary of the Hamlet of Joussard and the Heart River Dam Road.

CARRIED

2009-17-723

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX that the following items of correspondence be received for information:

- a. Agriculture and Food Canada, dated September 9, 2009, regarding the 2008-09 Annual Report
- b. Minister of State Transport, dated September 15, 2009, regarding rural postal services
- c. Hon. Ken Kowalski, dated September 17, 2009, regarding the 2009 AAMDC Fall Convention
- d. Superintendent Arlen Miller, RCMP, dated September 21, 2009 regarding High Prairie and Faust Detachments resourcing issues
- e. AB Agriculture and Rural Development dated September 22, 2009 regarding the ASB Grant Program Audit

CARRIED

AB ENVIRONMENT: 2009 AAMDC Fall Convention

2009-17-724 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR WELCH** that the correspondence from Mr. Rick Brown, Director – Northern Region Alberta Environment, dated September 14, 2009 regarding the 2009 AAMDC Fall Convention be received for information.

CARRIED

ALBERTA TRANSPORTATION: Administration will arrange for a meeting with Alberta Transportation representatives during the 2009 AAMDC Fall Convention.

HIGH PRAIRIE SCHOOL DIVISION: Request for Land Transfer

2009-17-725 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KILLEEN** that a portion of Plan 837NY Block 11 Lot 3 (1.15 acres) south east of the Kinuso School property within the Hamlet of Kinuso be transferred to the High Prairie School Division.

CARRIED

NORTHWEST CORRIDOR DEV'T CORP.: Membership Invitation

2009-17-726 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS** that the invitation from the Northwest Corridor Development Corporation dated September 23, 2009 to consider becoming a member organization in 2009/2010 be received for information.

CARRIED

REGIONAL EMS FOUNDATION: Annual General Meeting

2009-17-727 **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MARX** that the notice from the Regional EMS Foundation regarding the Annual General Meeting taking place on October 1, 2009 in Grande Prairie be received for information.

CARRIED

COUNCILLOR COMMUNITY/ COMMITTEE REPORTS:

D. MARX: Deputy Reeve Marx attended the MD barbeque, Municipal Planning Commission meeting and Committee of the Whole meeting.

F. WELCH: Councillor Welch reported that she attended the MD barbeque as well as meetings of the Committee of the Whole, Heart River Housing, Peace Library System, Economic Development Committee, and Big Lake Country Tourism. She also attended Grouard's 100th anniversary celebration. A copy of the last Big Lake Country Tourism meeting agenda was distributed for Council's information.

Discussion took place on potential future paving projects in the Hamlet of Grouard.

K. MATTHEWS: Councillor Matthews advised that he attended the MD barbeque and provided a report on the September 25th Hospital Review Board meeting.

- K. KILLEEN:** Councillor Killeen provided an update on Kinuso Recreation Board activities related to the ice surface flooring in the skating rink.
- V. CAMPIOU:** Councillor Campiou reported that she attended the Committee of the Whole meeting, Community Futures meeting, and a Big Lakes Library Board meeting.
- G. L'HEUREUX:** Councillor L'Heureux provided an update on the Jossard Community Association campsite upgrades and noted that commercial fishing on Lesser Slave Lake commenced two days ago.
- A. BILLINGS:** Reeve Billings presented reports on the Lesser Slave Lake Economic Alliance meeting, Grouard's 100th celebration, and September 28th meeting with STARS. A Regional Economic Alliance Development Alliance Chair's meeting is scheduled for October 8th
- R. EHMAN:** Councillor Ehman reported that he attended the MD barbeque, Municipal Planning Commission meeting and the Committee of the Whole meeting.
- 2009-17-728** **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MARX** that the Councillor Community /Committee Reports be received for information.

CARRIED

**MEETING
SCHEDULE:**

October 1, 2009	2:00 p.m.	Swan Hills Synfuels Site Tour
October 16, 2009	9:00 a.m.	ASB Regional Conference
October 20, 2009	10:00 a.m.	Agricultural Advisory Committee
October 22, 2009	11:00 a.m.	Regional Landfill Authority
October 26, 2009	10:00 a.m.	Municipal Planning Commission
October 26, 2009	1:00 p.m.	Committee of the Whole
October 30, 2009	1:00 p.m.	Municipal Services Facilities Grand Opening – Grouard

NEXT MEETING:

The next Regular Council Meeting will be held on October 14, 2009 at the M.D. Administration Building.

OTHER:

Mr. Doug Bellerose, Executive Director for the High Prairie Detox Centre, addressed Council with regard to policing concerns. He advised that the Board is looking at donating \$10,000 towards the enhanced policing program if permitted under the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission. Council expressed its gratitude.

A break was taken from 2:57 p.m. until 3:05 p.m.

IN CAMERA:

- 2009-17-729** **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE MARX** that the meeting go in camera to discuss business interests and personnel matters at 3:05 p.m.

CARRIED

- 2009-17-730** **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MATTHEWS** that the meeting come out of camera at 3:58 p.m.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT:

- 2009-17-731** **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR L'HEUREUX** that the meeting adjourn at 3:59 p.m.

CARRIED

Alvin Billings, Reeve

Jeff Renaud, C.A.O.