

**MINUTES
SADDLE HILLS COUNTY
COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY APRIL 8, 2008**

Meeting of the Council for Saddle Hills County was held in the Council Chambers of the Saddle Hills County Administration Building on Tuesday April 8, 2008.

PRESENT:

**TIM STONE
MIKE MCRANN
BARBARA BUCK
BRUCE JACK
CINDY CLARKE
JOHN MOEN
ALVIN HUBERT**

**REEVE
DEPUTY REEVE
COUNCILLOR
COUNCILLOR
COUNCILLOR
COUNCILLOR
COUNCILLOR**

**TAROLYN PEACH
ELIZABETH GUSTAFSON**

**CAO
EA/RECORDING SECRETARY**

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

Ted de Kleine, Meyers Norris Penny LLP, Faye Kary, the director of Corporate Services and Johanne Henderson entered the meeting at 10:10.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- 8.5 Energy Resources Conservation Board Open House**
- 8.6 Central Peace Community Health Council**

**MOTION
01.11.13.07**

Moved by Councillor Clarke that County Council adopt the agenda as amended.

Carried

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- 3.1 Council Meeting Minutes – March 25, 2008**

The minutes from the March 25, 2008 regularly scheduled meeting of Council were presented for Council's review.

MOTION
02.11.13.07

Moved by Councillor Moen that the Council minutes from the March 25, 2008 regular scheduled Council meeting be adopted as amended.

Carried

4. Delegations

4.1 Meyers Norris Penny LLP – Ted de Kleine

Ted de Kleine from Meyers Norris Penny LLD entered the Council meeting at 10:30 a.m.

Ted de Kleine from the office of Meyers Norris Penny LLP presented Council with a draft outline of the 2007 audit results. Two packages were handed out, the Report to Council and the Financial Statements. Mr. de Kleine reviewed the Financial Statements with Council and the following topics were discussed;

- The Staff were thanked for their cooperation and helpfulness during the audit.
- There were no qualifications or reservations, the audit was clean.
- The estimated cost of the gravel pit reclamation is variable and could change.
- The road rehabilitation reserve has been heavily drawn upon in recent years and money will be put into it.
- Surplus was used to top up the infrastructure fund.

MOTION
03.04.08.08

Moved by Councillor Hubert that County Council authorize the transfers to reserves as per the Audit Committee recommendations.

Carried

MOTION
04.04.08.08

Moved by Councillor McRann that County Council adopt the Saddle Hills County 2007 Audited Financial Statements as presented by Ted de Klein, Meyers Norris Penny LLP.

Carried

Ted de Kleine, Meyers Norris Penny LLP, Faye Kary, Director of Corporate Services and Johanne Henderson left the meeting at 10:42 a.m.

5. Administration Reports

5.1 CAO Regular Council Meeting Report

The Chief Administrative Officer's report was discussed by Council. The following items were discussed;

- Roger Fields will present a conceptual drawing to Council on April 22, 2008.
- TransCanada will have to apply for a permit to move the pipelines and the Alberta Utilities Commission has agreed to expedite the permits when TransCanada requests them.
- Interprovincial/intermunicipal meeting will be May 1, 2008 at the Bonanza Hall. What speakers would Council like to hear from?
- Road Tour – May 7 & 8, 2008 is not a good time for the road tour. Reschedule for June 19 & 20, 2008. A road assessment needs to be done to help with planning.
- South Peace Water Supply Committee wishes to meet on May 1, 2008 with all possible elected leaders to discuss options for the South Peace Water Supply.
- Stray dogs being picked up in the County are being taken to the Spirit River SPCA where the County does not have an agreement for looking after the animals. The current policy covers the Hamlet of Woking, parks and playgrounds. The situation will be monitored to see if there is a need to change the policy.
- AAMDC member visit. The AAMDC visits once every three years. This year they will be visiting on April 9, 2008.
- The Cotillion Park Shelter is close to being finished and should be ready for use by May.

MOTION
05.11.13.07

Moved by Councillor Clarke that County Council accept the Chief Administrative Officers report for information purposes only.

Carried

5.2 Director of Engineering and Public Works Report

The Director of Engineering and Public Works report on the Public Works Department was discussed by Council. The following items were discussed;

- It appears that bulk water was being sold in Woking; however the key operations have been shut off.
- The Grader RFP's have been received and will be presented to Council after they have been analyzed.
- A tour of the damaged disposal bins has been arranged for April 15.

- Recycle Plus has toured the County and will be providing an estimate of costs for their recycling services.
- The bridge priority list is being prepared with help from EXH Engineering and will be ready for submission in May.
- Sustainable Resources Development has approved the gravel exploration request.
- RR 80 has been closed for safety due to a plugged culvert. The road has since been reopened. 16 culverts have been steamed so far this year.
- Concerns were raised regarding TWP 820 which has been closed. The surface was very soft and will be regravelled later in the year.
- After the open house regarding TWP 794 and RR 105, has a decision been made? Acquiring right of way will be looked into.
- Concerns were raised regarding RR 120 due to excessive bumpiness. The road has had calcium treatment and cannot be graded until a water application does not result in ice formation. Public Works will attempt to grade the worst portions of the road.
- The Doe River environmental assessment will be forwarded to CAMRIF this week. In approximately a month a decision will be returned. It is still possible to start the project this year.

MOTION

06.11.13.07

Moved by Councillor McRann that County Council accept the Director of Public Works report for information purposes only.

Carried

4.2 Peace Country Health EMS – Darren Sandbeck

Darren Sandbeck, Rob Barone, Mark Woods and Bryan Nilsson from Peace Country Health EMS entered the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Peace Country Health is one of two Alberta Health and Wellness sponsored Discovery Projects in the transition of governance and funding of ground ambulance service into health regions.

Darren Sandbeck gave an update and overview specifically on improved community to community operations, organizational structure that supports inter-regional and inter-facility cooperation and centralized communications and dispatch centre resulting in more efficient use of resources.

After Darren Sandbeck gave a presentation the following topics were discussed;

- The Government reviews of the Discovery projects have not been released yet.
- There has been an information void surrounding the Discovery projects which has made recruitment difficult. There are now competing industries such as the oil patch that have reduced the number of people entering the EMS field.

- The Peace Country health EMS will be running their own dispatch centre and would be willing to have Saddle Hills County as dispatch clients.
- STARS and Peace Country Health EMS complement each other, the EMS services can reach the accident sites 100% of the time, and STARS has very quick transportation back to the hospital.
- The majority of the budget is dedicated to salaries.

Darren Sandbeck, Rob Barone, Mark Woods and Bryan Nilsson from Peace Country Health EMS left the meeting at 12:10 p.m.

Recess for lunch at 12:10 p.m.

Councillor Jack left the meeting at 12:10 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 1:47 p.m.

The Public Hearing was opened at 1:47 p.m.

4.3 Application to Amend Land Use Bylaw

Bylaw 159-2008, being an amendment to the Land Use Bylaw to rezone Part of NE 2-79-13-W6 from Agriculture District to Country Residential Agriculture (CR2) District was given first reading on March 11, 2008. A public hearing regarding the rezoning bylaw was scheduled for April 8, 2008 at 1:30 p.m.

The purpose of the rezoning application is to allow one more 15.12 acre Country Residential subdivision from the balance of the quarter.

Cheryl Dwernychuk presented the background information regarding this application. The rezoning application was advertised and the adjacent landowners informed. The land falls under the Baytree Area Structure Plan. There will be no access from HWY 49 but there will be no significant impact on TWP 791 which will be used for access. There were no written submissions from the public regarding this rezoning application. Mr. Les Enyedy was present at the hearing and expressed his support for the rezoning application.

The Public hearing was closed at 2:00p.m.

MOTION

07.04.08.08

Moved by Councillor Clarke that County Council give Bylaw 159-2008 a second reading.

Carried

MOTION

08.04.08.08

Moved by Councillor McRann that County Council give Bylaw 159-2008 a third reading.

Carried

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

6.1 Peace Region Economic Development Alliance

Bob Hall from PREDA gave a presentation to and answered questions from Council at the March 25, 2008 Council meeting. A clarification regarding the membership cost to Saddle Hills County was sought. The membership cost is \$0.50 per capita.

MOTION

09.04.08.08

Moved by Councillor Hubert that Saddle Hills County join PREDA.

Carried

6.2 Rycroft Sports Day

The Rycroft Agriculture Society has sent a letter requesting donation to the Rycroft Sports Day. The attached page shows the donations that have been given to the Rycroft Ag. Society, Bonanza Ag. Society, Savanna Ag. Society and the Town of Spirit River in 2007.

MOTION

10.04.08.08

Moved by Councillor McRann that Council direct administration to write a letter to the Rycroft Agricultural Society informing them that at this time Saddle Hills County will not provide a donation and informing the Rycroft Agricultural Society that they can apply to the Recreation and Culture Capital Fund.

Carried

7. New Business

7.1 FCM – Board Nominations – Reeve Stone

The nomination forms for the FCM Board of Directors have been received. The Reeve wishes to discuss with council if he should run for a position on the FCM Board of Directors again.

MOTION
11.04.08.80

Moved by Councillor Clarke that Saddle Hills County support Reeve Stone in letting his name stand for a position on the Board of Directors of FCM.

Carried

7.2 Signing Authority

The new Director of Corporate Services, Faye Kary, has arrived to join the Saddle Hills County team. Signing authority can now be arranged with the banks.

MOTION
12.11.13.07

Moved by Councillor Buck that the County Council authorizes one of administration: Tarolyn Peach, CAO or Faye Kary, Director of Corporate Services, and one of Council: Tim Stone, Reeve or Mike McRann, Deputy Reeve, with signing authority on behalf of Saddle Hills County.

Carried

7.3 Rural Matters Conference

The Rural Matters Conference is being held at the Shaw Conference Centre in Edmonton from July 5 - 8, 2008. There is a trade show held at the same time. Does Saddle hills County wish to participate in the conference? And if so, in what capacity?

Would Council like the County to co-sponsor a booth at the Rural Matters Conference with Branding the Peace and other Peace area rural municipalities?

Saddle Hills County would like to contribute to funding for the booth at Rural matters allowing Branding the Peace to organize.

MOTION

13.11.13.07

Moved by Councillor McRann that County Council authorize attendance at the Rural Matters conference, July 5-8, 2008 and co-sponsor a booth at the Rural Matters conference with Branding the Peace and other rural municipalities in the Peace Region.

Carried

7.4 Savanna Creations Letter

The Savanna Creations Craft Club has held a spring quilt at the Savanna RecPlex for the past 5 years for both their members and outside exhibitors. The Savanna Creations Craft Club has heard that there was money available from the County and would appreciate help with their expenses, such as advertising, buying door prizes and the hall rental fee (\$150).

Saddle Hills County has not previously given money to the Savanna Creations Craft Club.

MOTION

14.11.13.07

Moved by Councillor Hubert that County Council give monetary support to the Savanna Creations Craft Club in the amount of \$250.

Carried

7.5 NW Persons with Dev. Disabilities Invitation

The Northwest Persons with Developmental Disabilities has sent an invitation to their 10th annual Spring Celebration and Awards Night. The celebration will be held in the Rotary Suite of the Grande Prairie Inn on Friday May 9, 2008. RSVPs are requested by April 15, 2008.

MOTION

15.04.08.08

Moved by Councillor Clarke that County Council accepts the invitation from the Northwest Persons with Developmental Disabilities to the 10th Annual Spring Celebration and Awards Night for information purposes only.

Defeated

MOTION

16.04.08.08

Moved by Councillor Hubert that County Council authorize attendance of one representative at the Northwest Persons with Developmental Disabilities 10th Annual Spring Celebration and Awards Night.

Carried

8. Committee/Board Reports

8.1 Medical Clinic Meeting

A Medical Clinic Meeting was held April 1, 2008. Councillors Clarke and Buck gave a report. The following items were discussed;

- The terms of reference are still with the lawyers.
- When planning the clinic the problem of long term care must be considered, as if there are no acute care beds at the hospital, then there will be no doctors and without doctors there will be no clinic.
- Saddle Hills County was asked to send a letter of support to Peace Country Health for adjusting the travel perimeter from 30 km to 100 km to help alleviate pressure on acute care beds.
- Raising the clinic rent may not be feasible as other areas are offering free rent as incentive to doctors.
- A dental office is being considered in the corner of the clinic building.

MOTION

17.04.08.08

Moved by Councillor Clarke that County Council to extend a letter of support to Peace Country Health regarding the change in transportation limits from 30 km to 100 km.

Defeated

8.2 G5 Meeting

The Regional G5 meeting was held the evening of April 2, 2008. The following items were discussed;

- The Paint Recycling Program was discussed and M.D. 133 will be holding a toxic roundup.
- Seniors Housing, the Medical Clinic and Long Term Care
- Sponsorships Grants

8.3 South Peace Water Supply Meeting

Reeve Stone attended the South Peace Water Supply Meeting. The following items were discussed;

- The possibility of bring the water from the Smoky NE of Bezanon has been discussed. If this is done there will be a savings of \$25-30 million. The water line from Sexsmith north will receive more 85% more funding than if the water was perceived as going towards Grande Prairie.
- There are midstream flow water restrictions that could pose difficulties as a required water reservoir would have to be built on sandy soil.
- There will be meetings on April 21 and May 1, 2008.
- There is a provincial push to have water users bear the true costs of their water supplies without subsidizing from other areas. i.e. in Woking the utilities collected cover 55% of the cost.

8.4 Seniors Housing Meeting

There was a Seniors Housing meeting held at the Saddle Hills County Offices on April 2, 2008 that was attended by Councillors Clarke and Buck. The following items were discussed;

- The RFP process was explained
- Bob Hall from PREDA gave advice and some direction. He praised the work that has already been done.
- A Terms of Reference need to be established.
- It was pointed out that there are other groups (Peace Country Health, the Clinic Committee and the Doctors) that should be kept aware of what is being planned.
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8.5 ERCB Open House

Reeve Stone and Councillors Jack and Hubert attended the ERCB Open House. The following items were discussed;

- It was a good networking opportunity and it was possible to speak with the pipeline people and Mr. McFarland.
- The demonstrations were interesting, including an infrared camera to detect leaks and a van with supplies used for spills in rivers.

8.6 Central Peace Health Committee

Councillor Buck attended a meeting of the CPHC. The following items were discussed;

- Mr. Moore asked for a letter of support for moving the transportation limits form 30 km to 100 km.
- The new hospital in Grande Prairie will be a teaching hospital with increased numbers of nurses and doctors. It will not follow the P3 model.

- The Ladies Auxiliary has raised over \$200,000 over the years.
- The Volunteen program will be starting, the schools are offering credits, out of town students can be billeted, uniforms will be provided and there is a nurse available to coordinate the program.

MOTION
18.04.08.08

Moved by Councillor Moen that Saddle Hills County accept the Committee reports for information purposes only.

Carried

9. Information Items

1. STARS – Letter and Information
2. FCM – Green Buildings
3. AAMD&C Correspondence
4. Cheque Lists
5. MPB Updates
6. Peace Country Health Updates
7. NADC Newsletter
8. Alberta Environment Conference
9. Travel Alberta Update
10. Conferences
 - a) CEF Conference
 - b) Vitalize Conference
 - c) Workplace Strategies Conference
 - d) End-of-Life Care Conference

MOTION
19.11.13.07

Moved by Councillor McRann that County Council accept the information items for information purposes only.

Carried

10. ADJOURNMENT

Reeve Stone declared the meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

REEVE

CAO