

**MINUTES
SADDLE HILLS COUNTY
COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 3, 2009**

Meeting of the Council for Saddle Hills County was held in the Council Chambers of the Saddle Hills County Administration Building on Tuesday February 3, 2009.

PRESENT:

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

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

***TAROLYN PEACH
JASON JAGODICH
SANDY PEDDLE***

***CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE
OFFICER
DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING
AND PUBLIC WORKS
RECORDING SECRETARY***

ABSENT:

1. CALL TO ORDER

Reeve Stone called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

Jason Jagodich, Director of Engineering and Public Works entered the Council meeting at 10:05 a.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- 5.3 Bridge Pipe – Flooding issue
- 5.4 Snow Gate
- 7.12 Savanna Agricultural Society- Letter of Support
- 7.13 CAO Salary Grid
- 7.14 Hamlet of Woking
- 8.6 ASB Conference

MOTION

01.02.03.09

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

Carried

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

3.1 Council Meeting Minutes – January 13, 2009

The minutes from the January 13, 2009 regularly scheduled meeting of Council were presented for Council's review.

MOTION

02.02.03.09

Moved by Councillor Jack that the Council minutes from the January 13, 2009 regular scheduled Council meeting be adopted as presented.

Carried

5.1 CAO Regular Council Meeting Report

The Chief Administrative Officer report was presented to Council. The following items were discussed:

- Library meeting updates
- Strategic Planning Facilitator
- Internet update
- Re-alignment of Secondary Highway 727

MOTION

03.02.03.09

Moved by Councillor Buck that administration proceed to obtain the services of Glenn Pitman of Glen Pitman Consulting Inc. to facilitate Saddle Hills County in a strategic plan and also tentative dates for the strategic plan to be set for April 1, 2 and 20th, 2009.

Carried

MOTION

04.02.03.09

Moved by Councillor Hubert that County Council accept the Chief Administrative Officers report for information purposes only. The Chief Administrative Officer Report is attached to and forms part of these minutes.

Carried

5.2 Director of Engineering and Public Works Report

Mr. Jagodich presented Council with his report on the Public Works Department. The following items were discussed;

- Cross Walk lights
- Bonanza School request for disposal bins
- Tracking of fluid temperatures on graders

MOTION
05.02.03.09

Moved by Deputy Reeve McRann that County Council accept the Director of Public Works report for information purposes only. The Director of Public Works report is attached to and forms part of these minutes.

Carried

5.3 Bridge Pipe- Flooding Issue

Councillor Jack asked for an update on the Bridge Pipe that is plugged on the Happy Valley Road. Discussion ensued and Jason Jagodich, Director of Engineering and Public Works, noted that the steamer truck was sent out there today to clean out the bridge pipe.

5.4 Snow Gate

Councillor Moen requested that administration research the cost involved in using a snow gate to clear out approaches. Discussion ensued and direction was given to administration to proceed with this request and bring the information back to a future Council meeting for discussion.

6.1 SnowPlow Policy PW10

Administration was requested to bring this item back to this meeting for further discussion. Discussion ensued on how to improve our policy to provide better services to seniors and disabled residents in the County. It was noted that the policy is adequate and no changes need to be made at this time. Direction was given to place an ad in the back page of the Signal to inform the ratepayer on the process of snow removal policy.

Sergeant Landreville, Spirit River RCMP Detachment entered the Council meeting at 10:40 a.m.

4.1 RCMP – Sergeant Landreville

Sergeant Landreville, from the Spirit River RCMP Detachment presented Council with an annual report on the activities in the area. It was noted that he would be attending the next G5 Meeting and would like to present to all 5 surrounding municipalities a more in-depth report.

Sergeant Landreville, Spirit River RCMP Detachment departed the Council meeting at 11:05 a.m.

Faye Kary, Director of Corporate Services entered the Council meeting at 11:05 a.m.

Kevin Chrenek, from RBC Dominion Securities entered the Council meeting at 11:05 a.m.

4.2 RBC Dominion Securities – Kevin Chrenek

Mr. Chrenek presented Council with a detailed presentation on the investments portfolio that Saddle Hills County has with RBC Dominion Securities. Mr. Chrenek information materials are attached to and forms part of these minutes.

Kevin Chrenek, from RBC Dominion Securities departed the Council meeting at 11:35 a.m.

Ted de Kleine and Tracy Noullet from Meyers Norris Penny LLP. entered the Council meeting at 11:36 a.m.

4.3 Meyers Norris Penny LLP – Audit Service Plan

Ted de Kleine and Tracy Noullet from Meyers Norris Penny LLP. presented Council with a summary of how the Audit Service Plan works. The Audit Service Plan is attached to and forms part of these minutes.

Ted de Kleine and Tracy Noullett from Meyers Norris Penny LLP. departed the Council meeting at 11:50 a.m.

Faye Kary, Director of Corporate Services departed the Council meeting at 11:50 a.m.

7.1 AAMD&C Spring Convention

Administration presented Council with a draft agenda for the 2009 Spring AAMD&C Convention for review. Discussion ensued and administration requested that County Council notify the Executive Assistant as to who will be attending the Spring Convention so proper accommodations and travel arrangements can be made.

**MOTION
06.02.03.09**

Moved by Councillor Clarke that County Council authorize attendance at the 2009 AAMD&C Spring Convention.

Carried

7.2 AAMD&C Spring Convention – Alberta Transportation

Alberta Transportation has sent an invitation to meet with County Council during the Spring Convention. Discussion ensued and direction was given to administration to arrange a meeting with the Minister of Transportation during the Spring Convention. It was also requested that a breakfast meeting with the Honourable Hector Goudreau be arranged during the Spring Convention.

**MOTION
07.02.03.09**

Moved by Councillor Moen that County Council direct administration to set up a meeting with the Minister of Transportation during the AAMD&C Spring Convention, and also to arrange a breakfast meeting with the Honourable Hector Goudreau.

Carried

County Council recessed for lunch at 12:05 p.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m.

7.3 The Signal – Community Events Sponsorship

Administration presented Council with a notice from The Signal asking if Saddle Hills County Council would like to participate in the community events sponsorship throughout 2009. Discussion ensued and County Council would like to once again participate in the Community Events Sponsorship for all Community Events.

MOTION

08.02.03.09

Moved by Councillor Clarke that County Council continue to participate in the Signal Community Events Sponsorship for 2009.

Carried

7.4 Summit on Involvement in Public Schools

Administration presented Council with an invitation to participate in the Summit on Involvement in Public Schools. This invitation was forwarded from Peace Wapiti School Division No. 76.

MOTION

09.02.03.09

Moved by Councillor Hubert that County Council accept the invitation to attend the Summit on Involvement in Public School for information purposes only.

Carried

7.5 Peace Region Economic Development Alliance- PREDA

Administration would like direction from County Council on renewing the membership with PREDA for 2009. Discussion ensued and County Council would like to renew the membership for 2009.

MOTION

10.02.03.09

Moved by Deputy Reeve McRann that County Council renew their membership with the Peace Region Economic Development Alliance (PREDA) for 2009.

Carried

7.6 Tradeshow Invitation

The Agricultural Service Board extended an open invitation to all Council Members to attend the upcoming tradeshow that the ASB has registered in. The ASB is registered in the Clear Hills County tradeshow on April 18, 2009 and the Smokey River Agricultural tradeshow on March 19-21, 2009.

MOTION

11.02.03.09

Moved by Councillor Clarke that County Council authorize attendance to the Clear Hills County and the Smokey River Agricultural tradeshow for all Council members who wish to attend.

Carried

7.7 Northern Alberta Youth Entrepreneurship Camp

Administration presented Council with a request for funding from the Northern Alberta Youth Entrepreneurship Camp that will run from August 16th – 22nd, 2009. Discussion ensued and administration was directed to bring back information on the criteria required to be selected to participate in this camp to a future Council meeting.

7.8 AAMD&C District 4 Zone Meeting

Administration presented Council with the information on the upcoming AAMD&C District 4 Zone Meeting that will be in Jousard on February 13, 2009.

**MOTION
13.02.03.09**

Moved by Councillor Clarke that County Council authorize attendance for all Council members to the AAMD&C District 4 Zone Meeting on February 13, 2009.

Carried

7.9 Peace Country Regional Science Fair

Administration presented Council with a request for support from the Peace Country Regional Science Fair. County Council has sponsored this event in the past with a donation of \$200.00.

**MOTION
14.02.03.09**

Moved by Councillor Jack that County Council sponsor the Peace Country Regional Science Fair in the amount of \$200.00 and that authorization of attendance be given for anyone wishing to go.

Carried

7.10 Federation of Canadian Municipalities 2009 Convention

Administration presented Council with a preliminary package for the upcoming FCM 2009 Convention in Whistler. Included in this package is hotel information and rail travel information for review. Discussion ensued and any Council member wishing to attend the Convention should attend. It was also noted that members of Council attending the Convention should inform the Executive Assistant so that proper travel and accommodations arrangements can be made.

MOTION

15.02.03.09

Moved by Councillor Jack that County Council authorize attendance to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities 2009 Convention for all Council members wishing to attend.

Carried

Laurie Jackson, Manager of Planning and IT Services entered the Council meeting at 2:00 p.m.

4.4 Road Allowance Lease Application – Mike Richard

Mike Richard has applied to lease the following road allowance:

Between NW 6-79-7-W6M and NE 1-79-8-W6M

The applicant wishes to lease this road allowance as he owns the land surrounding the road allowance. Discussion ensued and a photo of the lands in questions was shown so Council could see the area that Mr. Richard is requesting to lease. County Council also reviewed the Road Closure Licensing Policy PW15 during the discussions process.

MOTION

16.02.03.09

Moved by Deputy Reeve McRann that County Council deny the application to lease the road allowance between NW 6-79-7-W6M and NE 1-79-8-W6M.

Carried

Laurie Jackson, Manager of Planning and IT Services departed the Council meeting at 2:20 p.m.

7.11 Energy Day of Action

The Peace Region Council of Canadian Chapter requested that administration forward a request for support from County Council.

MOTION

17.02.03.09

Moved by Councillor Hubert that County Council accept the letter from the Peace Region Council of Canada Chapter for information purposes only.

Carried

7.12 Savanna Agricultural Society – Letter of Support

Reeve Stone requested that County Council submit a letter of support to the Savanna Agricultural Society for their application for funding to fix their community facilities. Discussion ensued and Councillor Clarke asked if the Agricultural Society requested any funding support from Saddle Hills County. Reeve Stone stated that they have not requested any funding from Saddle Hills. Currently they are applying for federal funding and they require a letter of support from their Municipality to be included as part of the application.

MOTION

18.02.03.09

Moved by Councillor Clarke that County Council provide a letter of support to the Savanna Agricultural Society for their application for grant funding.

Carried

7.13 CAO Salary Grid

Discussion ensued and Saddle Hills County has established a pay grid for the CAO position as discussed by Council.

MOTION

19.02.03.09

Moved by Councillor Buck that County Council establish a six step pay grid for the CAO position as discussed by Council.

Carried

MOTION

20.02.03.09

Moved by Councillor Buck that County Council place the CAO, Tarolyn Peach on the grid under step 2 effective January 1, 2009.

Carried

7.14 Hamlet of Woking

Councillor Hubert wanted to know how County Council could make the Hamlet of Woking a better place. How can we market this Hamlet and attract new people to come to the area? Discussion ensued and Council directed administration to bring back ideas that can assist Council in improving the Hamlet of Woking to a future meeting for further discussion.

8.1 Northern Alberta Elected Leaders Meeting

Reeve Stone presented his report to Council on the Northern Alberta Elected Leaders meeting he attended. It was noted that there was lengthy discussion on the Building Canada Fund. Discussion also took place on volunteer burn out. It seems that too many volunteers spend so much time on preparation of events that they do not spend time volunteering at the events.

8.2 PASZA

Reeve Stone presented his report to Council on the Peace Air Shed Zone Association meeting. Discussion on participation was a big topic for all in attendance and this is an ongoing subject of meetings.

8.3 Natural Resources Canada Round Table

Reeve Stone presented his report to Council on the Natural Resource Canada Round Table meeting he attended. It was noted that these meetings were scheduled on very short notice and he was able to attend the meeting scheduled for Peace River. In attendance were the Minister of Natural Resources and 10-12 MP's from each Standing Committee on forestry. The biggest concern was creating a market where there is no market for timber.

8.4 Weyerhaeuser Meeting

Reeve Stone presented his report to Council on the Weyerhaeuser meeting he attended. Discussion on holding fewer meetings was discussed as there is not much activity at this time.

8.5 Reeves & CAO's Meeting

Reeve Stone presented his report to Council on the Reeves & CAO's meeting he attended. There was a great deal of discussion regarding the closing of the Municipal Airport in Edmonton and perhaps upgrading the facilities at the Grande Prairie Hospital so that they can treat emergency cases in Grande Prairie as opposed to flying them in to Edmonton for care. The question at hand was when this would possibly take place. There was also discussion on STARS and funding support that they need in order to stay out of the red.

8.6 ASB Conference

Deputy Reeve McRann presented his report to Council on the ASB Conference he attended. He stated that this was an excellent Conference and everyone had positive feedback on it. There were many very good presentations during the Conference and the Resolution session was excellent as well.

MOTION

21.02.03.09

Moved by Councillor Moen that County Council accept the Northern Alberta Elected Leaders meeting, Peace Air Shed Zone Association, Natural Resources Canada Round Table, Weyerhaeuser, Reeves & CAO's meeting and the Agricultural Service Board Conference reports for information purposes only.

Carried

9. Information Items

1. Accounts Payable
2. Newspaper Clippings (assorted material)
3. AAMD&C Member Bulletin (assorted material)
4. FCM Members Advisory
5. Contact (assorted material)
6. Building Canada Fund (assorted material)
7. Roy Northern Land & Environmental
8. Gas Tax Fund
9. Alberta Municipal Affairs – MSI
10. Alberta Children & Youth Services
11. NADC
12. AltaGas Community Meetings – Follow Up
13. Municipal Safety News
14. Spirit of Edmonton Project
15. Alberta Emerald Foundation
16. 2009 Minister's Senior Services Awards
17. Alberta Health Services
18. Spectra Energy
19. RCMP – Between the Lines
20. MD of Big Lakes – Letter to Premier Stelmach
21. MD of Spirit River – Letter to Minister Goudreau
22. Clear Hills County – Letter to Premier Stelmach
23. Mountain Pine Beetle (assorted material)

MOTION

22.02.03.09

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

Carried

MOTION

23.02.03.09

Moved by Councillor Hubert that County Council direct administration to aggressively pursue projects to apply for under the Building Canada Fund.

Carried

MOTION

24.02.03.09

Moved by Councillor Clark that County Council authorize attendance to the NADC Challenge North on April 22 to 24th, 2009 in Cold Lake, Alberta for all Councillors wishing to attend.

Carried

MOTION

25.02.03.09

Moved by Councillor Buck that County Council go into an In-camera session with everyone present at 3:30 p.m.

Carried

MOTION

26.02.03.09

Moved by Deputy Reeve McRann that County Council go out of the In-camera session at 3:43 p.m.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business Reeve Stone declared the meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

REEVE

CAO