

Minutes of a Regular Council Meeting of Clearwater County, Province of Alberta, held September 25, 2012 in the County Office at Rocky Mountain House.

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Meeting was called to order at 8:59 A.M. by Reeve Alexander with the following being present:

Reeve:	Pat Alexander
Councillors:	Earl Graham
	Dick Wymenga
	John Vandermeer
	Bob Bryant
	Jim Duncan
Municipal Manager:	Ron Leaf
Director, Public Works:	Marshall Morton
Director, Ag Services:	Matt Martinson
Director, CS:	Murray Hagan
Recording Secretary:	Christine Heggart
TIMS:	Darrell Philip
	Sarah Maetche
	Helge Nome
	Trevor Duley
	Erik Hansen
	Rhonda Serhan

**AGENDA:** Ron Leaf requested the Council add one in camera legal issue.

BOB BRYANT: That the September 25, 2012 Regular Meeting Agenda be accepted as amended.

345/12 CARRIED 6/0

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:**

**1. September 11, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes**

JIM DUNCAN: That the Minutes of the September 11, 2012 Regular Meeting be confirmed as circulated.

346/12 CARRIED 6/0

**PUBLIC WORKS:**

**1. Cost Share Dust Control Request**

Marshall Morton presented a request from Ponoka County for one time financial commitment of \$10,000 to help offset the cost of the dust suppression in front of 14 different residents and intersections due to industry traffic.

Mr. Morton noted that Ponoka County is receiving pressure from their taxpayers to have dust suppression costs shared with Clearwater County due to industry traffic moving into Clearwater County. Mr. Morton noted that the industry traffic has been spread out due to Ponoka County's road construction on Township Road 44-2 forcing trucks to utilize either Range Road 4-4 and 4-3 or the Township Road both north and south of TWP 44-2 to access the Iola Road.

Mr. Morton noted that he reviewed the roads in question and added that Ponoka County has provided an elevated level of service for their ratepayers. He added that Clearwater County does not supply that level of

service to their residents and that this request for cost sharing of dust control does not fall within the Clearwater County policy.

Mr. Morton responded to question regarding the increased traffic related to a Suncor Plant noting that under Clearwater County policy a water truck would not be required for the volumes of industry movement associated with each project.

Mr. Morton described Ponoka County's permitting system and noted that the cost associated with dust suppression application is outside their ability to charge industry along with their permits.

Discussion took place on Clearwater County industry activity and the need to put onus for dust control onto industry.

Council noted that the response to Ponoka County's request would be the recommendation to address the dust suppression cost share with industry.

Mr. Morton noted that Suncor will be placing dust suppression in front of Clearwater County residents in the same area.

DICK WYMENGA:                                 That Council deny the request to cost share the dust suppression in Ponoka County.

**347/12**

CARRIED 6/0

Mike Haugen and Rick Emmons joined the meeting. Darrell Philip, Marshall Morton and Erik Hansen left the meeting.

**CORPORATE SERVICES:**

**1. County Operating Report to August 31, 2012**

Rhonda Serhan presented the County operating report to August 31, 2012 and noted that most operating expenditures are on track with budgets.

Ms. Serhan noted that revenue for lot sales in Nordegg are below expectations and the departmental budgets are all on track and that some of the annual grants that we provide other entities, such as recreation, have yet to receive all of their funding.

Ms, Serhan noted that some of the public works activities are up through August, as they are performing our annual infrastructure maintenance.

EARL GRAHAM:                                 That Council accepts the County Operating Report to August 31, 2012 as information.

**348/12**

CARRIED 6/0

**MUNICIPAL:**

**1. Clearwater Ward (Divisional) Boundary Review**

Ron Leaf presented an overview of the 2011 census information separated by division (or ward) to depict the population per division and its associated variances.

Mr. Leaf noted that the last boundary review and amendment occurred in 2003 and that Council held a plebiscite during the 2010 election regarding whether the Reeve should be elected at large or be appointed by Council and that the result of the plebiscite was for the Reeve to continue to be appointed by Council.

Mr. Leaf questioned whether Council would like to do a boundary review and noted that should they proceed, the review will be in the context of maintaining seven (7) divisions and described the process and timeframe for boundary adjustments to take place.

Mr. Leaf provided an analysis of the average population per division (1754) and noted that the current distribution per division does not fit the 25% plus or minus variance that is considered acceptable.

Discussion took place on the complications with amending municipal boundaries and geographical limitations, such as the North Saskatchewan River and Highway 11.

Councillor Vandermeer noted support for moving the boundaries into the 15% +/- variance (1525-2017 per division) for longevity.

Councillor Bryant and Graham noted support for variance of 25% +/- (1754-2193).

JOHN VANDERMEER: That Council directs staff to conduct a divisional boundary review and present options based on 15%+/- and 25% +/- variances for Council's consideration.

349/12

CARRIED 6/0

MUNICIPAL:

**2. Paintearth County – Proposed CAAMDC Resolution**

Ron Leaf presented a resolution prepared by Paintearth County No. 18 proposing the Minister of Transportation of the Province of Alberta review the possibility of developing a cost sharing program for the maintenance, repair and replacement of underground infrastructures with local municipal jurisdictions, where underground infrastructures are located under Primary and Secondary Highways.

Mr. Leaf noted that Paintearth County requested that Clearwater County second this resolution at the CAAMDC meeting in Rosebud on October 12, 2012.

BOB BRYANT: That Council moves to support the *Infrastructures Located Under Provincial Primary and Secondary Highways* resolution prepared by Paintearth County.

350/12

CARRIED 6/0

MUNICIPAL:

**3. Government Responses to Spring 2012 Resolutions**

Ron Leaf presented the Provincial government's responses to the 2012 spring AAMDC resolutions. Mr. Leaf noted the main point being municipalities receiving recognition as an order of government was missed. He noted the resolution asked the Province to recognize the broader public benefit that municipal gravel operations provide in terms of development and maintenance of the public road network and that municipalities should have the same rights and exemptions as afforded to Alberta Transportation.

Mr. Emmons noted that equity concerns regarding the fact that the communications of Provincial gravel pit activities are not required, either to municipalities or to local residents. He also questioned the Province's

response noting the natural persons powers of municipalities and how it relates to the gravel example.

Mr. Leaf described the MGA review process, noting that Alberta's "natural persons" powers uniqueness and responded to question regarding lobbying strategy.

Mr. Leaf recommends the County use the MGA review and the Premier's Council Provincial-Municipal Fiscal Arrangements (under development) to forward Council's arguments regarding the need for recognition of municipal needs and that municipalities be accorded similar rights and privileges as the Provincial Government.

Mr. Emmons responded to question regarding gravel testing.

Mr. Leaf added the development of civic charter concept may also expand the opportunity for municipal autonomy.

JIM DUNCAN: That Council accepts the provincial responses to AAMDC resolutions presentation as information.

**351/12**

CARRIED 6/0

Rick Emmons and Mike Haugen left the meeting,

EARL GRAHAM: That Council tables the Brushing Policy agenda item until Council completes the brushing tour review.

**352/12**

CARRIED 6/0

**INFORMATION: 1. Information Items**

Council discussed County Scholarship presentations.

DICK WYMENGA: That Council authorizes Councillor Duncan to attend the St. Dominic presentation, Councillor Wymenga to attend the West Central presentation, Councillor Bryant to attend the David Thompson presentation and Councillor Vandermeer to attend the Caroline presentation.

**353/12**

CARRIED 6/0

Discussion took place on the Creating Rural Connections conference on October 11-13.

DICK WYMENGA: That Council authorizes Councillor Bryant to attend the Thursday session, Councillor Vandermeer to attend the Friday session and Reeve Alexander and Councillor Wymenga to attend the Saturday session of the Creating Rural Connections conference.

**354/12**

CARRIED 6/0

Ron confirmed Council's pick up schedule for the CAAMDC Zone Meeting, leaving at 6:45 am from the County office with one stop to pick up Councillor Graham.

DICK WYMENGA:

That the Accounts Payable listing, the CAO's Report and the Public Works Director's Report of September 25, 2012 be accepted as information.

**355/12**

CARRIED 6/0

**IN CAMERA: 4. In Camera**

EARL GRAHAM:

That Council meets as a Committee of the Whole for the purpose of discussing labour, law enforcement and legal matters.  
10:06 A.M.

**356/12**

CARRIED 6/0

Christine Heggart, Helge Nome and Sarah Maetche left the meeting.

BOB BRYANT:

That the meeting reverts to an Open Meeting at 12:00 P.M.

**357/12**

CARRIED 6/0

**ADJOURNMENT: BOB BRYANT:  
12:01 P.M.**

That the Meeting adjourns.

CARRIED 6/0

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REEVE

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MUNICIPAL MANAGER