

**BIG LAKES COUNTY
COUNCIL MEETING
September 27, 2023**

Minutes of the Big Lakes County Regular Council Meeting held at the County Administration Building in High Prairie, Alberta on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

PRESENT WERE: Deputy Reeve: Jim Zabolotniuk, N. Gilwood/ Triangle
Councillor: Tyler Airth, HP East/ Banana Belt
Jeff Chalifoux, Grouard
Roberta Hunt, Kinuso
Lane Monteith, Enilda/ Big Meadow
Richard Mifflin, Jousard
Ann Stewart, S. Sunset House/ Gilwood
(Zoom)
Garrett Zahacy, Prairie Echo/ Salt Prairie

Absent: Robert Nygaard, Faust

Administration: David Reynolds, Interim CAO/ Director of
Corporate Services
Kevin Cymbaluk, Director of Public Works
Pat Olansky, Director of Public Works
Jessica Plante, Recording Secretary
Eunice McCauley, Human Resources
Manager
Samantha Smith, Grants Officer

Delegation: Metrix Group LLP Chartered Professional
Accountants

Press: Richard Froese, South Peace News

CALL TO ORDER: Deputy Reeve Zabolotniuk called the meeting to order at 10:28 a.m.

Councillor Stewart attended the meeting by zoom.

**ADDITIONS TO
THE AGENDA:**

Addition: Letter of Support- Grouard Seniors Community Club – New Horizons for Seniors Program

2023-20-413 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR AIRTH** that the September 27, 2023, agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

MINUTES:

2023-20-414 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MIFFLIN** that the September 27, 2023, Regular Council Meeting minutes be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

DELEGATION:

***METRIX GROUP
LTD:***

Phil Dirks with Metrix Group LLP presented Council with the 2022 Audited Financial Statements.

2023-20-415 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR AIRTH** that the 2022 Audited Financial Statements be received for information.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

ACTION LIST:

2023-20-416 **MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE ZABOLOTNIUK** that administration be directed to bring forward all relevant municipal water policies and bylaws that pertain to waterline connections to lots with multiple dwellings for Council review.

CARRIED

2023-20-417 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR AIRTH** that Council continues to follow all recommendations within the 2022 audit management letter submitted by Metrix Group LLP, and that the management letter be addressed in the quarterly financial statements.

CARRIED

2023-20-418 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR HUNT** that the action list be received for information.

CARRIED

CORPORATE SERVICES:

LETTER OF SUPPORT – GROUARD SENIORS COMMUNITY CLUB – NEW HORIZONS FOR SENIORS PROGRAM:

2023-20-419 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CHALIFOUX** that Council writes a letter of support for the Grouard Seniors Community Club’s application to the New Horizon for Seniors Program.

CARRIED

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT:

HOME SUPPORT PROGRAM - FCSS:

2023-20-420 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR HUNT** that FCSS provide a subsidized program to qualified applicants up to \$20.00 per hour for 4 hours per month with no changes to the current budget. Residents will directly arrange services with an eligible service provider and submit receipts to the County for reimbursement with a trial period ending March 31, 2024.

CARRIED

The meeting recessed for lunch break at 11:52 a.m. and reconvened at 12:33 p.m.

Councillor Stewart did not return to the meeting.

Councillor Chalifoux stepped out of the meeting at 11:52 a.m.

PUBLIC WORKS:

LITTLE SMOKY CAMPSITE PIT – TENDER RESULTS FOR GRAVEL PIT RECLAMATION:

Councillor Airth left the meeting at 1:00 p.m. and did not return.

2023-20-421 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MIFFLIN** that Council award the tender for the Little Smoky Campsite Gravel Pit reclamation project. Work is to be completed using the 18 site days in the bid, valued at \$27,000; however, if the contractor is unable to complete the work by October 31, 2023, due to winter shutdown, an extension to July 31, 2024, shall be granted.

CARRIED

2023-20-422 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MIFFLIN** that additional funding for the Little Smoky Campsite Gravel Pit reclamation project shall be taken from the Gravel Pit Reclamation Reserve in the amount of \$200,000 for a total project cost of \$500,000.

CARRIED

INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE:

2023-20-423 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MONTIETH** that the information and correspondence be received for information.

CARRIED

NOTICE OF MOTION:

AG RENTAL PROGRAM:

Councillor Hunt read aloud her notice of motion that will be debated at the October 11, 2023, Regular Council meeting. It was noted that the Notice of Motion currently reads Hamlet of Kinuso; however, the Notice of Motion needs to read the whole agricultural rental program.

Councillor Chalifoux returned to the meeting at 1:26 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

2023-20-424 **MOVED BY COUNCILLOR HUNT** that the meeting be adjourned at 1:27 p.m.

CARRIED

Jim Zabolotniuk, Deputy Reeve

David Reynolds, Interim CAO