

**M I N U T E S**  
**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF OPPORTUNITY NO. 17**  
**ORGANIZATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING – WABASCA**  
**OCTOBER 22, 2024**

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The organizational meeting of the Municipal District of Opportunity Council was held on Tuesday, October 22, 2024 at the Wabasca Council Chambers.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Marshall D. Auger  
Leo Alook  
Larry Cardinal  
Louis A. Cardinal  
Robin Guild

Brendan Powell  
Darlene Jackson  
Gerald Johnson  
Tahirih Wiebe  
Roy Yellowknee

**MEMBERS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE:** Cheri Courtorielle

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Chad Tullis  
Trina Mineault  
Angela Lightning  
Lynda Gray

Chief Administrative Officer  
Chief Financial Officer  
Director of Recreation & Culture  
Recording Secretary

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by Chief Administrative Officer, Chad Tullis.

**Adoption of Agenda:** 0549-2024-17MDC  
Moved by Brendan Powell that the Organizational Meeting Agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Voting by Majority:** 0550-2024-17MDC  
Moved by Tahirih Wiebe that voting on appointments of Reeve, Deputy Reeve and boards & committees be conducted by secret ballot.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Nomination for Reeve:** Chief Administrative Officer, Chad Tullis called for nominations for the position of Reeve for 2024/2025 term.

First call:  
Councillor Brendan Powell nominated Marshall Auger.  
Councillor Marshall Auger accepted the nomination.

Second call: None  
Third call: None

**Cease Nominations:** 0551-2024-17MDC  
Moved by Robin Guild that nominations for the position of Reeve be ceased.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Declaration of Reeve:** 0552-2024-17MDC  
Moved by Tahirih Wiebe that Councillor Marshall Auger is acclaimed as Reeve for MD of Opportunity for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Change in Chair:** Chad Tullis, Chief Administrative Officer passed the chair duties to Reeve Marshall Auger.

**Nomination for Deputy Reeve:** Reeve Marshall Auger called for nominations for the position of Deputy Reeve for the 2024/2025 term.  
**Amended October 30, 2024**

*md. A*

First call:  
Councillor ~~Robin Guild~~ Roy Yellowknee nominated Brendan Powell.  
Councillor Brendan Powell accepted the nomination.

Initials: Reeve *md.* CAO *A*

Second call: None  
Third call: None

**Cease Nominations:** 0553-2024-17MDC  
Moved by Robin Guild that nominations for the Deputy Reeve position be ceased.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Declaration of Deputy Reeve:** 0554-2024-17MDC  
Moved by Cheri Courtorielle that Councillor Brendan Powell is acclaimed as Deputy Reeve for MD of Opportunity for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Oath of Office:** 0555-2024-17MDC  
Moved by Tahirih Wiebe that the Official Oath of Office for Reeve Marshall Auger and Deputy Reeve Brendan Powell be sworn in for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Proposed 2024–2025 Meeting Schedule:** 0556-2024-17MDC  
Moved by Brendan Powell that the proposed 2024/2025 council meeting schedule be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Policy C.13 Council Remuneration:** 0557-2024-17MDC  
Moved by Tahirih Wiebe that Policy C.13 Council Remuneration be approved as amended to increase annual salary by 5% and expense claims will be processed twice a month effective November 1, 2024.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Recess/Reconvene:** The meeting recessed at 11:14 a.m. and reconvened at 11:33 a.m.

**Signing Authority:** 0558-2024-17MDC  
Moved by Brendan Powell that Chad Tullis, Lynda Gray, Trina Mineault, Kimball Newberry, Marshall D. Auger, Larry Cardinal, Robin Guild, Darlene Jackson, Brendan Powell, and Tahirih Wiebe are the signing authorities effective October 22, 2024 to October 2025.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Review Policy C.11 Annual Conventions/Conference Attendance:** 0559-2024-17MDC  
Moved by Leo Alook that policy C.11 Annual Conventions/Conferences is approved as amended to add Alberta Municipalities and Alberta CARE.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Council Boards & Committee Appointments:**

**Lesser Slave Lake Regional Housing Authority (LSLRHA):** 0560-2024-17MDC  
Moved by Brendan Powell that council appoint Robin Guild to the Lesser Slave Lake Regional Housing Authority and Tahirih Wiebe as the alternate for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Lesser Slave Lake Community Futures (Development Corporation):**

0561-2024-17MDC

Moved by Gerald Johnson that council appoint Robin Guild to the Lesser Slave Lake Community Futures (Development Corporation) for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Greater North Foundation:**

0562-2024-17MDC

Moved by Leo Alook that council appoint Cheri Courtorielle to the Greater North Foundation Committee for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Community Education Committee (NLC – Wabasca):**

0563-2024-17MDC

Moved by Louis A. Cardinal that council appoint Marshall Auger and Tahirih Wiebe to the Community Education Committee for Wabasca, Louis A. Cardinal for Peerless Lake and Leo Alook for Trout Lake the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Northern Transportation Advocacy Bureau:**

0564-2024-17MDC

Moved by Roy Yellowknee that council appoint Brendan Powell to the Northern Transportation Advocacy Bureau and Louis A. Cardinal and Darlene Jackson as the alternates for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Assessment Review Board:**

0565-2024-17MDC

Moved by Darlene Jackson that council appoint Robin Guild, Brendan Powell and Tahirih Wiebe to the Municipal Assessment Review Board for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Subdivision & Development Appeal Board Council Appointee:**

0566-2024-17MDC

Moved by Tahirih Wiebe that council appoint Robin Guild to the Subdivision & Development Appeal Board and Marshall Auger as the alternate for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Municipal Library Board Council Appointee:**

0567-2024-17MDC

Moved by Darlene Jackson that council appoint Brendan Powell and Tahirih Wiebe to the Municipal Library Board for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Municipal Planning Commission:**

0568-2024-17MDC

Moved by Leo Alook that council appoint Larry Cardinal, Darlene Jackson, Gerald Johnson, Brendan Powell and Tahirih Wiebe to the Municipal Planning Commission for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Peace Regional Library Board:**

0569-2024-17MDC

Moved by Louis A. Cardinal that council appoint Brendan Powell to the Peace Regional Library Board and Tahirih Wiebe as the alternate for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Atoske Action Group:**

**0570-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that council appoint Tahirih Wiebe to the Atoske Action Group (AAG) and Darlene Jackson as the alternate for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Wabasca/Desmarais Housing Authority Board:**

**0571-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Tahirih Wiebe that council Cheri Courtorielle, Robin Guild, Darlene Jackson, Gerald Johnson and Brendan Powell to the Wabasca/Desmarais Housing Authority Board for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Subdivision Authority:**

**0572-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Tahirih Wiebe that council appoint Jane Dauphnee, Principal and Senior Planner for Municipal Planning Service (MPS) to the Subdivision Authority for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Land and Development Authority:**

**0573-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Gerald Johnson that council appoint Katelyn Alook and Lisa Belanger to the Land and Development Authority for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Water North Coalition:**

**0574-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Tahirih Wiebe that council appoint Marshall Auger, Robin Guild, Gerald Johnson and Director of Utilities, Earl Gullion to the Water North Coalition Committee for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Northern Alberta Elected Leaders (NAEL):**

**0575-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Leo Alook that council appoint Marshall Auger to the Northern Alberta Elected Leaders (NAEL) committee and Brendan Powell as the alternate for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Alberta Pacific Landscape Advisory Group (LAG):**

**0576-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Cheri Courtorielle that council appoint Larry Cardinal to the Alberta Pacific Landscape Advisory Group (LAG) and Darlene Jackson as the alternate for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Northwest Species at Risk Committee (NWSAR):**

**0577-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that council appoint Tahirih Wiebe to the North West Species at Risk (NWSAR) committee and Marshall Auger as the alternate for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Senior Home Repair Committee:**

**0578-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Darlene Jackson that council appoint Leo Alook, Larry Cardinal, Louis A. Cardinal, Cheri Courtorielle, Darlene Jackson, Gerald Johnson, Brendan Powell and Tahirih Wiebe to the Senior Home Repair committee for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Calling Lake Senior Housing Working Committee:**

**0579-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Tahirih Wiebe that council appoint Marshall Auger, Cheri Courtorielle, Darlene Jackson, Gerald Johnson and Brendan Powell to the Calling Lake Senior Housing Working Committee for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Recreation Committee:**

**0580-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Tahirih Wiebe that council appoint Leo Alook, Marshall Auger, Cheri Courtorielle, Darlene Jackson, Gerald Johnson, Brendan Powell and Tahirih Wiebe to the Recreation committee for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta (FRIAA) Committee:**

**0581-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Robin Guild that council appoint Cheri Courtorielle, Darlene Jackson, Gerald Johnson, Brendan Powell and Tahirih Wiebe to the Forest Resource Improvement Association of Alberta (FRIAA) committee for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Regional Health Care Attraction & Retention Committee (RHCARC):**

**0582-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Darlene Jackson that council appoint Cheri Courtorielle to the Regional Health Care Attraction & Retention Committee (RHCARC) and Marshall Auger as the alternate for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Grants Committee:**

**0583-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Cheri Courtorielle that council appoint Marshall Auger, Cheri Courtorielle, Robin Guild, Darlene Jackson, Gerald Johnson, Brendan Powell and Tahirih Wiebe to the Grants Committee for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Chipewyan Lake Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) Transition Committee:**

**0584-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Robin Guild that council appoint Leo Alook, Larry Cardinal, Louis A. Cardinal, Darlene Jackson and Roy Yellowknee to the Chipewyan Lake Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) Transition committee for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Peace River School Division Planning Committee:**

**0585-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Tahirih Wiebe that council appoint Brendan Powell to the Peace River School Division Planning Committee for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Transitional Housing Committee:**

**0586-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Tahirih Wiebe that council appoint Cheri Courtorielle and Tahirih Wiebe to the Transitional Housing Committee and Leo Alook and Darlene Jackson as the alternates for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Clinic Committee:**

**0587-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Robin Guild that council appoint Marshall Auger, Darlene Jackson, Brendan Powell and Tahirih Wiebe to the Clinic Committee for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Community Tripartite Committee:**

**0588-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that council appoint Darlene Jackson to the Community Tripartite Committee for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Municipal Library Board  
Members at Large:**

**0589-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that council appoint members-at-large Augustine Ezugwu and Mabel Gladue to the Municipal Library Board for a three-year term ending October 31, 2027; current members are Lillian Anderson, term ending October 31, 2025; and Sharon Loonskin, term ending October 31, 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Subdivision and Development  
Appeal Board Members-at-  
Large:**

**0590-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that council appoint members-at large Fay Cardinal and Ernie Grach to the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board and Mabel Gladue as the alternate for the 2024/2025 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Recess/Reconvene:**

The meeting recessed at 12:27 p.m. and reconvened at 12:50 p.m.

**Destruction of Ballots:**

**0591-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Gerald Johnson that all ballots used for the purpose of the Organizational Meeting be destroyed following the meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Cost of Living Allowance  
Discussion:**

**0592-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell to approve a Cost of Living Allowance increase of 3.54% for staff and council effective January 1, 2025; and the council remuneration policy be amended accordingly.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Organizational Chart:**

**0593-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Robin Guild that the organizational chart be approved with amendments.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Office Closure for Christmas  
Holiday Season:**

**0594-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Darlene Jackson to approve the request from administration to close the administration offices in Wabasca, Calling Lake and Red Earth Creek on December 23, 2024 to December 27, 2024 for the Christmas Holiday season; and that recreation facilities have modified hours (noon to 4:00 p.m.) on December 23-24, 2024 and December 27, 2024; regular office hours will resume on December 30, 2024.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Councillor Departure:**

Councillor Roy Yellowknee left at 2:08 p.m.

**Sandy Lake Outdoor Rink  
(ODR) Reconstruction Project:**

**0595-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Gerald Johnson that administration is authorized to proceed with the reconstruction of the Sandy Lake outdoor rink immediately at a cost of \$155,000 with funding sourced from the 2024 Capital Project Park improvement budget.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Recess/Reconvene:**

The meeting recessed at 2:11 p.m. and reconvened at 2:20 p.m.

**Board & Committees Addition: 0596-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Tahirih Wiebe to add Bigstone Cree Nation Joint Committee to the boards and committees list and the committee consists of all council.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Closed Session: 0597-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that council move to closed session at 2:31 p.m. with the Chief Administrative Officer to discuss Chief Administrative Officer Evaluation, as per section 16 of the Freedom of Information Privacy Act (FOIP).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Chief Administrative Officer left the room at 2:52 p.m.

**0598-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that council return to open meeting at 3:03 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Chief Administrative Officer and Recording Secretary returned to the meeting at 3:03 p.m.

**0599-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Tahirih Wiebe that the Chief Administrative Officer's annual salary be increased by 10% effective immediately.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Adjournment:**

**0600-2024-17MDC**

Moved by Leo Alook that the meeting is adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Marshall D. Auger, Reeve

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chad Tullis, Chief Administrative Officer