

**MINUTES**  
**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF OPPORTUNITY NO. 17**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – WABASCA**  
**MARCH 12, 2025**

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The regular meeting of the Municipal District of Opportunity Council was held on Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at the Wabasca Council Chambers.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Marshall Auger (Reeve)  
Leo Alook (10:03 a.m.)  
Larry Cardinal  
Louis A. Cardinal

Brendan Powell (D/Reeve)  
Cheri Courtorielle (10:07 a.m.)  
Darlene Jackson  
Roy Yellowknee

**MEMBERS PRESENT VIA  
TELECONFERENCE:**

Robin Guild  
Tahirih Wiebe  
Gerald Johnson

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chad Tullis  
William Auger  
Lee Bissell  
Raymond Auger  
Angela Lightning  
Trina Mineault  
Rolanna Auger  
Kimball Newberry  
Lynda Gray

Chief Administrative Officer  
Manager of Enforcement Bylaw & Security  
Regional Fire Chief  
Director of Capital Projects & Facility Maintenance  
Director of Recreation & Culture  
Chief Financial Officer  
Director of Corporate & Regulatory Services  
Director of Public Works  
Recording Secretary

**MEMBER OF PUBLIC:**

Pearl Lorentzen  
Ernie Grach

Lakeside Leader  
The Fever

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Reeve Marshall D. Auger.

**Adoption of Agenda:**

**0125-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that the agenda be adopted as presented/with additions:

18. a Closed Session: Land - Highway 686, and Legal – Lesser Slave Lake MLA

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Councillor Arrival:**

Councillor Leo Alook arrived at 10:03 a.m.

**Approval of Minutes  
(February 24, 2025):**

**0126-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Leo Alook that the minutes of the delegation meeting of council held on February 24, 2025 be approved as presented:

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Councillor Arrival:**

Councillor Cheri Courtorielle arrived at 10:07 a.m.

**Admin Report:**

Chief Administrative Officer, Chad Tullis presented the CAO Monthly Report and Request for Decisions.

**0127-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that the Chief Administrative Officer report be accepted as presented and Request for Decisions (RFD's).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Initials: Reeve RP CAO CT

**Amend Organizational Chart  
with Additional Positions for  
the 2025 Operational Budget:**

**0128-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that administration be authorized to amend the current Organizational Chart as presented with the following:

- Add a Security position in Red Earth Creek
- Split a permanent full time Community Programmer in Sandy Lake to two 1040 hour positions – Community Programmer and Sandy Lake Hall Caretaker (both part time)
- Change two existing casual positions in Red Earth Creek to one full time permanent Fitness position
- Change existing full time vacant Reception position to a Fitness Attendant position at WWWF&C
- Change two seasonal Eagle Point Golf Course laborer positions to one seasonal mechanic
- Add a Lead Compliance Utilities Operator in Wabasca
- Rename existing vacant Senior Home Repair Supervisor position to a Facility Maintenance Lead Hand.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Housing for Community Peace  
Officers:**

**0129-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Darlene Jackson that the MD of Opportunity secure a housing unit for the recruitment of Community Peace Officers.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Municipal Enforcement:**

Manager of Bylaw Enforcement & Security, William Auger presented the Municipal Enforcement Department Monthly Report and Request for Decisions (RFD's).

**0130-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Leo Alook that the Municipal Enforcement Department monthly report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Spay & Neuter Clinic Request:** **0131-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Darlene Jackson that the request from Canadian Animal Task Force for an additional \$7,500 for the Spay & Neuter Clinic to go towards hotel costs for volunteers be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Regional Fire Department:**

Regional Fire Chief, Lee Bissell presented the Regional Fire Department Monthly Report.

**0132-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that the Regional Fire Department monthly report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Recess/Reconvene:**

The meeting recessed at 10:47 a.m. and reconvened 11:00 a.m.

**Delegation  
11:00 a.m.**

**MNP – Tahner Bowers**

Round table introductions were held.

The delegate was in attendance to give an overview of the audit process. MNP is the newly appointed audit team. They will be in Wabasca to do the audit on March 24-27, 2025.

He went over the key changes and developments, risk assessment, key milestones, audit materiality, group audit.

Council thanked the delegate for his attendance and information. Delegate left at 11:22 a.m.

Initials: Reeve  CAO 

**Closed Session:****0133-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Robin Guild that council move into a closed session with MNP Senior Manager Tahner Bowers at 11:22 a.m. to discuss item: a) Audit Process, as per section 16 of the Freedom of Information Privacy Act (FOIP).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**0134-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that council return to open meeting at 11:35 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Delegation  
11:38 a.m.****Wabasca RCMP – Acting Commander, Douglas Macfarland**

Round table introductions were held.

The delegate was in attendance to introduce himself to council. He is the acting commander until the end of August.

He gave an update on staffing. There are 18 members in Wabasca. In the past, candidates used to be interviewed by local leadership. It would be good to incorporate that again. They have had specialized units come down e.g. crime reduction, gang enforcement and other crime response teams. There is a lot of available resources.

Council would like to see more community involvement from the RCMP. Douglas said they have members assigned to schools.

Council expressed concern with big trucks driving through our community. How can RCMP work with Alberta Sheriff's? He has worked with Alberta Sheriff's in the past, they have equipment that RCMP don't and RCMP don't have commercial vehicle training.

Council thanked the delegate for his attendance and information. Delegate left at 12:01 p.m.

**Recess/Reconvene:**

The meeting recessed at 12:01 p.m. and reconvened 12:13 p.m.

**Councillor Departure:**

Councillor Louis Cardinal left at 12:13 p.m.

**Capital Projects:**

Director of Capital Projects & Facility Maintenance, Raymond Auger presented the Capital Projects & Facility Maintenance Monthly Report.

**0135-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Cheri Courtorielle that the Capital Projects & Facility Maintenance report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Recreation & Culture:**

Director of Recreation & Culture, Angela Lightning presented the Recreation & Culture Monthly Report and Request for Decisions (RFD's).

**0136-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that the Recreation & Culture verbal report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Grants Committee Report:****0137-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Darlene Jackson that the recommendations from the Grants Committee be approved with funds from GL 2-00-00-31-770-16 (\$127,500) and GL 2-00-00-31-770-17 (\$6,000).

- Release \$45,000 of allocated funds for Wabasca Lakeside Seniors approved for 2025 operations.

Initials: Reeve BR CAO CT

- Release \$80,000 of allocated funds for Calling Lake Community Society approved for 2025 operations.
- Request from Samantha Greyeyes approved for \$2,500 for the Female Senior Hockey Team representing Wabasca at the Starr Saskamoose Tourney Senior Natives on March 20-23, 2025 and April 18-20, 2025.
- Request from Shanna Laboucan approved for \$2,500 for the Trout Lake Youth Volleyball Team to play in a volleyball tournament in Dawson Creek BC on March 14-17, 2025.
- Request from Gwen Madore approved for \$1,000 (\$200/per player) for the Slave Lake Thunder U18 Girls Hockey Team to play in the Alberta Provincials on March 20-23, 2025.
- Request from Mandy Catt on behalf of Bigstone Health Commission approved for \$2,500 for the 6th Annual Men's Health Golf Tournament on July 12, 2025.
- Release \$2,500 of allocated funds for St. Theresa School approved for the Land based education Trappers Day Competition on March 22, 2025.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### **Eagle Point Golf Course (EPGC)**

##### **Restaurant Operations:**

##### **0138-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Robin Guild that the proposal from Moe Ibdah to operate the Eagle Point Golf Course restaurant operations and the Marian Wolitski arena concession for three years be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### **Finance Report:**

Chief Financial Officer, Trina Mineault presented the Finance Monthly Report.

##### **0139-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Cheri Courtorielle that the Finance report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### **Corporate & Regulatory Services Report:**

Director of Corporate & Regulatory Services, Rolanna Auger presented the Corporate & Regulatory Services Monthly Report and Request for Decisions (RFD's).

##### **0140-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Cheri Courtorielle that the Corporate & Regulatory Services Report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### **Campground Purchase Application:**

##### **0141-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that the reinstatement of PLS150016 Lions Club Campground Purchase Application be tabled and that administration schedule a meeting with Minister Loewen to further negotiate the price of the campground.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### **Request from BCN for Letter of Support for a Regional Pathway:**

##### **0142-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Darlene Jackson that the MD of Opportunity is in support of Bigstone Cree Nation applying for the Infrastructure Canada's Active Transportation Fund for a regional pathway and that there is no financial commitment from the MD of Opportunity at this time.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### **Emergency Proclamation:**

##### **0143-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Cheri Courtorielle that council declares an Addiction, Medical Health and Crime Emergency in all MD of Opportunity hamlets, via proclamation.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Public Works Report:**

Director of Public Works, Kimball Newberry presented the Public Works Monthly Report and Request for Decisions (RFD's).

**0144-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that the Public Works report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Reallocate Red Earth Creek  
Airport Resurfacing Budget:****0145-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that administration is authorized to reallocate \$400,000 from the Red Earth Creek Airport Resurfacing budget GL 4-33-00-38-601-00 to the Wabasca Airport Resurfacing budget GL 4-33-00-31-601-00; and to change the scope documents for mill and fill in Red Earth Creek and overlay in Wabasca.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Award 2025 Parking Lot  
Painting Contract:****0146-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Leo Alook that the 2025 Parking Lot Painting be awarded to the lowest bidder and be awarded to Alberta Parking Lot Services Ltd. For \$25,517.80.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Award 2025 Line Painting  
Contract::****0147-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Cheri Courtorielle that the 2025 Line Painting contract be awarded to AAA Striping and Seal Coating Service for \$156,661.84.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**MD of Opportunity Buses:**

There was a brief discussion about the use of MD buses. Buses are being utilized by community sports groups and the schools. Suggestion to have magnetic signs to identify groups utilizing it.

**Recess/Reconvene:**

The meeting recessed at 1:31 p.m. and reconvened 1:41 p.m.

**Utilities Report:**

Chief Administrative Officer, Chad Tullis presented the Utilities Monthly Report.

**0148-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that the Utilities report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Council Round Table:****0149-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Leo Alook that the Council Round Table discussions be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Information/Correspondence: 0150-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Tahirih Wiebe that the information/correspondence items be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Calendars:****0151-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that the calendars be accepted with additions.

- Add the MD/PTFN joint meeting on April 16, 2025

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Initials: Reeve *BP* CAO *CJ*

**Closed Session:**

**0152-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Cheri Courtorielle that council move into a closed session at 2:14 p.m. with the Chief Administrative Officer and Recording Secretary to discuss item: a) Highway 686 and b) Lesser Slave Lake MLA, as per section 16 of the Freedom of Information Privacy Act (FOIP).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Councillor Departure:**

Councillor Leo Alook left at 3:06 p.m.

**0153-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Darlene Jackson that council return to open meeting 3:14 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Next Meeting Dates:**

Delegation Council Meeting  
March 26, 2025  
10:00 a.m.  
Red Earth Creek Community Hall

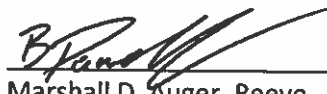
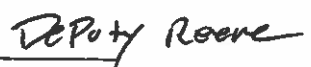
Regular Council Meeting  
April 9, 2025  
10:00 a.m.  
Wabasca Council Chambers

**Adjournment:**

**0154-2025-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that the meeting be adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

  
Mr- Marshall D. Auger, Reeve 

  
Chad Tullis, Chief Administrative Officer