

**MINUTES**  
**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF OPPORTUNITY NO. 17**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – WABASCA**  
**MARCH 11, 2020**

The regular meeting of the Municipal District of Opportunity Council was held on Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at the Eagle Point Clubhouse in Wabasca, Alberta.

<b>MEMBERS PRESENT:</b>	Marshall D. Auger (Reeve) Leo Alook Victor Gladue Louis A. Cardinal Darlene Jackson	Everett Gottfried (D/Reeve) Kevin Bigstone Brendan Powell Barry Schmidt
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<b>MEMBERS ABSENT:</b>	Robin Guild	Roy Yellowknee
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<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	William Kostiw Chad Tullis Halena Szmata Gerhard Stickling Cyndi Taron William Auger Mark Schonken Gerry Keefe Lynda Gray Terah Yellowknee	Chief Administrative Officer Director of Recreation & Culture Director of Housing & Social Programs Director of Corporate Service Director of Public Works & Transportation Director of Regulatory Services Chief Financial Officer Manager of Engineering Recording Secretary Recording Secretary
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**Call to Order:** Reeve Marshall D. Auger called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**Adoption of Agenda:** 0161-2020-17MDC  
 Moved by Everett Gottfried that the Agenda is adopted with the following additions:

- 5.c Delegation – RCMP – Wendall
- 8.e Coronavirus & Economy
- 8.f Bigstone Cree Nation Joint Meeting Agenda
- 9.d Assessments – Discussion – Remove
- 11.b Keekenow Senior Facility – Television Purchases
- 12.f Amend Water, Wastewater and Solid Waste Bylaw 2018-09 and Replace with Water, Wastewater and Solid Waste Bylaw 2020-03
- 15.f Calling Lake Provincial Park

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Wabasca Victim Services:** 0162-2020-17MDC  
 Moved by Victor Gladue that the remainder \$25,000 for Wabasca Victim Services is released by administration after Wabasca Victim Services provides a letter signed by the Board Chair stating how 2019 Grant Funding was utilized in April 2020 and that the MD will also inform Wabasca Victim Services to provide another letter signed by the Board Chair of how 2020 Grant Funding and to be received by April 2021.

**CARRIED**

**Adoption of Minutes (February 26, 2020):** 0163-2020-17MDC  
 Moved by Everett Gottfried that the Minutes of the February 26, 2020 Delegation Council Meeting are adopted as presented.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



**Peerless Trout First Nation – Sign Memorandum of Understanding:**

0164-2020-17MDC

Moved by Leo Alook that the signed Peerless Trout First Nation Memorandum of Understanding Agreement received be accepted as signed and that Reeve and CAO sign the Agreement and forward a signed copy to Peerless Trout First Nation be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**February 27, 2020:**

0165-2020-17MDC

Moved by Brendan Powell that the minutes of the February 27, 2020 Special Council Meeting are adopted as presented.

CARRIED

**Calling Lake Recreation & Economic Development Committee:**

0166-2020-17MDC

Moved by Victor Gladue that the minutes of the February 24, 2020 Calling Lake Recreation & Economic Development meeting are accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Red Earth Creek Recreation & Economic Development Committee:**

0167-2020-17MDC

Moved by Brendan Powell that the minutes of the February 27, 2020 Red Earth Creek Recreation & Economic Development meeting are accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Recreation & Culture Services:**

Director of Recreation & Culture, Chad Tullis, presented the Recreation & Culture Report and Request for Decision's (RFD's).

0168-2020-17MDC

Moved by Everett Gottfried that the Recreation & Culture Report is accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Bylaw 2020-01 Amendment to Bylaw 2018-04 Schedule of Rates and Fees for Services, Use of Facilities and the Sale of Miscellaneous Inventory Items:**

0169-2020-17MDC

Moved by Victor Gladue that the Amendment of Bylaw 2018-04 Schedule of Rates and Fees for Services, Use of Facilities, and the Sale of Miscellaneous Inventory Items is tabled to the next Policy Meeting be approved.

CARRIED

**2020 Capital Project: Splash Park Work Plan:**

0170-2020-17MDC

Moved by Barry Schmidt that the 2020 Capital Project – Splash Park Work Plan is referred back to administration and that the request is reviewed again after final 2020 Capital Budget is approved.

CARRIED

**Delegation**  
11:08 a.m.

**Accurate Assessment Group - Troy Birtles, Ray Fortin, Kris Meadows**  
Round Table Introductions

Delegates were in attendance to discuss with Council the Assessment process, and history of assessments relating to taxes. Accurate Assessment Group's (AAG) main office is located in Sherwood Park, AB. with offices in Edson, Whitecourt and Warburg. The MD is one of 20 Rural Municipalities, 6 cities, 6 towns and 8 Metis Settlements that they service. AAG will be in the MD of Opportunity periodically and are open to having open houses within the boundaries.

Also discussed were Designated Industrial Property (DIP) assessments and properties regulated by the Alberta Energy Regulator, National Energy Board, and Alberta Utilities Commission. AAG also spent considerable time during 2019 DI property assessment and creating new processes and procedures in order to adhere to DIP requirements and legislative MGA changes. AAG will continue to be involved in stakeholder consultations and advise the municipality of any legislative changes or impacts as we move forward.

Council thanked the delegate for their presentation.

Delegates left the meeting at 11:57 a.m.

**Recess/Reconvene:**

The meeting recessed at 11:58 a.m. and reconvened at 12:46 p.m

**0171-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Leo Alook that the Accurate Assessment Group's presentation is accepted as presented and are invited to participate in the Annual Taxpayers Meetings in June 2020.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Wabasca Eagles – Alberta**  
**Native Provincials:**

**0172-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Darlene Jackson that the grant request from Wabasca Minor Hockey for an amount of \$5000 be approved and funded from Grants to Organizations GL 2-00-00-31-770-16.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Eagle Point Clubhouse**  
**Restaurant Operation:**

**0173-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Everett Gottfried that proposal received from Steak & Pizza is approved as presented to operate the Eagle Point Clubhouse for the 2020 Season.

CARRIED

**Calling Lake Provincial**  
**Park:**

**0174-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Everett Gottfried that the Calling Lake Provincial Park lease proposal to operate for 2020 season is accepted and is negotiated and discussed with the Minister of Environment to be operated and owned by the MD indefinitely.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Action Item List:**

**0175-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that the Action Item List is adopted as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Admin Report:** Chief Administrative Officer, William Kostiw presented the CAO monthly report and Request for Decisions (RFD's).

**0176-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Everett Gottfried that the CAO Report is accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Payment of Requisitions for  
Greater North Foundation and  
Lesser Slave Lake Regional  
Housing Authority:**

**0177-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Barry Schmidt that the MD of Opportunity agrees to continue to pay the lodge requisitions to Greater North Foundation and Lesser Slave River Regional Housing Authority based on the boundaries set out in current Ministerial Orders.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Keekenow Requisition:** **0178-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Barry Schmidt that the MD of Opportunity agrees to pay a lodge requisition to the Wabasca Desmarais Housing Authority for the Keekenow Senior Facility based on the remaining equalized assessments within the MD be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**FCM – Alberta Focused  
Reception – June 6, 2020  
in Toronto, ON:**

**0179-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Darlene Jackson that the Alberta Focused reception at 2020 FCM Conference in Toronto, ON is supported by the municipality and that a sponsorship payment of \$5000 be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Transfer MD17 Charity**

**Golf Tournament Funds:** **0180-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Leo Alook that administration is authorized to transfer \$30,000 from the MD 17 Charity Golf Tournament to Keekenow Senior Facility for Diabetes programming as sponsorship.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Delegation:  
1:15 pm**

**Sandy Lake Advisory Group – Pelican Mountain School**  
Troy Stuart, Hal Taron, Diane Taron, Bertha Alook

Delegates were in attendance to discuss with Council the growing concern and the possibility of closing Pelican Mountain School. The advisory group went on to invite Council to a community meeting scheduled for Mar 25, 2020 in Sandy Lake to advocate the options if Northland School Division decides to close the school.

In 1960, community pioneers at the time reached out to the AB Government to open a private school in the community, at the time the community pioneers were dealing with children leaving for Residential Schools. The AB Government approved a "pilot" project for a term of one year, to see if it would be feasible. After the year passed, it portrayed success with having high enrollment and this is when the Minister created Northland School Division with Sandy Lake Pelican Mountain School to be the first.

With that historical fact, if Northland School Board and the Alberta Government choose to close the school, the advisory group have another option to have an independent school that be owned and operated by a Society of Parents.

Council thanked the delegates for their presentation.

Delegates left the meeting at 2:02 p.m.

**0181-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Kevin Bigstone that the Sandy Lake Advisory Group's presentation regarding the possible closure of Pelican Mountain School in Sandy Lake is accepted as presented and that administration provide a letter of support to the Sandy Lake Advisory Group for keeping Pelican Mountain School open be approved and a copy is sent to Minister of Education, Northland School Division and Northland School Division Trustee Board.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Novel Coronavirus  
(COVID-19):**

**0182-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that administration commence a strategy of how the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak to be conducted and that the MD Emergency Facebook page is updated relaying information of prevention and protection of the Novel Coronavirus be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**MD and Bigstone Cree  
Nation Meeting Agenda:**

**0183-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that the MD/BCN Joint meeting Agenda is approved as amended with additions.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Finance Report:**

Chief Financial Officer, Mark Schonken presented the Finance monthly report and Request for Decisions (RFD's).

**0184-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Victor Gladue that the Finance Report is accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**F.6 Grants Policy – Senior  
Grant Application Form:**

**0185-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Everett Gottfried that the amendment to the Senior Grant Application Form of the F.6 Grants Policy be approved to include the Household Income threshold.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Assessment Review Board  
(ARB) Training:**

**0186-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Everett Gottfried that Brendan Powell, Robin Guild and Barry Schmidt to attend one of the offered Assessment Review Board Training and to complete by May 2020 be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Corporate Services  
Report:**

Director of Corporate Services, Gerhard Stickling presented the Corporate Services monthly report and Request for Decisions (RFD's).

**0187-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that the Corporate Services report is accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY





**Consolidating All Cell Phone  
Contracts into One Contract  
With Telus:**

0188-2020-17MDC

Moved by Brendan Powell that administration is authorized to consolidate and port all existing Bell, Rogers and Telus contracts and engage into a Telus 47 contract with Telus Communications.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**FCSS Grant Application –  
Wabasca Desmarais  
Children’s Playschool:**

0189-2020-17MDC

Moved by Everett Gottfried that the Wabasca Desmarais Children’s Playschool Family and Community Support Services Grant Application be approved for an amount of \$24,500 and funded from 2020 FCSS Budget GL Code 2-51-00-31-755-00.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Volunteer Recognition  
Event:**

0190-2020-17MDC

Moved by Brendan Powell that administration is authorized to host a Volunteer Recognition Event during the week of April 19-25, 2020 with the event an event hosted for 300 people to be funded from 2019 FCSS Budget Surplus and that same request come back to Council with planned events for local groups in communities be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Family Community Support  
Services (FCSS) –  
Financial Audit:**

0191-2020-17MDC

Moved by Victor Gladue that administration is authorized to engage with Wilde and Company to complete the 2019 Financial Audit for Family Community Support Services be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Housing & Social  
Programs Report:**

Director of Housing and Social Programs, Halena Szmata presented the Housing and Social Programs monthly report and Request for Decisions (RFD’s).

0192-2020-17MDC

Moved by Leo Alook that the Housing and Social Programs Report is accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Keekenow Senior Facility –  
Television Purchases:**

0193-2020-17MDC

Moved by Everett Gottfried that the administration is authorized to purchase  
58-43” Samsung TV from The Brick - \$21,982.00 – Resident Rooms  
3-50” Samsung TV from The Brick - \$1,647.00 – Common Area Rooms  
4- 65” Samsung TV from The Brick - \$2,796.00 – Dining Areas  
58- TV Wall Mounts from Costco - \$2,609.42  
for the Keekenow Seniors facility be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Transportation and Public Works Report:**

Chief Administrative Officer, William Kostiw and Director of Transportation and Public Works, Cyndi Taron presented the Transportation and Public Works Report.

**0194-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Leo Alook that the Transportation and Public Works Report is accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**2020 Paving Program – Wabasca:**

**0195-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Everett Gottfried that administration is authorized to prepare the tender for the 2020 Paving Program Base & Pave of Wabasca North Road End of Asphalt to Lions Club Campground access 4.0 km be approved.

CARRIED

**2020 Capital Fleet Budget:**

**0196-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Everett Gottfried that the 2020 Capital Fleet Budget is referred back to administration and request to come back for review after the 2020 Capital Budget is approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**North Bridge (BF77255) Upgrade / Replacement:**

**0197-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Darlene Jackson that the North Bridge (BF77255) Upgrade/Replacement Project is awarded to WSP Engineering as stated in the Strategic Transportation Infrastructure Program (STIP) – Local Road Bridge Component.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Request for Quotes – Residential Hamlet Garbage Pick up:**

**0198-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that administration is authorized to advertise locally for request for quotes/proposals to contract residential hamlet garbage pick-up for the communities of Red Earth Creek, Trout Lake, and Peerless Lake respectively, which will include the purchase of bins in Red Earth Creek, Trout Lake and Peerless Lake.

CARRIE UNANIMOUSLY

**Amend Water, Wastewater and Solid Waste Bylaw 2018-09 and Replace with Water, Wastewater and Solid Waste Bylaw 2020-03:**

**0199-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that Council gives first reading to Bylaw 2020-03 for amendment to Water, Wastewater and Solid Waste Bylaw 2018-09 and Administration is to advertise and schedule the public hearing for April 5, 2020.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Utilities Report:**

Chief Administrative Officer, William Kostiw presented the Utilities monthly report.

**0200-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that the Utilities Report is accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



**All Water and Wastewater  
Facilities Upgrades – 2020  
Capital Budget  
Adjustment:**

**0201-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Everett Gottfried that the 2020 Capital Budget for All Water Treatment and Distribution System Upgrades Project be set at \$500,000 and that All Wastewater Treatment and Collection System Upgrades be set at \$500,000 is referred back to administration and returned for decision after 2020 Capital Budget is approved

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Sandy Lake Lagoon – 2020**

**Project Spending:**

**0202-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that the 2020 Capital Budget for the Sandy Lake Lagoon project in the amount of \$4,500,102 be approved (below is breakdown).

Estimated Cost of Project	\$4,721,000
Government of Canada	\$1,800,041
Government of Alberta	\$1,652,350
MD Opportunity Share	\$1,268,609

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Sandy Lake Water and Sewer  
South End Phase – 2020**

**Project Spending:**

**0203-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Kevin Bigstone that the 2020 Capital Budget for the Sandy Lake Water and Sewer South End Phase Project in the amount of \$1,501,156 and that Fox Drive is completed be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

*Amended March 25, 2020*

**Councillor Departure:** Councillor Brendan Powell left at 4:20 pm and did not return for the remainder of the meeting.

**Extend Regular Meeting: 0204-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Barry Schmidt that the Regular Council meeting is extended to past 4:30 pm be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Delegation  
4:43 pm**

**R.C.M.P. – St. Paul and Wabasca  
Wendall Reimer, Mark Hancock, Jack Poitras**

Delegates were in attendance to discuss resourcing CTA agreements, restorative justice and the new funding model for enhanced policing. Council also stated that with the combination of all Enhanced Policing Members (3 Wabasca, 2 in Calling Lake and 1 in Red Earth) and open a satellite office in Calling Lake and be controlled from Wabasca. Currently Calling Lake is one community that faces criminal activity daily and this would assist if officers were in community day and night. It is quiet in community right now as the repetitive offenders are in jail, and will be released soon and this is when the community does not feel safe. Council also informed the RCMP members present that meetings were scheduled for the following week with the intention of informing the same as todays meet and greet.

Council thanked the delegates with their presentation.



**0205-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Darlene Jackson that the RCMP presentation is accepted as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Councillor Departure:**  
*Amended March 25, 2020*

Councillor Leo Alook left at 4:08 **5:07** pm and did not return for the remainder of the meeting.

**Regulatory Services Report:**

Director of Regulatory Services, William Auger presented the Regulatory Services Report and Request for Decisions (RFD's).

**0206-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Darlene Jackson that the Regulatory report is accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Mutual Aid Fire Control Plan 2018-2021:**

**0207-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Everett Gottfried that the Mutual Aid Fire Control Plan 2018-2021 Agreement with Alberta Agriculture and Forestry be approved with amendments to "Appendix B" (MD Fire Departments Contact List).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Wabasca Administration Office - Security System Upgrade:**

**0208-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Darlene Jackson that all security upgrades capital project with a budget of \$85,168 is reviewed after 2020 Capital budget is approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Senior Citizen Heating Grant:**

**0209-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Everett Gottfried that the Senior Citizen Heating Grant applications for Adelard Gullion, Clemence Anderson and Richard S. Auger for an amount of \$1000 per applicant be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Community Fire Guards: 0210-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Darlene Jackson that the Fire Guard discussion is accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**0211-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Louis A. Cardinal that the Emergency Management training and information sessions are also offered to the other communities within the Municipality.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Closed Session:**

**0212-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Barry Schmidt to go into a closed session at 5:32 p.m. with the CAO and Director of Regulatory Services.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**0213-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Louis A. Cardinal to go out of the closed session at 5:38 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Information/  
Correspondence:**

**0214-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Louis A. Cardinal that the information/correspondence items are accepted as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Legal, Land & Labour:**

**0215-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Darlene Jackson that the "in closed session" items presented under Legal, Land Labour are accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Next Meeting Dates:**

Delegation Council Meeting  
March 31, 2020  
10:00 a.m.  
Chipewyan Lake Community Hall

Regular Council Meeting  
April 8, 2020  
10:00 a.m.  
Keekenow Seniors Facility

**Adjournment:**

**0216-2020-17MDC**

Moved by Everett Gottfried that the meeting is adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

  
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Marshall D. Auger, Reeve

  
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William Kostiw, Chief Administrative Officer