

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF OPPORTUNITY NO. 17  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2026**

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The regular meeting of Council of the Municipal District of Opportunity No. 17 was held in Council Chambers at the Municipal Office in Wabasca on Monday, September 14, 2026, commencing at 10:00 a.m.

**COUNCIL PRESENT:**

|                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Marshall D. Auger (Reeve) | Brendan Powell (D/Reeve) |
| Marcel C. Auger           | Darlene Jackson          |
| Kevin Bigstone            | Gerald Johnson           |
| Cecil Gladue              | Roy Yellowknee           |
| Robin Guild               |                          |

**STAFF PRESENT:**

|                   |                                                       |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Chad Tullis       | Chief Administrative Officer                          |
| William Auger     | Manager of Municipal Enforcement & Security           |
| Lee Bissell       | Regional Fire Chief                                   |
| Everett Gottfried | Director of Capital Projects & Facility Maintenance   |
| Angela Lightning  | Director of Recreation & Culture                      |
| Trina Mineault    | Chief Financial Officer                               |
| Ryan Musch        | Director of Finance                                   |
| Rolanna Auger     | Director of Corporate & Regulatory Services           |
| Loretta Beaver    | Assistant Director of Corporate & Regulatory Services |
| Katelyn Alook     | Manager of Planning and Development/Planner           |
| Kimball Newberry  | Director of Public Works                              |
| Earl Gullion      | Director of Utilities                                 |

**RECORDING SECRETARY:**

|            |                                       |
|------------|---------------------------------------|
| Lynda Gray | Executive Assistant to Administration |
|------------|---------------------------------------|

**MEMBERS OF PUBLIC:**

|               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Armaan Khanna | Lakeside Leader |
|---------------|-----------------|

**Call to Order:**

Reeve Marshall D. Auger called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

**Acceptance of Agenda:**

**0413-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Gerald Johnson that the agenda for the September 14, 2026 regular meeting of council be accepted as amended with the following additions:

18c. Request to use Lakeview Sports Centre (LSC) for a Funeral  
18c. Closed Session: Calling Lake Fire services

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Approval of Minutes  
(August 24, 2026):**

**0414-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Robin Guild that the minutes of the delegation meeting of council held on August 24, 2026 be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Administration Report:**

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

**0415-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Kevin Bigstone that the Chief Administrative Officers report and action list be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Thank You Letter to MLA &  
Premier:**

**0416-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that Administration draft thank-you letters to MLA Scott Sinclair and Premier Danielle Smith for meeting with Council on August 26, 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Initials: Reeve  CAO 

**Boards & Committees****Discussion:**

Administration sought clarification from Council regarding the advertising of Member-at-Large positions prior to Council's Organizational Meeting on October 19, 2026. Direction to advertise for One (1) Municipal Library Board position, Greater North Foundation Member-at-Large, and clarify requirements with Municipal Affairs for Wabasca Desmarais Housing Authority board members.

**Lakeview Sports Centre****Closure:**

The Library Board is requesting clarification as to whether the library remains open to the public when the Lakeview Sports Centre is closed.

Facility closure notices are to indicate that the library will remain open unless otherwise stated.

**Municipal Enforcement:**

Manager of Municipal Enforcement & Security, William Auger presented the Monthly Report.

**0417-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that the Municipal Enforcement & Security report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Regional Fire Department:**

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

**0418-2026-17MDC**

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Closed Session:****0419-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Robin Guild that Council move into closed session at 10:47 a.m. with the Chief Administrative Office, Regional Fire Chief and Recording Secretary in attendance to discuss the following item: a) Calling Lake Fire Services, as per Division 2, Exceptions to Disclosure, of the Access to Information Act.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**0420-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Robin guild that council return to open meeting at 11:01 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Public Hearing 11:00 a.m.****Bylaw 2026-15 Land Use****Bylaw:**

A Bylaw of the Municipal District of Opportunity No. 17, in the Province of Alberta for the purpose of adopting a Land Use Bylaw for the Municipal District of Opportunity No. 17.

The Chairman called the Public Hearing to order at 11:01 a.m.

**Public Attendance:**

No Public Present

**Announcement:**

Katelyn Alook, Manager of Lands & Development/Planning announced the purpose of the Public Hearing which is for a land use bylaw amendment.

**Roundtable Introductions:**

Round table introductions were held.

**Objections to Council  
Members:**

No Public Present

**Hearing Order:**

Katelyn Alook, Manager of Lands & Development/Planning, announced that the purpose of the Public Hearing was to consider proposed amendments to the Land Use Bylaw.

- Remove sections that have duplicate sections in the Municipal Government Act (MGA), other Acts and Regulations, as it is unnecessary to include those requirements in the Land Use Bylaw.
- Remove numerous defined sections that are not used in the Land Use Bylaw.
- Amend several sections that currently state "to the satisfaction of the Development Officer" by replacing it with "the developer shall comply with the following requirements" to ensure criteria that developers must adhere to is clearly listed.
- The Public Hearing was advertised for two consecutive weeks in accordance with the Municipal Government Act. To pass the Land Use Bylaw, Council must give second and third readings after the Public Hearing.

**In Favor of Bylaw:**

No Public Present

**In Opposition of Bylaw:**

No Public Present

**Fair/Impartial Hearing:**

The Chairman asked the public if they felt they had a fair and impartial Hearing.

No Public Present

**Public Hearing Concluded:**

0421-2026-17MDC

Moved by Brendan Powell that the Public Hearing be adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Second Reading:**

0422-2026-17MDC

Moved by Darlene Jackson that Bylaw 2026-15, being the Land Use Bylaw, be given second reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Third Reading:**

0423-2026-17MDC

Moved by Robin Guild that Bylaw 2026-15, being the Land Use Bylaw, be given third reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Calling Lake Fire Chief:**

0424-2026-17MDC

Moved by Gerald Johnson that Council appoint Aleksey Schmidt as Acting Fire Chief for Calling Lake and direct Administration to conduct a nomination and election process and return to Council with a recommendation for permanent placement of a fire chief at the next council meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Recess/Reconvene:**

The meeting recessed at 11:08 a.m. and reconvened at 11:20 a.m.

**Capital Projects & Facility Maintenance:**

Director of Capital Projects & Facility Maintenance, Everett Gottfried presented the Monthly Report.

0425-2026-17MDC

Moved by Kevin Bigstone that the Capital Projects & Facility Maintenance report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Request to Transfer Red Earth Shop and Land Portion:**

0426-2026-17MDC

Moved by Brendan Powell that the request from Wabasca Desmarais Housing Authority to transfer the Red Earth Creek shop and land portion be accepted as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

**0427-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Marcel C. Auger that the Recreation & Culture report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Grant Request – Alberta  
Indigenous Games Masters:**

**0428-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Darlene Jackson that the grant applications received for the Masters tournament at the Alberta Indigenous Games be approved with a total of \$6,200 which includes team entry fee and \$400 per athlete with funds from GL 2-00-00-31-770-17.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Capital Budget Increase  
Request – WB - Tennis Court  
Resurfacing:**

**0429-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Gerald Johnson that Council approve the request to increase the capital budget for 4-71-26-31-610-11 WB – Tennis Court Resurfacing from \$38,720 to \$163,000.00 with funding from reserves.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Capital Budget Increase  
Request – WB – Park  
Improvements 2026:**

**0430-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Darlene Jackson that Council approve the additional \$300,000.00 for capital project GL 4-71-26-31-610-10 WB – Park Improvements 2026, with funding from reserves.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Closed Session:**

**0431-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Darlene Jackson that Council move into closed session at 11:55 a.m. with the Chief Administrative Office, Director of Recreation & Culture and Recording Secretary in attendance to discuss the following item: a) Calling Lake Community Society and b) Request to use Lakeview Sports Centre (LSC) for a Funeral, as per Division 2, Exceptions to Disclosure, of the Access to Information Act.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**0432-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that council return to open meeting at 12:10 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Recess/Reconvene:**

The meeting recessed at 12:10 p.m. and reconvened at 12:30 p.m.

**Christmas Hockey Camp:**

**0433-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Marcel C. Auger that the proposal submitted by Mathew Rathbone to host a Christmas Hockey Camp in December 2026 for the communities of Calling Lake, Red Earth Creek, and Wabasca be approved for \$31,920.00, with funding allocated from GL 2-71-00-31-275-00.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Finance Report:**

Chief Financial Officer, Trina Mineault and Director of Finance, Ryan Musch presented the monthly report and Request for Decisions (RFD's).

**0434-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Gerald Johnson that the Finance report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Fibre Optic Update:**

Arrow Technology Group confirmed that fibre will be installed directly to all buildings listed below as part of the current project.

Rohl confirmed the following addresses for the Calling Lake and Sandy Lake locations:

**Calling Lake**

- Community Complex/Admin Office – 2824 Central Drive
- Recreation Centre – 2870 Central Drive
- Jaybird Memorial Arena – 2871 Central Drive
- Water Treatment Plant – 2895 Calling Lake Drive
- Fire Hall – 2920 Calling Lake Drive

**Sandy Lake**

- Community Complex – 890 Raven Road
- Learning Centre – 920 Pelican Road
- Water Treatment Plant – 891 Pelican Lake Road
- Fire Hall – 900 Raven Road
- Public Works Shop – 1020 Highway 813

Rohl is preparing a cost estimate to add the Calling Lake Public Works Shop and Transfer Station to the build and will inform the MD once it becomes available. Although both locations are outside the current project area, they are relatively close to the transport fibre.

**Assessment Review Board  
Bylaw 2026-18:**

A bylaw of the Municipal District of Opportunity in the Province of Alberta to establish Assessment Review Boards and to enter into agreements to provide Assessment Review Board Services with other Municipalities.

**First Reading:****0435-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that Bylaw 2026-18, being the Assessment Review Board Bylaw, be given first reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Second Reading:****0436-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Darlene Jackson that Bylaw 2026-18, being the Assessment Review Board Bylaw, be given second reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Unanimous Consent:****0437-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Robin Guild that Bylaw 2026-18, being the Assessment Review Board Bylaw, be given unanimous consent to proceed to third reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Third Reading:****0438-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Gerald Johnson that Bylaw 2026-18, being the Assessment Review Board Bylaw, be given first reading.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Assessment Review Board  
Appointments:****0439-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Darlene Jackson that Council appoint April Carew as the Assessment Review Board Clerk for Assessment Review Board complaints; appoint Tahirih Wiebe as the Chairperson and appoint Ernie Grach as the Vice-Chairperson of the Local Assessment Review Board (L.A.R.B.).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Request to transfer properties in  
Red Earth Creek:****0440-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that Administration be directed to negotiate a buy-back of the property (563 Meadow Lane) and sale of replacement property (431 Grassy Way) with the landowner.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Corporate & Regulatory  
Services Report:**

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

**0441-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell that the Corporate & Regulatory Services report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Request to Rescind Bylaw  
2018-24 Intermunicipal  
Collaboration Framework  
Bylaw with Athabasca County:****0442-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Darlene Jackson that Council rescind the Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Bylaw 2018-24 with Athabasca County, notify Alberta Municipal Affairs and publish the reasons for not entering into an Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework on the Municipal District of Opportunity No. 17 website.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Road Naming – WDHA Property  
in Calling Lake Subdivision of  
3023 Central Drive:****0443-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Gerald Johnson that the naming of the new road in the Calling Lake subdivision at 3023 Central Drive be tabled until the next Council meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Councillor Departure:**

Councillor Gerald Johnson left at 1:47 p.m.

**Public Works Report:**

Director of Public Works, Kimball Newberry presented the Monthly Report.

**0444-2026-17MDC**

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Utilities Report:**

Director of Utilities, Earl Gullion presented the Utilities Monthly Report.

**0445-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Marcel C. Auger that the Utilities report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Councillor Arrival:**

Councillor Gerald Johnson rejoined the meeting at 2:15 p.m. via Microsoft Teams.

**Council Round Table:****0446-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Brendan Powell to accept the Councillor reports for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Information/Correspondence: 0447-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Darlene Jackson that the information/correspondence items be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Calendars:****0448-2026-17MDC**

Moved by Kevin Bigstone that the calendars be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Recess/Reconvene:** The meeting recessed at 2:25 p.m. and reconvened at 2:31 p.m.

**Closed Session:** **0449-2026-17MDC**  
Moved by Robin Guild that Council move into closed session at 2:31 p.m. to discuss the following item: a) Labour Issue, as per Division 2, Exceptions to Disclosure, of the Access to Information Act.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Chief Administrative Officer joined at 3:30 p.m.

**0450-2026-17MDC**  
Moved by Robin Guild that council return to open meeting at 3:49 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Request to Use Lakeview Sports Centre (LSC) for a Funeral:** **0451-2026-17MDC**  
Moved by Robin Guild that Council approve an exception permitting the use of the Lakeview Sports Centre (LSC) for Mike Beaver's wake and funeral on September 21–22, 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**Next Meeting Dates:** Delegation Council Meeting  
September 28, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.  
Red Earth Creek Community Hall

Regular Council Meeting  
October 13, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.  
Wabasca Council Chambers

**Adjournment:** **0452-2026-17MDC**  
Moved by Robin Guild that the meeting be adjourned at 3:51 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Marshall B. Auger, Reeve

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