

# MINUTES

## Council Meeting Municipal District of Lesser Slave River No. 124 March 27, 2019 MD Administration Building, Slave Lake, Alberta

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<b>MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	Becky Peiffer - Division 1 Sandra Metzger - Division 1 Robert Esau - Division 1 Brad Pearson - Division 2 Jeff Commins - Division 2 Brian Rosche - Division 2
<b>MEMBERS ABSENT</b>	Murray Kerik - Reeve
<b>IN ATTENDANCE</b>	Allan Winarski - Chief Administrative Officer, MD LSR Ann Holden - Recording Secretary, MD LSR Jennifer Paterson - Canadian Natural Resources Limited Bill Klassen - Director of Transportation & Infrastructure, MD LSR Joe McWilliams - Lakeside Leader Martin Perpar - Applicant Road Sharing Janet Ross - Marten Beach Resident Randy Ross - Marten Beach Resident Blake Ross - Marten Beach Resident Norm Seatter - Marten Beach Resident
<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	Brian Rosche called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.
<b>ADOPTION OF AGENDA</b>	<b><u>MOTION 091-19</u></b> Moved by Councillor Pearson to adopt the Agenda as amended. The following was added to the agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>6.0 CAO Update</li></ul> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED (6-0)</b></p>
<b>ADOPTION OF MINUTES</b>	<b><u>MOTION 092-19</u></b> Moved by Councillor Commins to adopt the <i>March 6, 2019 Council Minutes</i> as presented. <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED (6-0)</b></p>
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>	<b>ACCESS ROAD COST SHARING APPLICATION</b> The MD received an application to share the cost of an 800 m road to land location SW-36-66-1-W5, which does not have legal access currently. The road would be an extension of Range Road 11. The land is currently accessed through another farmer's field. Based on the 2018 road report, building a road would cost approximately \$83,840. According to the policy, the MD may contribute up to \$20,000 for the road. This road was not approved in the 2019 budget.  The minimum road standard is a Class 5; however, the applicant is only using the land for grazing and haying. It was suggested that a lower road standard, i.e. a Class 6 road, would be enough for the landowner. If the landowner decides to move to the land in the future, the road could be upgraded to a Class 5 standard road.  The MD does not currently have a Class 6 road standard, but this can be added when the <i>Municipal Servicing Standards</i> are reviewed and updated.  The MD has flexibility to fund or not fund roads. The current policy is from 1997, and road costs have increased since that time.

**MOTION 093-19**

Moved by Councillor Esau for Administration to prepare a cost estimate for the proposed road to be a Class 6 road and to defer the decision on the project until the 2020 budget deliberation.

**CARRIED (6-0)**

**ALL WHEEL DRIVE MOTOR GRADER TENDER RESULTS**

The MD has a fleet of five graders currently. Only two tenders were received for the 4-wheel graders. This year the cost of the graders has increased by more than 10% due to a weak Canadian Dollar and steel tariffs. Advantages and disadvantages with the proposals of the two tenders received were discussed. A grader accessory piece that can be attached to a grader for road reclamation was also discussed.

Administration had done research on longevity of graders. Some municipalities find it cheaper to run graders longer; you can get warranties for a longer time. It costs 80,000 to own a grader for a year. The warranty for a grader is 5 years, of up to 1500 hours per year. Brandt has a local representative.

**MOTION 094-19**

Moved by Councillor Pearson to authorize Administration to purchase the John Deere 772 GP for \$470,000 plus GST from Brandt Tractor Ltd.

**CARRIED (6-0)**

**MOTION 095-19**

Moved by Councillor Commins to authorize Administration to dispose of GR14 through the CAT buyback program for \$149,400 with the approval of *Appendix A – Asset Disposal Form*.

**CARRIED (6-0)**

**ADMINISTRATION**

**MEETING OF THE DISASTER SERVICES AGENCY**

Administration received an update from members of the Marten Beach community on the flood mitigation grants. The MD and residents are cooperating on funding applications to get a grant for \$48,000. Community members followed up with the MLA but has not received a response. AEP does not see Marten Beach as a priority.

Associate Engineering (AE) representative Juliana Tang, did a desktop survey to find out where the flood issues are. AE will come to Marten Beach in May. Disaster Services funding has been received by residents, however, no funding has been allocated for flood mitigation. The community will continue to apply for funding and to follow up with political candidates.

It was suggested that the group attend the next Watershed Council meeting on April 11, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. The priority of the group is to clean up and straighten the channel, and perhaps use the road as a natural dam where the flow can be controlled.

The MD has a pump on standby in Marten Beach. MD Transportation was out to do a cleanup, which the community appreciated. An emergency access disposition was approved recently; the access would start off the end of Herb Crescent. This approach will be deliberated in the 2020 budget. The MD also has an engineering request for proposals out for a fall intake Alberta Community Resilience Program (i.e. flood funding) application.

**MOTION 096-19**

Moved by Councillor Pearson to accept the presentation as information.

**CARRIED (6-0)**

**2019 FLEET VEHICLE REPLACEMENT TENDER RESULTS**

Administration is working on a schedule for vehicle replacements to make the budget more consistent from year to year. Seven vehicles need to be replaced in 2019. Steel tariffs are high, and the tenders were higher than budgeted. Last year the MD did not receive the new vehicles until August 2018. The summer staff use old vehicles, which are replaced in the fall.

Council discussed a company who offers trucks for clients who has a fleet of vehicles. The MD has investigated this company, and some of disadvantages are:

- The vehicles are not the basic models, only higher end vehicles
- The MD does not determine the timing of when the fleet vehicles are changed out, so the strategic plan of having the summer student use of older vehicles cannot be applied
- Administration has not looked at the total costs of changing to this company
- The company does not support local businesses

The colour of the vehicles is dark blue. Vehicles that are replaced have been in operation for 5-6 years. With a few exceptions, most vehicles have been driven an average of 200-250,000 km.

#### **MOTION 097-19**

Moved by Councillor Melzer to approve the purchase of 2019 fleet vehicles from Slave Lake Chrysler for \$299,017 excluding GST.

**CARRIED (5-1)**  
Councillor Esau opposed

#### **CAO UPDATE**

Projects are moving along;

- The RFP for community resilience for Marten Beach has been submitted
- Grazing as forestry management is pursued by the AG Fieldman. Grazing as a FireSmart strategy may open land as per the Big Bend Sub-Regional Integrated Resource Plan and the Smith Hondo Plan
- The municipal census plan is coming along; the MD is using the City of Airdrie's templates
- The Utilities Department has worked hard lately:
  - A catastrophic break of membrane happened. Luckily new membranes (budgeted expense cost of \$400,000) had been ordered from Hungary
  - The MD needs to review its utilities contingency planning. The approval for the sewage plant is coming up within a year or two. The possibility of using overflow lagoons will be explored with Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP)
  - Khaled Mouallem stepped up to prepare the year end reports for AEP
  - A new pump for \$43,000 has been installed in Canyon Creek, this is a budgetary adjustment
- A bypass road DLO for the gravel pit in Chisholm was approved. The application was submitted the first time about a decade ago
- The Town of Slave Lake and the MD are working together on the Visitor Centre operation. Staff who are hired will be asked to do historical research in the region when they are not busy. This way, informational signs can be put up at historical sites in the region
- One of six road funding applications were approved
- Unbudgeted costs are occurring at the Flatbush Community Complex concerning its well.

Capital asset planning was discussed. Proper maintenance is important to extend the longevity of buildings and equipment. The co-op waterline in the Southshore was put in in 1991.

Longer term bond rates are going down, to the extent that they are below current rates - which is a harbinger of recession. With investments the MD has moved to shorter terms for the immediate future. According to the latest assessment numbers, the MD has lost \$4 million in assessment. In comparison to other municipalities, the MD has a low tax rate. While the MD Opportunity has a lower residential rate than the Lesser Slave River, their business rate is higher. Woodland's rates are lower for businesses, but their residential rate is higher. The MDLSR is positioned well compared to other municipalities, and even wealthy municipalities charge similar rates as the MD.

#### **MOTION 098-19**

Moved by Councillor Commins to accept the *CAO Update* as information.

**CARRIED (6-0)**

**RECESS**

**MOTION 099-19**

Moved by Councillor Pearson to recess at 12:01 p.m.

**CARRIED (6-0)**

**RECONVENE**

1:00 p.m.

**DELEGATIONS**

**CANADIAN NATURAL RESOURCES LIMITED (CNRL)**

CNRL requested to discuss issues in closed session.

**CLOSED SESSION**

**MOTION 100-19**

Moved by Councillor Pearson to move to closed session at 1:00 p.m. as per Section 16 of the FOIP Act with Allan Winarski in attendance.

**CARRIED (6-0)**

**OPEN SESSION**

**MOTION 101-19**

Moved by Councillor Commins to return to open meeting at 3:22 p.m.

**CARRIED (6-0)**

**MOTION 102-19**

Moved by Councillor Pearson to accept the *Canadian Natural* delegation as information.

**CARRIED (6-0)**

**RURAL SERVICES**

**FCSS PROGRAM FOR SENIORS**

The Senior Information Afternoon event was postponed from 2018 to 2019 to accommodate the presenter. The presentation is about how and where seniors can access funding for support needed, for instance for house cleaning. The intent is to invite seniors from the entire region, including Slave Lake, Chisholm, and Kinuso seniors.

**MOTION 103-19**

Moved by Councillor Melzer to grant FCSS Funding for the senior Seminar being held on May 29<sup>th</sup> at the Smith Complex for \$2500.

**CARRIED (6-0)**

**FINANCE**

**CHEQUE REGISTERS**

**MOTION 104-19**

Moved by Councillor Esau to accept the *Cheque Registers* as information.

**CARRIED (6-0)**

**ADMINISTRATION**

**MEETING OF THE DISASTER SERVICES AGENCY**

The Lesser Slave River Emergency Plan has been updated. The personnel call down list is as follows: Allan Winarski is the Director of Emergency Management, Russ Jassman and Jamie Coutts are the deputy directors. Key Emergency Coordination Centre personnel include Angeline Blackmore as the Risk Management Officer, Paul Mulholland as the Liaison Officer, Alanis Marleau and the Rdeca group as the Information Officers, Bill Klassen as the Operations Coordinator, Joni Bucher as the Logistics Coordinator, and Pat Siblieau as the Finance and Administration Coordinator.

The MD also have a number of staff authorized to issue emergency alerts. Council reviewed Declaration of a Local State of Emergency processes.

Senior staff is required to attend the one-week ICF 300 training. Another mandatory requirement involves table top and practice exercises. However, if the municipality has experienced a disaster in the last four years, it does not have to hold a functional practise exercise.

*Bylaw 2004-08 – The Bylaw to Establish a Municipal Disaster Agency* must be amended before 2020.

**MOTION 105-19**

Moved by Councillor Pearson that the Disaster Services Committee met this day of March 27, 2019 to review the Lesser Slave Regional Emergency Plan.

**CARRIED (6-0)**

**BOARD REPORTS****Agricultural Service Board (ASB)**

- Grazing and FireSmart: the ASB Fieldman is working on approvals
- No applications were received for summer staff
- An ATV training course on May 24, 2019 is sponsored by ASB
- Review of policies is underway
- Fawcett Farmer's market on Friday night and Saturdays. A few will be held in Flatbush
- A two-day training course on animal rescue for emergencies is to be held
- Rural Roots publication is being developed
- Presentations by the Farmers' Advocate concerning financial help for farmers to clean up orphan wells have been held

**Athabasca Watershed Council**

- Bridge financing from AEP has been received so staff can be kept
- Went through bylaws and policies

**Community Education Committee**

- The meeting was held on the 18<sup>th</sup> instead of the 21<sup>st</sup>
- No MD representatives attended

**Chamber of Commerce**

- Information on the Town's off-site levies that changes how they are paying for projects.
- United Conservative Party representative Pat Rehn gave a presentation to the Chamber

**Lesser Slave Regional Housing Authority (LSRHA)**

- The 2018 audit is done and will be presented in 2 weeks
- Stuart Olsen was awarded the net zero design Sea Can building. The units will house 20 families
- The Government of Alberta transferred a property formerly used as social housing to the LSRHA. The dwelling is on a private lot. Since the unit is not needed, it will be disposed of, and the funds can be used by the LSRHA
- A few changes of occupants increased the maintenance costs
- The board did site checks to a few of the housing units
- Garage sale in May

**Peace Library System**

- Audit reviewed, surplus forecasted will go to the capital reserve
- Approved revised operating budget
- Facility upgrade for 1 million is completed. The remaining funds, \$117,000, will be used to fix odds and ends
- Report done to get the operating grant
- One library had a bed bug issue from bugs getting into books
- Indigenous resource program has money for libraries

**Slave Lake Airport**

- The meeting is on April 3, 2019

**Lesser Slave Watershed Council**

- No applicants for their ad for watershed education coordinator
- LSWC received operating funds
- Water quality checks will be done for 16 sites. None of the sites are for Lesser Slave River. May require a letter from the MD that we would like to see a study on Lesser Slave River. The quality check is for fecal matter

**Communities Futures – Lesser Slave Lake (CF)**

- The CF has received 19 inquiries, 9 approvals for loans were made in 2018
- Operational budget is \$210,000

- CF is supposed to grant \$400,000 worth of projects, even though the local CF gives out slightly less, the funding is still secure
- CF is moving out of the VIC. If any repairs needed, the MD will invoice the CF.

Councillor Melzer left at 4:36 p.m.

**MOTION 106-19**

Moved by Councillor Pearson to accept the *Board Reports* as information.

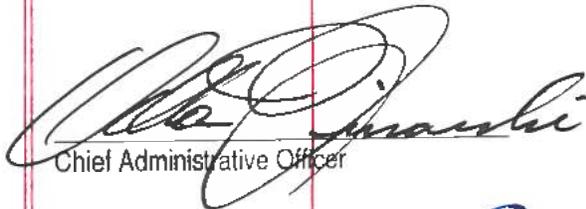
**CARRIED (6-0)**

**ADJOURNMENT**

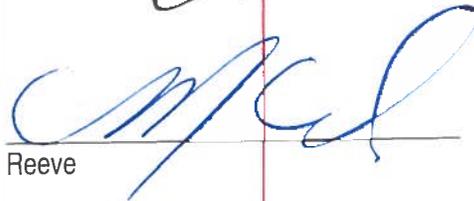
**MOTION 107-19**

Moved by Councillor Esau to adjourn the meeting at 4:37 p.m.

**CARRIED (6-0)**



Chief Administrative Officer



Reeve