

**MINUTES OF CLEAR HILLS COUNTY  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
JANUARY 27, 2009**

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**PRESENT**

|                      |              |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Pete Nykolyszyn      | Deputy Reeve |
| Brian Harcourt       | Councillor   |
| Bonnie Bigam         | Councillor   |
| Charles Johnson      | Councillor   |
| Jake Klassen         | Councillor   |
| William (Bill) Moedt | Councillor   |

**REGRETS**

|               |       |
|---------------|-------|
| Frances Davis | Reeve |
|---------------|-------|

**ATTENDING**

|                  |     |
|------------------|-----|
| Ray Coad         | CAO |
| Wendy Schmaltz   | CSM |
| Allan Rowe       | PWM |
| Melissa Kamphuis | EA  |

**MEMBERS OF THE  
PUBLIC**

The following members of the public were present:  
Jerry Hale, Lewis Hale and Baldur Ruecker.

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Deputy Reeve Nykolyszyn called the meeting to order at 9:29 a.m.

**AGENDA**

**C047(01/27/09)**

**RESOLUTION by Councillor Moedt that Council adopts the agenda governing the regular Council meeting of January 27, 2009 with the following additions:**

- **7F - Letter from Jerry Hale**
- **7G - Cleardale Trade School**
- **7H – North Peace Housing Foundation**
- **7I – Council Salaries**
- **7J –Two Truck Purchases**

**CARRIED.**

**MINUTES**

**C048(01/27/09)**

**RESOLUTION by Councillor Klassen that Council adopts the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of January 13, 2009, as amended.** **CARRIED.**

**BUSINESS ARISING  
FROM THE  
MINUTES**

Councillor Johnson requested background items from the accounts payable report and credit card statements from the January 13, 2009 Council meeting. Council also discussed paving in Cleardale and truck parking in Cleardale. North Peace Housing will be coming to the February 10, 2009 Council meeting. Council also discussed the lots purchased for a nurse residence in Worsley.

**C049(01/27/09)**

**RESOLUTION by Councillor Bigam that Council rescind resolution C032(01/13/09).** **CARRIED.**

DELEGATION

The following delegation is scheduled to appear in the meeting:

- RCMP – 9:45 a.m. (did not make it)

COUNCIL

Senior Management  
Team Activity Report

The report from Senior Management was reviewed.

**C050(01/27/09)**

**RESOLUTION by Councillor Klassen that Council accepts the Senior Management Team Activity Report of January 21, 2009 for information. CARRIED.**

AAMD&C Zone  
Meeting

The AAMD&C District 4 Zone Meeting will be held on Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup> in Joussard, Alberta, beginning at 10 a.m. They are seeking agenda items and resolutions prior to January 30<sup>th</sup>.

**C051(01/27/09)**

**RESOLUTION by Councillor Moedt that Council accepts for information the AAMD&C District 4 Zone Meeting on February 13<sup>th</sup> in Joussard, Alberta. CARRIED.**

Spirit of Edmonton

Mackenzie County is seeking contributions towards the ‘Spirit of Edmonton Project’ which would be given towards a re-enactment of the historic ‘Wop May’ mercy flight to Fort Vermillion as well as letters of support to keep the Edmonton Municipal Airport open, especially for emergency flights.

**C052(01/27/09)**

**RESOLUTION by Councillor Klassen that Council sends a letter of support to the Mayor of Edmonton (and send a copy to our Member of Parliament, Premier, MLA) in regards to keeping the Edmonton Municipal Airport open, especially for emergencies. CARRIED.**

Wildlife Committee

A Regional Wildlife Committee was discussed at two previous Interprovincial Meetings (Bonanza and Dawson Creek) and an agreement was made for such a committee. Clear Hills County Council is now requested to appoint a representative to sit on this committee.

**C053(01/27/09)**

**RESOLUTION by Councillor Klassen that Council determines the representative and alternate on the Regional Wildlife Committee by secret ballot. CARRIED.**

**C054(01/27/09)**

**RESOLUTION by Councillor Klassen that Council appoints Councillor Johnson as the representative on the Regional Wildlife Committee and appoints Councillor Moedt as the alternate. CARRIED.**

- Proclamation Request Peace Country Council of Canadians Chapter is requesting Clear Hills County Council consider declaring Peace Region elected officials to participate in a nation wide Energy Day of Action.
- C055(01/27/09)** **RESOLUTION by Councillor Bigam that Council accepts for information the discussion regarding the Peace Region Council of Canadian Chapter's request to participate in a nation wide Energy Day of Action. CARRIED.**
- Deputy Reeve Nykolyszyn called for a break at 10:25 a.m.; the meeting reconvened at 10:33 a.m.
- ADDITION* – Letter from Jerry Hale A letter was received from Jerry Hale regarding the January 13, 2009 Council meeting. This item was added to the agenda by Councillor Johnson.
- C056(01/27/09)** **RESOLUTION by Councillor Johnson that Council writes off the taxes and back interest for Flossie & Dave Holroyd. TABLED.**
- C057(01/27/09)** **RESOLUTION by Councillor Bigam that Council tables writing off the taxes and back interest for Flossie & Dave Holroyd until the February Policies & Priorities Meeting. CARRIED.**
- ADDITION* – Cleardale Trade School Councillor Moedt requested this item on the agenda.
- C058(01/27/09)** **RESOLUTION by Councillor Moedt that Council schedules a meeting with the Minister of Education and Minister of Children's Services regarding a Trade School in Cleardale. CARRIED.**
- ADDITION* – North Peace Housing Foundation Councillor Harcourt requested this item on the agenda.
- C059(01/27/09)** **RESOLUTION by Councillor Bigam that Council accepts for information the update provided on the North Peace Housing Foundation. CARRIED.**
- ADDITION* – Council Salaries Deputy Reeve Nykolyszyn requested this item on the agenda.
- C060(01/27/09)** **RESOLUTION by Councillor Moedt that Council tables establishing a cap on Council salaries to the February Policies & Priorities Committee meeting. CARRIED.**

*ADDITION* – Two  
Truck Purchases

Deputy Reeve Nykolyshyn requested this item on the agenda. He wanted to know how the trucks were tendered. Manager Rowe replied that written quotes were obtained from a couple dealerships that carried the types of trucks desired. Councillor Johnson noted that the policy states sealed tenders were to be obtained for a purchase of this amount. CAO Coad noted that the purchase of these vehicles was approved in the 2009 budget and that this is the way vehicles have been purchased since before he got here.

Councillors discussed tabling Policy 1221 – Tendering and Purchasing, to the February Policies & Priorities Committee meeting and possible changes that may need to be made to that policy. Councillor Johnson stated that as Council provided the CAO with verbal reprimand for other breaks in policy, then written reprimand, the next step is to dismiss him. Councillor Johnson said that the nurse's mobile home was purchased without sealed tenders or a Council resolution. CAO Coad stated that he brought the quotes and information on a number of mobile homes to Council three separate times and Council passed the resolution to purchase the unit. Councillor Johnson also stated that the CAO has used his credit card for personal use, that the CAO spent more on a computer purchase than the Computer Purchase Policy allowed, that the CAO purchased lots for the nurse's residence in Worsley without following the proper steps which led to later realizing there were buried tanks that needed to be removed and a house encroaching onto one of those lots. CAO Coad noted that Council passed the resolution to purchase the lots for the nurse's residence and that the landowner or the County's lawyer did not notify us of any issues with these lots.

Councillor Bigam stated that Council has to take some responsibility for allowing and/or not catching the breaks in policy. Councillor Harcourt stated that there is not enough background given to call for dismissal of the CAO at this time. Deputy Reeve Nykolyshyn noted that he doesn't feel Council directed administration to conduct a sealed tender for the purchase of the trucks. Councillor Klassen requested the budget for the three trucks purchased. Manager Rowe said the budget was \$120,000 and that the actual total cost for the trucks was \$90,273. Councillor Harcourt asked Manager Rowe what types of trucks were purchased. Manager Rowe said they purchased a GMC 1500 Super cab, a Dodge 2500 Regular cab, and a Dodge 1500 Mega cab.

**C061(01/27/09)**

**RESOLUTION by Councillor Johnson that Council dismisses the CAO for the disregard of Council Policy.**

**Councillor Johnson requested a recorded vote:**

**FOR**

**AGAINST**

**Councillor Johnson**

**Deputy Reeve Nykolyshyn**

**Councillor Bigam**

**Councillor Harcourt**

**Councillor Klassen**

**Councillor Moedt DEFEATED.**

**CORPORATE**

Accounts Payable

A list of expenditures for Clear Hills County for the period of January 14, 2009 to January 27, 2009 was provided to Council for their review and ratification.

**C062(01/27/09)**

**RESOLUTION by Councillor Klassen that Council ratifies the expenditures for Clear Hills County for the period of January 14, 2009 to January 27, 2009 for a total of \$811,661.82.**

**CARRIED.**

Councillor Harcourt declared a pecuniary interest.

**C063(01/27/09)**

**RESOLUTION by Councillor Moedt that Council ratifies cheque no. 4383 for a total of \$438.37.**

**CARRIED.**

Deputy Reeve Nykolyshyn declared a pecuniary interest.

**C064(01/27/09)**

**RESOLUTION by Councillor Bigam that Council ratifies cheque no. 4396 for a total of \$5,250.00.**

**CARRIED.**

Sale of Land

The Policies & Priorities Committee Meeting passed a resolution to recommend Council sell Lot 10 and Lot 12, Block 1, Plan 0024465 by sealed tender with a reserved bid of \$20,000 per property in early spring and direct administration to advertise this intent and schedule a public hearing.

**C065(01/27/09)**

**RESOLUTION by Councillor Moedt that Council sell Lot 10 and Lot 12, Block 1, Plan 0024465 by sealed tender with a reserved bid of \$20,000 per property in early spring and direct administration to advertise this intent.**

**CARRIED.**

Policy 1202

Council has previously passed a motion to direct Administration to draft a policy for the treatment of bad debts. Policy 1202 has been amended to include procedures for bad debts. The Policy and Priorities Committee is recommending Council amend Policy 1202 as discussed to include a section for bad debt, procedures for write-off and denying participation in Municipal Programs to customers with written off debts.

**C066(01/27/09)**

**RESOLUTION by Councillor Klassen that Council amends Policy 1202, to include a section for bad debt, procedures for write-off and denying credit and participation in rental equipment and V.S.I. programs to customers with written off debts. CARRIED.**

Benefits

During budget deliberations Council and administration discussed increasing benefit coverage. The costs of these increases would be offset by the elimination of Alberta Health Care Premiums.

**C067(01/27/09)**

**RESOLUTION by Councillor Bigam that Council tables increasing benefit coverage to the Policies & Priorities Committee meeting in February. CARRIED.**

COMMUNITY  
Manager's Report

Community Development Manager Audrey Bjorklund provided Council with a written report on activities and projects underway in the Community Development department.

**C068(01/27/09)**

**RESOLUTION by Councillor Bigam that Council accepts the location of the nurses residence and direct administration to cancel the legal survey of the lots. CARRIED.**

**C069(01/27/09)**

**RESOLUTION by Councillor Johnson that Council requests Shannon Burns purchase back Plan 802KS, Block 3, Lot 2 and pay for the removal of the buried tanks. CARRIED.**

**C070(01/27/09)**

**RESOLUTION by Councillor Moedt that Council accepts for information the Community Development Manager's written report. CARRIED.**

Deputy Reeve Nykolyshyn broke for lunch at 12:07 p.m.; the meeting reconvened at 12:44 p.m.

Occupied Land  
Resolution

Council directed that an amended fire charges resolution be brought forward for submission to the next AAMD&C zone meeting.

**C071(01/27/09)**      **RESOLUTION by Councillor Moedt that Council submits the amended fire charges resolution to the next AAMD&C zone meeting. CARRIED.**

Firewood      Peter Frixel presented a proposal for county residents getting firewood to Council at the January 13, 2009 meeting. The Policies & Priorities Committee recommended that Council reply to Mr. Frixel's proposal with Alberta Sustainable Resource Development's procedures for individuals collecting firewood on public lands.

**C072(01/27/09)**      **RESOLUTION by Councillor Bigam that Council replies to Mr. Frixel's proposal with Alberta Sustainable Resource Development's procedures for individuals collecting firewood on public lands. CARRIED.**

Drought Response      Council is presented with a letter from Alberta Agriculture and Food Minister informing that the County has been declared eligible for a tax deferral on drought-induced sales of breeding livestock in 2008.

**C073(01/27/09)**      **RESOLUTION by Councillor Bigam that Council write a letter of thanks to the Minister for recognizing the impact of drought on County farmers and notify in the County newsletter that Alberta and Agriculture has declared Clear Hills County eligible for a tax deferral on drought-induced sales of breeding livestock in 2008. CARRIED.**

PUBLIC WORKS  
Manager's Report      Public Works Manager Allan Rowe provided Council with a written report on activities and projects underway in the Public Works department.

**C074(01/27/09)**      **RESOLUTION by Councillor Bigam that Council accepts for information the Public Works Manager's report. CARRIED.**

Dust Control      The Policies & Priorities Committee recommended Council authorize dust control with calcium at the Eureka River Post Boxes, Eureka River Hall, Eureka River Cemetery, Worsley Cemetery, David Thompson Hall, Worsley Water Plant, Clear Prairie Cemetery, 1 mile South of the Whitelaw Landfill, Old Colony Mennonite Church and the Montagneuse Valley Road Cemeteries 1 & 2.

Councillor Klassen withdrew from the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

- C075(01/27/09)**      **RESOLUTION by Councillor Johnson that Council authorize dust control with calcium at the Eureka River Post Boxes, Eureka River Hall, Eureka River Cemetery, Worsley Cemetery, David Thompson Hall, Worsley Water Plant, Clear Prairie Cemetery, 1 mile South of the Whitelaw Landfill, Old Colony Mennonite Church and the Montagneuse Valley Road Cemeteries 1 & 2, Cherry Point Hall, Cherry Point Post Office, Bear Canyon Post Office, Bear Canyon Hall, the Cherry Point Cemetery as well as breaks on Secondary Highway 717.**  
**CARRIED.**
- Water Hauling      Council is requested to extend the Bear Canyon Water Hauling contract with 4D Holdings for one year as it has been confirmed that the haul rate will remain unchanged so long as cost of water remains unchanged.
- C076(01/27/09)**      **RESOLUTION by Councillor Johnson that Council directs Administration to extend the Bear Canyon Water Hauling contract with 4D Holdings to April 30, 2010 at the current contract haul rate and if municipal water rates increase, the water rate for the contract will increase by the same amount as the municipal increase.**  
**CARRIED.**
- Councillor Klassen returned to the meeting at 1:42 p.m.
- Water Service and Cost vs. Revenue      Council has requested information regarding service areas and expenses for potable water.
- C077(01/27/09)**      **RESOLUTION by Councillor Johnson that Council accepts the potable water service areas and cost vs. revenue documentation for information.**  
**CARRIED.**
- CONFIDENTIAL  
ITEMS
- C078(01/27/09)**      **RESOLUTION by Councillor Moedt that Council goes in camera at 1:54 p.m.**  
**CARRIED.**
- Brushing 2008-2009      This item was discussed in camera.
- Gravel Purchase      This item was discussed in camera.
- C079(01/27/09)**      **RESOLUTION by Councillor Bigam that Council comes out of camera at 3:07 p.m.**  
**CARRIED.**
- C080(01/27/09)**      **RESOLUTION by Councillor Bigam that Council receives for information, the Hillbilly Ranch Brushing 2008-09 Contract update provided by Public Works Manager.**  
**CARRIED.**

**C081(01/27/09)**

**RESOLUTION by Councillor Klassen that Council not pursue the purchase of Agroc's gravel reserves located at N ½ Section 30-85-7-W6M at this time. CARRIED.**

INFORMATION &  
CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was reviewed:

- o Alberta Emerald Foundation Awards
- o Vitalize 2009 – Provincial Volunteers Conference
- o Letters on Alberta Forest Products Industry

**C082(01/27/09)**

**RESOLUTION by Councillor Harcourt that Council accepts the correspondence presented at the January 27, 2009 meeting for information. CARRIED.**

COUNCIL REPORTS

Nothing to report at this time.

REVIEW of  
CALENDARS

Council reviewed upcoming meetings and conference dates and updated calendars.

ADJOURNMENT

**C083(01/27/09)**

**RESOLUTION by Councillor Johnson that Council adjourns the regular Council meeting of January 27, 2009 at 3:17 p.m. CARRIED.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

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REEVE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

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CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER