

**LAC LA BICHE COUNTY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MCARTHUR PLACE, LAC LA BICHE**

April 29, 2025-10:00 a.m.

Minutes of the Lac La Biche County Regular Council Meeting held April 29, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Reutov called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

PRESENT	Paul Reutov	Mayor
	John Mondal	Councillor
	Kevin Paré	Councillor
	Lorin Tkachuk	Councillor
	Charlyn Moore	Councillor (<i>Joined at 1:26 p.m. and participated electronically</i>)
	Jason Stedman	Councillor/Deputy Mayor
	Sterling Johnson	Councillor (<i>Participated electronically</i>)
	Colette Borgun	Councillor
	Darlene Beniuk	Councillor

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE	Manny Deol	Chief Administrative Officer
	Ali Memon	GM, Infrastructure
	Hafsah Moghrabi	GM, Corporate Services
	Gary Harman	GM, Recreation & Social Services
	Kashif Ijaz	GM, Strategy and Growth
	John Kokotilo	GM, Protective Services
	Mackenzie Zilinski	Senior Executive Assistant
	Heather Reid	Lead Legislative Officer
	Danielle Patenaude	Legislative Officer

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

25.163

MOVED

To adopt the April 29, 2025 Regular Council Meeting Agenda as presented.

In Favour (8): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CONSENT AGENDA

25.164

MOVED

That the recommendations contained in the following reports be approved:

- Item 4.1 Adoption of Minutes - April 8, 2025 Regular Council Meeting and April 8, 2025 Strategic Committee of Council
- Item 8.4 - Appointment of Weed & Pest Inspectors
Item 8.5 - Appointment of Agricultural Fieldman
- Item 8.14 - Rescinding of Motion 25.125 - 100 Street Intersection (Main Street Construction)

In Favour (8): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4.1 April 8, 2025 Regular Council Meeting and April 8, 2025 Strategic Committee of Council

The following motion was approved on the Consent Agenda:

25.164 That the April 8, 2025 Regular Council Meeting Minutes and the April 8, 2025 Strategic Committee of Council Meeting Minutes are adopted as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Councillor Reports

Each Council Member in attendance provided their Councillor Report which was received as information.

Councillor Tkachuk exited Council Chambers at 10:26 a.m. and returned at 10:27 a.m.

SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS

7.1 10:15 a.m. Presentation - Lac La Biche County Annual Audit (OPEN & CLOSED SESSION)

Mr. Jeff Allison, Metrix LLP electronically presented the Lac La Biche County Annual Audit item and responded to questions.

Deputy Mayor Stedman exited Council Chambers at 10:37 a.m. and returned at the same time.

CLOSED SESSION

25.165 MOVED

To go into Closed Session at 10:50 a.m. in accordance with the *Freedom and Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act* and pursuant to the following sections:

- Section 26-Testing procedures, tests and audits
- Section 16-Disclosure harmful to business interests of a third party
- Section 24-Advice from officials

In Favour (8): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.1 10:15 a.m. Presentation - Lac La Biche County Annual Audit (s.26-FOIP)

The following Members of Administration were present during Closed Session for presenting and recording purposes: Manny Deol, Hafsah Moghrabi, Heather Reid, Ali Memon, Danielle Patenaude, Mackenzie Zilinski, Kashif Ijaz and Jeff Alliston, Metrix LLP.

9.2 Healthcare Initiative (s.24 FOIP, s.16 FOIP, s.25 FOIP)

The following Members of Administration were present during Closed Session for presenting and recording purposes: Manny Deol, Hafsah Moghrabi, Heather Reid, Ali Memon, Danielle Patenaude, Mackenzie Zilinski, Kashif Ijaz and Jason Pincock.

The following Member of the public was present for presenting purposes: Cornelius Nortje.

RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING

25.166 MOVED

To return to Open Session at 11:40 a.m.

In Favour (8): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

8.2 2024 Annual Financial Statements

Ms. Hafsah Moghrabi, GM Corporate Services presented the 2024 Annual Financial Statements item and responded to questions.

Councillor Paré exited Council Chambers at 11:51 a.m.

25.167

MOVED

That County Council approves the 2024 Annual Financial Statements of Lac La Biche County, as presented in draft form.

In Favour (7): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

25.168

MOVED

That County Council accepts the audit findings report as presented in Closed Session as information.

In Favour (7): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

24.169

MOVED

That County Council directs Administration to make the 2024 Annual Financial Statements and the Auditor's Report available to the public via the County's website, <http://www.laclabichecounty.com/>

In Favour (7): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.3 2025 Tax Rate Bylaw - Three Readings

Ms. Moghrabi presented the 2025 Tax Rate Bylaw - Three Readings item and responded to questions.

Councillor Paré returned to Council Chambers at 11:53 a.m.

25.170 **MOVED**
That Bylaw 25-006 be given first reading this 29th day of April 2025.

In Favour (8): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

25.171 **MOVED**
That Bylaw 25-006 be given second reading on the 29th day of April 2025.

In Favour (8): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

25.172 **MOVED**
That Bylaw 25-006 be submitted for third and final reading on the 29th day of April 2025.

In Favour (8): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

25.173 **MOVED**
That Bylaw 25-006 be given third and final reading on the 29th day of April 2025.

In Favour (8): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

25.174 MOVED
To direct Administration to transfer the 2025 tax surplus of \$4,446,306.45 into the Stabilization Reserve.

In Favour (8): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.4 Appointment of Weed and Pest Inspectors 2025

The following motion was approved on the Consent Agenda:

25.164 That Lac La Biche County Council appoints Sarah Meyer, Landon Dufault and Tirzah Skyrpan as Weed and Pest Inspectors for the 2025 field season.

8.5 Appointment of Agricultural Fieldman

The following motion was approved on the Consent Agenda:

25.164 That Lac La Biche County Council appoints Brennan Scott as the Agricultural Fieldman, retroactive to February 11, 2025.

PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

7.2 12:00 p.m. Public Input Session

Administration confirmed that there was no one in the lobby or registered for the Public Input Session.

RECESS

Mayor Reutov called a recess at 12:19 p.m.

RECONVENE

Mayor Reutov reconvened the meeting at 1:00 p.m. with all those Members of Council previously listed in attendance.

DELEGATION

7.3 1:00 p.m. Delegation - Lac La Biche Pow Wow and Fish Derby Association

Mr. Ian Cloutier, Mr. Omer Moghrabi and Ms. Amani Abougouche - Lac La Biche Pow Wow and Fish Derby Association Board presented the Lac La Biche Pow Wow and Fish Derby Association County request and responded to questions.

Councillor Moore joined the meeting at 1:26 pm.

25.175

MOVED

That Council direct Administration to return to a subsequent meeting with recommendations regarding the request.

In Favour (8): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

8.6 Pleasant Acres Subdivision – Grading, Granular Base Course, Asphalt Concrete Pavement and Other Work

Mr. Ali Memon, GM Infrastructure Services presented the Pleasant Acres Subdivision – Grading, Granular Base Course, Asphalt Concrete Pavement and Other Work item and responded to questions.

25.176

MOVED

To award the Pleasant Acres Subdivision project to E Construction, a Division of CWC Inc. for \$4,659,710.00 with additional funding of \$646, 648 to come from the Stabilization Reserve Fund.

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.7 Campsite Road Project Award

Mr. Memon presented the Campsite Road Project Award item and responded to questions.

Councillor Tkachuk exited Council Chambers at 1:41 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

25.177

MOVED

To go into Closed Session at 1:45 p.m. in accordance with the Freedom and Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act and pursuant to the following sections:

- Section 16-Disclosure harmful to business interests of a third party
- Section 24-Advice from officials

In Favour (8): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 8.7 Campsite Road Project Award (Section 16-Disclosure harmful to business interests of a third party; Section 24-Advice from officials)

The following Members of Administration were present during Closed Session for presenting and recording purposes: Manny Deol, Hafsah Moghrabi, Heather Reid, Ali Memon, Danielle Patenaude, Mackenzie Zilinski and Kashif Ijaz.

Councillor Tkachuk returned to Council Chambers at 1:48 p.m.

RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING

- 25.178 MOVED
To return to Open Session at 2:03 p.m.

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 8.7 Campsite Road Project Award

- 25.179 MOVED
That Council award the Campsite Road Project to Knelsen Sand and Gravel Ltd. for \$8,485,458.90 and to approve an additional capital fund reallocation of \$912,362.52 to be from reserves in 2025; \$3,454,606.92 in the 2026 budget allocation; and \$3,540,441.24 in the 2027 budget allocation.

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

8.8 Hylo Recreation and Agriculture Society Parking Lot - Surface Upgrade

Deputy Mayor Stedman presented the Hylo Recreation and Agriculture Society Parking Lot - Surface Upgrade item and responded to questions.

Councillor Borgun exited Council Chambers at 2:17 p.m. and returned at 2:18 p.m.

25.180 MOVED

To direct Administration present a report outlining options relating to the use of recycled cold mix for the Hylo Recreation and Ag Society Parking Lot upgrade.

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

25.181 MOVED

To direct Administration present a report outlining use of recycled cold mix options for other County projects.

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RECESS

Mayor Reutov called a recess at 2:21 p.m.

RECONVENE

Mayor Reutov reconvened the meeting at 2:31 p.m. p.m. with all those Members of Council previously listed in attendance, except Councillor Pare.

CLOSED SESSION

25.182 MOVED

To go into Closed Session at 2:32 pm. in accordance with the following Freedom and Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act sections:

- Section 24-Advice from officials

In Favour (8): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Pare returned to Council Chambers at 2:33 p.m.

9.5 Transitional Housing (s.24-FOIP – Advice from Officials)

The following Members of Administration were present during Closed Session for presenting and recording purposes: Manny Deol, Hafsah Moghrabi, Heather Reid, Ali Memon, Danielle Patenaude, Mackenzie Zilinski. Kashif Ijaz and John Kokotilo.

The following public member was in attendance for presentation purposes, Staff Sergeant Chris Mosley.

9.3 Update on Gravel Audit (s.26 FOIP - Testing procedures, tests and audits; s.24FOIP - Advice from officials)

The following Members of Administration were present during Closed Session for presenting and recording purposes: Manny Deol, Hafsah Moghrabi, Heather Reid, Ali Memon, Danielle Patenaude, Mackenzie Zilinski. Kashif Ijaz, and Randi Dupras.

9.4 Committee Member Appointments (s.17 FOIP - Disclosure harmful to personal privacy)

The following Members of Administration were present during Closed Session for presenting and recording purposes: Manny Deol, Hafsah Moghrabi, Heather Reid, Ali Memon, Danielle Patenaude, Mackenzie Zilinski, and Kashif Ijaz.

RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING

25.183 MOVED

To return to Open Session at 3:33 p.m.

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

8.10 Federation of Canadian Municipalities - Resolution for Board Nomination

Councillor Moore presented the Federation of Canadian Municipalities - Resolution for Board Nomination item and responded to questions.

Deputy Mayor Stedman exited Council Chambers at 3:35 p.m. and returned at 3:37 p.m.

25.184 MOVED

WHEREAS the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) represents the interests of member municipalities on policy and program matters that fall within federal jurisdiction;

WHEREAS FCM's Board of Directors is comprised of elected municipal officials from all regions and sizes of communities to form a broad base of support and provide FCM with the united voice required to carry the municipal message to the federal government; and

WHEREAS FCM's Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held in conjunction with the Annual Conference and Trade Show, May 29 to June 1, 2025, followed by the election of FCM's Board of Directors;

BE IT RESOLVED that Council of Lac La Biche County endorse Councillor Charlyn Moore, Lac La Biche County to stand for election on FCM's Board of Directors, for the period starting in June 2025 and ending until the end of council term of October 2025 – AB.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council assumes all costs associated with Councillor Charlyn Moore attending FCM's Board of Directors meetings.

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.11 Amendment to the Meeting Procedures Bylaw

Ms. Reid presented the Amendment to the Meeting Procedures Bylaw item and responded to questions.

25.185 MOVED

That Bylaw 25-008 be given first reading this 29th Day of April, 2025.

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

25.186

MOVED

That Bylaw 25-008 be given second reading this 29th Day of April, 2025.

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

25.187

MOVED

That Bylaw 25-008 be submitted for third reading this 29th Day of April, 2025.

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

25.188

MOVED

That Bylaw 25-008 be given third reading this 29th Day of April, 2025.

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.12 Summer Recess

Ms. Reid presented the Summer Recess item and responded to questions.

25.189

MOVED

To cancel the August 5, 2025 Regular Council Meeting and Strategic Committee of Council meeting for a 2025 Summer Recess.

In Favour (8): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

Opposed (1): Councillor Beniuk

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.13 Did You Know - Council Information

Ms. Reid presented the Did You Know - Council Information item and responded to questions.

This item was received as information.

8.9 Appointment of Deputy Mayor - May to October 2025

Ms. Heather Reid, Lead Legislative Officer presented the Appointment of Deputy Mayor - May to October 2025 item and responded to questions.

Mayor Reutov made three calls for nominations.

The following Councillors either self nominated or were nominated: Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Stedman and Councillor Mondal.

A secret ballot vote took place.

Ms. Reid announced the results of the secret ballot vote.

25.190

MOVED

That Councillor Stedman be appointed Deputy Mayor starting May 1, 2025 and ending Election 2025.

In Favour (8): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

Opposed (1): Councillor Beniuk

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

25.191

MOVED

To destroy the secret ballots.

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 8.14 Rescinding of Motion 25.125 - 100 Street Intersection (Main Street Construction)

The following motion was approved on the Consent Agenda:

- 25.164 That the following Motion be rescinded:

“Motion #25.125: To direct Administration to Proceed with Option 1—Intermittent Opening of one lane in 100 Street Intersection”

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

- 9.1 10:15 a.m. Presentation - Lac La Biche County Annual Audit (s.26-FOIP)

The closed session presentation was received as information.

- 9.2 Healthcare Initiative (s.24 FOIP - Advice from officials, s.16 FOIP – Disclosure harmful to third party business interests; s.25 FOIP - Disclosure harmful to economic and other interests of a public body)

- 25.192 MOVED

Council directs Administration to proceed with the building acquisition as outlined in the report.

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 9.3 Update on Gravel Audit (s.26 FOIP - Testing procedures, tests and audits; s.24FOIP - Advice from officials)

25.193 MOVED
To direct Administration to pursue a third-party audit.

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.4 Committee Member Appointments (s.17 FOIP - Disclosure harmful to personal privacy)

25.194 MOVED
That Hazzle Costa be appointed to the Economic Development Advisory Committee in the Lac La Biche Chamber of Commerce Seat for a three-year term effective April 29, 2025 to April 29, 2028.

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

25.195 MOVED
That Nancy Broadbent be appointed to the Lac La Biche County Library Board for a three-year term effective April 22, 2025 to April 22, 2028.

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.5 Transitional Housing (Discussion) (s.24 FOIP - Advice from officials)

25.196

MOVED

To proceed as discussed in Closed Session.

In Favour (9): Mayor Reutov, Councillor Borgun, Councillor Moore, Councillor Mondal, Councillor Beniuk, Councillor Paré, Deputy Mayor Stedman, Councillor Tkachuk, and Councillor Johnson

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Reutov adjourned the April 29, 2025 Regular Council Meeting at 4:02 p.m.

Paul Reutov, Mayor

Manny Deol, Chief Administrative Officer