



Meeting Minutes

Regular Council Meeting

June 24, 2025, 9:00 AM
Town of Kitscoty Council Chambers/ Via ZOOM Webinar
5011 50 Street
Kitscoty, Alberta, Canada

Attendance

Reeve Marty Baker
Deputy Reeve Leslie Cusack
Councillor Dale Swyripa
Councillor Stacey Hryciuk
Councillor George Kuneff
Councillor Jason Stelmaschuk
Regrets Councillor Clinton Murray

Staff Present

General Manager of Public Works Ben McPhee
Planning and Community Services Admin. Assistant Andrea Neufeld
ACAO Hannah Musterer
Director of Protective Services Kirk Hughes
Director of Corporate Services Viren Tailor
Director of Natural Gas Utility Louis Genest
Director of Planning and Community Services Roger Garnett
Finance Manager Natasha Wobeser
Financial Analyst Nancy Fleming
Development Officer Michelle Harvey
Human Resources Administrator Andrea Wilkinson
Tax & Assessment Administrator Alyssa Irvine
Public Works Administrative Lead Jennifer Robertson
Public Works Administrative Assistant Karri Shurnaik
Protective Services Admin. Assistant Jolene Levesque

Summer Student Brooklyn Trefanenko
Health and Safety Coordinator Chris Neureuter
Economic Development Officer Wendy Wager
Public Works Project Manager Tristan Pidruchney
Engineering Technician Terry Daly

1. CALL TO ORDER

Reeve M. Baker called the June 24, 2025 Regular Council Meeting to order at 9:00 AM with all members in attendance.

This meeting was open to the public in person or via ZOOM webinar registration with eight members of the public registered to attend: Francey Repp, Shawn Jacula, Mike Schmidt and Christian Apostolovski all entered the meeting at 9:00 AM. Deanna Franklin and Julie Block entered the meeting at 9:15 AM. Linda Kappel entered the meeting at 9:58 AM. Kyle Hope entered the meeting at 10:23 AM.

Entering the meeting were: Rosemary Clayton, Vanessa Pare, Lance Pare, Ian McCormack, Shanon Skoreyko and James Wich.

Julie Block entered the meeting at 9:08 AM and left at 9:11 AM.

Shanon Skoreyko left the meeting at 9:08 AM.

2. OPENING INSPIRATION - COUNCILLOR GEORGE KUNEFF

Councillor George Kuneff provided an opening inspiration to the July 24, 2025 Regular Council Meeting.

3. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

4. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion Number: 2024-06-28

Moved by Deputy Reeve L. Cusack

THAT the County of Vermilion River approve the June 24, 2025 Regular Council Meeting Agenda as presented.

CARRIED

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

5.a REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL - JUNE 10, 2025

Motion Number: 2025-06-29

Moved by Councillor G. Kuneff

THAT the County of Vermilion River approve the June 10, 2025 Regular Meeting of Council Meeting Minutes as presented.

CARRIED

5.b AGRICULTURE SERVICE BOARD MEETING - JUNE 17, 2025

Motion Number: 2025-06-30

Moved by Councillor S. Hryciuk

THAT the County of Vermilion River approve the June 17, 2025 Agriculture Service Board Meeting Minutes as presented.

CARRIED

5.c POLICY & PRIORITY COMMITTEE MEETING - JUNE 17, 2025

Motion Number: 2025-06-31

Moved by Councillor J. Stelmaschuk

THAT the County of Vermilion River approve the June 17, 2025 Policy and Priorities Committee Meeting Minutes as presented.

CARRIED

Moved to 7. Business Arising Out of Prior Meetings

6. APPOINTMENTS

6.a 9:30 AM McELHANNEY - BLACKFOOT LAGOON JUNE 2025 UPDATE

Moved to 8.b.3 Blackfoot Lagoon June 2025 Update

6.b 10:00 AM SGT. COREY BUCKINGHAM, VERMILION RCMP

Motion Number: 2025-06-69

Moved by Councillor D. Swyripa

THAT the County of Vermilion River receive the Vermilion RCMP update provided by Sgt. Corey Buckingham as information

CARRIED

Moved to 15.a Closed Session

7. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF PRIOR MEETINGS

7.a BYLAW 25-06 – COUNTY OF VERMILION RIVER MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN – MOTION REQUIRED

Motion Number: 2025-06-32

Moved by Reeve M. Baker

THAT the County of Vermilion River introduce and defeat Second Reading to Bylaw 25-06, being the draft County of Vermilion River Municipal Development Plan to establish regulations on how land can be developed in the County of Vermilion River as per the Province of Alberta *Municipal Government Act*.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.b LAND USE BYLAW (BYLAW 25-05) – MOTION REQUIRED

Motion Number: 2025-06-33

Moved by Reeve M. Baker

THAT the County of Vermilion River introduce and defeat Second Reading to Bylaw 25-05, being the draft County of Vermilion River Land Use Bylaw to establish regulations on how land can be developed in the County of Vermilion River as per the Province of Alberta *Municipal Government Act*.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved to 6.a McElhanney – Blackfoot Lagoon June 2025 Update

8. COUNCIL NEW BUSINESS

8.a FINANCE

1. 2024 MUNICIPAL INDICATORS RESPONSE

Motion Number: 2025-06-35

Moved by Deputy Reeve L. Cusack

THAT the County of Vermilion River approve the Chief Administrative Officer's response to Municipal Affairs regarding the net book value of Tangible Capital Assets being less than 40 per cent in 2024.

CARRIED

2. 2024 FINANCIAL INDICATORS

Motion Number: 2025-06-36

Moved by Councillor J. Stelmaschuk

THAT the County of Vermilion River accepts the 2024 Financial Indicators Report as presented.

CARRIED

3. Assessment Information Gathering – For Information

Motion Number: 2025-06-37

Moved by Councillor J. Stelmaschuk

THAT the County of Vermilion River Policy and Priorities Committee accept the Assessment Information Gathering package as information.

CARRIED

4. MAY 2025 FINANCIAL REPORT

Motion Number: 2025-06-38

Moved by Councillor D. Swyripa

THAT the County of Vermilion River accept the May 2025 Financial Report as presented.

CARRIED

5. Request for Information

8.b PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES

1. MONTHLY PW REPORT FOR MAY 2025

Motion Number: 2025-06-39

Moved by Deputy Reeve L. Cusack

THAT the County of Vermilion River receive the May 2025 Public Works Monthly Report for information.

CARRIED

2. Township 494 Project Update

Motion Number: 2025-06-40

Moved by Councillor D. Swyripa

THAT the County of Vermilion River accept the information as presented regarding the STIP grant for the Township 494 from Highway 897 to Range Road 20 project.

CARRIED

Motion Number: 2025-06-41

Moved by Councillor J. Stelmaschuk

THAT the County of Vermilion River approve the funding for detailed design of Township 494 from Highway 897 to Range Road 20 in the amount of \$87,694.20 including contingency.

CARRIED

3. BLACKFOOT LAGOON JUNE 2025 UPDATE

Motion Number: 2025-06-34

Moved by Councillor J. Stelmaschuk

THAT the County of Vermilion River accept the information regarding the Blackfoot Lagoon Evaporation Pond Project.

CARRIED

Moved to 8.a Finance

4. Bridge File 70169 Tender – MOTION REQUIRED

Motion Number: 2025-06-42

Moved by Councillor J. Stelmaschuk

THAT the County of Vermilion River award the tender for Bridge File 70169 – Bridge Construction and Other Work to Formula Alberta Ltd. for a total project cost of \$1,466,936.08 plus GST to be funded from approved STIP grant funding, the County contribution for Bridge File 70169 in the 2025 Bridge Capital Budget, and withdrawal from the Bridge Capital Reserve.

CARRIED

5. CONCERN TRACKER REPORT

Motion Number: 2025-06-43

Moved by Councillor J. Stelmaschuk

THAT the County of Vermilion River receive the Current Concern Tracker Report from June 4, 2025, to June 17, 2025, and a report of the Active and In-Progress Concern Tracker up to June 3, 2025, for information.

CARRIED

6. Request for Information

RECESS – THAT the County of Vermilion River Regular Meeting of Council recess at 10:23 AM and reconvened at 10:33 AM with all members in attendance.

Kyle Hope joined the meeting at 10:23 AM

Moved to 6.b Sgt. Corey Buckingham, Vermilion RCMP

8.c NATURAL GAS UTILITY

1. Request for Information

8.d AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

1. AG 015 – Control of Clubroot Disease Policy

Motion Number: 2025-06-46

Moved by Councillor J. Stelmaschuk

THAT the County of Vermilion River Vermilion River approve the updated AG 015 Control of Clubroot Disease Policy as presented.

CARRIED

2. Appointment of Weed and Pest Act Appeal Committee

Motion Number: 2025-06-47

Moved by Councillor G. Kuneff

THAT the County of Vermilion River appoint Garth George, James Oberhofer, and Devin Lawrence as the Weed Control Act Appeal Committee for 2025

CARRIED

Motion Number: 2025-06-48

Moved by Councillor D. Swyripa

THAT the County of Vermilion River appoint James Oberhofer, Garth George and Devin Lawrence as the Agricultural Pest Act Appeal Committee for 2025.

CARRIED

3. Request for Information

8.e PROTECTIVE SERVICES

1. AMENDMENTS TO THE ALBERTA EMERGENCY SOCIAL SERVICES FRAMEWORK

Motion Number: 2025-06-49

Moved by Councillor J. Stelmaschuk

THAT the County of Vermilion River accept the amendments to the Alberta Emergency Social Services Framework as information.

CARRIED

2. Request for Information

8.f PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. LETTER TO THE TOWN OF VERMILION – MOTION REQUIRED

Motion Number: 2025-06-50

Moved by Councillor J. Stelmaschuk

THAT the County of Vermilion River accept the letter to the Town of Vermilion regarding the amount of funding provided by the County of Vermilion River to the Vermilion Public Library as amended with the last line removed.

CARRIED

Motion Number: 2025-06-51

Moved by Deputy Reeve L. Cusack

THAT the County of Vermilion River authorize the Reeve to sign the letter and send the letter to the Town of Vermilion.

CARRIED

2. Request for Information

8.g GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

1. May Report of the Assistant Chief Administrative Officer

Motion Number: 2025-06-52

Moved by Deputy Reeve L. Cusack

THAT the County of Vermilion River accepts the report of the Assistant Chief Administrative Officer as presented.

CARRIED

2. NEW VERMILION RCMP DETACHMENT COMMANDER

Motion Number: 2025-06-53

Moved by Councillor J. Stelmaschuk

THAT the County of Vermilion River appoint Deputy Reeve Cusack with Councillor Hryciuk as alternate to the Community Participation Interview for the hiring of a new Detachment Commander for the Vermilion RCMP.

CARRIED

3. Request for Information

9. POLICIES

9.a PW015 Snow Plow Flag Policy 7th Revision

Motion Number: 2025-06-54

Moved by Deputy Reeve L. Cusack

THAT the County of Vermilion River approve PW015 Snow Plow Flag Policy as presented.

CARRIED

9.b RESCIND SAFETY POLICY SA 003 SAFETY TRAINING DIRECTIVE

Motion Number: 2025-06-55

Moved by Deputy Reeve L. Cusack

THAT the County of Vermilion River rescind safety policy SA 003 Safety Training Directive.

CARRIED

9.c RESCIND POLICY SA 002 SAFETY INSPECTION DIRECTIVE

Motion Number: 2025-06-56

Moved by Councillor G. Kuneff

THAT the County of Vermilion River rescind safety policy SA 002 Safety Inspection Directive.

CARRIED

9.d RESCIND SAFETY POLICY SA 004 MAINTENANCE PROGRAM DIRECTIVE

Motion Number: 2025-06-57

Moved by Councillor J. Stelmaschuk

THAT the County of Vermilion River rescind safety policy SA 004 Maintenance Program Directive.

CARRIED

9.e RESCIND SAFETY POLICY SA 006 INVESTIGATION DIRECTIVE

Motion Number: 2025-06-58

Moved by Deputy Reeve L. Cusack

THAT the County of Vermilion River rescind safety policy SA 006 Investigation Directive.

CARRIED

9.f REVISE SAFETY POLICY SA 017 VEHICLE SAFETY POLICY

Motion Number: 2025-06-59

Moved by Councillor J. Stelmaschuk

THAT the County of Vermilion River approve safety policy SA 017 Vehicle Safety Policy as presented.

CARRIED

9.g POLICY PW032 WINTER ROAD MAINTENANCE STANDARDS – FIRST REVISION

Motion Number: 2025-06-60

Moved by Councillor J. Stelmaschuk

THAT the County of Vermilion River approve Policy PW032 Winter Road Maintenance Standards as presented.

CARRIED

RECESS – THAT the County of Vermilion River recess for lunch at 12:02 PM and reconvened at 12:45 PM with all members in attendance.

10. BYLAWS

10.a BYLAW 25-15, BEING A BYLAW TO AMEND THE COUNTY OF VERMILION RIVER MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (BYLAW 19-03) – MOTION REQUIRED

Motion Number: 2025-06-61

Moved by Councillor S. Hryciuk

THAT the County of Vermilion River give First Reading to Bylaw 25-15, being a bylaw to amend the County of Vermilion River Municipal Development Plan (Bylaw 19-03), for the purpose of amending Section 5.2 Adequate Subdivision of Land to revise part 5.2.8 to read *“The combined total maximum area of land that may be subdivided form a quarter section for vacant rural residential parcels, abandoned farmstead separations, and developed rural residential parcels shall be 10.1 ha (25.0 ac) (See Figure 3).”*

CARRIED

Motion Number: 2025-06-62

Moved by Councillor G. Kuneff

THAT the County of Vermilion River schedule a Public Hearing for Bylaw 25-15, being a bylaw to amend the County of Vermilion River Municipal Development Plan (Bylaw 19-03), for the purpose of amending Section 5.2 Adequate Subdivision of Land on July 15, 2025, at 10:30 AM at the Kitscoty Community Hall.

CARRIED

Moved to 15.b Jason Reinhart, Reinhart Group of Companies – FOIP Section 16(1) – Disclosure harmful to business interests of a third party

10.b BYLAW 25-13, FEE BYLAW – MOTION REQUIRED

Motion Number: 2025-06-65

Moved by Reeve M. Baker

THAT the County of Vermilion River direct Administration to reduce Planning and Community Services fees for Section 1: Documents, 2: Information Requests, 3: Development Permits, 4: Subdivisions, 5: Appeals and 11: Other by fifty (50%) per cent and bring back to the July 15, 2025 Regular Meeting of Council for First Reading

DEFEATED

Motion Number: 2025-06-66

Moved by Councillor G. Kuneff

THAT the County of Vermilion River give First Reading to Bylaw 25-13, being the Schedule of Fees for Goods and Services.

CARRIED

Motion Number: 2025-06-67

Moved by Deputy Reeve L. Cusack

THAT the County of Vermilion River give Second Reading to Bylaw 25-13, being the Schedule of Fees for Goods and Services.

CARRIED

- 11. DELEGATIONS / PUBLIC HEARINGS**
- 12. DISPOSITION OF DELEGATION BUSINESS**
- 13. NOTICES OF MOTION**
- 14. COUNCIL REPORTS**

Councillor Kuneff reported on the Senior lunch at the Kitscoty Hall, VRRRA meeting, and Waste Management meeting.

Councillor Swyripa reported on the Senior lunch at the Kitscoty Hall, O&M Federation Committee, and the June AGM.

Councillor Stelmaschuk reported on virtual Buffalo Trails Public School Division meeting.

Reeve Baker reported on FCM, Battle River Seed Plant, Lea Park Sponsor Supper, County of Vermilion River Public Engagement, Paradise Valley Fair and Waste Management meeting.

Deputy Reeve Cusack reported on FCM, Senior lunch at Kitscoty Hall, Lea Park Rodeo Sponsor Supper, Virtual Buffalo Trails Public School Division meeting, County of Vermilion River Public Engagement, Dewberry Parade and the grand opening of the Vermilion Library elevator.

Councillor Hryciuk reported on the Vermilion Parks and Ag. Quarterly meeting, Senior lunch at the Kitscoty Hall, grand opening of the Vermilion Library elevator, the wedding of the CAO, Waste Management meeting, East Central 911, County of Vermilion River Public Engagement, Vermilion and District Housing Foundation.

15. CLOSED SESSION - CONFIDENTIAL

Motion Number: 2025-06-44

Moved by Councillor J. Stelmaschuk

THAT the County of Vermilion River Regular Meeting of Council move to a Closed Session at 10:56 AM with all members in attendance.

CARRIED

15.a 10:30 AM ADVICE FROM OFFICIALS – DOG CONTROL – BORDER PAWS NEGOTIATIONS - FOIP SECTION 24(1)(a)

Motion Number: 2025-06-63

Moved by Deputy Reeve L. Cusack

THAT the County of Vermilion River Regular Meeting of Council move to a Closed Session at 1:08 PM with all members in attendance.

CARRIED

15.b 1:00 PM JASON REINHART, REINHART GROUP OF COMPANIES - FOIP SECTION 16(1) – DISCLOSURE HARMFUL TO BUSINESS INTERESTS OF A THIRD PARTY

15.c PERSONNEL, FOIP LABOUR SECTION 17(1)

Motion Number: 2025-06-70

Moved by Councillor G. Kuneff

THAT the County of Vermilion River postpone the discussion to the July 15, 2025 Regular Meeting of Council.

CARRIED

16. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Motion Number: 2025-06-45

Moved by Councillor S. Hryciuk

THAT the County of Vermilion River Regular Meeting of Council return to Open Session at 11:26 AM with all members in attendance.

CARRIED

Motion Number: 2025-06-64

Moved by Councillor J. Stelmaschuk

THAT the County of Vermilion River Regular Meeting of Council return to Open Session at 1:54 PM with all members in attendance.

CARRIED

17. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

18. ADJOURNMENT

Reeve M. Baker adjourned the June 24, 2025 Regular Council Meeting at 2:26 PM with all members in attendance.

Marty Baker, Reeve

Alan Parkin, Chief Administrative Officer