

NORTH RED DEER RIVER WATER SERVICES COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
April 3, 2023

In Attendance: Mayor Grant Creasey, NRDRWSC Chair, City of Lacombe,
Councillor Clayton Nelson, NRDRWSC Vice-Chair, Town of Ponoka,
Councillor Ken Weenink, Lacombe County
Councillor Mark Matejka, Ponoka County
Mayor Jamie Hoover, Town of Blackfalds

Others Present: Jordan Thompson, NRDRWSC CAO
Denise Bellabono, NRDRWSC Administrative Assistant
Matthew Goudy, CAO, City of Lacombe
Justin DeBresser, Acting CAO, Town of Blackfalds
Preston Weran, Director of Infrastructure and Property Services,
Town of Blackfalds
Tim Timmons, County Manager, Lacombe County
Tracey McKinnon, Senior Manager of Finance, City of Lacombe
Amber Mitchell, Engineering Manager, City of Lacombe
Chris Huston, Utilities Manager, City of Lacombe
Angela Smith, Regional Utilities Foreman, City of Lacombe (*Remote*)
Iwalani Post, Administrative Assistant, City of Lacombe

Guests: Joel Sawatzky, Stantec Consulting Ltd.
Todd Simenson, Stantec Consulting Ltd (*Remote*)
Michael Levia, CPA, CA, BDO Canada LLP
Ryan Wachter, CPA, CA, BDO Canada LLP

Regrets: Councillor John Ireland, Lacombe County
Charlie Cutforth, CAO, Ponoka County
Sandra Lund, CAO, Town of Ponoka
Michael Minchin, Director of Corporate Services, Lacombe County

1. Call to Order:

Chair Creasey called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

2. Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda

MOVED by Mayor Hoover that the regular meeting agenda for April 3, 2023, be adopted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Adoption of the Minutes:

3.1. Regular Meeting Minutes of November 7, 2022

MOVED by Councillor Matejka that the minutes for November 7, 2022, be adopted as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Presentations

4.1. 2022 Financial Audit – BDO Canada LLP

Mr. Levia and Mr. Wachter of BDO Canada LLP, reviewed the Auditor's Report and the 2022 Audited Financial Statements, comprising of the financial position as of December 31, 2022. The non-financial assets book value is \$26.6 million cost less amortization, surplus of 26.5 million. Long-term debt payments for 2023 will be \$880,000. Debt limit has \$3.8 million remaining debt capacity. Statement of Operations was close to budgeted amounts. Water sales revenue was under budget, Purchase of water expense was under budget. Interest income was well above budgeted amount due to rising interest rates on investments. The amortization of capital assets process was discussed.

5. Reports

5.1. Administrator

CAO Thompson presented the Administration Report highlighting the Board of Directors second orientation session June 19th. Effective March 1, City of Red Deer water consumption rate will be \$1.64 per cubic meter. Due to higher than predicted rates, NRDRWSC will require a modest rate increase to members starting in 2024. A draft Memorandum of Understanding with Ermineskin Cree Nation (ECN) and NRDRWSC has been delivered to the province. The Commission has requested the province approve access to grant funds to cover management and legal costs to date.

Financials were provided for January/February. Water volumes are slightly higher than 2022 and expenses slightly lower than budgeted.

Operations and the City of Red Deer will perform Regional Reservoir Refresh for all nine facilities over the course of the year.

5.2 Chair

Chair Creasey provided a verbal report of his communication with a representative from another First Nations community regarding the waterline expansion to the north and the interest from other First Nations in the area to potentially become a member in the future.

MOVED by Vice-Chair Nelson to accept the April 3, 2023 Reports as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Old Business

7. New Business / Emergent Items:

7.1. 2022 Financial Audit

Sr. Manager McKinnon presented the 2022 Financial Audit to be submitted to Alberta Municipal Affairs by May 1, 2023.

MOVED by Mayor Hoover that the Commission approve the North Red Deer River Water Services Commission 2022 Audited Financial Statement as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOVED by Vice-Chair Nelson that the Commission approve the \$76,806 transfer to the Capital Reserve.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8. Correspondence:

8.1 Signalta Power – Power Generating Station

Signalta Power will be constructing a natural gas fired peaking power generation facility northeast of the Town of Blackfalds and will not conflict with NRDRWSC lines. Blackfalds Administration has seen this correspondence and has no concerns at this time.

9. Next Meeting:

Monday, June 19, 2023, at 9:00 am, City of Lacombe Council Chambers

Adjournment:

MOVED by Councillor Weenink to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 am.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Chairperson

ORIGINAL SIGNED

Administrator