



PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

ELECTORAL AREA DIRECTORS COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 24, 2025, 1:00 p.m.
1981 Alaska Avenue, Dawson Creek, BC

Directors Present: Chair Rose, Electoral Area E (via Zoom)
Vice-Chair Sperling, Electoral Area C (Chaired the meeting)
Director Hiebert, Electoral Area D
Reid Graham, Alternate Director Electoral Area B (via Zoom)

Staff Present: Shawn Dahlen, Chief Administrative Officer
Tyra Henderson, Corporate Officer
Roxanne Shepherd, Chief Financial Officer
Joanne Caldecott, Deputy Corporate Officer
Kari Bondaroff, General Manager of Environmental Services
Kevin Clarkson, General Manager of Community Services
Daris Gillis, Environmental Services Manager
Gerritt Lacey, Solid Waste Services Manager
Trevor Ouellette, IT Manager
Katherine Lovino, Administrative Clerk/Recorder

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chair Sperling called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOVED Director Hiebert

SECONDED Chair Rose

That the Electoral Area Directors Committee agenda for January 24, 2025, be adopted:

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

3. GALLERY COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4.1 Electoral Area Directors Committee Draft Meeting Minutes of December 12, 2024

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6. DELEGATIONS

7. CORRESPONDENCE

8. REPORTS

8.1 Rose Prairie Water Well Drilling Program Update, ENV-EADC-041

8.2 PRRD NDI Grant Application – Grant Writing Services, ADM-EADC-059

9. NEW BUSINESS

10. DIARY

10.1 Diary Updates, ADM-EADC-060

10.2 EADC Diary

(Cont'd on next page)



11. CONSENT CALENDAR

11.1 EADC Terms of Reference

12. NOTICE OF MOTION

13. ADJOURNMENT

CARRIED

3. GALLERY COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4.1 Electoral Area Directors Committee Draft Meeting Minutes of December 12, 2024

MOVED Director Hiebert

SECONDED Alternate Director Graham

That the Electoral Area Directors Committee Meeting Minutes of December 12, 2024 be adopted.

CARRIED

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

6. DELEGATIONS

7. CORRESPONDENCE

8. REPORTS

8.1 Rose Prairie Water Well Drilling Program Update, ENV-EADC-041

MOVED Alternate Director Graham

SECONDED Director Hiebert

That the Electoral Area Directors Committee receive the report titled "Rose Prairie Water Well Drilling Program Update, ENV-EADC-041" for discussion.

CARRIED

Alternate Director Graham noted the close proximity of the proposed drilling for the fourth well being 50m away from the drilling site of the third well which had not been successful. He questioned incurring further expense when the chances of a successful outcome did not seem strong and indicated hesitance in approving the recommendation in light of the past outcomes for well drilling and ahead of the Area B by-election.

Staff provided background information on the Rose Prairie Water Well Drilling Program which included the following points:

- There was absolutely no guarantee that drilling the fourth well would be successful.
- During drilling of the third well, there were complications and the well collapsed on itself.
- During drilling of the third well, the samples obtained did not have any traces of H2S and/or methane, however the samples had traces of arsenic. Staff does not know whether the current water treatment facility will be able to remove arsenic.
- The well in existence can be used for observation in the future.



- The Engineering company recommended that the next well should be drilled within 50m of the third well to allow for accurate observation; the hope being to hit the same seam of water as the third well, however results are uncertain without full testing.
- No probability or level of confidence has been provided by the drilling company for the fourth well.
- The definition for an observation well is required by the ground water regulations.
- The station was originally equipped with a pilot granular activated carbon filtration system that needed to be upgraded however the cost of upgrading to a fully activated carbon treatment facility with aeration had risen to between \$2.8 and \$4.5 million resulting in the decision to seek an alternative water source.
- A survey was done to determine acceptable locations and the North Peace Regional Park well was chosen as the preferred site. Testing was done at the site however the water was deemed unsuitable, and Board direction was to move the station and drill three additional wells in the vicinity of the new location in the hopes of finding an alternative source of water. The first two wells did not have adequate flow rates, and water from the third well could not be treated due to the elements present.
- Costs of drilling to date total \$275,509 and the cost to drill the fourth well was estimated at \$60,000.
- Funding has been earmarked for this work and would be made available if necessary.

Staff noted that at the community meeting held with Rose Prairie residents and the former Electoral Area B Director, the desire for a water source in the area was made very clear. If the project was turned down, the next alternative would be to look for another water source; the existing site would have to be decommissioned with landowners given back access to piped water. However, financial considerations at the site must be considered. The Committee agreed that Alternate Director Graham would benefit from reviewing the past documentation on the program to help inform his decision.

MOVED Alternate Director Graham
 SECONDED Director Hiebert

That the Electoral Area Directors Committee defer the report titled “Rose Prairie Water Well Drilling Program Update, ENV-EADC-041” to the next EADC meeting and forward all relevant information on the Rose Prairie Water Well Drilling Program to Alternate Director Graham. **CARRIED**

8.2 PRRD NDI Grant Application – Grant Writing Services, ADM-EADC-059

MOVED Director Hiebert
 SECONDED Chair Rose

That the Electoral Area Directors Committee recommend that the Regional Board authorize the submission of a grant application to Northern Development Initiative Trust - Grant Writing Support for a grant of up to \$8,000 to be used for rural Grant Writing Services; further, that the Peace River Regional District commit to providing financial resources to fund grant writing services in excess of the grant amount and to cover expenses not eligible under the grant program; and finally, that funding for rural Grant Writing Services be included in the 2025 Financial Plan under Function 120 - Legislative Electoral Area. **CARRIED**



9. NEW BUSINESS

10. DIARY

Directors discussed the report titled “Diary Updates – ADM-EADC-060” requesting that the Agriculture Advisory Committee be removed from the Electoral Area Directors Committee Diary. Staff noted that the Committee had comprehensively explored the issue as requested and, given that the requested information had been reported in November 2024 with no further direction to pursue a committee, removal of the item was recommended since the associated work had been completed. However, Director Hiebert requested that the item remain on the Diary until the new Electoral Area B Director has been elected.

MOVED Director Hiebert

SECONDED Alternate Director Graham

That the Electoral Area Directors Committee receive the January 24, 2024 Diary for information.

CARRIED

Opposed: Chair Rose

11. CONSENT CALENDAR

11.1 EADC Terms of Reference

12. NOTICE OF MOTION

13. ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 1:26 p.m.

CERTIFIED a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Peace River Regional District's Electoral Area Directors Committee meeting held on January 24, 2025 in the PRRD Board Room, 1981 Alaska Avenue, Dawson Creek, BC.

Brad Sperling, Chair

Katherine Lovino, Administrative
Clerk/Recorder