



Parkland County

53109A Highway 779
Parkland County, Alberta
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Parklandcounty.com

Meeting Minutes

Governance and Priorities Committee

Mayor Allan Gamble
Deputy Mayor Rob Wiedeman
Council Member Sally Kucher-Johnson
Council Member Phyllis Kobasiuk
Council Member Natalie Birnie
Council Member Kristina Kowalski

Tuesday, April 15, 2025

9:00 AM

Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chairperson Wiedeman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

On behalf of the Committee, Chairperson Wiedeman thanked all of the volunteers that have come out over the years and participated in the communities and the success of Parkland County.

Present: 6 - Mayor Allan Gamble, Council Member Sally Kucher-Johnson, Council Member Kristina Kowalski, Council Member Phyllis Kobasiuk, Council Member Natalie Birnie and Council Member Rob Wiedeman

Administration:

Laura Swain, Chief Administrative Officer

Jeff Dyck, Chief Operating Officer

Rob McGowan, General Manager, Operations Services

Brian Cornforth, Interim General Manager, Community & Development Services

Krista Quesnel, Director, Agriculture & Environment (In-part)

Odessa Bartel, Manager, Legislative & Legal Services (Recording Secretary)

Deborah Crowder, Legislative Officer

CELEBRATING SUCCESS

Chairperson Wiedeman celebrated the success of the Community League event in Wabamun held on April 14, 2025.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Committee Member Kowalski that the April 15, 2025 Governance and Priorities Committee meeting agenda be adopted, as presented.

The motion carried unanimously.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

[MIN 25-016](#)

Adoption of April 1, 2025 Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting Minutes

Proposed Motion

That the April 1, 2025 Governance and Priorities Committee Meeting Minutes be adopted, as presented.

A motion was made by Committee Member Kucher-Johnson that the April 1, 2025 Governance and Priorities Committee meeting minutes be adopted, as presented.

The motion carried unanimously.

DELEGATIONS

[App 25-026](#)

9:05 a.m. Public Input (15 mins.)

Committee Chairperson Wiedeman asked the gallery if there were any matters that the public wished to bring to the attention of Parkland County. No one came forward.

[App 25-028](#)

10:00 a.m. Appointment - Alberta Parenting for the Future Association
Pamela Geddes, Executive Director
Kathryn Way, Community Projects Coordinator

Proposed Motion

That the presentation provided by the Alberta Parenting for the Future Association be received for information, as presented.

Pamela Geddes and Kathryn Way presented the Alberta Parenting for the Future Association presentation.

A motion was made by Committee Member Mayor Gamble that the presentation provided by the Alberta Parenting for the Future Association be received for information, as presented.

The motion carried unanimously.

RECESS

Chairperson Wiedeman recessed the meeting at 9:41 a.m., and reconvened the meeting at 9:48 a.m.

DELEGATIONS

[App 25-027](#)

9:30 a.m. Appointment - RCMP Annual Performance Plan
Inspector Kevin McGillivray, Parkland Detachment

Proposed Motion

That the RCMP Annual Performance Plan be received for information, as

presented.

Inspector Kevin McGillvray presented the RCMP Annual Performance Plan presentation.

A motion was made by Committee Member Kucher-Johnson that the RCMP Annual Performance Plan presentation be received for information, as presented.

The motion carried unanimously.

RECESS

Chairperson Wiedeman recessed the meeting at 10:13 a.m., and reconvened the meeting at 10:33 a.m.

DELEGATIONS

[App 25-029](#)

10:30 a.m. Appointment - Alberta Beach Request for Mutual Aid Agreement
Mayor Kelly Muir, Alberta Beach
Councillor Tara Elwood, Alberta Beach

Proposed Motion

That the Alberta Beach Request for Mutual Aid Agreement presentation be received for information, as presented.

Mayor Kelly Muir and Councillor Tara Elwood presented the Alberta Beach Request for Mutual Aid Agreement presentation.

A motion was made by Committee Member Kobasiuk that the Alberta Beach Request for Mutual Aid Agreement presentation be received for information, as presented.

The motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

[COM 25-041](#)

Rural Municipalities of Alberta Contact Newsletter

Proposed Motion

That the Rural Municipalities of Alberta Contact Newsletter be received for information, as presented.

A motion was made by Committee Member Birnie that the Rural Municipalities of Alberta Contact Newsletter be received for information, as presented.

The motion carried unanimously.

[COM 25-042](#)

Federation of Canadian Municipalities Update

Proposed Motion

That the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Update be received for

information, as presented.

A motion was made by Committee Member Kowalski that the Federation of Canadian Municipalities update be received for information, as presented.

The motion carried unanimously.

RECESS

Chairperson Wiedeman recessed the meeting at 10:53 a.m., and reconvened the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

DELEGATIONS

[App 25-032](#)

11:00 a.m. Appointment - Draft Nature Policy Framework
Guy Greenaway, Executive Director, Corvus Centre

Proposed Motions

1. That the Committee accept the Nature Policy Framework update for information, as presented.
2. That the Committee direct administration to bring the final Nature Policy Framework to the June 10th, 2025 Council meeting for approval.

Krista Quesnel and Guy Greenaway presented the Draft Nature Policy Framework presentation.

A motion was made by Committee Member Kowalski that the Committee accept the Nature Policy Framework update for information, as presented.

The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Committee Member Birnie that the Committee direct administration to bring the final Nature Policy Framework to the June 10, 2025 Council meeting for approval.

The motion was defeated.

For: 3 - Mayor Gamble, Council Member Kowalski and Council Member Birnie

Against: 3 - Council Member Kucher-Johnson, Council Member Kobasiuk and Council Member Wiedeman

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor and Council Member Matters

[RFD 25-094](#)

Council Remuneration Review

Proposed Motions

1. That administration be directed to present a revised Elected Official Remuneration Policy C-AD22, based the feedback provided by Council, to the May 20, 2025, Governance & Priorities Committee meeting.

2. That administration be directed to present a revised Elected Official Expenses Policy C-AD24, based on the feedback provided by Council, to the May 20, 2025, Governance & Priorities Committee meeting.

Administration presented the Council Remuneration Review summary.

RECESS

Chairperson Wiedeman recessed the meeting at 12:02 p.m., and reconvened the meeting at 12:37 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor and Council Member Matters

[RFD 25-094](#)

Council Remuneration Review

Proposed Motions

1. That administration be directed to present a revised Elected Official Remuneration Policy C-AD22, based the feedback provided by Council, to the May 20, 2025, Governance & Priorities Committee meeting.
2. That administration be directed to present a revised Elected Official Expenses Policy C-AD24, based on the feedback provided by Council, to the May 20, 2025, Governance & Priorities Committee meeting.

The Governance and Priorities Committee discussed the recommendations of the Council Compensation Review Public Member Advisory Panel to inform revisions of the Elected Official Remuneration Policy C-AD22 and the Elected Official Expenses Policy C-AD24.

The Governance and Priorities Committee directed that administration provide Council with a chart comparison for mayor, councillor, and deputy mayor salaries for the municipalities of Sturgeon County, Rocky View, Leduc County and Strathcona for information at the May 20, 2025 Governance and Priorities Committee.

The Governance and Priorities Committee supported the recommendation that the current rate structure be maintained for the 2025-2029 Council term.

The Governance and Priorities Committee deferred further discussion of this item until after the Closed Session items appearing on the agenda.

CLOSED SESSION

[RFD 25-054](#)

Closed Session

Proposed Motion

That Council convene in closed session pursuant to Section 197 of the Municipal Government Act to meet in private to discuss matters protected from disclosure by Sections 16, 17, 24 and 25 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

A motion was made by Committee Member Kowalski that the Committee convene in closed session at 12:59 p.m. pursuant to Section 197 of the Municipal Government Act to meet in private to discuss matters protected from disclosure by Sections 16, 17, 24 and 25 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

The motion carried unanimously.

[PRE 25-028](#)

1:00 p.m. Appointment - Edmonton Airports
FOIP Section 25 - Harmful to economic interest of a public body
Edmonton Airports update presented.

[PRE 25-020](#)

Economic Growth Update
FOIP Section 16 - Harmful to business interests of third party
FOIP Section 24 - Advice from officials
Economic Growth update was presented.

[PRE 25-019](#)

Planning and Development Update
FOIP Section 17 - Harmful to personal privacy
FOIP Section 24 - Advice from officials
Planning and Development update was presented.

RECESS

Chairperson Wiedeman recessed the meeting at 2:30 p.m., and reconvened the meeting at 2:42 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

[PRE 25-029](#)

Trail Development
FOIP Section 24 - Advice from officials
Trail Development presentation was presented.

[RFD 25-055](#)

Regular Session

Proposed Motion

That Council revert to regular Meeting session.

A motion was made by Committee Member Mayor Gamble that the Committee revert to regular meeting session at 3:42 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor and Council Member Matters

[RFD 25-094](#)

Council Remuneration Review

Proposed Motions

1. That administration be directed to present a revised Elected Official Remuneration Policy C-AD22, based the feedback provided by Council, to the May 20, 2025, Governance & Priorities Committee meeting.
2. That administration be directed to present a revised Elected Official Expenses Policy C-AD24, based on the feedback provided by Council, to the May 20, 2025, Governance & Priorities Committee meeting.

The Governance and Priorities Committee resumed discussion of the recommendations of the Council Compensation Review Public Member Advisory Panel to inform revisions of the Elected Official Remuneration Policy C-AD22 and the Elected Official Expenses Policy C-AD24.

The Governance and Priorities Committee that administration provide Council with an analysis of the impacts of moving to a base pay structure without per diems for information at the May 20, 2025 Governance and Priorities Committee meeting.

The Governance and Priorities Committee supported the recommendation that the internet allowance remain at \$113 for the 2025-2029 Council term.

The Governance and Priorities Committee supported the recommendation that the meal rates for mayor, deputy mayor, and councillors continue to be subject to the annual Treasury Board of Canada Meal Rates for the 2025-2029 Council term.

The Governance and Priorities Committee supported the recommendation to maintain the existing budgets for mandatory and non-mandatory conferences and conventions.

The Governance and Priorities Committee supported the recommendation that the current budgets and processes for mandatory and non-mandatory training be maintained for mandatory and non-mandatory training for the 2025-2029 Council term.

The Governance and Priorities Committee supported the recommendation that an assessment of mandatory training be conducted.

The Governance and Priorities Committee supported the recommendation that the current benefits structure be maintained for the 2025-2029 Council term.

The Governance and Priorities Committee tabled the recommendation that the Deputy Mayor salary be exempt from COLA increase(s) until such time as it aligns with other comparators for discussion to the May 20, 2025 Governance and Priorities Committee meeting.

The Governance and Priorities Committee put forward the recommendation that the mileage rate for all travel be at the annual CRA rate for the 2025-2029 term of Council.

The Governance and Priorities Committee did not support the recommendation that the mayor, deputy mayor and councillors be required to use County cell phones for County business.

The Governance and Priorities Committee did not support the recommendation that the Community Services Sponsorship and Donation Policy be used to guide donation or sponsorship requests.

The Governance and Priorities Committee did not support the recommendation to reallocate a portion of individual Mayor and Council Community Relations budgets to a pooled Community Relations budget.

The Governance and Priorities Committee did not support the recommendation that the Community Relation budgets cannot be carried over year to year and that any overages would require Council approval by resolution.

The Governance and Priorities Committee put forward the recommendation that County fleet vehicles may be available to Council to use for County business.

NEXT MEETING

The next Governance and Priorities Committee meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

CLOSE OF MEETING

Committee Chairperson Wiedeman closed the meeting at 4:25 p.m.

Committee Chair

Recording Secretary