

# *Rural Municipality of Val Marie No. 17*

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## A Bylaw to Establish a Volunteer Fire Department

Bylaw No. 4-18

Office Consolidation

June 5, 2018

For Reference Purposes Only –  
**Not A Certified True Copy Of The Original**

This Bylaw was passed on June 5, 2018 and has not been amended since.

## **R.M. OF VAL MARIE NO. 17**

### **A BYLAW TO ESTABLISH A VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

#### BYLAW NO. 4-18

The Council of the Rural Municipality of Val Marie No. 17 in the Province of Saskatchewan, enacts as follows:

#### INTERPRETATION

1. (a) "Fire Department" means the Volunteer Fire Department established pursuant to this bylaw.
- (b) "Unit" means a fire fighting vehicle equipped for fighting grassland fires established pursuant to this bylaw.
- (c) "Rural Municipality" means the Rural Municipality of Val Marie No. 17
- (d) "Fire Equipment" means any fire truck, pumps, hoses, fire suits, and any and all other firefighting equipment owned by and provided by the Rural Municipality of Val Marie No. 17 for use in the prevention and control of fires.
- (e) "Fire Chief" means the person appointed by Council as the head of the fire department;
- (f) "Deputy Fire Chief" means the person appointed by the Fire Chief to act in his/her absence;
- (g) "Volunteer Firefighter" any person listed as a volunteer authorized to respond with municipal fire-fighting equipment; or any other person who is conscripted by a member responding with municipal equipment to assist in firefighting response.

#### SCOPE OF THE BYLAW

2. The Council shall by resolution appoint fire department personnel for the following purposes:
  - (a) To operate the fire equipment for the prevention and extinguishing of wild fires within the rural municipality.
  - (b) To respond in a support role for other types of fires (structural, flammable liquids, gases, electrical, or metals).
  - (c) To support other emergency personnel (ambulance & police) in emergency response as requested.
    - (b) To manage and maintain all fire equipment required for the control and extinguishing of fires in conjunction with the municipal public works department.
    - (c) To ensure that wildfire protection is provided for the safety and welfare of the rural municipality at the service level outlined by Council.
  - (d) To promote and encourage preventive fire measures in the rural municipality.
  - (e) To regulate the assistance of persons present at fires within the rural municipality.
  - (f) To maintain and operate the firefighting equipment in the extinguishing fires outside the rural municipality, where a request for such service is made by another municipality outside the Rural Municipality of Val Marie where an inter-municipal fire agreement is in effect.

#### COMPOSITION OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT UNIT

3. (a) The Fire Department shall consist of a Fire Chief and volunteer firefighters.
- (b) The Fire Chief may appoint a Deputy Fire Chief from among the volunteer firefighters. Any member of the Fire Department first on the scene may take charge in the event both the Fire Chief and the Deputy Fire Chief are absent from a fire.
- (c) All members responding with municipal equipment shall be appointed by

Council, and shall sit at the discretion of Council. Council shall accept recommendations for such appointments from the existing Fire Department Chief or members.

- (d) All other volunteers who respond to a wildfire are also considered volunteer firefighters;

(d) Written notice of any persons wishing to be removed from the Fire Department roster shall be given to the Fire Chief or Administrator and presented at the next meeting of Council.

#### POWERS, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF FIRE DEPARTMENT AND COUNCIL

4. The Fire Chief and Volunteers shall meet for an instruction and/or training session once per calendar year at minimum.
5. The Fire Department shall report all activities and meetings to the Administrator in writing.
6. The Fire Chief shall, before the 31st of December of each year, prepare an inventory of all fire equipment of the rural municipality, and shall indicate on such inventory the working condition of each piece of equipment.
7. The Fire Chief shall consult with the Public Works Foreman regarding operating and capital required before the interim budget is considered by Council in November of each year. Upon approval by Council, the protective services – fire protection budget shall be included and form part of the Municipal Budget.
8. The Fire Chief shall try to maintain a current list of volunteers who may be called upon by the Fire Department for assistance, should additional people be required in the extinguishing of fires, fire prevention campaigns, fire education and so forth.
9. The Fire Department may, by fund raising campaigns, assist Council in the purchase of additional equipment as deemed necessary in the opinion of Council and the Fire Chief.
12. The Fire Chief, and the volunteer firefighters under the supervision of the Fire Chief, shall control, manage and operate the fire equipment and facilities as listed in Section 1 within the budgetary allowances approved by Council.
13. The Fire Department shall provide fire fighting and life saving training to all Fire Department members within the budgetary allowances approved by Council.
14. Council shall, before approving the municipal budget or the fire department budget annually, set aside a portion of municipal revenue for fire protection. Council shall determine how these revenues are to be used, but shall give due consideration to the National Fire Code regulations, the recommendations of the Provincial Fire Commissioner, the recommendations of the Fire Chief, and to the general financial position of the rural municipality in arriving at a decision regarding such revenues and expenditures.
17. It shall be the responsibility of the Fire Department and the Municipal Public Works department to maintain equipment in working order as provided in the budgetary allowance.
18. Council shall ensure that adequate personal injury, death and liability insurance be maintained for the fire department, such coverage to be provided out of the municipal budget for fire protection.

19. Failure to comply with the regulations of this bylaw shall make any or all members of the fire department liable to dismissal from the fire department, entirely at the discretion of Council.
20. This Bylaw shall come into force and take effect on the date of final reading.