



Rural Municipality of Val Marie No. 17

112 Railway Ave E, PO Box 59, Val Marie, Saskatchewan

Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting April 28, 2026 - 07:00 PM

PRESENT:

Reeve: Larry Grant
Division 1 Councillor: Tyler Jensen
Division 2 Councillor: Timothy Christianson
Division 3 Councillor: Steven Gunter
Division 4 Councillor and Deputy Reeve: Shadrick Peno
Division 5 Councillor: Greg Kornfeld

STAFF ATTENDANCE: Logan Resch, Administrator
Ben McLearn, Public Works Foreman

1 Call to order

A quorum being present, Reeve Grant called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
Councillor Steven Gunter was not present at the call to order.

Councillor Steve Gunter joined the meeting, time 7:04 p.m.

2 Approval of the Agenda

Res. No. 2026-0086

Moved by: Div. 2 Councillor Christianson

That the agenda for this April 28, 2026 meeting be approved as presented the with addition of Aim Land Services - Road Use Requests under unfinished business.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3 Adoption of Minutes

3.1 March 24, 2026 Regular Meeting

Res. No. 2026-0087

Moved by: Div. 1 Councillor Jensen

That the minutes of the March 24, 2026 Regular Meeting be approved as read with the rescinding of resolution 2026-0079.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4 Public Hearings

5 Delegations

5.1 7:15 p.m. - Jody Larson & Pat Hayes, Lower Frenchman Water Users

Jody Larson and Pat Hayes from the Lower Frenchman Water Users Corporation were received by Council at 7:16 p.m. Mr. Larson and Mr. Hayes were here to discuss the possibility of cost sharing the replacing of culverts on municipal roads. Mr. Larson and Mr. Hayes presented 3 locations where they are proposing replacing culverts and would be interested in splitting the cost with the RM. The locations are as follows: the wooden bridge on the road to 70-mile butte, the bridge structure on the Larson/Perrault road, and the bridge structure on the road to the Macaulay yard. There was discussions about the flow rate at each location and the potential to need to use flat bottom culverts instead of a round to get the same flow rate as the current structures. The option of using two culverts at the locations were discussed but it was determined it may cause more problems as the road would need to be raised significantly to accommodate the culverts. There was clarification and discussion as to what has been cost shared in the past, and it was agreed it would be good to have a agreement or written confirmation as to what could be cost shared. The RM is interested in continuing with what has been done in the past, as they don't want to move backwards. Mr. Larson and Mr. Hayes indicated the replacements of these 3 structures would not be completed before irrigating season this year but would most likely be in the Fall. Mr. Larson and Mr. Hayes excused themselves at 7:39 p.m.

5.2 7:45 p.m. - Sandy Larson, Shirley Christianson, Clint Christianson & Alan Hansen, Beaver Valley Grazing Corporation

Shirley Christianson, Clint Christianson and Sandy Larson from Beaver Valley Grazing Corp. were received by Council at 7:45 p.m. to discuss the road in the lease land quarters that they requested to purchase. The delegates and Council reviewed the map on ISC to view how different the actual road was from the registered road plan. The liability and concerns about having a road not on the registered road plan was discussed, and it agreed that it should be clarified as to who is paying for what. The RM told the delegates how the request was sent to Lands Branch for payment assistance but it was turned down. Council and delegates agreed they would want to cost share having the road properly surveyed in the two quarters that Beaver Valley has requested to purchase (SW 33-06-15-W3 and NW 33-06-15-W3). It was noted that the Administrator was to continue to look into surveyors to determine pricing. Ms. Christianson, Mr. Christianson, and Ms. Larson excused themselves at 8:00 p.m.

5.3 8:15 p.m. - Mike Forsyth, Territory Manager, Brandt Tractor

Mike Forsyth , Territory Manager for Brandt was received by Council at 8:20 p.m. Mr. Forsyth provided Council with handouts that included the specifics of their John Deere graders. Mr. Forsyth gave an introduction and mentioned he is based out of Swift Current, where there are future plans to build a new shop. The graders specifications were reviewed, including how their graders have enclosed circles which differs from other brands, so there is less maintenance on the circle as they don't have all the wear parts. Mr. Forsyth mentioned that other RM's that have switched to John Deere graders have been very happy and are willing to be contacted if we have any questions. There are hopes to bring a 6 wheel drive grader down to the area this summer for a demonstration, and there was discussion about warranty and filters on the grader. Council asked questions about the attachments for our current graders and if they would need to be changed, and depending on the wings we may need to purchase the kit that allows the attachments to be used. Mr. Forsyth also explained that Brandt has a program where if your grader goes down, they will bring out another grader to use while yours is getting fixed, and this wouldn't be an additional charge to the RM. Mr. Forsyth expressed that if anyone has any questions or concerns they can reach out, and he excused himself at 8:33 p.m.

6 Reports of Administration & Committees

6.1 Administrative Update

Res. No. 2026-0088

Moved by: Div. 4 Councillor Peno

That the Administrator's Report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.2 List of Accounts for Approval

Res. No. 2026-0089

Moved by: Div. 2 Councillor Christianson

That the "List of Accounts for Approval" detailing the following payments be approved:

Inn. CU - Cheques No.'s 4739 to 4762 totalling - \$166,514.19

Inn. CU - CAFT Payments No.'s 2026-0033 to 2026-0045 totalling - \$23,318.96

Inn. CU - Online Banking Payments No.'s 2026-0035 to 2026-0045 totalling - \$29,035.97

Inn. CU - Automatic Withdrawal No. 2026-0005 totalling - \$3,581.23

Collabria Credit Cards Payments No.'s 2026-0029 to 2026-0038 totalling - \$1,602.72

Total Payments - \$224,053.07

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.3 Monthly Statement of Financial Position and Balance Sheet

Res. No. 2026-0090

Moved by: Div. 3 Councillor Gunter

That the Statement of Financial Position, Balance Sheet, and Bank Reconciliations as of March 31, 2026 be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.4 2025 Audited Financial Statements (Final)

Res. No. 2026-0091

Moved by: Div. 1 Councillor Jensen

That the 2025 Audited Financial Statements presented by Dudley & Company LLP be approved noting that in the auditor's opinion the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the municipality as at December 31, 2025. That the synopsis provided by Dudley & Company LLP be included in the tax mailing notice for 2026 and the full financials be posted on the website, satisfying the requirement to publicize the financial statements.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.5 Committee Reports

Res. No. 2026-0092

Moved by: Div. 4 Councillor Peno

That the committee reports and minutes be accepted and filed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7 In Camera Session

7.1 Move to In-Camera Session

Res. No. 2026-0093

Moved by: Div. 2 Councillor Christianson

That we now move to an in-camera session to discuss employee matters, time 9:06 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

All staff left the meeting room, time 9:06 p.m.

All staff rejoined the meeting room, time 9:23 p.m.

7.2 Rise from In-Camera Session

Res. No. 2026-0094

Moved by: Div. 4 Councillor Peno

That we now rise from in-camera session, time 9:23 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8 Unfinished Business

8.1 Bridge Condition - Road to 70 Mile Parking Area

Res. No. 2026-0095

Moved by: Div. 2 Councillor Christianson

That a cost share be approved with the Lower Frenchman Water Users Corp. for the replacement of the bridge structures with culverts at the following locations:

- On the road to 70 Mile Butte parking lot (on the road between the north of NE 08-03-13-W3 and north of NW 08-03-13-W3)
- On the road to the Larson & Perrault yards (on the road south of Blk Q Plan 71SC001070 (parcel number 142766714))
- On the road to the Macaulay yard (on the road south of Blk S Plan 67SC12097 (parcel number 150243847)).

That the cost of supplies and installation are to be split 50/50 with the Lower Frenchman Water Users Corp. and the RM is to arrange for a contractor and oversee the installations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.2 Parks Canada - Response to Resolution 2026-0021

Res. No. 2026-0096

Moved by: Div. 1 Councillor Jensen

That the response from Grasslands National Park in regard to resolution 2026-0021 be acknowledged as received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.3 Aim Land Services - Road Use Request

Res. No. 2026-0097

Moved by: Div. 4 Councillor Peno

That the RM of Val Marie will not approve South Bow GP (Canada) Ltd. (request submitted by Aim Land) to have access to undeveloped road allowances, but access to the right of way may be permitted by the adjacent landowner as gates may need to be opened for access. Any access that is permitted but be contained to the right of way.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9 New Business

9.1 Cheque Signing & EFT Policy - Update Schedule A

Res. No. 2026-0098

Moved by: Div. 3 Councillor Gunter

That the Schedule A of the Cheque Signing & Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) Approval Policy be updated to reflect the following:

1. Vendors authorized to be paid with the CAFT Program:
 - a. Cathy Legault
 - b. Ben McLearn
 - c. John Glas
 - d. Logan Resch
 - e. Jessica Severson
 - f. Jesse Hogg
 - g. Tasha Willshaw
 - h. Vicki-lynn (Anderson) Burnside
 - i. Suraj Khadka

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

All staff left the meeting room while agenda item 9.2 was discussed, time 9:44 p.m. to 9:48 p.m.

9.2 Administrator Salary 2026

Res. No. 2026-0099

Moved by: Div. 5 Councillor Kornfeld

That the Administrators salary for 2026 be set at \$69,500 per annum, adjusted for various insurances and benefits.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.3 Strychnine Distribution

Res. No. 2026-0100

Moved by: Div. 4 Councillor Peno

That the RM of Val Marie No. 17 would like to express their interest in distributing strychnine during the approved emergency use period, if the required training is available to any of the staff members, then all of the office staff are to complete the training and a minimum of 3 of the equipment operators.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Steven Gunter declared a conflict of interest in agenda item 9.4 and refrained from participating in discussion and voting.

9.4 2026 Prequalification Agreement with 102039803 Saskatchewan Ltd. (Harlan Gunter) Aggregate Loading & Hauling, and Excavation Services

Res. No. 2026-0101

Moved by: Div. 2 Councillor Christianson

That the prequalification agreement with 102039803 Saskatchewan Ltd. (Harlan Gunter) for aggregate loading and hauling as well as excavation services for the 2026 year, be approved and signed by the Reeve and Administrator.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Steven Gunter rejoined meeting discussions.

9.5 Farming Road Allowances

Res. No. 2026-0102

Moved by: Div. 4 Councillor Peno

That the following be sent in regard to farming road allowances:

- That Sand Lake Colony be sent a letter that includes a copy of Bylaw 2025-09 (the Roads Bylaw), the photo of the road allowance, and an invoice for the custom work needed to fix the road allowance. The letter is to remind them that road allowances shall not be excavated, broke, ploughed, farmed, cut, or altered without the expressed permission of Council.
- That a letter be sent to Butte Colony that reminds them of the specifications of Bylaw 2025-09 (the Roads Bylaw) and that they should be aware of property lines and undeveloped road allowances. Noting that the RM may bill ratepayers for fixing any damage to road allowances that occurs.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.6 Ratepayers Purchasing Culverts from RM

Res. No. 2026-0103

Moved by: Div. 3 Councillor Gunter

That ratepayers are able to purchase culverts from the RM but only if indicated before the RM schedules/submits an order as it would need to be included on the order to the supplier.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.7 Administrator Annual Leave Request

Res. No. 2026-0104

Moved by: Div. 1 Councillor Jensen

That the Administrator be approved to take May 22, 2026 as annual leave.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.8 RBC - GIC Investments

Res. No. 2026-0105

Moved by: Div. 4 Councillor Peno

That 2 GIC's at \$100,000 each be purchased with RBC and set to mature in 2031 (5-year term) at the highest interest rates available.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10 Communications

Res. No. 2026-0106

Moved by: Div. 1 Councillor Jensen

That the communications listed on the agenda be acknowledged as required and filed as deemed appropriate.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11 Reeve & Councillors Forum

12 Adjournment

Res. No. 2026-107

Moved by: Reeve Grant

That this meeting does now adjourn, time 10:59 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
