



Rural Municipality of Val Marie No. 17
112 Railway Ave E, PO Box 59, Val Marie, Saskatchewan
Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting September 8, 2026 - 07:00 PM

PRESENT:

- Reeve: Larry Grant
- Division 1 Councillor: Tyler Jensen
- Division 2 Councillor: Timothy Christianson
- Division 3 Councillor: Steven Gunter
- Division 5 Councillor: Greg Kornfeld

ABSENT:

- Division 4 Councillor and Deputy Reeve: Shadrick Peno

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 7:03 p.m.

2 Approval of the Agenda
Res. No. 2026-0178
Moved by: Div. 3 Councillor Gunter

That the agenda for this September 8, 2026 meeting be approved as presented with Volunteer Firefighter Appointments and Invasive Weeds Concern under New Business.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3 Adoption of Minutes

3.1 August 11, 2026 Regular Meeting
Res. No. 2026-0179
Moved by: Div. 1 Councillor Jensen

That the minutes of the August 11, 2026 Regular Meeting be approved as read.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4 Public Hearings

5 Delegations

5.1 **7:15 p.m. - Jayden Kaminsky (WSA Project Manager) & Derek Van Nes (KGS Project Manager): Water Security Agency - Val Marie Spillway Replacement Project**

Jayden Kaminsky (WSA Project Manager) & Derek Van Nes (KGS Project Manager) were received by Council at 7:08 p.m. Mr. Kaminsky and Mr. Van Nes provided Council with handouts of pictures/drawings of the new Val Marie spillway and presented a powerpoint that went through the project. They explained that the old spillway was built in 1938 but the concrete has significantly worn down. It was discussed that the construction will take approximately 2 years and work would continue throughout the winter as well. It was noted that there would be no impact to irrigation and the current dam would stay in operation during construction. The total project cost is provincially funded but the total cost is still being developed and won't be disclosed until the project tendering is completed. Council expressed concerns for road use, including amount of materials hauled on municipal roads, road conditions, fire risk, public access, signage, and gates. Council discussed the previous concern with camping and campfires in the area, local farmers/ranchers having access to their land if gates are installed, and how contractors will travel on municipal roads. Mr. Kaminsky and Mr. Van Nes explained that if Council proposes requirements on municipal roads they can ensure contractors will follow (speed, quiet hours, etc), and contractors are also required to obtain any necessary permits and take photo/video evidence of the road conditions before and after. It was expressed by Mr. Kaminsky and Mr. Van Nes that an interpretive panel may be installed at the entrance to the spillway that includes history of Newton Lake and safety/warning procedures. RM Council requested that there is ongoing communication regarding the project and throughout its duration, which was agreed upon by both parties. Council was able to ask questions regarding the project timeline, scope of work and features of the new spillway. Mr. Kaminsky and Mr. Van Nes encouraged anyone to reach out to Water Security Agency's client services and they can assist in getting questions answered. Mr. Kaminsky and Mr. Van Nes excused themselves at 8:35 p.m.

6 **Reports of Administration & Committees**

6.1 **Administrative Update**

Res. No. 2026-0180
Moved by: Div. 2 Councillor Christianson

That the Administrator's Report be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.2 **List of Accounts for Approval**

Res. No. 2026-0181
Moved by: Div. 5 Councillor Kornfeld

That the "List of Accounts for Approval" detailing the following payments be approved:
Inn. CU - Cheques No.'s 4818 to 4839 totalling - \$31,725.49
Inn. CU - CAFT Payments No.'s 2026-0101 to 2026-0112 totalling - \$25,255.73
Inn. CU - Online Banking Payments No.'s 2026-0086 to 2026-0095 totalling - \$24,192.70
Collabria Credit Cards Payments No.'s 2026-0063 to 2026-0066 totalling - \$755.78
Total Payments - \$81,929.70

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.3 **Monthly Statement of Financial Position and Balance Sheet**

Res. No. 2026-0182
Moved by: Div. 2 Councillor Christianson

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.4 **Committee Reports**

Res. No. 2026-0183
Moved by: Div. 1 Councillor Jensen

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. 2026-0184
Moved by: Div. 2 Councillor Christianson

That we now move to an in-camera session to discuss employee matters, time 9:18 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Ben McLearn left the meeting room, time 9:18 p.m. Logan Resch left the meeting room, time 10:12 p.m.

All staff rejoined the meeting room, time 10:29 p.m.

7.2 Rise from In-Camera Session
Res. No. 2026-0185
Moved by: Div. 1 Councillor Jensen

That we now rise from in-camera session, time 10:29 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8 Unfinished Business

8.1 Insurance Policy Coverages - Policy Term March 3, 2026 to March 3, 2027
Res. No. 2026-0186
Moved by: Div. 5 Councillor Kornfeld

That agenda item 8.1, Insurance Policy Coverages - Policy Term March 3, 2026 to March 3, 2027, be tabled until the next meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.2 Glenn & Kathryn Baxter - Employee Mowing & Cutting Trees
Res. No. 2026-0187
Moved by: Div. 1 Councillor Jensen

That the RM of Val Marie Council acknowledges the letter from Glenn & Kathryn Baxter regarding employee mowing and cutting trees as received, but does not feel compensation for the trees is necessary.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9 New Business

9.1 Equipment Operator - Wage Increase
Res. No. 2026-0188
Moved by: Div. 1 Councillor Jensen

That all equipment operators wage remain the same for the remainder of the 2026 season.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.2 Stringam Law - Retainer Agreement & Payment
Res. No. 2026-0189
Moved by: Div. 3 Councillor Gunter

That the retainer agreement with Stringam LLP professional legal services be signed by the Reeve and a \$3000 retainer fee be authorized to be paid by the Administrator.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.3 Weed Management Plan 2026
Res. No. 2026-0190
Moved by: Div. 1 Councillor Jensen

That the Weed Management Plan be approved with the addition of japanese brome and downy brome under the medium priority lists.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Reeve Grant declared a conflict of interest in agenda item 9.4 and refrained from voting and meeting discussion.

9.4 Appointment of Clerk

Res. No. 2026-0191

Moved by: Div. 3 Councillor Gunter

That it be acknowledged that Amy Andree has been appointed as the Clerk as of September 8, 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.5 Cheque Signing & EFT Policy - Update Schedule A

Res. No. 2026-0192

Moved by: Div. 1 Councillor Jensen

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. Logan Resch
- d. Jessica Severson
- e. Jesse Hogg
- f. Tasha Willshaw
- g. Suraj Khadka
- h. Amy Andree

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Steven Gunter declared a conflict of interest in agenda item's 9.6 and 9.7 and refrained from voting.

9.6 Box Culvert Removal & Culvert Installation (Cost Share with Lower Frenchman Water Users) - Contractor

Res. No. 2026-0193

Moved by: Div. 1 Councillor Jensen

That after confirming with Chuck's Backhoe on details of their quote, Chuck's Backhoe be hired to replace the 3 box culverts that are cost shared with the Lower Frenchman Water Users Corporation for \$5,500/culvert plus taxes at the following locations:

- #1: 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)
- #2: On the road to the Larson & Perrault yards (on the road south of Blk Q Plan 71SC001070 (parcel number 142766714))
- #3: On the road to the Macaulay yard (on the road south of Blk S Plan 67SC12097 (parcel number 150243847)).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.7 West Flat Bridge (SW-07-05-14-W3) Bank Stabilization - Contractor

Res. No. 2026-0194

Moved by: Div. 1 Councillor Jensen

That after confirming with Chuck's Backhoe on the details of their quote, Chuck's Backhoe be hired to complete the bank stabilization work at the West Flat Bridge (located in the SW-07-05-14-W3) for the cost of \$22,000 plus taxes.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.8	Grasslands National Park - Road Maintenance Agreement Response Res. No. 2026-0195 Moved by: Div. 2 Councillor Christianson That a letter be written to Grasslands National Park regarding their response to the road use agreement increase and their reporting template, the letter is to be circulated to RM Council prior to sending. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
9.9	Volunteer Firefighter Appointments Res. No. 2026-0196 Moved by: Div. 1 Councillor Jensen That the following additions be appointed to the list of Fire Department Members who are authorized to respond with municipal equipment: Val Marie Fire Station: Daniel Glas and Clinton Glas CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
9.10	Invasive Weeds Concern Res. No. 2026-0197 Moved by: Div. 2 Councillor Christianson That the Provincial Weed Inspector be contacted to inquire if they would come inspect section 03-01-12-W3 due to the concern brought by ratepayer's to Council members. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
10	Communications Res. No. 2026-0198 Moved by: Div. 2 Councillor Christianson 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. 2026-0199 Moved by: Reeve Grant That this meeting does now adjourn, time 12:12 a.m. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY