

**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BIGHORN #8
STREETS & ROADS COMMITTEE MEETING**

27 April 11, 9:00 a.m. Council Chambers, Exshaw

IN ATTENDANCE:

Reid Thomas	Committee Member – Chair
Paul Ryan	Committee Member – Councillor
Martin Buckley	Administration – Chief Administrative Officer
Hugh Pettigrew	Administration – Director of Operations
Greg Birch,	Assistant Municipal Manager (left at 10:30 a.m.)
Emily Smith,	Community Services Coordinator (left at 10:30 a.m.)

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman R. Thomas called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was adopted by consensus as circulated.

B. MINUTES

(1) Moved by P. Ryan that the minutes of the 14 March 11 Streets & Roads Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(1) The Committee, along with G. Birch and E. Smith (both representing Community Services/the Community Services Board) discussed the issue of trails and trails responsibility. P. Ryan had brought forward the issue of trails, noting how the M.D., a number of years ago, had only two trails, but now has a “whole pile of trails”, which were connected to M.D. roads, through trailheads/trailhead parking.

With this connection to roads, trails were now causing problems with roads, and asked if the M.D. should have a Streets, Roads and Trails Committee. He asked what the best way was to deal with trails that are popping up. It was noted that trails currently fall under the Community Services Board mandate, given their recreational nature.

E. Smith noted that, when she first commenced work with the M.D., there weren't any formalized, recognized trails. Then the Trans-Canada Trail came into being, and suddenly the M.D. was in the position of having to adopt some trails. There is now a formal policy regarding trails, and a number of recognized trails: the Trans-Canada, the Back 40 near Waiparous, Coyote Creek Trail, Heart Creek Trail, etc. The M.D. is also home to a number of informal trails, which don't have a start/finish point, and are located on public lands.

She noted that the M.D. has purposely not created trailheads because the respective communities don't want them, fearing trail users that would come from outside the community. The M.D. has addressed some situations as they came forward, with trail signage and off-site parking (such as the Exshaw Creek trail situation).

The issue of trails is not a regular agenda item for the CSB, she advised, because it is not necessary; if there are issues that arise, then the item can be added to their agenda for discussion. Trails have not been on the agenda for a while now; trails are considered to be "recreational" in nature, and therefore are covered in the CSB Recreation Master Plan.

Ms. Smith spoke further on trail development guidelines, as used by the Province and the Town of Canmore, and noted that there is a desire to see if there can be "seamless" guidelines developed, with respect to multi-jurisdictional trails. She concluded by noting that active trail planning had never been a direction given by M.D. Council.

R. Thomas suggested that a map might be prepared, showing all the trails in the M.D. (except for those trails already mapped in the Ghost Waiparous Forest Land Use Zone); then the issue of trails can be better addressed.

G. Birch noted that the individual hamlets/communities do not want trails identified, because this identification will bring more users out.

M. Buckley advised that the Streets & Roads Committee, if looking for direction, could recommend to Council that the CSB be requested to inventory formal and informal trails within the M.D., with the exception of those trails in the Ghost Waiparous Forest Land Use Zone.

Moved by P. Ryan that:

WHEREAS M.D. boards and committees have been asked, by Council, to review their terms of reference;

AND WHEREAS trails or trailheads have been increasing in number and adjoining M.D. streets and roads or provincially-owned highways;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Streets & Roads Committee recommend that Council direct Administration to conduct an informal trails inventory to inform Council as to the volume of trails within the M.D.;

AND THAT IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED THAT Council consider amending the Streets and Roads Committee's terms of reference to address trails.

CARRIED

G. Birch and E. Smith left the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

(2) & (D.2) The "Road Work Completed 2001-2010 report" was reviewed and discussed at length. R. Thomas passed out a series of charts showing his interpretation of work done, annual costs incurred, and other factors. He further indicated his belief that the Committee was looking for a list outlining "what roads, what work, what costs, and when" for Finance & Economic Development Committee use, when considering future budgets and reserve allocations.

H. Pettigrew indicated that, while this could be done, it would require professional (consulting) assistance, and in addition, there were timing concerns, as he presently had a number of pressing issues to address.

R. Thomas reiterated that he believes that the M.D. has all the information needed for a road management plan, and now just needs to fill in the blanks.

It was indicated Administration would bring back a draft of what was being requested, in time for the next Streets & Roads Committee meeting.

D. BUSINESS

(1) & (8) The Committee reviewed the C.A.O.'s suggested amendments to Bylaw 18-07, the Streets & Roads Committee Terms of Reference, in conjunction with the M.D.'s Board/Committee/Commission Terms of Reference review.

The Committee agreed with the recommended changes as outlined, with the addition of the recommendation regarding trails, as outlined above in these minutes.

(2) Item D.2 had been discussed in conjunction with item C.2 above.

E. INFORMATION

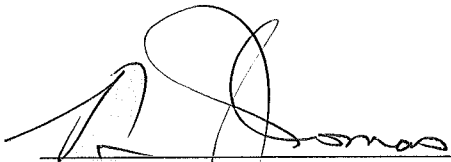
There were no items of information on the agenda.

NEXT MEETING DATE

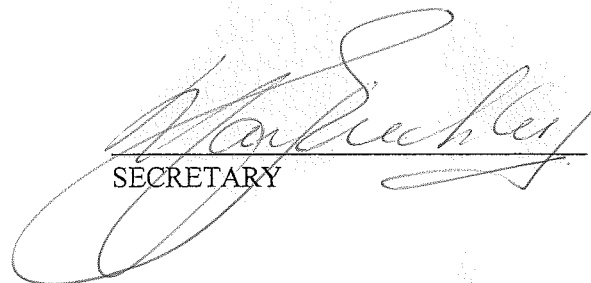
The next meeting was scheduled for **Wednesday, June 22nd, at 9:00 a.m.**

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.



CHAIRPERSON



SECRETARY