

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF MACKENZIE NO. 23

Special Council Meeting

**Board Room of the Fort Vermilion School Division Office,
Fort Vermilion, Alberta**

Friday, April 9, 1999

PRESENT:

Betty Bateman	Reeve
Elmer Derksen	Councillor
Reuben Derksen	Councillor
Ernest Dyck	Councillor
Bill Neufeld	Councillor
Frank Rosenberger	Councillor
Walter Sarapuk	Councillor
Reg Scarfe	Councillor

ABSENT:

Bill Fedeyko	Councillor
Jake L. Peters	Councillor

ALSO PRESENT:

John Maine	Chief Administrative Officer
Darlene Hardy	Treasurer/Assistant C.A.O.
Dianne Pawlik	Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary

Minutes of the special meeting of the Council for the Municipal District of Mackenzie No. 23, held on Friday, April 9, 1999, in the Board Room of the Fort Vermilion School Division Central Office Building, Fort Vermilion, Alberta.

CALL TO ORDER:

1. a) Call To Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Betty Bateman at 10:05 am

AGENDA:

2. a) Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was accepted as advertised.

BUSINESS:

3. a) M.D. of Mackenzie Regionalization

Option 1: Full Amalgamation of the three separate entities

<u>Pro</u>	<u>Con</u>
Force a plebiscite throughout the MD	Loss of autonomy on local issues (diverse communities)
Strong political voice	Possible increase in mill rates
Eliminate revenue sharing problems	Cost of staff travelling
Equalize the mill rates overall	Doesn't address the diverse cultures
May eliminate some administration staff	

Option 2: Status Quo – (possible realignment of Wards and enhanced Revenue Sharing / Service Sharing Agreements)

<u>Pro</u>	<u>Con</u>
Least costly and least hassle to implement Would be the least confusing to ratepayers Representation by population Everybody would be happier All would benefit	Representation by population does not address anomalies

Should have in place before Option 2 is adopted.

1. 2/3 voting in place on any voting by Council.
2. Policies & procedures have to be in place.
3. Long term revenue sharing has to be in place.
4. 3-5 year planning has to be in place.
5. MD Board has to be in full power.
6. Ward boundaries will be reviewed.
7. A procedure should be in place for training Council and Administration.
8. A Joint Council Committee should be formed to deal with revenue/shared services.
9. Unresolvable issues to be resolved by an arbitrator.
10. Honorarium should be at the Provincial Government rate.

Issues for the Province to Address

Infrastructure needs

Reduction in Grants

Downloading e.g. highways and bridges

Training of Council and Administration

More information provided to Ratepayers

Zama Resource road should be government funded.

Infrastructure needs and funding to meet these needs to be addressed.

Clarify at a meeting that premature conversion did not include roads and that the downloading of roads from the Provincial Government to the ID left this area responsible for the construction of many miles of municipal road, following the development of agriculture lands. This is an additional burden that the southern municipalities do not share.

OPTION 3: La Crete and rural forming its own municipality

Pro Own autonomy Would address diverse communities Equalize the assessment Address user fees	Con Assessment/Revenue Sharing Division of Assets Definition of boundaries
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Satisfying some ratepayers	
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OPTIONS

1. Ensure viability for each municipality through assessment base and/or viability

OPTION 4: Regionalization: Town of High Level and Rainbow Lake remain incorporated, MD retains its boundaries. A regional board is formed which oversees shared services that are beneficial to region. (i.e. landfill, bylaw, planning, finance, etc.

This option is currently in practice.

OPTION 5: Hamlet of La Crete incorporates, all other entities remain as is

<u>Pro</u>	<u>Con</u>
Would be good for La Crete as they would have say over what happens La Crete on equal playing field with High Level and Rainbow Lake Local populace decision	Not under MD mandate Would require revenue sharing Province not supportive Definition of Boundaries

The people of La Crete would have to request option 5.

OPTION 6: All industrial assessment is pooled and redistributed but all entities remain as is

All industrial (linear) assessment be pooled

<u>Pro</u>	<u>Con</u>
Towns will benefit	Loss of autonomy Mill rates would increase

A show of hands was made regarding acceptance/rejection of the options.

- Option 1 1 for 7 against
- Option 2 8 for Option 2 with options
- Option 3 6 in favour 2 against
- Option 4 all opposed
- Option 5 all in favour
- Option 6 all opposed

The meeting was recessed at 11:55 am.

The meeting was reconvened at 1:20 pm.

Option 1 is not to be considered.

Option 3 would require a plebiscite and would be supported if requested.

Option 5 would require a plebiscite in future years and would be supported by Council.

Option 6 is not to be considered.

MOTION 99-108

MOVED by Councillor Neufeld that options 2, 3 and 5 be brought forward to the joint meeting of Councils on April 16, 1999 in Rainbow Lake.

IN FAVOUR

Betty Bateman
Elmer Derksen
Reuben Derksen
Ernest Dyck
Bill Neufeld
Frank Rosenberger
Reg Scarfe

OPPOSED

Walter Sarapuk

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT:

4. Adjournment

MOTION 99-109

MOVED by Councillor Scarfe that the meeting be adjourned at 3:00 pm.

CARRIED UNANIMOUS

These minutes were adopted this _____ day of _____, 1999.

Betty Bateman, Chairperson

Eva Schmidt, Municipal Secretary

Approved

John Maddison, Official Administrator