

**MINUTES OF THE SMOKY RIVER REGIONAL WATER
MANAGEMENT COMMISSION MEETING HELD IN THE
SMOKY RIVER REGIONAL FIREHALL
on September 29, 2025**

PRESENT: Alain Blanchette
Norm Boulet
Donna Buchinski
John Coy
Maggie Gervais
Danielle Laflamme
Luc Levesque
Gilles Roy
Marcus Sheane
Yvonne Sawchyn
Joseph Zdeb Chair

Administration: Rick Gervais, Manager
Operator: Gerald Laflamme

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Joseph Zdeb called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Moved by Gilles Roy to add "Debt Servicing" topic to the Agenda as Other Business # 20 (a).
CARRIED

AGENDA: Moved by Yvonne Sawchyn that the agenda be accepted as presented.
CARRIED

REGULAR MINUTES: Moved by Donna Buchinski that the Regular Meeting minutes of August 21, 2025, be approved as presented.
CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING: None.

BANK RECONCILIATION: Moved by John Coy that Bank Reconciliation dated August 31, 2025, be accepted as circulated. (copy attached)
CARRIED

Danielle Laflamme entered the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Moved by Donna Buchinski that Income Statement dated September 22, 2025, be accepted as information. (copy attached)
CARRIED

BILLS FOR Moved by Norm Boulet that the accounts payable for

PAYMENT: cheques No. 5116 to 5127 and 8 online payments ending September 22, 2025, in the amount of \$79,484.20, to be ratified by the Board. (copy attached)

CARRIED

MILESTONE AWARDS: Joseph Zdeb presented a 5-year milestone award to Gerald Laflamme, and a 10-year milestone award to Rick Gervais.

Gerald Laflamme left the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

MANAGER UPDATE: Versatile Energy Solutions: The manager discussed the EC-AOP system that Versatile Energy Solutions has tested our water on. The manager informed the Board that Acti-Zyme is piloting a similar system called the ECO Vortex that they recently received funding from Alberta Innovates to proceed with piloting. Acti-Zyme would like to pilot this system on our raw water reservoir. The manager has submitted the information on these systems to Alberta Environment for review on how we could potentially pilot this on our reservoir.

Water Sales

Water Diversion

EPO Inspection

A verbal update from the manager and Donna Buchinski about a town hall meeting on September 9, 2025, regarding a proposed integrated water program of combining AMWWP, Water for Life, and Economic Development Initiative funding.

Moved by Maggie Gervais that the Manager Update be accepted as information. (copy attached)

CARRIED

POLICY REVIEW: Moved by John Coy to accept the review of Policy No. 304 as amended. All references to “his” will be changed to “their”, and all references to “he” will be changed to “the employee”. (copy attached)

CARRIED

Moved by John Coy to accept the review of Policy No. 305, Meal Allowance as circulated. (copy attached)

CARRIED

CLOSED SESSION: Moved by Joseph Zdeb to go into a closed session at 7:40 p.m., discussion as per:

Access to Information Act, SA 2024, cA-1.4 s 94

CARRIED

Moved by Marcus Sheane to exit the closed session at 8:15 p.m.

CARRIED

DRAFT AGREEMENT
BETWEEN SRRWMC
& MDSR No. 130:

Moved by Donna Buchinski for the manager to review the Draft Agreement with MDSR administration. (copy attached)

CARRIED

VAF FILTER:

Moved by Danielle Laflamme to investigate quotes on replacing one high lift pump and one low lift pump in the same job as installing the VAF filter as a Capital Project for 2026.

CARRIED

MEETING REQUEST
WITH TOWN OF
MCLENNAN:

Moved by Norm Boulet to send the draft letter to the Town of McLennan requesting them as a delegation, or a stand alone meeting to discuss the town's operations and associated costs. (copy attached)

CARRIED

JOINT MEETING WITH
ATEC & TOWN OF
MCLENNAN:

Moved by Marcus Sheane to hold off on sending a letter to the Town of McLennan requesting a joint meeting with the Town and Alberta Transportation & Economic Corridors, until the Town concludes their water plant assessment. (copy attached)

CARRIED

MEETING REQUEST
WITH AB EPA DWOS:

It was discussed if there is any value in asking Alberta Environment Drinking Water Operations Specialists (DWOS) to attend a Water Commission meeting to discuss the different water sources and associated risks.

Moved by Danielle Laflamme to defer this topic until the next regular meeting.

CARRIED

BOARD MEMBERS
ROLES AND
RESPONSIBILITIES:

Moved by Alain Blanchette to defer this topic until the next regular meeting.

CARRIED

WINAGAMI LAKE:

A scope of the projected costs associated to studying the lake was presented. The manager told the Board that Commission staff took it upon themselves to conduct the field testing and sampling for an independent laboratory to

save the Commission a substantial amount of money. It was expressed by some Board members that Commission staff have a “biased opinion” and would not be honest with the testing results. The manager expressed that Commission staff will not take part in any field testing going forward and will have the quote updated to have engineers come out and take water samples in each season of the year at 5 different locations.

Moved by Donna Buchinski that we discontinue the Feasibility Study for Winagami Lake as the Engineer’s quote is over the maximum authorized amount motioned on August 14, 2025.

DEFEATED

Moved by Alain Blanchette to ask engineers to meet with the Board at our next regular meeting, to explain the costs associated with the quote of the study of Winagami.

CARRIED

Moved by Joseph Zdeb to accept the project cost breakdown as information. (copy attached)

CARRIED

TOWN OF
MCLENNAN
MEMBERSHIP:

Discussion on McLennan’s Commission membership took place.

John Coy left the meeting at 10:17 p.m.

Moved by Norm Boulet to defer this topic until the next regular meeting.

CARRIED

OTHER BUSINESS:

Debt Servicing: Moved by Gilles Roy to defer this topic until the next regular meeting.

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE:

Letter to Town of Falher: Moved by Alain Blanchette to accept the letter to the Town of Falher regarding un-metered water consumption as information. (copy attached)

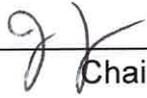
CARRIED

NEXT MEETING:

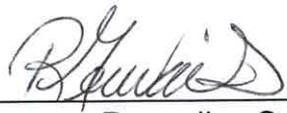
The next meeting is scheduled for November 25, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at the Smoky River Regional Fire Hall.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Joseph Zdeb adjourned the meeting at 10:25 p.m.



Chairperson



Recording Secretary