

MINUTES  
REGULAR COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING  
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF PINCHER CREEK NO. 9  
Tuesday, August 26, 2025,  
11:00 am  
Council Chambers

Present: Reeve Rick Lemire, Deputy Reeve Tony Bruder, Councillors Dave Cox, John MacGarva and Jim Welsch.

Staff: CAO Roland Milligan, Director of Corporate Services Meghan Dobie, Public Works Assistant Manager Alex Elliot, Utilities & Infrastructure Manager David Desabrais, Development Officer Laura McKinnon, Community Peace Officer Robyn Potter, and Executive Assistant Jessica McClelland.

Reeve Rick Lemire called the meeting to order, the time being 11:00 am.

1. Approval of Agenda

Councillor Jim Welsch

Moved that the agenda for the August 26, 2025, Committee Meeting be approved as presented.

Carried

2. Delegation

Fisher Bridge Area Residents

**Louis Debroux and Cindy Seberg** attended the meeting along with other area residents in the gallery. Their main concerns relate to the installation of stairs at Fisher Bridge. The MD plans to install a permanent staircase adjacent to Fisher Bridge, following a request from a local kayaking group to enhance recreation in the area. The residents in the area have noticed a significant increase in the following:

- Trespassing
- Traffic
- Litter and materials left behind that residents are cleaning up
- Fences are being cut
- Fires, even during a fire ban
  - Who will pay the fire bill if one is started?
- Overnight camping
- Blocking roads, as there is no parking
- Effects on local wildlife
  - The osprey nest has been in that area for decades and has been disturbed, leading to the death of the birds

While residents have tried to mitigate this issue with “No Trespassing” signs, the MD has also installed a “Local Traffic Only” sign. The MD Community Peace Officer has visited the area to hear the concerns of the residents.

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With the closure of other tourism areas by the province, more people are discovering these local spots, and they are becoming overcrowded and mistreated. While the residents understand they can't block all access to the river, legally, access is available at the ordinary high water mark; there has been an increase in trespassing on private lands, and residents have daily conversations with visitors to educate them.

Residents are seeking guidance from the MD on how they can address some of these issues. One potential suggestion was to have an official sign from the MD at the resident's home, along with additional fencing along the river. The Council understands that many areas in the MD are suffering from this same issue, and the Alberta Government has named Southwest Alberta a destination to enjoy; unfortunately, this increases traffic and people in the area without providing the Municipality with the necessary assistance to mitigate the issues that arise. The MD could assist with lobbying the Government to support the installation of possible hand gates in the wildlife fencing, which would provide more access along the river.

John Knoeck spoke up at this time to discuss the North Side of the river, stating that the issue isn't the regular fisherman in the area who abide by the rules, but the visitors to the area who don't understand where they can fish or walk. The North side doesn't experience the same amount of trespassing as the South side, but does have issues with parking on road allowances, fires left unattended, and vehicles being abandoned.

The Council thanked the residents for attending and, given the imminent concerns, will discuss at a later Council meeting.

Residents from the Fisher Bridge area left the meeting at 11:46 a.m.

### 3. Closed Session

Councillor Dave Cox

Moved that the Council move into closed session to discuss the following, the time being 12:05 pm.

- a) Public Works Call Log – ATIA Sec. 29.1
- b) Joint Council Grant Funding Prelim Discussion - ATIA Sec. 28.1
- c) Joint Council Grant Funding Program Administration – ATIA Sec. 28.1
- d) Councillors and Members At Large Remuneration C-CO-001 – ATIA Sec. 28.1
- e) Draft Bylaws 1365-25 Traffic and 1366-25 Community Standards – ATIA Sec. 28.1

Councillor Jim Welsch

Moved that Council move out of closed session, the time being 3:01 pm.

Carried

### 4. Draft Policy C-CO-008 Public Art

- Due to time constraints, Draft Policy C-CO-008 Public Art is moved to September 9, 2025

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5. Round Table

6. Adjournment

Councillor Tony Bruder

Moved that the committee meeting adjourn at 3:02 pm.

Carried

  
REEVE

  
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER