

MINUTES  
REGULAR COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING  
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF PINCHER CREEK NO. 9  
Tuesday, January 27, 2026,  
11:00 am  
Council Chambers

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

Staff: CAO Roland Milligan, Public Works Manager Alan McRae, Utilities & Infrastructure Manager David Desabrais, Community Peace Officer Robyn Potter, Development Officer Laura McKinnon, and Executive Assistant Jessica McClelland.

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

1. Approval of Agenda

Councillor Dave Cox

Moved that the agenda for January 27, 2026, be approved as presented.

Carried

2. Delegations

Jeremy Gross with Pincher Colony and Pete Jones with Dennis Dirtworx attended the meeting at this time to discuss their current irrigation project west of Pincher Creek.

Jeremy discussed the history of the old pivots at wastewater lagoons in the Town of Pincher Creek. During construction, the colony discovered 3,200 acre feet of irrigation and contacted the company for an irrigation assessment. They then submitted a license request to Alberta Environment, which was approved within a couple of months and planning stages began. The lands in question are both rented and owned by the colony, and they are seeing a vast difference in irrigation vs non irrigation lands. Financing has been approved through a bank once water licensing was secured.

In the early stages of the project, the colony considered staging the build, but it made more sense to put it into operation at once. To be successful for the Fall crop, off-site storage was needed. The goal was to have it in place for spring seeding. Alberta Environment has authorized a holding pond, and engineers have taken the project lead and are also working with WSP.

The Colony's new water licence is permanent, provided the water is used within 5 years. The Ministers' discretion to amend applies in the event of extreme drought. The water storage is for fall irrigation, with water being drawn from the river only in the spring. The licence states that April through July for use.

There are currently pump sites with existing water lines for cattle and grass, with existing licenses – plans are to alternate between new and old pivots.

Council questioned whether there are any anticipated issues with pivots near the airport location. Cables would have been over the height limit. The company will change to ensure maximum coverage and comply with the 3-metre height restriction. All new technology can be turned on and off via an app on a phone. If MD makes changes for the airport, they can be done easily. MD has met with a consultant who is familiar with NavCanada rules.

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There is a clause to make changes if needed, but the current project will not be an issue – future airport development can make changes as necessary.

Council expressed concern about MDs' lack of awareness of this project, with no fault on the Colony's part. The Colony informed the MD, but authorization is through Alberta Environment. Notification from Alberta Environment doesn't need to inform the MD or other landowners.

The project is moving forward smoothly with other utility companies and is on track to be completed. It will change the way the land is farmed, increase profit, and add value to the farm.

Concerns about the current road use agreement. The road ban is at 75%. A short stretch off Highway 3 to access the bin site – PW manager suggested Highway 6 around the traffic circle to 507 to the bin yard – Colony would prefer to come off Highway 3 directly to the bin yard on MD roads. The only way would be through a Council exemption. Council understands the logistics and the impact of running that many truckloads and the weight on roads not built for that. Colony questioned whether it's possible to put in speed restrictions or move the ban to 90%? Council mentioned a cost-share agreement with the colony to upgrade the road? As a possibility – MD can't afford to upgrade roads for the use of a few landowners. The colony would be open to that discussion. MD staff and Colony to discuss options to assist. MD concern is the reservoir with these projects – Castle Mountain now a 4-season resort, potential coal development west of us, and water security for the community.

Jeremy Gross with Pincher Colony and Pete Jones with Dennis Dirtworx left the meeting at 11:52 am

### 3. Closed Session

Councillor Jim Welsch

Moved that the Council move into closed session to discuss the following, the time being 11:54 pm.

- a) Public Works Call Log – ATIA Sec. 29.1

Councillor John MacGarva

Moved that Council move out of closed session, the time being 12:18 pm.

Carried

### 4. Positive Ticketing Initiative

Community Peace Officer Robyn Potter discussed with Council the implementation of the Positive Ticketing Initiative as an enforcement and community engagement tool to encourage positive decision-making among youth in the Municipality, to be administered by Enforcement Services. Robyn is seeking Council support to begin this incentive program. Costs would be minimal, and she would look to local businesses for possible participation.

Council is supportive of this positive initiative to encourage youth to understand bylaws and view enforcement as a safety component of the community.

### 5. Draft Bylaw 1365-25, Traffic Bylaw

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Development Officer Laura McKinnon and Community Peace Officer Robyn Potter presented changes to draft Bylaw 1365-25, the Traffic Bylaw. Section 8 – Road Allowances will be amended and brought back to a future Council meeting for further consideration.

4. Round Table

- Community meeting for a potential campground with ID #4 being proposed for next Friday, at the Twin Butte Hall, through a community group. MD does not have an application for this project.
- Alberta SouthWest upcoming presentation for biodigester at a landfill in the region, manager will attend instead of a Councillor.
- Fire Guard proposal is open for applications – Castle Mountain Resort is applying.
- Summerview Road sign discussion. Administration isn't sure where the sign authority came from as there is no historical information for the 1 ton ban which applied to certain times of the day.

5. Adjournment

Councillor Dave Cox

Moved that the committee meeting adjourn at 1:50 pm.

Carried



REEVE



CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER