

MINUTES
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF PINCHER CREEK NO. 9
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 18, 2026

10090

The Special Meeting of Council of the Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9 was held on Wednesday, March 18, 2026, in the Town of Pincher Creek Council Chambers.

Notice of this Special Council Meeting was posted on the MD website and social media.

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

STAFF CAO Roland Milligan, Acting Director of Corporate Services Brendan Schlossberger, and Executive Assistant Jessica McClelland.

ALSO Town of Pincher Creek: Mayor Wayne Oliver, Councillors Mark Barber, Bernice Cyr, Brian McGillivray, Gord McMullen, Sahra Nodge, and Valerie Wynder, CAO Konrad Dunbar, Director of Corporate Services Wendy Catonio, Director of Operations and Infrastructure Kyle Ross, and Executive Assistant Carolina Hunsperger.

Reeve Rick Lemire called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

A. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Councillor Dave Cox

26/120

Moved that the Special Council Agenda for March 18, 2026, be amended to include:

New Business:

- b) Regional District of East Kootenay/SW Alberta Elected Officials Meeting – Jointly Hosting with Town and MD

AND THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

Carried

B. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Community Housing and Economic Development Committee - Film Request
 - Link to Movie Trailer provided by Town of Pincher Creek

The Town of Pincher Creek showcased a film trailer titled “Thinking Beyond the Market” about affordable housing. The presentation was organized by the Pincher Creek Foundation, shared with the Housing Committee, and then forwarded to the Joint Council. A free screening might be available, though there is a \$200 fee for the speaker's participation. The film could potentially be screened at the upcoming Joint Council meeting.

Further discussion of this opportunity will take place at each Council meeting.

- b) Regional District of East Kootenay/SW Alberta Elected Officials Meeting – Jointly Hosting with Town and MD

The last Regional District of East Kootenay/SW Alberta Elected Officials Meeting was held in Sparwood in November 2025. The Reeve and Mayor offered to co-host the next meeting, scheduled for October/November 2026, after the BC Municipal Election. CAOs will review venues and organize the event.

C. STANDING DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a) Regional Water Supply Mitigation Strategy

MD Council wanted to follow up on previous discussions with the Town on getting water to Pincher Station and Airport. Since the last joint meeting, Alberta SouthWest presented to the MD regarding airports in the region. Alberta SouthWest has been developing plans that

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utilize existing airport infrastructure to support future initiatives in aerospace, minerals, and medical tourism. The current goal is to evaluate community readiness before planning, then align their abilities with specific needs and desires. One key component of these plans for Pincher Creek would be water to the airport.

MD questioned whether the Town has considered supplying water to a regional system and how this plan can progress. MD has met with David Hunt, Water Approvals Team Lead with Alberta Environment and Protected Areas and asked about the use of water licenses. He suggested there are different approaches MD can take for a regional system. The administration, together with the Town and MD, has been discussing many options. MD could become a purchaser of water, establish a utility account, or use part of our own license and transfer it to the Town to process raw water. There is also the possibility of connecting the two water systems to increase capacity and for emergency use. Until a study on these options is completed, it is difficult to determine which option would be most beneficial.

The Town prefers to keep the capital separate from operational functions for economic reasons. In addition to financial considerations, safety backup remains essential. Ensuring the safety and security of infrastructure is important and could be shared if the facility is shared. The town plans to invite Alberta SouthWest to a future meeting and will also contact David Hunt to discuss the water license.

Town indicated that the simplest method for the MD to transfer part of the MD license is for the Town to sell treated water back to MD. Administration will keep exploring this potential plan.

b) Pincher Creek and District Library Board and Chinook Arch (Library Renovations)

MD Council requested an update on recent library developments. The town has not finalized the financial details but has indicated that the gym space is available for inclusion in the lease or for the town to rent to the library for events. No agreements are in place yet. Until the library has a renovation plan, MD Council is not prepared to consider a financial request.

c) Recreation Facilities Update

MD Council requested an update on the ice arena and possible upgrades. The engineers' report didn't provide the Town with what was asked in the scope of work. The Town advised that, to last another 20 years, the arena will need new trusses, the floors will need to be replaced, and the ice plant is on its last legs. The request was to plan for \$5 to \$6 million and upgrade it to last another 20 years; the rough estimate cost share to the MD would be around \$3.5 million. The proposed scope came back at \$10 million, with changes different from what was asked. The Town will go back to the engineers with another request and ensure proper information is provided back to the Town and MD.

D. CLOSED SESSION

Councillor Jim Welsch 26/121

Moved that Council move into closed session to discuss the following, the time being 6:48 pm.

- a) Pincher Creek Emergency Services Commission – Draft Master Agreement ATIA Sec. 28.1

Carried

Councillor John MacGarva 26/122

Moved that Council move out of closed session, the time being 7:31 pm.

Carried

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E. ADJOURNMENT

Councillor Tony Bruder

26/123

Moved that Council adjourn the meeting, the time being 7:32 pm.

Carried



REEVE



CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER