

Delegates in Attendance

Mayor Peter Brown – City of Airdrie
Mayor Naheed Nenshi/Councillor Gian-Carlo Carra – City of Calgary
Mayor Marshall Chalmers – City of Chestermere
Mayor Jeff Genung – Town of Cochrane
Reeve Suzanne Oel – Foothills County
Mayor Craig Snodgrass – High River
Mayor Bill Robertson/Councillor Ed Sands – Town of Okotoks
Reeve Dan Henn – Rocky View County
Mayor Pat Fule – Town of Strathmore
Deputy Reeve Scott Klassen – Wheatland County
Dale Beesley, Municipal Affairs

CMRB Administration:

Chris Sheard, Chair
Greg Clark, Incoming Chair
Jordon Copping, Chief Officer
Liisa Tipman, Project Manager–Land Use
Jaime Graves, Project Manager–Intermunicipal Servicing
Shelley Armeneau, Office Manager
JP Leclair, GIS Analyst

1. Call to Order & Opening Comments

Called to order at 9:30 AM.

2. Approval of Agenda

Chair noted a time conflict for Anne Harding presenting item 7 Public Engagement What We Heard Report and asked if it could be moved up in the agenda. A request was made to add a discussion to the roundtable on requesting an extension to the deadline to submit the Growth & Servicing Plans to the province. A friendly amendment was suggested to move that discussion before the Growth & Servicing Plan items.

M 2021-13

Moved by Mayor Genung **Seconded by** Mayor Brown, accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Board approve the agenda of the January 29, 2021 meeting, changing the order as follows:

- Review and approve minutes
- Phase 2 Public Engagement What We Heard Report
- COVID Update
- Roundtable discussion on request to the province for an extension
- Return to original agenda order

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Review and Approve Minutes

M 2021-14

Moved by Mayor Fule **Seconded by** Mayor Chalmers, accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Board approve the Minutes of the January 15, 2021 meeting, with the following change:

7. Environmentally Responsible Land Use Policy The following feedback was provided:

o Consider stronger statements on flood mitigation to protect from future flooding. Need wording around upstream mitigation on the Bow River and reflection of the SR1 project on the Elbow Rivers—on a map of the Growth Plan."

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Phase 2 Public Engagement What We Heard Report

Anne Harding reviewed the What We Heard Report and answered questions.

M 2021-15

Moved by Mayor Genung **Seconded by** Mayor Brown, accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Board approve the Phase 2 Public Engagement What We Heard Report.

Motion carried unanimously.

5. COVID Update

Dale Beesley updated the Board on COVID care teams, mental health assistance, First Nations cases and communications.

M2021-16

Moved by Councillor Ed Sands **Seconded by** Mayor Brown, accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Board receive for information a COVID update from the Government of Alberta.

Motion carried unanimously.

6. Roundtable Discussion on Request to the Province for an Extension

Members discussed putting forward a formal request to Municipal Affairs for an extension to the deadline for submission of the Growth and Servicing Plans. There was general agreement that more time may help create a more complete outcome, and requesting a specific timeline was preferred. It was proposed that the current work schedule continue. The draft Plans would come to the February 19 and 26 Board meetings, HDRC would present to member municipality councils in February and then, if granted an extension, use the additional time for further public consultation and refining of the Plan. CMRB Administration was

tasked with creating a work plan to be used for the basis of requesting an extension. Administration was also asked to bring forward the budget implications of an extension and additional public engagement. A member requested that no additional policies be added to the Plans, but rather a refining of the work done to date.

Motion Arising:

M 2021-17

Moved by Mayor Fule **Seconded by** Mayor Genung, accepted by Chair.

Motion:

1. The Board affirm the desire for an extension to the March 1, 2021 deadline of the Plans
2. Direct CMRB Administration to develop a workplan for an extension to the March 1, 2021 deadline, for approval by the Board by e-vote, no later than February 8, 2021.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. The Board agree that the extension be no later than June 1, 2021.

Motion carried.

Following the Board meeting, CMRB Administration circulated an email on Monday February 8 in relation to the motion arising which included a brief on the email vote, the draft CMRB Project Extension Schedule and a draft letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs requesting an extension to June 1, 2021. Members voted by email:

M2021-18

Motion Arising:

That the Board approve:

- a) the proposed Growth and Servicing Plan Extension Schedule, and
- b) the draft letter requesting an extension to June 1, 2021, for delivering the Growth and Servicing Plan to the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Motion carried. Recorded vote requested.

Airdrie: in favour, Calgary: in favour, Cochrane: in favour, Chestermere: in favour, Foothills: opposed, High River: in favour, Rocky View: opposed, Strathmore: in favour, Okotoks: in favour, Wheatland: opposed.

7. Reserve Funds Policy

Jordon Copping reviewed the Policy and answered questions.

M 2021-19

Moved by Mayor Chalmers **Seconded by** Mayor Fule, accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Board approve the Reserve Funds Policy.

Motion carried unanimously.

8. Advocacy Committee Request

Jordon Copping updated the Board on a discussion at the recent Advocacy Committee meeting where members discussed the role that Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) plays in supporting the mental health of Albertans. The Committee recommended that the Board advocate, by way of a letter to the Ministers of Community and Social Services and Finance, not to reduce funding in the budget to FCSS programs. A suggestion was made to amend the letter to read: *"it is critical that Budget 2021 does not reduce, and if possible increases, funding for the FCSS Program"*.

M 2021-20

Moved by Mayor Genung **Seconded by** Mayor Chalmers, accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Board approve the attached draft letter to be sent to the Government of Alberta.

Motion carried unanimously.

9. Growth Management & the Efficient Use of Land Policy

Peter Calthorpe of HDRC provided a presentation on this Policy including:

- Goals
- Tools for sustainable future
- Growth Opportunities Summary
- Key changes from feedback from TAG and Land Use & Servicing Committee including:
 - Rural area development
 - Hamlet growth areas
 - Joint planning areas
 - Approved statutory plans
 - Exceptions to policy

There was general support for this policy. Concerns brought forward included densities and caps on the number of dwelling units in rural cluster developments, limiting development to hamlets and joint planning areas, inability to create employment areas outside hamlet and joint planning areas, fiscal sustainability, and criteria language for hamlet growth areas, and that language in the plan must be very clear. A suggestion was made to include unique circumstances for places that do not fit into a particular category but should be considered acceptable for development.

Further remarks were made about the Plan related to ensuring the wording is substantive. Relating to policy 10 and exceptions, a request was made for a statement tying services and infrastructure to development. Another comment was made that policy section 10.2.c should be removed because it is redundant and does not provide clear criteria.

Additional feedback was taken by HDRC for discussions at the next TAG and Committee meeting.

M 2021-21

Moved by Mayor Genung **Seconded by** Mayor Brown, accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Board receive for information the Growth Management and the Efficient Use of Land section of the Growth and Servicing Plans.

Motion carried.

10. Water Stewardship Policy

Stephen Power presented on the key changes made to this policy as a result of discussions at the Land Use & Servicing Committee and TAG. Specifically: watershed protection, stormwater management, water efficiency, collaboration and governance. TAG input created new policy 2.2: Member municipalities should identify locations where stormwater management may impact regional infrastructure systems and develop appropriate policies to address areas of impact. A concern was raised about this policy around restricting development or mandating higher standards than those already in place. Stephen clarified that the intent is simply to identify where stormwater management might impact other infrastructure, so that planning is not done in isolation.

M2021-22

Moved by Councillor Sands **Seconded by** Mayor Genung, accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Board receive for information the Water Stewardship section of the Growth and Servicing Plans.

Motion carried unanimously.

11. Shared Services Policy

Stephen Power presented on this item and answered questions. A comment was noted that creation of regional recreation working groups may present capacity challenges to some member municipalities.

M2021-23

Moved by Mayor Genung **Seconded by** Reeve Oel, accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Board receive for information the Shared Services section of the Growth and Servicing Plans.

Motion carried unanimously.

12. Celebrating Rural Urban Differences

While not listed on the agenda package, the Board briefly discussed this section of the Growth Plan.

M 2021-24

Moved by Mayor Brown **Seconded by** Councillor Sands, accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Board receive for information the Celebrating Rural Urban Differences section of the Growth and Servicing Plans.

Motion carried unanimously.

13. Environmentally Responsible Land Use Policy

Stephen introduced the key changes to this policy including the preamble, environmentally sensitive areas, and climate change and definitions. There was general consensus on this policy and that it is essential to protecting our region. Another member felt that while they could support some of the policy, it was not in favour of putting it into the growth plan until the implications are fully understood and a robust cost benefit analysis has been performed on the ideas.

M 2021-25

Moved by Councillor Carra **Seconded by** Mayor Brown, accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Board receive for information the Environmentally Responsible Land Use section of the Growth and Servicing Plans.

Motion carried unanimously.

14. Economic Wellbeing Policy

Charlie Hales introduced this policy and noted there were minimal changes from the previous circulation with the exception of agricultural economy moving into this area. He further noted the Plans address growth management and infrastructure and sets the stage for follow-on actions like devising an economic development strategy, however this is a follow up action for the Board to take up and is not formally included in the Plans. A member felt more time should be spent on the essence of sustainability. Charlie explained that it is a judgment call to determine how extensive the Plans go in this area. Another member felt economic development in counties is being restricted and this section is not positive for rurals.

M 2021-26

Moved by Councillor Sands **Seconded by** Mayor Genung, accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Board receive for information the Economic Wellbeing section of the Growth and Servicing Plans.

Motion carried.

15. Next Meeting: Friday February 19, 2021

Direction was given to arrange a strategic closed session meeting for the Board to establish trust among members and to proceed productively. Jordon agreed to include that in the revised workplan.

16. Adjournment at 12:43 PM.



Greg Clark, Chair