

THE MINUTES THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF BIG RIVER NO. 555 HELD ON APRIL 13, 2026 AT THE BIG RIVER COMMUNITY CENTRE, LOCATED AT 606 FIRST STREET NORTH, IN BIG RIVER, SASKATCHEWAN.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Reeve Clint Panter at 9:03 a.m.

DELEGATIONS            10:00 a.m.        Peter Lamothe – Legal Access  
                                  11:00 a.m.        Derek Hodgson & Dallas Anderson – PubWorks Report

**PRESENT**

ATTENDEES		Attendance				
Name	Position	I	T	E	Arrival	Absent
Clint Panter	Reeve	✓				
Doug Panter	Division 1	✓				
*Justin Sullivan	Division 2	✓				
Terry Olsen	Division 3	✓				
Maurice Denis	Division 4	✓				
Dana Kennedy	Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)	✓				

\*Deputy Reeve

Attendance: I – In person, T – Telephone, E – Electronic

Arrival time only entered if Member was not present when the meeting called to order.

**26-04-001 APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

SULLIVAN: That the April 13, 2026 agenda be accepted for reference purposes.

CARRIED

**26-04-002 MINUTES**

DENIS: That the minutes of the regular meeting of Council held March 9, 2026 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

**26-04-003 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

D PANTER: That the Statement of Financial Activities and Bank Reconciliation for the month of March 2026 be accepted as presented.

CARRIED



**26-04-004 LIST OF ACCOUNTS**

DENIS: That the list of accounts in the amount of \$306,054.34 as per attached be approved as presented.

CARRIED

**26-04-005 COUNCIL INDEMNITY & OTHER INVOICES**

OLSEN: That the following accounts be approved for payment and added to the next list of accounts presented to Council:

Clint Panter	Council Indemnity/Mileage	\$ 1,375.20
Doug Panter	Council Indemnity/Mileage	\$ 2,143.20
Justin Sullivan	Council Indemnity/Mileage	\$2,318.40
Maurice Denis	Council Indemnity/Mileage	\$ 2,022.40
Terry Olsen	Council Indemnity/Mileage	\$ 2,148.00

CARRIED

**26-04-006 ROAD GROOMER**

DENIS: That the Capital I road groomer be added to the 2026 Capital Budget for purchase approval.

CARRIED

**26-04-007 2026 ORGANIZED HAMLET OF PHILLIPS GROVE BUDGET**

OLSEN: That the Organized Hamlet of Phillips Grove 2026 Budget be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

**26-04-008 2026 ORGANIZED HAMLET OF NESSLIN BUDGET**

DENIS: That the Organized Hamlet of Nesslin Lake 2026 Budget be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

Terry Olsen left Council Chambers at 9:45 a.m.

**26-04-009 2026 EDUCATION PROPERTY TAX MILL RATES**

DENIS: That we acknowledge the 2026 Education Property Tax Mill Rates as follows:

Agricultural Property	1.07 mills
Residential Property	4.27 mills
Commercial/Industrial	6.37 mills
Resource (oil and gas, mines and pipelines)	7.49 mills

CARRIED



**26-04-010 FINANCIAL STATEMENT ABSTRACTS**

C PANTER: That pursuant to Section 185 of *The Municipalities Act*, the Administrator is hereby authorized to publicize a synopsis of the 2025 audited financial statements of the Rural Municipality by posting same on the municipality's official website and by making copies available at the municipal office; and further, that such synopsis shall include Statement 1, Statement 2, and Statement 3; and further, that Council acknowledges that any person may, during regular business hours, inspect or obtain a copy of the complete audited financial statements, including the Auditor's Report.

CARRIED

**26-04-011 ORGANIZED HAMLET 2026 ALLOTMENT OF TAXES COLLECTED**

DENIS: That the following percentages of 2026 taxes collected for municipal purposes from within the organized hamlets, be allotted to the appropriate hamlet reserve account as follows:

- Hamlet of Phillips Grove - 55%
- Hamlet of Nesslin Lake - 55%

CARRIED

**26-04-012 WORK ALONE POLICY**

D PANTER: That the Council of the Rural Municipality of Big River approve and adopt the Work Alone Policy as presented.

CARRIED

**26-04-013 AGREEMENT - WSP**

SULLIVAN: That Council accept the Scope Change No. 01 agreement from WSP Canada Inc. for the bridge replacement project at Location 07-56-07 W3M; and further, that the RM proceed with the Detailed Design and Site Survey, Geotechnical Engineering, and tendering process; and that the conceptual bridge drawing details be submitted to Transport Canada for review and approval; and that the Reeve and CAO be authorized to sign the agreement.

CARRIED

**PETER LAMOTHE – LEGAL ACCESS**

Peter Lamothe appeared before council to discuss legal access to his land located at SE 17-55-07 W3, SW 16-55-07 W3 & NW 09-55-07 W. (10:02 a.m. to 10:23 a.m.)

Terry Olsen returned to Council Chambers at 10:04 a.m.

Doug Panter left Council Chambers at 10:19 a.m.

Doug Panter returned to Council Chamber at 10:22 a.m.

**26-04-014 WAWANESA BUDGET & SIGNAGE**

C PANTER: That the Wawanesa revised Budget be accepted as presents and approval of budget be sent to Wawanesa for approval.

CARRIED

**26-04-015 BYLAW 26-04-01 TO PERMANENTLY CLOSE AND TRANSFER ROAD ALLOWANCE DESCRIBED AS PLAN 80B11617 [H-26685] – SE 20-57-08 W3 – 1<sup>ST</sup> READING**

DENIS: That Bylaw No. 26-04-01, being a bylaw to permanently close and transfer road allowance described as plan 80B11617 [H-26685] SE 20-57-08 W3 be read a first time.

CARRIED

**26-04-016 BYLAW 26-04-01 TO PERMANENTLY CLOSE AND TRANSFER ROAD ALLOWANCE DESCRIBED AS PLAN 80B11617 [H-26685] – SE 20-57-08 W3 – 2<sup>ND</sup> READING**

SULLIVAN: That Bylaw No. 26-04-01, being a bylaw to permanently close and transfer road allowance described as plan 80B11617 [H-26685] SE 20-57-08 W3 be read a second time.

CARRIED

**26-04-017 BYLAW 26-04-01 TO PERMANENTLY CLOSE AND TRANSFER ROAD ALLOWANCE DESCRIBED AS PLAN 80B11617 [H-26685] – SE 20-57-08 W3 – THREE READING**

OLSEN: That Bylaw No. 26-04-01, being a bylaw to permanently close and transfer road allowance described as plan 80B11617 [H-26685] SE 20-57-08 W3 be given three readings at this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**26-04-018 BYLAW 26-04-01 TO PERMANENTLY CLOSE AND TRANSFER ROAD ALLOWANCE DESCRIBED AS PLAN 80B11617 [H-26685] – SE 20-57-08 W3 – 3<sup>RD</sup> READING**

D PANTER: That Bylaw No. 26-04-01, being a bylaw to permanently close and transfer road allowance described as plan 80B11617 [H-26685] SE 20-57-08 W3 as attached hereto and forming part of these minutes now be read a third time, adopted, sealed and signed by the Reeve and CAO.

CARRIED

**26-04-019 TLE - AHTAHKAKOOP CREE NATION – SE 36-57-09 W3**

C PANTER: THAT the Council of the Rural Municipality of Big River No. 555, in response to correspondence from the Ministry of Government Relations and Ministry of Highways regarding the proposed Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) land selection (GR File No. 838.050), provides the following comments and requirements:

**1. Access to Adjacent Dwelling (NE 25-57-09 W3)**

THAT an existing dwelling located on NE 25-57-09 W3 relies on access that currently crosses the subject lands (SE 36-57-09 W3), as illustrated on the attached map; and

THAT the Rural Municipality of Big River No. 555 will not assume responsibility for the construction, relocation, or maintenance of any roadway or access to this dwelling; and

THAT prior to any transfer of the subject lands to reserve status, satisfactory arrangements must be made, to the satisfaction of the RM, to ensure continued legal and physical access to the dwelling, either by:

- the relocation and construction of a new access route, at no cost to the RM and at the sole responsibility of the proponent; or
- the continuation and formalization of the existing access through appropriate agreements; and
- any relocation, continued use, or formalization of the existing access must be discussed and arranged directly with the affected landowner of NE 25-57-09 W3 by the proponent and/or the appropriate provincial or federal authority, to the satisfaction of the RM.

## **2. No Municipal Road Responsibility Within Reserve**

THAT the Rural Municipality does not intend to own, construct, or maintain any roads within the proposed reserve lands; and

THAT should the lands be developed in the future and roadways constructed, the RM may, at its sole discretion, enter into a negotiated service agreement for the provision of road maintenance services, subject to full cost recovery.

## **3. Utility Easements**

THAT all existing SaskPower easements and any other utility interests be identified, confirmed, and protected or replaced as required prior to reserve creation.

## **4. Road Allowances and Municipal Interests**

THAT the RM has no interest in undeveloped road allowances, trails, or unregistered roadways within or adjacent to the subject lands, except as related to the access identified above, and that no municipal obligations be implied upon transfer.

## **5. Adjacent Landowner Notification**

THAT Council directs the Chief Administrative Officer to notify adjacent landowners of the proposed Treaty Land Entitlement land selection and invite any comments or concerns for Council's consideration; and

THAT the Ministry of Government Relations and other appropriate agencies be requested to also engage with adjacent landowners as part of the review process.

## **6. General Municipal Protection**

THAT all municipal interests, including access, infrastructure, and third-party interests, be resolved to the satisfaction of the RM prior to the land being set apart as reserve.

CARRIED

**OPERATORS – PUBWORKS**

Operators Derek H. & Dallas A. met with Council to discuss pubworks operations from the previous month. (10:54 a.m. to 11:14 a.m.)

Justin Sullivan left Council Chambers at 11:08 a.m.  
Justin Sullivan returned to Council Chamber at 11:10 a.m.

**26-04-020 DISCRETIONARY USE - SUBDIVISION – NW 32 57 8 W3**

OLSEN: That notice having been provided in accordance with Section 3.7 of Zoning Bylaw 23-01-02 and no concerns having been raised, Council approves the discretionary use development permit to allow for the subdivision of 10 acres from the NW 32-57-08 W3 to become Parcel B as per subsection 3.6.2.3(a) and subsection 3.6.2.3(c)(i) of Bylaw 23-01-01 Official Community Plan and Table 6.1, Residential Uses(3) with site between 2.5 and 25 acres of Bylaw 23-01-02 Zoning Bylaw.

CARRIED

**26-04-021 SPECIAL OCCASIONS PERMIT – NESS CREEK**

SULLIVAN: That we approve special occasion permits for the following:

**Ness Creek Music Festival**

Licensing Downtown and Backstage Areas of the Festival Site  
Thursday July 16th to Sunday July 19th, 2026  
Thursday July 16th: 2pm - 2am  
Friday July 17th: 2pm- 2am  
Saturday July 18th: 2pm - 2am  
Sunday July 19th: 12pm - 12:am (midnight)

**BackwardsNess Fall Faire**

Licensing Downtown and Backstage Areas of the Festival Site  
Friday September 4 and Saturday September 5 2026  
Friday September 5th: 2pm - 2am  
Saturday September 5th: 2pm - 2am

CARRIED

**26-04-022 SPECIAL OCCASION PERMIT – WEDDING – NESS CREEK SITE**

DENIS: That we approve special occasion permits for the following:

**Gillanders Wedding – Ness Creek Camp Ground – S1/2 33-56-06 W3**

Friday August 28: 12pm - 12am  
Saturday August 29: 12pm- 12am

CARRIED

**26-04-023 GREENLAND WASTE BLANKET PERMIT**

OLSEN: That the CAO be authorized to sign the agreement with Greenland Waste Disposal for a blanket permit during the spring road ban period.

CARRIED

**26-04-024 SEPA CONVENTION**

SULLIVAN: That the EMO Coordinator be authorized to attend the SAFC–SEPA–SPSA Convention to be held in Kindersley, Saskatchewan from May 7 to May 9, 2026, and that associated expenses be paid.

CARRIED

**26-04-025 RMAA CONVENTION**

DENIS: That the CAO be authorized to attend the RMAA Annual Convention to be held in Regina from May 11 to May 14, 2026, and that associated expenses be paid.

CARRIED

**26-04-026 COUNCIL BURSARY**

SULLIVAN: That we contribute \$1,000 towards two \$1,000 bursary which is matched by the Town of Big River to be given to a Big River Public High School student who is graduating and planning to study at a post-secondary school the following year and a Big River Public High School Student who is graduating and planning to pursue a career in a skilled trade. Bursary's will be provided once student has completed first year of schooling/trade.

CARRIED

**26-04-027 FIREWORK & DOOR PRIZE DONATION**

OLSEN: That the RM donates \$1,000 for Fireworks and \$500 for a door prize for the pancake breakfast to the Town of Big River for the Canada Day celebration.

CARRIED

**26-04-028 POWER MOBILE EQUIPMENT TRAINER APPROVAL**

C PANTER: That the Council of the Rural Municipality of Big River No. 555 acknowledge Coby Wilson, Public Works Foreman, as a competent person to provide training and evaluation for powered mobile equipment operators in accordance with The Occupational Health and Safety Regulations, 2020, and that such training shall include proper instruction, evaluation, and documented records as required.

CARRIED

**26-04-029 RECESS FOR LUNCH – 11:57 a.m.**

C PANTER: That we recess for lunch for one hour.

CARRIED

Reeve Clint Panter reconvened the meeting at 12:59 p.m.

**26-04-030 FERGUSON DRIVEWAY**

C PANTER: That the CAO be authorized to send a letter requesting a proposal plan for the Ferguson driveway, and advising that Council is willing to consider a variance to the standard approach requirements to address site-specific concerns.

CARRIED

**26-04-031 TOLKO JOINT MEETING**

MAURICE: That the RM of Big River Council hold a meeting with the Town and Big River and Tolko's Forest Management team on April 27 at 1:00 p.m. in the small hall at the Big River Community Center.

CARRIED

**26-04-032 BYLAW CONTRAVENTION – TRAVEL TRAILERS**

C PANTER: That Council acknowledges the correspondence received regarding the zoning bylaw contravention for travel trailers; and further, that Council confirms the Zoning Bylaw applies equally to all property owners within the municipality, and it is the responsibility of property owners to ensure compliance with all applicable bylaws prior to and following the purchase of property; and further, that administration proceed with enforcement in accordance with the Zoning Bylaw.

CARRIED

**26-04-033 REQUEST FOR IMMEDIATE SAFETY MEASURES – TOWNSHIP ROAD 570**

DENIS: That Council acknowledges the correspondence received regarding public safety concerns on Township Road 570, and directs administration to install appropriate "School Bus Stop Ahead" signage, have Community Safety Officers monitor traffic in the area, and conduct a traffic count to assess vehicle volume and speed for future consideration of additional traffic control measures.

CARRIED

GA  
DK

**26-04-034 2026 GRAVEL HAUL TENDER**

DENIS: That the gravel haul tender to load and haul approximately 10,000 + cubic yards of traffic gravel from the pit located at SE-36-56-09-W3, be awarded to Len's Trucking as follows:

- Expected Start date: June 1, 2026
- Expected Completion date: August 15, 2026
- Loading: \$0.95 per yard
- Hauling: \$0.42 per yard/mile
- Equipment: 4 Loaders  
6 Tridem Belly Dumps  
2 Tridem End Dumps  
6 Tandem Trucks

CARRIED

**26-04-035 2026 ROAD RECLAMATION & ENHANCMENT TENDER**

OLSEN: That the road reclamation & enhancement tender to provide the RM with supplying, hauling, and apply calcium chloride / magnesium hydroxide solution to approximately 2 miles (3.22 km) of roadway, be awarded to Green Earth Road Spraying as follows:

- Expected Start date: June 1, 2026
- Expected Completion date: June 3, 2026
- Spray mixture: \$0.53 per 1 liter
- Liters needed: 90,160 liters
- Equipment: Spray Truck with Krohne meter system

CARRIED

**26-04-036 2026 ROAD STABILIZATION TENDER**

OLSEN: That the road stabilization tender to provide the RM with road stabilization/dust control, be awarded to Green Earth Road Spraying as follows:

- Expected Start date: June 1, 2026
- Expected Completion date: June 15, 2026
- Spray mixture: \$0.53 per 1 liter
- Width of spray: 7.5 meters
- Price per meter of road: \$5.57 per meter
- Equipment: Spray Truck with Krohne meter system

CARRIED

**26-04-037 2026 BUDGET**

DENIS: That the 2026 Operating as attached hereto and forming part of the minutes be adopted as presented and the 2026 mill rate be set to 5.

CARRIED

CA  
DK

**26-04-038 2026 CAPITAL BUDGET**

SULLIVAN: That the 2026 Capital Budget as attached hereto and forming part of the minutes be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

**26-04-039 REPORTS**

DENIS: That the maintenance and committee reports be acknowledged and filed.

CARRIED

**26-04-040 CORRESPONDENCE**

SULLIVAN: That the following correspondence be received and filed.

1. Article - New Community Launch - Big River
2. Con-aid RM555-2026-05 2026 Road Stabilization
3. Fast Freddy Trucking Ltd. Business Profile
4. Forsite\_Flatsheet\_Community Wildfire Resilience Services
5. HARP PubWorks Training
6. Kindersley SK TRANSCAER Event Poster- May 2026
7. Metis-Owned Specialized Contracting Robotic Mulching
8. New Fire Truck
9. New Utility Line Locating and GPR services
10. Praire Mapping Industries Flyer
11. Rental Equipment available today
12. Road Data
13. Silk Screening Embroidery
14. Springs around Brandt tractor

CARRIED

**26-04-041 ADJOURNMENT – 2:46 p.m.**

DENIS: That this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Reeve – Clint Panter

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CAO – Dana Kennedy