**ALBERTA RURAL MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION**

**EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES**

**November 14, 2016**

The Alberta Rural Municipal Administrators’ Association meeting was called to order by President Rod Hawken on November 14, 2016 at 1:06 p.m. in Salon 17, Shaw Conference Centre, Edmonton, Alberta.

**PRESENT:**

Rod Hawken President

Cindy Vizzutti Vice President

Doug Henderson Director, Zone 1

Al Hoggan Director, Zone 2

Luc Mercier Director, Zone 3

Peter Thomas Director, Zone 4

Tyler Lawrason Director, Zone 5

Irene Cooper Executive Director

**GUESTS:**

**Gerald Rhodes AAMDC – Arrived at 1:12 p.m.**

Kim Heyman AAMDC - Arrived at 1:12 p.m.

Gary Sandberg Alberta Municipal Affairs – Arrived at 1:07 p.m.

Meryl Whittaker, Alberta Municipal Affairs – Arrived at 1:07 p.m.

Steve White, Alberta Municipal Affairs – Arrived at 1:07 p.m.

Alex , Alberta Municipal Affairs – Arrived at 1:07 p.m.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Moved by Al Hoggan that the Agenda for the November 14, 2016 meeting be adopted as circulated.

 Carried.

**ALBERTA MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS**

Gary Sandberg, Meryl Whittaker, Steve White and Alex Nnamonu entered the meeting at 1:08 p.m.

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Municipal Affairs Continued

General discussion ensued regarding many issues:

* House amendments to the MGA will be introduced this fall.
* Bill 20 has been passed.
* Officials cannot comment on changes to the 5 to 1 ratio for linear and residential assessments and the grandfathering of some municipalities that do not meet this criteria.
* A downturn in linear assessments will probably continue, municipalities can expect similar changes for the next 2 years.
* Directors expressed concern regarding Oil Companies not paying taxes and the burden that is placed on the municipality to pay their portion of the school tax. Municipal Affairs and Alberta Education has compiled a group to look at this problem. It was noted that the School Act does has a provision that allows the Minister to forgive a portion or all school taxes owing by the municipality.
* ARMAA expressed their concerns regarding how the Carbon Tax will impact municipalities and school divisions and urged that representatives take back the message that this is not the time to impose this levy.
* Views on Municipal Collaboration, ICF’s and arbitration were discussed. ARMAA urged that if arbitration became necessary, the arbitration body be required to consider the regional approach which would reflect all of the commitments a rural municipality has and not just the individual matter at hand.
* ARMAA noted that the Regulation Review Process should include some feedback from Municipal Affairs.

**AAMDC**

General discussion ensued with Gerald Rhodes and Kim Heyman regarding, loss of linear for rurals and the Carbon Tax. AAMDC have not been requested to undertake a survey to determine the loss of rural linear assessment and there are 2 emergent resolutions coming forward regarding the Carbon Tax.

Gerald Rhodes advised that there will be a 50 million dollar ASSET Management Program available to municipalities.

Representatives from Municipal Affairs and AAMDC left the meeting at 2:18 p.m. The meeting recessed at 2:18 p.m. and reconvened at 2:32 p.m.

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**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Moved by Luc Mercier that the Minutes of the June 03, 2016 meeting be adopted as circulated.

 Carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The Executive reviewed the IAMC and AAMDC Advocacy Report as submitted by Sheila Kitz.

Luc Mercier provided a report on the CAMMA Committee and advised that further information will be available in January.

**VIABILITY REPORTS**

The Executive reviewed the Viability Review reports.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

The Executive reviewed the General Ledger, Balance Sheet and Cheque List. Irene Cooper advised that the bank balance as of November 14, 2016 was $143,120.49.

Moved by Cindy Vizzutti that the Financial Report be accepted as presented.

 Carried.

**2016 CONFERENCE EVALUATIONS**

The Executive reviewed the synopsis of the 2016 Conference evaluations.

**2017 CONFERENCE**

The Executive discussed having an open discussion forum with various Ministries at the 2017 Conference. Irene Cooper was requested to contact the membership to seek which ministries they would like to see and what topics they would like to discuss.

Discussion regarding the legal presentations took place. It was suggested that the session be turned into 1 and that a panel be assembled to take questions. This will have to be approved by the two participating legal firms.

The Executive requested that Irene Cooper contact Paul Hulschilt to see if he would be interested in giving a keynote address at the Conference.

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**Conference Gifts**

The Executive requested that Irene Cooper check into Golf Shirts as the registration gifts for the 2017 Conference.

Speaker gifts will be the same as last year and there will not be a Trade Show.

**2017 BUDGET**

Moved by Al Hoggan that the 2017 Budget be amended by adding $3000 to the Executive Director’s Contract increasing it to $19000 per year and approved accordingly.

 Carried.

**2017 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

Moved by Luc Mercier that the 2017 Committee Appointments be approved as presented.

 Carried.

**2017 LGAA CONFERENCE DONATION**

Moved by Peter Thomas that ARMAA donate $250 to the 2017 LGAA Conference.

 Carried.

**IAMAA SPONSORSHIP**

Moved by Cindy Vizzutti that ARMAA not sponsor this workshop.

 CARRIED

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on January 30, 2017 at the Royal Executive Inn.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The Meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

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PRESIDENT, ROD HAWKEN IRENE COOPER

 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR