

## Minutes of the Calgary Metropolitan Region Board Meeting Held at the Town of Cochrane on Friday November 22, 2024

### Delegates in Attendance:

Mayor Peter Brown – City of Airdrie  
Councillor Tina Petrow – City of Airdrie  
Mayor Jyoti Gondek – City of Calgary  
Councillor Gian-Carlo Carra – City of Calgary  
Mayor Shannon Dean – City of Chestermere  
Mayor Jeff Genung – Town of Cochrane  
Reeve Delilah Miller – Foothills County  
Mayor Craig Snodgrass – Town of High River  
Mayor Tanya Thorn - Town of Okotoks (Vice Chair)  
Reeve Crystal Kissel – Rocky View County  
Honourable Ric McIver – Minister of Municipal Affairs

### CMRB Administration:

Greg Clark, Chair  
Liisa Tipman, Chief Officer  
Jaime Graves, Director of Regional Projects  
Scott Humphrey, GIS & Data Lead

### 1. Call to Order & Opening Comments

Chair Clark called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM and Mayor Thorn provided a land acknowledgment. Chair Clark noted that the Minister of Municipal Affairs, the Honourable Ric McIver, was in attendance at the meeting and would be addressing the Board.

### 2. Approval of Agenda

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

**Motion:** That the Board approve the agenda of the November 22, 2024 meeting.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved into closed session @ 9:35 AM. Returned to open session at 10:15 AM.**

The Honourable Minister McIver announced to the Board that the Government of Alberta intends to cease funding to the CMRB. He noted it has always been the intention of the province that CMRB would be self-supporting and as of next year it will need to be. In addition, he informed the Board that their intention is also to make membership voluntary.

M 2024-55

### 3. Motion to Recess

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

M 2024-56

**Motion:** That the Board take a 15-minute recess.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

### 4. Community Update

Mayor Genung provided a community update on the Town of Cochrane, including reporting on:

- A population Growth scenario has been conducted and results showed that in 22 years Cochrane could expect to have a population of 155,000. He noted the impacts of this include traffic issues, pressure on education, policing services, seniors housing, and infrastructure investments.
- Cochrane had no transit in 2018, and now has an annual ridership on their Colt system of 72,000 trips in 2023. In 22 years, Cochrane may need a C-Train-like transit system. He highlighted the challenges of going from no transit to a mid-sized city service in 25 years and The capital investments, staffing and planning required for this one service.
- Council and administration worked on a 10-year capital plan and quickly got to \$1B in capital needs which represents the "must haves" to run Cochrane.
- Mayor Genung noted that while growth is a good thing, it creates challenges which he believes other municipalities in the region are also facing. He suggested that the community update portion of the agenda could perhaps transition to focussing on the issues in member municipalities.

### 5. Consent Agenda

Included in the Consent Agenda were:

- Minutes of the October 21, and October 25, 2024 Board meetings.
- Board Strategic Initiatives
- Board Chair Concurrent Roles

**Moved by** Reeve Kissel **Seconded by** Mayor Thorn, accepted by Chair.

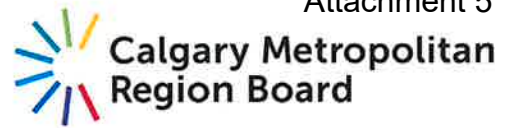
M 2024-57

**Motion:** That the Board approve the Consent Agenda.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

### 6. REF Application 2024-12 Prairie Gateway

Liisa Tipman introduced this item and noted that this REF came to CMRB because the ASP plan area is not located within a Preferred Growth Area. Rocky View County has requested approval of the proposed Prairie Gateway ASP as an Employment Area outside of a Preferred Growth Area consistent with the Growth Plan policy 3.1.3.4 a) to e). Reeve Kissel introduced the presentation included in the agenda package and acknowledged the staff work involved in the application. Kaitlyn Luster, Senior Regional Planner from Rocky View County, and Sean McLean, Senior Planner from the City of Calgary provided a REF



application overview and spoke to intermunicipal collaboration, provided an ASP overview, summarized regional benefits and Growth Plan alignment of the Prairie Gateway ASP. Mayor Gondek noted the economic benefits of Prairie Gateway as well as the trust, political will and best interests of the region that were built during the ASP process. Mayor Gondek expressed gratitude to staff that worked on the project. Members inquired about the potential for opportunities for regional partners to participate going forward. Mayor Gondek and Reeve Kissel advised there would be an opportunity to discuss further opportunities following final approval.

**Moved by** Reeve Miller **Seconded by** Councillor Petrow, accepted by Chair.

M 2024-58

**Motion:** That the Board approve the Prairie Gateway Area Structure Plan as an Employment Area outside of a Preferred Growth Area.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

## 7. Regional Economic Development Initiative Update

Jaime Graves acknowledged the work of the Collaborative Regional Economic Development Committee (CRED) made up of experts in the realm of economic development within the member municipalities who rolled up their sleeves to explore a shared collaborative model with a funding framework that is unique to the Calgary Metro Region to attract, support and grow investment in our region for Board direction. She introduced and extended gratitude to the presenters who provided leadership and expertise to the CRED Committee: Brad Parry, President and CEO of Calgary Economic Development (CED), Bonnie Nunnari, Senior Director of Economic Intelligence at CED, Deana Haley, Vice President of Corporate Initiatives and Intelligence at CED, and Ken Rupert, President of Rupert Strategies Consulting Limited.

Members discussed how they can be involved, specifically if they do not have the staff resources to support initiatives. Bonnie Nunnari noted this will be a voluntary, coalition of the willing, and there are various equitable financial models available. She offered to discuss options with any municipality who might be challenged to meet the contribution formula. In response to a question about measuring success, it was noted that investment and jobs are top of mind and key performance indicators are prioritized. Members also discussed how the Minister of Municipal Affairs' announcement may affect this initiative, and whether this item should be postponed.

**Moved by** Mayor Snodgrass **Seconded by** Reeve Kissel, accepted by Chair.

M 2024-59

**Motion:** That the Board postpone approving the Collaborative Regional Economic Development Partner Charter until the next meeting.

**Motion withdrawn.**

M 2024-60

**Moved by** Mayor Thorn **Seconded by** Councillor Petrow, accepted by Chair.

**Motion:** That the Board approve the Collaborative Regional Economic Development Partner Charter.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

Chair Clark noted that the Board did not move both motions for REF Application 2024-12 Prairie Gateway and asked the Board to revisit the second motion on the item.

M 2024-61

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

**Motion:** That the Board approve REF Application 2024-12 Rocky View County Prairie Gateway ASP.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved into closed session @ 11:50 AM. Returned to open session at 12:35 PM.**

#### **8. Upcoming Meetings**

Board Meeting December 13, 2024, 9:30 AM at the Town of Okotoks.

#### **9. Adjournment at 12:40 PM.**



Greg Clark, Chair