Minutes of the meeting of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board held at Chateau Louis, Grand Ballroom on Thursday, February 14, 2019.

Delegates in Attendance:
Dr. Jodi L. Abbott – Board Chair
Councillor Kathy Barnhart – Beaumont (alternate)
Mayor Ray Ralph – Devon
Mayor Don Iveson – Edmonton
Mayor Gale Katchur – Fort Saskatchewan
Mayor Bob Young – Leduc
Mayor Tanni Doblanko – Leduc County
Mayor Barry Turner – Morinville

Mayor Rod Shaigec – Parkland County
Mayor Cathy Heron – St. Albert
Mayor Stuart Houston – Spruce Grove
Mayor William Choy – Stony Plain
Mayor Rod Frank – Strathcona County
Councillor Bill Tonita – Strathcona County (alternate)
Mayor Alanna Hnatiw – Sturgeon County
Dale Beesley – Government of Alberta

EMRB Administration:
Karen Wichuk, CEO
Sharon Shuya, Director, Regional Growth Planning
Alex Bonokoski, Project Manager
Taylor Varro, Project Manager
Barry Huybens, MRSP Project Manager
Charlene Chauvette, Office Manager

Brandt Denham, GIS/IT Coordinator
Carol Moreno, Project Coordinator
Joseana Lara, Municipal Planning Intern
Agata Lewandowski, Executive Assistant
Raquel Chauvette, Administrative Assistant

Attendance in Gallery: 39
1. Opening

1.1 Call to Order

Chair Abbott calls the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

1.2 Chair’s Opening Remarks

- Chair offers a good morning and Happy New Year to everyone in attendance.
- Chair acknowledges that we meet on the traditional lands referred to as Treaty 6 Territory.
- Chair welcomes all members of the public and media to the meeting.
- Chair reminds everyone that the meetings are voice recorded to help with the production of minutes and archival proposes.
- Chair welcomes everyone to the first meeting of 2019, sharing that in 2018 we saw a lot of change in the EMRB, and with our new CEO in place she looks forward to what our 2019 year will bring, Chair notes we have a heavy agenda going forward but there is a lot of confidence in EMRB achieving what it sets out to do.
- Chair welcomes and congratulates the City of Beaumont on their new status, as a city.
- Chair acknowledges that the agenda for this meeting consists of many items carried forward from the last Board meeting as well as a few new items.
- Chair states that the last couple of months have been very busy and rewarding. Chair acknowledges that the EMRB’s new CEO has now been in place for 3 ½ months and transitioning very well into her role.
- Chair touches on previous meetings that the Chair and CEO have attended and the importance of these meetings.
- Chair thanks Mayor Young for the invitation to have CEO Wichuk and herself present to the City of Leduc Committee of the Whole. Chair Abbott lets members know CEO Wichuk and she would be happy to come out to member municipalities and present on the EMRB. Chair Abbott notes an upcoming meeting with Parkland County in June 2019.
- Chair thanks all 13 Board members and municipalities for participating in the 10 Year Celebration on December 13, 2018.
- Chair congratulates Mayor Katchur and the City of Fort Saskatchewan who received 6 million dollars toward an affordable housing project from the province.
- Chair congratulates Mayor Hnatiw and Sturgeon County on the announcement of Canada Kuwait Petrochemical Corporation; they will build a 4.5 billion petrochemical complex as a 50/50 joint venture between Canada’s Pembina Pipeline Corp. and Kuwait Petro Chemical Industries in Sturgeon County.
- Chair congratulates Mayor Houston, Mayor Choy and Mayor Shaigec who on January 16, 2019 signed a regional letter of intent for the development of a new regional plan.
Chair congratulates Sturgeon County and the Town of Morinville on starting the process towards their intermunicipal collaboration framework.

Chair congratulates Leduc County on their big announcement related to Amazon opening a one million dollar square foot warehouse that will create over 600 jobs in the Region.

Chair acknowledges all members who were able to attend the Mid-Sized City Caucus, sharing that it was great to see participation and contribution via social media.

Chair congratulates Alberta Industrial Heartland Association on the success of their annual stakeholder event.

Chair congratulates Strathcona County and the City of Leduc for each successfully hosting home town hockey, stating it was very exciting to see member municipalities getting national recognition.

Chair shares Edmonton Global’s great news of receiving 2.3 million from WED to help establish its international trade and investment program.

Chair shares the announcements shared regarding transportation infrastructure in the Region. First, Parkland County for the twinning of Highway 60 and rail grade separation between Highway 16 and 16A. Second, City of Spruce Grove, Parkland County and Stony Plain for the announcement related to Highway 628 alignment and reconstruction between campsite road and Highway 60. Lastly, City of Leduc on the 65 Avenue QE2 exchange. Chair shares that all of these advancements will make a big difference to the residents of municipalities and the Region.

Chair acknowledges and congratulates all of the great work taking place in the Region, and apologizes if any of it was missed.

2. Approval of Agenda

Chair Abbott states that all Members should have an updated agenda in front of them due to a couple of late additions. Chair Abbott walks through the revisions, adding a new Item 11 – The Edmonton Metropolitan Region Operating Grant due to receiving some communication related to the Grant. Chair Abbott identifies two HR related items to be added for In Camera 13.1 Staffing Update and 13.2 Board Chair Review.

Moved by Mayor Ralph. Accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board approve the amended Agenda of February 14, 2019.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Mayor Katchur. Accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board approve the Minutes of December 13, 2018.

Motion carried unanimously.
4. Executive Committee

4.1 Chair Update

Chair Abbott provides an update on the January 10, 2019 Executive Committee meeting. Chair Abbott informs members of the Regional Energy Corridors Approach Project Charter that came forward for consideration and provides an update that the Executive Committee asked Administration to go back and re-orient the document on a few items. Chair Abbott touches on the continued work on the Advocacy Plan and Governance Excellence that will come forward later on in the Agenda.

4.2 Regional Context Statements

CEO Wichuk provides background information on the Regional Context Statements to the Board Members. CEO Wichuk updates Members that Administration has received all 13 Regional Context Statements, and thanks all for their time and effort to get them in on time.

Moved by Mayor Young. Accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board receive Administration’s update on the status of Regional Context Statements for information.

Motion carried unanimously.

4.3 Governance Excellence

Chair Abbott provides context around Governance Excellence to allow feedback from Board members. Chair provides background on the preliminary discussion regarding the direction the Board might take that was had at the January 10, 2019 Executive Committee meeting.

Chair Abbott concludes that the feedback provided will be taken back to help develop a plan.

4.4 Election Advocacy Plan

CEO Wichuk provides a brief overview and updates members on the work being done towards an advocacy plan and next steps that will take place.

5. Audit & Finance Committee

5.1 Chair Update
Chair Doblanko provides an update on the discussion that took place at the January 10, 2019 meeting. Chair Doblanko reminds members that there was no update brought to the previous Board meeting on December 13, 2018 as the Audit & Finance meeting of November 8, 2019 was cancelled in order to allow the new CEO time to familiarize herself with the budget.

5.2 Quarterly Financial Report

Chair Doblanko informs members that they can expect Quarterly Financial Reports to be brought to Board meetings going forward.

5.3 2018/19 Budget Review & Adjustments

Chair Doblanko provides background on the 2018/19 Budget Review & Adjustments.

CEO Wichuk reviews the Adjustments on the 2018/19 Budget with Board members.

Moved by Mayor Young. Accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board approve the 2018/19 Budget Review & Adjustments.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chair Abbott calls a 10 minutes break.

6. Regional Agriculture Master Plan Task Force

6.1 Chair Update

Chair Shaigec informs members of context that took place at the previous task force meeting on November 23, 2018 and next steps.

6.2 Vision Statement and Guiding Principles

Chair Shaigec provides background on the Vision Statement and Guiding Principles.

Mayor Choy makes a friendly amendment that the Guiding Principles are amended to add to Item 2 Key Principles "must be conserved and/or protected." Accepted by Chair.

12 in favour, 1 opposed. Supported by 2/3 of the representatives from participating Municipalities representing more than 2/3 of the population. Motion Carried.

Moved by Mayor Shaigec. Accepted by Chair.
Motion: That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board approve the Regional Agriculture Master Plan Vision Statement and Guiding Principles as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

7. Metropolitan Region Servicing Plan Task Force

7.1 Chair Update

Chair Ralph provides background on the Metropolitan Region Servicing Plan and next steps.

7.2 Environmental Scan

Moved by Mayor Ralph. Accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board receive the Metropolitan Region Servicing Plan Environmental Scan for information.

Motion carried unanimously.

8. Member Motions

8.1 REF Amendment Evaluation Criteria Update

Moved by Mayor Iveson. Accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board receive Administration’s update on Edmonton’s June 14, 2018 motion regarding REF Amendment Evaluation Criteria for information.

Motion carried unanimously.

9. Member Updates

9.1 Town of Devon – September 13th Weekend Family Event

Mayor Ralph shares a video presentation with members on the attractions of the Town of Devon, welcoming all members and families to join for a regional camping trip on the weekend of September 13, 2019.

10. CEO Update
CEO Wichuk highlights key updates from the written CEO Update.

11. Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board Operating Grant

CEO Wichuk provides historical context for the CRB/EMRB Operating Grant. CEO Wichuk informs Members of the specific funding of the last 10 years leading up the decrease in the 2020/21 year.

Government of Alberta representative Dale Beesley assures members Municipal Affairs is not looking to stop the funding. Dale Beesley lets members know all comments will be taken back.

The Board Members discuss the provincial Operating Grant and indicate it is important to have certainty related to the Operating Grant.

Chair Abbott summarizes a list of to dos:
1. Ramping up advocacy;
2. Applying for grants broadly not just within known ministries;
3. Assessment of impact including regional fees;
4. Request for government to make long term commitment to funding; and
5. Better understanding on project criteria for the $17 million.

12. Next Meeting

- April 11, 2019, 9:00 a.m. – Noon, Chateau Louis Conference Centre, St. Michael Room

13. In Camera

13.1 HR: Staffing Update

Moved by Mayor Iveson. Accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board move In Camera, in accordance with the provisions of Section 17, 21 and 27 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP), R.S.A. 2000, c.F-25.

Motion carried unanimously.
In Camera Participants:

Dr. Jodi L. Abbott–Board Chair
Mayor John Stewart–Beaumont
Mayor Ray Ralph–Devon
Mayor Don Iveson–Edmonton
Mayor Gale Katchur–Ft. Saskatchewan
Mayor Tanni Doblanko–Leduc County
Mayor Barry Turner–Morinville
Mayor Rod Shaigec–Parkland County
Mayor William Choy–Stony Plain
Mayor Rod Frank–Strathcona County
Mayor Alanna Hnatiw–Sturgeon County
Karen Wichuk–EMRB CEO

Chair Abbott and CEO Wichuk leave In Camera at 12:16 p.m.

13.2 HR: Board Chair Review – Section 17 Disclosure Harmful to Personal Privacy

Motion to Reconvene

Moved by Mayor Doblanko. Accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board move out of camera.

Motion carried unanimously.

14. Adjournment

Moved by Mayor Ralph. Accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board meeting of February 14, 2019 be adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

EMRB Chair, Dr. Jodi L. Abbott
EMRB CEO, Karen Wichuk