Minutes of the meeting of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board held via Zoom on Thursday, May 14, 2020.

Delegates in Attendance:
Dr. Jodi L. Abbott – Board Chair
Mayor John Stewart – Beaumont
Mayor Ray Ralph – Devon
Mayor Don Iveson – Edmonton
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 Brian Botterill – Strathcona County
Mayor Alanna Hnatiw – Sturgeon County
Dale Beesley – Government of Alberta

EMRB Administration:
Karen Wichuk, CEO
Sharon Shuya, Director, Regional Growth Planning
Bryan Haggarty, Director, Strategic Initiatives & Operations
Charlene Chauvette, Office Manager
Debra Irving, Senior Project Manager
Alex Bonokoski, Project Manager
Stephanie Chai, Project Manager

Taylor Varro, Project Manager
Dan Rose, Senior Communications Advisor
Carol Moreno, Project Coordinator
Ron Cook, Manager, GIS and Business Intelligence
Raquel Chauvette, Executive Assistant
Joseana Lara, Summer Intern
1. Opening

1.1 Call to Order

Chair Abbott calls the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

1.2 Chair’s Opening Remarks

Chair Abbott calls the meeting to order and welcomes the Board Members and the public that may be viewing today, and acknowledges the meeting is held on traditional Treaty 6 lands. Chair Abbott reminds everyone the meeting will be recorded to help with production of minutes and archival purposes.

Chair Abbott notes this is the second virtual meeting of the Board and it will be convened in public via YouTube and clarifies the virtual meeting guidelines. Chair Abbott acknowledges at our May 1, 2020 Special Board Meeting we had 159 viewers tuned in.

Chair Abbott recognizes and offers thanks to first responders, front line and essential workers for their continues efforts and sacrifices made for the health and well-being of all residents in the Region and beyond.

2. Approval of Consent Agenda

Chair Abbott mentions that Item 4 in the February 13, 2020 Board Minutes was inadvertently omitted and since Board Members have not had the opportunity to view the corrections, it is suggested the Board Minutes be removed from today’s consent agenda and moved to the June 11, 2020 Board Meeting.

Moved by Mayor Iveson. Accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board approve the Consent Agenda of May 14, 2020, as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of Meeting Agenda

Recommended Motion: That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board approve the Meeting Agenda of May 14, 2020.

Mayor Iveson asks for an addition of a Member Update – Advocacy for COVID-19 Support for Municipalities to the very end of the Meeting Agenda. Accepted by Chair.

Motion carried unanimously.
Mayor Hnatiw requests a change in order of the agenda to hear Item 5.2 before Item 5.1. **Accepted by Chair.**

12 in favour. 1 opposed. Supported by 2/3 of the representatives from participating municipalities. Not supported by 2/3 of the population of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region. **Motion failed.**

*Mayor Heron joins the meeting at 8:48 a.m.*

Mayor Iveson moves reconsideration of the motion to change the order of agenda to hear Item 5.2 before Item 5.1. **Accepted by Chair.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**Moved by Mayor Doblanko. Accepted by Chair.**

**Motion:** That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board approve the Meeting Agenda of May 14, 2020, as amended.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

4. **Audit & Finance Committee**

4.1 **Draft Interim 2020/21 – 2022/23 Budget**

Mayor Doblanko introduces the Draft Interim 2020/21 – 2022/23 Budget item and refers the Board to the Audit & Finance Chair Update in the Consent Agenda.

CEO Wichuk provides the Board with further Budget details and highlights.

CEO Wichuk shares that the Provincial Grant has been received.

**Moved by Mayor Doblanko. Accepted by Chair.**

**Motion:** That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board approve Draft Interim 2020/21-2022/23 Budget.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

5. **Member Motions Brought Forward From Previous Board Meetings**

5.2 **Sturgeon County – Regional Evaluation Framework**

Mayor Hnatiw provides opening comments for the item for consideration.
Moved by Mayor Hnatiw. Accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board develop a streamlined approval process option in the Regional Evaluation Framework (REF) to enable referrals of regional economic significance and amend the EMRB REF Administration Procedures to remove Step 6 (Appeals) if an application is deemed to satisfy all required criteria.

Mayor Katchur requests that the motion be split into two separate motions. Accepted by Chair.

8 in favour. 5 opposed. Not supported by 2/3 of the representatives from participating municipalities that collectively have at least 2/3 of the population of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region. Motion failed.

Mayor Choy makes a motion to defer the original motion to EMRB Administration to provide comment and be brought back to the June 2020 Board Meeting. Accepted by Chair.

Mayor Choy makes an amendment to his motion to change the word defer to refer.

Moved by Mayor Choy. Accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board develop a streamlined approval process option in the Regional Evaluation Framework (REF) to enable referrals of regional economic significance and amend the EMRB REF Administration Procedures to remove Step 6 (Appeals) if an application is deemed to satisfy all required criteria be referred to EMRB Administration to provide comment and brought back to the June 2020 Board Meeting.

Mayor Iveson moves a motion to defer the question of referral until after 5.8 on the Meeting Agenda. Accepted by Chair.

10 in favour. 3 opposed. Supported by 2/3 of the representatives from participating municipalities that collectively have at least 2/3 of the population of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region. Motion carried.

5.1 City of Edmonton – REF

Mayor Iveson provides opening comments for the item for consideration.

Moved by Mayor Iveson. Accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board

(a) approve the proposed Regional Evaluation Framework (REF) and refer it to the Minister of Municipal Affairs for approval

(b) direct Administration, with support from the REF Working Group and UDI Edmonton Region, to create a procedure to allow for a proponent to make a presentation at a Board meeting where a REF decision is on an agenda, and return to the EMRB for approval; and

Mayor Iveson provides opening comments for the item for consideration.
(c) direct Administration, with support from the REF Working Group, to update the REF Planning Toolkit to reflect the changes in the proposed REF.

5 Minute Break

Mayor Frank moves a motion to defer Item 5.1 to after Item 5.8, following the deferral of Item 5.2. Accepted by Chair.

3 in favour. 10 opposed. Not supported by 2/3 of the representatives from participating municipalities that collectively have at least 2/3 of the population of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region. Motion failed.

Mayor Iveson makes an amendment to withdraw (b) from the original motion and brought forward as part of the other motions later.

Mayor Iveson makes an amendment to add “as amended with the removal of 7.0 3(c) in the redlined REF” to the end of (a) of the original motion until it can be brought forward similar to the withdrawal of (b).

Moved by Mayor Iveson. Accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board

(a) approve the proposed Regional Evaluation Framework (REF) and refer it to the Minister of Municipal Affairs for approval, as amended with the removal of 7.0 3(c) in the redlined REF; and,

(c) direct Administration, with support from the REF Working Group, to update the REF Planning Toolkit to reflect the changes in the proposed REF.

12 in favour. 1 opposed. Supported by 2/3 of the representatives from participating municipalities that collectively have at least 2/3 of the population of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region. Motion carried.

5.3 Leduc County Motions – Scope

Mayor Doblanko offers to defer Item 5.3 to the June 11, 2020 Board Meeting.

Moved by Mayor Doblanko. Accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board defer Item 5.3 Leduc County Motion – Scope to the June 11, 2020 Board Meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.
5.4 Parkland County Motion #1 – Voting Structure

Mayor Shaigec provides opening comments for the item for consideration.

Moved by Mayor Shaigec. Accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board (EMRB) request that the Government of Alberta amend the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board Regulation to change its voting structure to add the requirement that members representing 15% of the region’s land mass must vote in support of a motion for it to pass. The 2/3 population and 2/3 membership double majority structure would remain in place with this additional requirement introduced to form a 2/3 - 2/3 - 15% triple majority structure.

5 in favour. 8 opposed. Not supported by 2/3 of the representatives from participating municipalities that collectively have at least 2/3 of the population of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region. Motion failed.

5.5 Parkland County Motion #2 – Automatic Voting Due to Absence or Abstention

Mayor Shaigec provides opening comments for the item for consideration.

Moved by Mayor Shaigec. Accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the EMRB request the Government of Alberta delete section 5(3) of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board Regulation, reading: “Subject to section 2(5), if a representative is not present for a vote of the Board, or abstains from voting, the representative is deemed to have voted in the affirmative.

4 in favour. 9 opposed. Not supported by 2/3 of the representatives from participating municipalities that collectively have at least 2/3 of the population of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region. Motion failed.

5.6 Parkland County Motion #3 – Meeting Minutes

Mayor Shaigec provides opening comments for the item for consideration.

Moved by Mayor Shaigec. Accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board (EMRB) keep detailed minutes that accurately reflect the discussion and record any direction provided to EMRB Administration at all meetings including, but not limited to, Board meetings, Committee meetings, Task Force meetings, working group meetings, and workshops. Further, these minutes be circulated for information and confirmation, and that these minutes form part of the formal records for any such gatherings.

Mayor Iveson makes a friendly amendment to add “and meeting bulletins” to the original
Mayor Shaigec makes an amendment to add the words “that collectively” after Mayor Iveson’s addition to the motion. Accepted by Chair.

Moved by Mayor Shaigec. Accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board (EMRB) keep detailed minutes and meeting bulletins that collectively accurately reflect the discussion and record any direction provided to EMRB Administration at all meetings including, but not limited to, Board meetings, Committee meetings, Task Force meetings, working group meetings, and workshops. Further, these minutes be circulated for information and confirmation, and that these minutes form part of the formal records for any such gatherings.

12 in favour. 1 opposed. Supported by 2/3 of the representatives from participating municipalities that collectively have at least 2/3 of the population of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region. Motion carried.

5 Minute Break

5.7 Strathcona County Motion #1 and #2 – Appeal Mechanism

Mayor Frank confirms Item 5.7 has been deferred to the June 11, 2020 Board Meeting as requested by Administration and agreed to by Strathcona County.

5.8 Regional Recovery Task Force

Mayor Heron provides opening comments for the item for consideration.

Councillor Walters replaces Mayor Iveson at 12:05 p.m.

Moved by Mayor Heron. Accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board establish a Recovery Task Force to lead and provide recommendations for an integrated multi-sector regional response to the health, social and economic crisis facing the Region.

7 in favour. 6 opposed. Not supported by 2/3 of the representatives from participating municipalities that collectively have at least 2/3 of the population of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region. Motion failed.

5.2 Sturgeon County – Regional Evaluation Framework

Moved by Mayor Choy. Accepted by Chair.

Motion: That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board develop a streamlined approval process option in the Regional Evaluation Framework (REF) to enable referrals of regional economic significance and amend the EMRB REF Administration Procedures to remove Step 6 (Appeals) if an application is deemed to satisfy all required criteria be referred to EMRB
Administration to provide comment and brought back to the June 2020 Board Meeting.

4 in favour. 9 opposed. Not supported by 2/3 of the representatives from participating municipalities that collectively have at least 2/3 of the population of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region. **Motion failed.**

**Moved by** Mayor Hnatiw. **Accepted by** Chair.

**Motion:** That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board develop a streamlined approval process option in the Regional Evaluation Framework (REF) to enable referrals of regional economic significance and amend the EMRB REF Administration Procedures to remove Step 6 (Appeals) if an application is deemed to satisfy all required criteria.

4 in favour. 9 opposed. Not supported by 2/3 of the representatives from participating municipalities that collectively have at least 2/3 of the population of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region. **Motion failed.**

6. Integrated Regional Transportation Master Plan Task Force

6.1 Work Plan Amendment

*Mayor Frank left the meeting at 12:44 p.m.*

Mayor Katchur introduces the item for consideration.

Ms. Irving provides an overview of the Work Plan Amendment.

**Moved by** Mayor Katchur. **Accepted by** Chair.

**Motion:** That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board approve the Integrated Regional Transportation Master Plan Work Plan, as amended.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

7. Metropolitan Region Servicing Plan Task Force

*Councillor Botterill joined the meeting at 12:47 p.m.*

7.1 Standing Committee Terms of Reference

Mayor Ralph provides background information on the item for consideration.

Ms. Shuya presents the Standing Committee Terms of Reference.

**Moved by** Mayor Ralph. **Accepted by** Chair.

**Motion:** That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board approve the Standing Committee Terms of Reference.
12 in favour. 1 opposed. Supported by 2/3 of the representatives from participating municipalities that collectively have at least 2/3 of the population of the Edmonton Metropolitan Region. **Motion carried.**

Chair Abbott informs Board Members that there will be a conversation around fitting in the rest of the agenda items into an hour meeting before the June 11, 2020 Board Meeting.

11. Adjournment

**Moved by** Mayor Ralph. **Accepted by** Chair.

**Motion:** That the Edmonton Metropolitan Region Board meeting of May 14, 2020 be adjourned at 12:59 p.m.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

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EMRB Chair, Dr. Jodi L. Abbott

EMRB CEO, Karen Wichuk