From: Larry Davidson <cao@birchhillscounty.com>
Sent: April 24, 2025 9:21 AM
To: Cary Merritt <cmerritt@saddlehills.ab.ca>; ddibbelt@mdspiritriver.ab.ca; steve jack - town of Spirit River CAO <sjack@townofspiritriver.ca>; CAO <cao@rycroft.ca>
Cc: Albert Poetker <ward1councillor@birchhillscounty.com>; Gerald Manzulenko <ward4councillor@birchhillscounty.com>; Bailey Smith <development@birchhillscounty.com>; Karen Portelance <ward7councillor@birchhillscounty.com>; Deanne Wendland <ward2councillor@birchhillscounty.com>; Denay Bjornson <ward3councillor@birchhillscounty.com>; Tim Chandonnet <ward6councillor@birchhillscounty.com>; Mel Duvall <ward5councillor@birchhillscounty.com>
Subject: Regional Water discussion/direction from BHC

Good morning, Cary,

Council discussed the governance model and associated items related to the Regional Water project and adopted the following motion:

Moved by: Deputy Reeve Portelance
Resolution # RC25-165

"That Council direct administration to convey the following positions related to the G5 Regional Water project to the other G5 members:

- The County of GP should only be a customer of the proposed Commission – neither a voting nor non-voting member.
- Council expressed concern that should the County of GP take water from the commission that a mechanism be developed to ensure any potential water restrictions are equitably managed.
- Council would like to see and participate in a joint industrial park which would be served by the regional water. Each participating member would benefit from a share of tax revenue based on contributions to the industrial park. After all, the goal of this project is to provide economic diversification to the entire region.
- Council requested that a timeframe be drafted for municipal contributions to ensure sufficient time for planning of expenditures.
- Council indicated that a new financial funding model needs to be developed, and that Equalized Assessment should be used as a baseline for considering municipal contributions.
- Council believes that all G5 members should be members at the inception of the project and not at a later date.
- Council has asked for an accelerated timeline for connection to the Regional Water System than originally proposed to take advantage of similar work for other municipalities and provide a lower overall cost for the project.
- As other municipalities will have a new transmission line to their municipalities, Council has asked that the Commission consider taking our transmission line from

Wanham to Tangent as an equity position. We would continue to maintain our own distribution systems within the Hamlets."

CARRIED

Larry Davidson CLGM
Chief Administrative Officer

Birch Hills County

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