

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**Tuesday, February 24, 2026
1:00 P.M.**

Board Chambers (Webstreamed)

In Attendance:	Director S. McLean	Chair
	Director L. Melanson	Vice Chair
	Director J. Stanley*	Electoral Area A
	Director V. Craig	Electoral Area B
	Director B. Rogers	Electoral Area E
	Director L. Salter	Electoral Area F
	Director L. Wallace	Electoral Area G
	Director L. Krog	City of Nanaimo
	Director S. Armstrong	City of Nanaimo
	Director T. Brown*	City of Nanaimo
	Alternate	
	Director H. Eastmure*	City of Nanaimo
	Director B. Geselbracht*	City of Nanaimo
	Director E. Hemmens	City of Nanaimo
	Director P. Manly*	City of Nanaimo
	Director I. W. Thorpe*	City of Nanaimo
	Director D. O'Brien*	City of Parksville
	Director S. Wood	City of Parksville
	Director M. Swain*	District of Lantzville
	Director T. Westbrook*	Town of Qualicum Beach
Regrets:	Director J. Perrino	City of Nanaimo
Also in Attendance:	Alternate	
	Director J. Grenz	City of Parksville
	D. Holmes	Chief Administrative Officer
	C. Crabtree	Gen. Mgr. Corporate & Transportation Services
	L. Grant	Gen. Mgr. Development & Emergency Services
	T. Osborne	Gen. Mgr. Recreation & Parks Services
	M. Walters	Gen. Mgr. Regional & Community Utilities
	T. Moore	Chief Financial Officer
	D. Marshall	Sr. Mgr. Transportation Services
	B. Routledge	Mgr. Solid Waste Services
	E. Forssman	Drinking Water & Watershed Protection Coordinator
	J. Hill	Corporate Officer
	M. Myers	Zoom Moderator
	S. Keizer	Recording Secretary

* Denotes electronic meeting participation as authorized by Section 10 of "Regional District of Nanaimo Board Procedure Bylaw No. 1862, 2022"

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order.

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair respectfully acknowledged the Coast Salish Nations on whose traditional territory this meeting took place.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

26-129

It was moved and seconded that the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Director Swain joined the meeting at 1:02 P.M.

Director Geselbracht joined the meeting at 1:03 P.M.

REPORTS

2026-2030 Amended Financial Plan Bylaw

Tiffany Moore, Chief Financial Officer, provided a PowerPoint presentation outlining the Amended 2026-2030 Financial plan and answered questions from the Board.

Delegation Submission - Barry Nicholls, RDN Taxpayers Alliance, re 2026-2030 Five Year Financial Plan

Barry Nicholls, President, Fairwinds Community Association and Member, RDN Taxpayers Alliance, provided a PowerPoint presentation on the 2026-2030 Financial Plan raising concerns about tax requisitions, capital spending, debt, and financial transparency and requested budget reductions and increased financial transparency.

Delegation Submission - Kevin Pilger, Director, Corcan Meadowood Residents Association and Member, RDN Taxpayers Alliance, re Proposed Financial Budget

Kevin Pilger, Director, Corcan Meadowood Residents Association and Member, RDN Taxpayers Alliance, spoke in opposition of the 2026-2030 Financial Plan raising concerns about taxation, transparency, and public consultation, and requested greater financial restraint.

Delegation Submission - Rudi Widdershoven, Northwest Nanoose Residents Association and Member, RDN Taxpayers Alliance, re 2026-2030 Financial Plan Consideration

Rudi Widdershoven, Board Member, Northwest Nanoose Residents Association and Member, RDN Taxpayers Alliance, provided an update on the RDN Taxpayers Alliance petition regarding the 2026–2030 Financial Plan, spoke to broader taxpayer concern across the region, and requested the Board consider a cap on property taxation increases.

Director Swain left the meeting at 2:22 P.M.

26-130

It was moved and seconded that “Regional District of Nanaimo Financial Plan 2026 to 2030 Amendment Bylaw No. 1960.01, 2026” be introduced and read three times.

Opposed (3): Director Rogers, Director Salter, and Director Wallace

CARRIED

Director Swain rejoined the meeting at 2:23 P.M.

26-131

It was moved and seconded that “Regional District of Nanaimo Financial Plan 2026 to 2030 Amendment Bylaw No. 1960.01, 2026” be adopted.

Opposed (4): Director Rogers, Director Salter, Director Wallace, and Director Swain

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

26-132

It was moved and seconded that the following minutes be adopted:

Regular Board Meeting - February 10, 2026

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CORRESPONDENCE

26-133

It was moved and seconded that the following correspondence be received for information:

H. Svensen, Director of Corporate Services/Deputy CAO, Town of Qualicum Beach, re Regional District of Nanaimo Study for Municipal Boundary Adjustment

D. O'Brien, Mayor, City of Parksville, re Discussions with Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs to Explore Potential Municipal Boundary Adjustments to Encompass French Creek

D. Wells, Director of Corporate Administration, District of Lantzville, re City of Nanaimo Award Ceremony Integration District of Lantzville and Regional District of Nanaimo Electoral Areas A, B, & C

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Solid Waste Development Cost Charge Bylaw – Second and Third Reading

26-134

It was moved and seconded that the Solid Waste Development Cost Charge Bylaw – Second and Third Reading report, be referred to the Electoral Area Services Committee.

Opposed (5): Director McLean, Director Craig, Director Brown, Director Geselbracht, and Director O'Brien

CARRIED

COMMITTEE MINUTES

26-135

It was moved and seconded that the following minutes be received for information:

Electoral Area Services Committee Meeting - February 5, 2026

Arrowsmith Water Service Joint Venture Management Board Meeting - February 5, 2026

Englishman River Water Service Joint Venture Management Board Meeting - February 5, 2026

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CONSENT AGENDA

26-136

It was moved and seconded that the following items on the Consent Agenda be adopted by consent:

Item 9.1.1 Request for Comment on Non-Adhering Residential Use in the Agricultural Land Reserve, Application No. PL2025-160 – 1585 and 1591 Carden Road, Electoral Area A

Item 9.1.2 Request for Comment on Non-Adhering Residential Use in the Agricultural Land Reserve, Application No. PL2025-167 – 430 Grovehill Road, Electoral Area H

Item 9.1.3 Agricultural Land Commission Invitation

Item 9.1.4 East Wellington-Pleasant Valley Official Community Plan Review Terms of Reference

Item 9.1.5 Approval of Fire Hydrant Use Agreement Renewals 2026 to 2027 (Bel Oak Estates Water Society and Ruming Road Water Society)

Item 9.1.6 Licence of Occupation for Jackrabbit Road for Thompson Clarke Ocean Trail

Item 9.1.7 Maple Lane Community Park Master Plan

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The items and recommendations referred to above are as follows:

ELECTORAL AREA SERVICES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Request for Comment on Non-Adhering Residential Use in the Agricultural Land Reserve, Application No. PL2025-160 – 1585 and 1591 Carden Road, Electoral Area A

26-137

That the Board recommend that the Agricultural Land Commission approve Non-Adhering Residential Use Application No. PL2025-160 (ALC File No. 106344) to permit the construction of a second dwelling that exceeds the 90 m² floor area; to permit occupancy of the existing mobile home while the new house is being constructed; and to allow occupancy of a recreational vehicle to be used for a residence for a farmer.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

Request for Comment on Non-Adhering Residential Use in the Agricultural Land Reserve, Application No. PL2025-167 – 430 Grovehill Road, Electoral Area H

26-138

That the Board recommend that the Agricultural Land Commission approve Non-Adhering Residential Use Application No. PL2025-167 (ALC File No. 106490) to retain the existing primary dwelling during construction of a new primary dwelling.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

Agricultural Land Commission Invitation

26-139

That the Agricultural Land Commission be invited to present information on the role of local government at a future Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

East Wellington-Pleasant Valley Official Community Plan Review Terms of Reference

26-140

That the Board endorse the Terms of Reference – East Wellington–Pleasant Valley Official Community Plan Review as provided in Attachment 1.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

Approval of Fire Hydrant Use Agreement Renewals 2026 to 2027 (Bel Oak Estates Water Society and Rumming Road Water Society)

26-141

1. That the Board approve the renewal of the Fire Hydrant Use Agreement with Rumming Road Water (2004) Society for the term January 1, 2026, to December 31, 2027.

2. That the Board approve the renewal of the Fire Hydrant Use Agreement with Bel Oak Estates Water Society for the term January 1, 2026, to December 31, 2027.
3. That the Board authorize the Chair and Corporate Officer to execute the Fire Hydrant Use Agreement with Rimming Road Water (2004) Society on behalf of the Regional District of Nanaimo.
4. That the Board authorize the Chair and Corporate Officer to execute the Fire Hydrant Use Agreement with Bel Oak Estates Water Society on behalf of the Regional District of Nanaimo.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

Licence of Occupation for Jackrabbit Road for Thompson Clarke Ocean Trail

26-142

1. That the 10-year Licence of Occupation with the Ministry of Transportation and Transit for a community trail along Jackrabbit Road in Electoral Area H be approved.
2. That the Board Chair and Corporate Officer be authorized to sign the 10-year Licence of Occupation with the Ministry of Transportation and Transit for a community trail along Jackrabbit Road.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

Maple Lane Community Park Master Plan

26-143

That the Maple Lane Community Park Master Plan proceed directly to construction in accordance with the Electoral Area G Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee recommendations as approved by the Board; and further

That community engagement be limited to IAP2 Spectrum “Inform” provided through an update on the Maple Lane Community Park Get Involved website of the final Master Plan including Playground features, to expedite completion of the park improvements in the 2026 year; and further

That the revised Maple Lane Community Park Master Plan completion date be provided to the Board by March 31, 2026.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

None.

Director Craig left the meeting at 2:42 P.M.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

ELECTORAL AREA SERVICES COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Development Variance Permit Application No. PL2026-006, 1580 Sunrise Drive, Electoral Area G

The Chair called for members of the public wishing to speak to Development Variance Permit Application No. PL2026-006, 1580 Sunrise Drive, Electoral Area G.

No one in attendance wished to speak.

26-144

It was moved and seconded that the Board approve Development Variance Permit No. PL2026-006 to reduce the exterior lot line setback from 8.0 metres to 2.9 metres to recognize the siting of an existing commercial building to permit interior renovations subject to the terms and conditions outlined in Attachment 2.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Official Community Plan and Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Application No. PL2025-100 – Elk Trail, Electoral Area 'F' Engagement Plan

26-145

It was moved and seconded that the Board endorse the Engagement Plan provided in Attachment 2 of the report titled "Official Community Plan and Regional Growth Strategy Amendment Application No. PL2025-100 – Elk Trail, Electoral Area 'F' Engagement Plan" dated February 5, 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Director Swain left the meeting at 2:42 P.M.

Director Craig rejoined the meeting at 2:45 P.M.

ARROWSMITH WATER SERVICE JOINT VENTURE MANAGEMENT BOARD RECOMMENDATION

Arrowsmith Water Service (AWS) Amended 2026 - 2030 Financial Plan Report

26-146

It was moved and seconded that the Regional District of Nanaimo Board approve its portion of the Arrowsmith Water Service Amended 2026 - 2030 Financial Plan as outlined in Schedule D attached to the January 29, 2026, report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ENGLISHMAN RIVER WATER SERVICE JOINT VENTURE MANAGEMENT BOARD RECOMMENDATION

Englishman River Water Service (ERWS) 2026 - 2030 Amended Financial Plan

26-147

It was moved and seconded that the Regional District of Nanaimo approve its portion of the Englishman River Water Service 2026 - 2030 Amended Financial Plan as outlined in Schedule D attached to the January 29, 2026, report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS (Continued)

Englishman River Regional Park Management Plan Project Update – February 2026

26-148

It was moved and seconded that the Englishman River Regional Park Management Plan Project Update – February 2026 report be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2026 Curbside Utility Fee Increase - Residential Curbside Collection of Garbage, Food Waste and Recyclables Regulation and Charges Amendment Bylaw No. 1802.05, 2026

26-149

It was moved and seconded that “Residential Curbside Collection of Garbage, Food Waste and Recyclables Regulation and Charges Amendment Bylaw No. 1802.05, 2026” be introduced and read three times.

Opposed (1): Director Salter

CARRIED

26-150

It was moved and seconded that “Residential Curbside Collection of Garbage, Food Waste and Recyclables Regulation and Charges Amendment Bylaw No. 1802.05, 2026” be adopted.

Opposed (1): Director Salter

CARRIED

Waste Stream Management Licensing Bylaw No. 1803, 2021

26-151

It was moved and seconded that the Board rescind the February 28, 2023 adoption of “Waste Stream Management Licensing Bylaw No. 1803, 2021”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

26-152

It was moved and seconded that “Waste Stream Management Licensing Bylaw No. 1803, 2021”, having been reconsidered and having met all statutory prerequisites, be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RECESS: 3:00 P.M.

Director Thorpe left the meeting during the recess.

RECONVENE: 3:13 P.M.

Drinking Water and Watershed Protection Technical Advisory Committee Terms of Reference Updates

26-153

It was moved and seconded that the Board endorse proposed changes to the Drinking Water and Watershed Protection Technical Advisory Committee Terms of Reference, and further, that the committee membership be expanded to include one Regional District of Nanaimo Board member, to be appointed by the Board Chair.

Opposed (10): Director Melanson, Director Rogers, Director Salter, Director Wallace, Director Armstrong, Director Brown, Director Geselbracht, Director Eastmure, Director O’Brien, and Director Wood

DEFEATED

Director Salter left the meeting at 3:30 P.M.

26-154

It was moved and seconded that the Board endorse proposed changes to the Drinking Water and Watershed Protection Technical Advisory Committee Terms of Reference.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Director Salter rejoined the meeting at 3:32 P.M.

Coombs-Hilliers Fire Protection Service Tax Requisition Amendment Bylaw 1022.11

26-155

It was moved and seconded that “Coombs-Hilliers Fire Protection Service Amendment Bylaw No. 1022.11, 2026” be amended to delete references to “Coombs-Hilliers Fire Protection Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1022, 1996” and replace with “Coombs-Hilliers Fire Protection Service Conversion and Boundary Amendment Bylaw No. 1022, 1996”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

26-156

It was moved and seconded that “Coombs-Hilliars Fire Protection Service Amendment Bylaw No. 1022.11, 2026” be read a third time as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

IN CAMERA

26-157

It was moved and seconded that pursuant to the following sections of the *Community Charter* the Board proceed to an In Camera meeting:

- 90(1)(e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality;
- 90(1)(k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality if they were held in public; and
- 90(1)(m) a matter that, under another enactment, is such that the public may be excluded from the meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TIME: 3:33 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TIME: 3:46 P.M.

CHAIR

CORPORATE OFFICER