

**THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF BONNECHERE VALLEY
MINUTES
COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 3, 2026 1:30 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND VIA ZOOM
CONFERRING**

PRESENT

Mayor Jennifer Murphy
Deputy Mayor Tracey Sanderson
Councillor Merv Buckwald
Councillor Meredith Caplan Jamieson
Councillor John Epps
CAO/Clerk Annette Gilchrist
Treasurer/Deputy CAO Sandra Barr

REGRETS

None

GALLERY

1

CALL TO ORDER COMMITTEE MEETING

Chair, Tracey Sanderson called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

MOVED BY Merv Buckwald

That: The agenda be accepted, as presented.

Carried

PECUNIARY INTEREST OR GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY Jenn Murphy

That: The Minutes of the Committee Meeting on January 13, 2026 be accepted as presented.

Carried

DELEGATIONS

Jim Pine presentation on behalf of AMO LAS Joint Municipal Services Corporation

LAS is working with a core group of municipalities to develop a detailed business case to evaluate the financial and practical feasibility of LAS offering a joint water and wastewater municipal services corporation(s).

The LAS Board will decide whether to establish a joint water and wastewater municipal services corporation(s).

REPORTS

Water & Sewer Department

Daryl Verch, Water & Sewer Manager, was not present. Report Submitted.

- a) The Eganville Drinking Water System continues to operate in full compliance with all requirements;
- b) Notified the Ministry of Environment that we have no commercial or industrial water users on our system that use 7.3 million litres per day. The volumes are laid out in Reg.450/07;
- c) Installed a new pump in the filtered water well;
- d) BEI Construction was on site investigating a water break on the line crossing the river from Water Street to Jane Street. We have ordered custom made parts to do the repair;

- e) Staff removed snow at the Plants, Geo-Tubes, and Pumping Stations;
- f) Staff collecting yearly samples;
- g) The Eganville Wastewater System continues to operate in full compliance with all requirements as set out in the Certificate of Approval.
Water & Sewer Report Received.

Works & Waste Department

Jason Zohr, Works Superintendent was present and gave his report.

- a) Summary of 2025 vs 2024 Sno Drifters Waste Site Traffic

Date	Vehicle Count	C&D/ Shingles	WEE	Bulky Item	Tires	Metal	FREE Passes	Complaints	Weight KG's
2025 Sno Drifters	1,280	1,219	5	298	1,074	158	573	0	693,310
2024 Sno Drifters	1,312	1,279	5	323	1,143	152	580	0	673,078

- b) Summary of 2025 vs 2024 Waste Site Traffic

Location	# of Vehicles	# of Household Bags	Glass/ Cans	Paper/ Cardboard	Brush/ Clean Lumber	Appl's.	Organics	Propane Tanks	Scrap Metal	Tires	WEE
2025 Sand Road	14,373	18,157	8,353	7,303	2,218	268	757	56	1,536	41	571
2024 Sand Road	13,280	15,621	7,542	7,464	1,823	193	434	30	1,113	28	610
2025 Lake Clear	4,329	5,451	3,746	3,687	329	9	530	3	257	0	38
2024 Lake Clear	3,492	4,353	3,424	3,275	245	8	426	0	175	0	23
2025 McGrath	2,276	2,942	2,069	2,053	0	0	114	0	0	0	0
2024 McGrath	2,153	2,714	1,985	1,990	0	0	136	0	0	0	0
2025 Hwy 41	2,601	3,335	2,377	2,409	0	0	137	0	0	0	13
2024 Hwy 41	2,427	3,143	2,238	2,218	0	0	142	0	0	0	0
2025 Ruby	3,438	2,987	2,408	2,358	448	124	678	121	817	176	22
2024 Ruby Road	3,506	2,376	2,044	1,959	427	15	770	218	811	170	0
2025 Totals	27,017	29,930	16,884	15,338	3,002	401	2,079	182	2,610	217	644
2024 Totals	24,858	28,207	15,757	16,906	2,498	216	1,908	218	2,099	198	633

- c) Family Day Waste Site Closure - On Monday, February 16, 2026 the Sand Road Waste Site will be closed in recognition of Family Day;
- d) Snow Removal - With all the winter storms that we have been having the department has been busy making sure that our township roads are in good condition for vehicle traffic. On the days that have been nice staff have been removing the snow banks and taking the snow to the snow dump;
- e) County of Renfrew Weather Station - WSP weather stations are located throughout Renfrew County and the province. Bonnechere Valley is fortunate to have access to these stations that takes pictures every 20 mins of the roads, weather forecast and 14 day extended forecast. It also shows time of snow/precipitation amounts per hour, total accumulations, % percentage of probability, barometric pressures, air temperatures and road temperatures as there is a sensor imbedded into the road bed, cloud cover, wind speed and direction.

Works Department Report Received.

Building & Fire Department

Darryl Wagner, CBO & Fire Chief was present and gave his report.

- a) The Department had seven calls for service in January;
- b) Fire fighter recruitment is ongoing. Three new recruits to be onboarded on January 29th;
- c) Staff requested that the 1993 Pumper Truck be declared surplus. Committee agreed;

- d) Junior Firefighter Program is being restructured. Classes will be held during the second semester of the high school year, dates TBD. We have had a change in availability with our coordinators which has impacted the program.
Fire Department & Building Report Received.

CORRESPONDENCE

(A) Correspondence "A"

1. AMO Policy Jan 9
2. AMO Policy Jan 13
3. AMO Watchfile Jan 15
4. AMO Policy Jan 21
5. AMO Watchfile Jan 22
6. AMO Policy Jan 28
7. AMO Watchfile Jan 29
8. EORN Renfrew County December 2025
9. EORN Renfrew County January 2026
10. EOWC Champions Regional Priorities at ROMA 2026
11. EOWC Jan 12
12. FCM Jan 12
13. FCM Jan 14
14. FCM Jan 19
15. FCM Jan 26
16. January MOH Report to the Board 2026

(B) Correspondence "B"

1. Call on Province of Ontario to Establish an Ontario Airport Capital Assistance Program (OACAP)
2. Letter re: Lisa Sharpe Memorial Tournament (Delegation at Council)
3. Lifelabs closure resolution
4. Illuminate the Township digital display board for NMLW 2026
5. Notice of CZBL for BLR to Public Bodies
6. OMERS Bill 68 Municipal Resolution
7. Request for Support for Sunshine Coach
8. Sustainable Funding for Police Resolution

(C) Correspondence "C"

- B.4 Committee agreed to the request to Illuminate the Township digital display board for National Medical Labs Week 2026 for one day.
- B.5 Committee has no concerns with the Comprehensive Zoning By Law for Brudenell Lyndoch and Raglin.
- B.6 Committee supports the resolution regarding OMERS Bill 68 Municipal Resolution and directed staff to bring a resolution to the February 18th meeting of Council.
- B.7 Committee supports the request for the Sunshine Coach. By-Law 2026-008 to come to the Council Meeting following this meeting.

B.8 Committee supports the resolution regarding Sustainable Funding for Police Resolution and directed staff to bring a resolution back to the February 18th meeting of Council.

NEW//UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(1) Mayor's Report – Since Mayor Murphy's last report she attended 15 meetings and spend four days at the ROMA Conference. Some of the highlights are as follows; County Council - The County held a budget meeting on Thursday, January 29th. For 2026, the County's levy reflects weighted assessment growth of 1.23% and a levy increase of 6.68%. This corresponds to a \$28.71 rise in residential property taxes for every \$100,000 in assessed value. Given that Renfrew County's median residential property value is currently \$217,000, the average homeowner would spend \$1,007 in 2026 for the County portion of their taxes.

This was one of the most challenging budgets our County has ever faced. Balancing significant financial pressures with our responsibility to maintain the essential services our residents rely on required difficult conversations and thoughtful decision making.

ROMA - The 2026 ROMA Conference was a huge success with almost 2000 delegates and 698 delegations with Ministers, Parliamentary Assistants and Associate Ministers. On Saturday, January 17th, the Mayor participated in our ROMA Board Conference orientation.

On Sunday, January 18th, Pam Sayne from Zone 5 and Mayor Murphy presented at the Zone Meet-Up. Bonnechere Valley does not have a Conservation Authority in the County of Renfrew, however there are five in Zone 6. On Sunday, the Mayor represented the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus with Chair Bonnie Clark at a meeting with Minister Rob Flack, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

On Sunday, the Mayor also attended an event where Whitewater Region was honoured for their efforts in attending to Seniors in their community and beyond.

The County of Renfrew also had delegations on Monday with Minister Stan Cho, Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport; Parliamentary Assistant, John Jordan, Ministry of Health; Minister Kusendova-Bashta, Ministry of Long Term Care; and with Parliamentary Assistant, Stephane Sarrazin, Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade. Mayor Murphy was unable to attend these delegations due to being triple and quadruple booked, but County colleagues brought our messages effectively and ensured that the County was well represented.

Other - On January 23rd, Sarah, Annette, Meredith, Laurel, Kayla, Michelle and Mayor Murphy met to discuss the logistics of Canada Day and our 25 events for the 25th anniversary of amalgamation.

This morning, Mayor Murphy, along with CAO/Clerk Annette Gilchrist, attended the water and wastewater funding announcement under the Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program Health and Safety Water Stream for John Street and Queen Street. This infrastructure is more than 50 years old, so we are extremely grateful to MPP Billy Denault and the Provincial Government for this grant of \$5,033,000 which will allow us to complete a \$6.8 million dollar project. Special thanks to Annette and Daryl for completing this grant application. Whitewater Region, the Town of Renfrew and the City of Pembroke in partnership with Laurentian Valley Township were also recipients of monies from this fund.

The 50th anniversary of the Sno-drifters Bonnechere Cup is coming up this weekend. I will be attending the opening ceremonies on Saturday to represent Bonnechere Valley.

Next Thursday, the County of Renfrew and the City of Pembroke will hold our official opening of the Hart Hub. The opening of this HART Hub represents a shift in how we respond to complex needs in our community: from fragmented supports to a coordinated system of care. Through strong partnerships across health, social services, and community agencies, Renfrew County is building a model rooted in compassion, accountability, and results. The HART Hub brings together the right partners, in the right place, to connect people with support when it matters most. This is a community-led solution, made possible through the Mesa initiative, collaboration, and an unwavering belief that everyone deserves the chance to be well;

- (2)** Library Update – In 2025 20,843 times items were checked out, there were 15,116 visits to the library, and there were 3876 e-books checked out. The library offered 336 programs with 3078 in attendance.

Games Night continues on Tuesday evenings, still with zero attendance. Chronicles of Yarnia is every Thursday evening from 6 to 8 p.m. Average attendance in December was 3 people each week. Youth Night continued on Wednesday evenings from 5-6 p.m. with an average of 16 pre-teens each week. On December 3rd there was crafting with paper snowflakes and bead bracelets. Caroling was cancelled for December 10 due to it being a snow day and there were no school buses. Instead, the few youth that came played Scrabble. There was a catered dinner on December 17 (chubby chicken and fries from Rio, using some of the funds from the Lekbor Manor donation) with 30 people. This was very popular. Friday Maker Days took place on the three Fridays leading up to the Christmas break. The crafts included button trees with 2 people, handmade wrapping paper with 5 people, and cinnamon stick stars also with 5 people taking part.

Library staff continue to go to Fairfield's with books every two weeks. There is an average of 7 people using this service. They really appreciate the visits and are often waiting for her. The Library staff also continue to provide outreach to a couple of patrons who are unable to come into the library.

- (3)** Draft Resolution Bill 5 – Committee reviewed the draft and agreed;
- (4)** Logs for 25th Anniversary of Amalgamation – Committee chose the logo for the 25th Anniversary with one small change.

ESTABLISH NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

The next Committee Meeting will be held on Wednesday February 18, 2026.

MEDIA SESSION

CONCLUSION

MOVED BY John Epps

THAT: the meeting adjourns at 3:16 p.m.

Carried


Tracey Sanderson, Chair



Annette Gilchrist, CAO/Clerk