



**RM of Edenwold
Meeting Minutes
Public Hearing Meeting February 24, 2026 - 10:00 AM**

Minutes of the Public Hearing Meeting of the Council of the Rural Municipality of Edenwold No. 158 held on Tuesday, February 24, 2026, in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Building, located at 100 Hutchence Road, Emerald Park, Saskatchewan, to receive verbal and written submissions in regard to:

10:00 a.m.

Bylaw No. 2026-02: Zoning Bylaw Text Amendment - Data Centres

The following members of Council and staff were present:

Reeve: Al Trainor

Councillors: Division #1 Carmen Leibel
Division #3 Nichole Posehn
Division #4 Karen Kotylak
Division #5 Stephen Werner
Division #6 Tim Brodt
Division #7 Darren Bezborotko

Chief Administrative Officer: Shauna Bzdel

Assistant Chief Administrative Officer: Karen Zaharia

Manager of Engineering and Public Works: Clark Gates

Manager of Planning and Development: Paige Boha

Manager of Finance: Sara Gartshore

Absent: Councillor Division #2 Stan Capnerhurst

Call to Order

Reeve Trainor noted the time being 10:00 a.m. and called the Public Hearing to order.

Bylaw No. 2026-02: Zoning Bylaw Text Amendment - Data Centres

Reeve Trainor announced Bylaw No. 2026-02 being a bylaw to amend Bylaw No. 2019-20 known as the Zoning Bylaw, by adding "data centre" as a use with associated development standards.

Reeve Trainor asked for written submissions in regard to Bylaw No. 2026-02. Manager of Planning & Development Paige Boha advised that there were eleven (11) written submissions received and read them aloud.

Written submissions were received from the following individuals: Yvonne Aker, Vanessa Boldt, Logan-Marie Carlson, Lisa Liesch, Andrea Marinteanu, Courtney Morrow, Jake Nasewich, Sara Steiner, Terelyne Vadeboncoeur, Max McRae and Camryn Van Caesele.

Several individuals were from Regina along with RM of Edenwold residents. Residents expressed strong opposition or urged caution regarding the proposed text amendment for data centres. Many of the concerns were for an AI data centre being proposed in the RM of Sherwood as the RM of Edenwold has not received an application for a data centre. The concerns cited high water and electricity demands, potential cost pass-throughs, environmental and quality-of-life impacts (noise, light, traffic, land use), and limited emergency and infrastructure capacity. They request transparent public consultation, comprehensive and enforceable impact assessments

(water, power, noise), clear accountability for infrastructure upgrades and costs, stronger bylaw standards (including noise limits and setbacks), and ongoing monitoring. Many also question AI's broader societal value relative to risks and ask Council to prioritize community well-being and resource sustainability before considering approvals.

Reeve Trainor asked for any verbal submissions.

Verbal submissions were provided by Regina resident Allan Yurkowski, RM of Edenwold resident Tracy Bulych, Scott Assie, a Saskatchewan Registered Professional Planner and Peter Liu, the landowner of the property requesting the text amendment.

Many concerns were for the AI data centre being proposed in the RM of Sherwood. Residents raised significant concerns about allowing data centres in the RM, citing major risks related to water use, drought, environmental impact, noise, emergency response capacity, and the potential burden on SaskPower and SaskEnergy to support large-scale backup power systems. They emphasized the need for perpetual monitoring, clear accountability, and protection of residential services during outages, while questioning whether the proposal aligns with the RM's community plan or long-term sustainability goals. Residents urged Council to reject the bylaw amendment entirely to prevent future high-impact proposals. Mr. Assie supported the amendment as a proactive regulatory framework that still requires full public review of any future specific development. Mr. Lui supported the amendment citing proximity to railway noise as a precedent for industrial suitability, newer cooling techniques that use minimal or no water, economic development and job opportunities, and the ability for increased development to contribute tax revenue for infrastructure.

Res. No:
2026-02-01

Bylaw No. 2026-02: Zoning Bylaw Text Amendment - Data Centres
Moved By: Councillor Kotylak

THAT we acknowledge there were eleven (11) written submissions and four (4) verbal submissions in regard to Bylaw No. 2026-02.

CARRIED

Adjournment

The public hearing was adjourned at 10:33 a.m.

Al Trainor

Shauna Bzdel

Reeve

Administrator