

Minutes

Joint Municipal Services Committee

July 29, 2025

1. Call to Order

Brittany Rier, Deputy Clerk, called the meeting to order at 9:55 a.m.

All members were present including Councillors Boddy, Dickert, Keaveney, McKay and Pringle.

Staff present included Randy Scherzer, CAO; Niall Loble, Deputy CAO; Tara Warder, Clerk; and Brittany Rier, Deputy Clerk.

2. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

JMSC01-25

Moved by: Shirley Keaveney

Seconded by: Warren Dickert

That Councillor Boddy be elected as Chair of the Joint Municipal Services Committee through to September 2026.

Carried

JMSC02-25

Moved by: Shirley Keaveney

Seconded by: Terry McKay

That Councillor Dickert be elected as Vice Chair of the Joint Municipal Services Committee through to September 2026.

Carried

3. Items for Discussion

3.a Terms of Reference Review

The Committee discussed if member municipalities can work together rather than having to involve the County for a shared service. They

questioned if there are specific mandated services that need to be delivered on an individual basis. Staff noted that the County is legislated to run one long-term care home, as an example. Because this is an individually mandated requirement to provide this service, something like this wouldn't be explored at this Committee.

Staff further noted that the Municipal Act has a chart of areas of jurisdiction that outlines services to be provided by upper and lower-tier municipalities and suggested a review of this before the Committee goes too in-depth of discussing changes to service arrangements. Staff noted that topics discussed within the Committee meetings would still need to go to Council for final approval.

3.b CAOR-JMS-10-25 Existing Work and Background

Niall Lobley, Deputy CAO, noted that there has been a long history of joint partnership and collaboration to find efficiencies across the County as a whole. In the past, the County began to facilitate and review opportunities for shared or joint municipal services beginning with conversations around library services. The Committee will work together to see where efficiencies can be found in terms of joint municipal services within the nine member municipalities to improve services to the residents of Grey County.

He noted that an affordable housing task force had been struck in the past. Areas of collaboration are already happening within the County with the potential to expand services with member municipalities.

The Committee shared comments around the potential for sharing large pieces of equipment. The Committee discussed "Gov Deals" and experiences using that platform and system for the purchase of municipal equipment.

The Committee expressed their interest in joint-procurement processes. to streamline processes across the nine member municipalities. Comments were shared about current procurement by-laws and procedures that can or have been incorporated into purchasing by-laws that help facilitate purchasing among municipalities.

The Committee discussed opportunities to share underutilized services from municipalities within Grey County. and suggestions for communicating and sharing

The Committee and County staff discussed staff recruitment and retention difficulties that municipalities face, and the opportunity to share staff among member municipalities within the County to help with coverage, absences, and vacancies in positions. The Committee discussed the current competitive job market and suggested support for succession planning and staff retention. The Committee discussed encouraging staff movement within the County. It was noted that when a compensation

review is done at one member municipality that this may be a good opportunity to complete this across the County.

JMSC03-25

Moved by: Warren Dickert

Seconded by: Grant Pringle

That report CAOR-JMS-10-25, 'Ongoing Work and Background' in respect to Joint Municipal Service work, be received for information.

Carried

3.c CAOR-JMS-11-25 Waste Management Community of Practice - Share Opportunities

The report highlighted the work of the Waste Management Community of Practice. Staff and members shared information on member municipal arrangements when it comes to collecting and trucking waste.

The Township of Southgate is unique in this regard from the other municipalities across Grey County. The Committee suggested if the County can get a contract for waste management services, if there would be a potential to increase services to pick up bulkier items or expand services to hazardous waste.

It was noted by staff that there is no waste strategy at the provincial level and it has been deferred at this point. This hasn't been deemed a crisis at this point, but this will be a growing concern over the next few years.

The Committee discussed the increasing use of incinerators within Ontario and the likelihood of expansion of this waste management tool in the future.

The Committee noted that this service may pose a challenge as some Municipalities will benefit, while others won't.

JMSC04-25

Moved by: Terry McKay

Seconded by: Shirley Keaveney

That report CAOR-JMS-11-25 be received; and

That members of the Community of Practice be encouraged to provide an update to respective member municipal Councils; and

That based on Council feedback the Community of Practice identify priorities for collaborative and/or shared services in respect to waste collection.

Carried

3.d Brainstorming on Services

The Committee discussed potential ideas for joint services including:

- waste management
- staffing: area retention and skills development
- procurement services/policy/standards
- doctor recruitment
- services such as water and wastewater
- equipment sharing and leasing fleet
- building inspection
- centralized tax collection
- information systems

The Committee discussed and participated in an exercise to determine which of the above categories the Committee would like to see further information on. Once the exercise was completed, the Committee determined the top three topics as staffing, waste management and doctor recruitment.

Niall Lobley 12:04 p.m. left the meeting.

JMSC05-25

Moved by: Shirley Keaveney

Seconded by: Warren Dickert

That staff be directed to provide a report back to the Joint Municipal Services Committee on the identified services at the next meeting.

Carried

3.e Preferred Meeting Format

The Committee discussed the preference of an in-person format and suggested scheduling a sooner meeting date for the end of September.

4. Next Meeting Date

Friday, October 24th, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

On motion by Councillors McKay and Pringle, the meeting adjourned at 12:09 p.m.