Grey County Council met at the call of the Warden on the above date at 10:00 a.m. at the County Administration Building. The County Clerk called Council to order and Warden Duncan McKinlay assumed the Chair.

The Warden invited members of Council to join him in prayer or observe a moment of silent reflection.

The Roll was called by the Clerk with all members present except Councillors White and Anderson. Councillor Milne joined the session in progress.

Lance Thurston, Chief Administrative Officer, Sharon Vokes, County Clerk/Director of Council Services and Heather Morrison Deputy Clerk/Records Manager were also in attendance.

The following staff members were in attendance for the presentation of their respective reports:

Kevin Weppler, Director of Finance; Rod Wyatt, Director of Housing; Barbara Fedy, Director of Social Services; Geoff Hogan, Director of Information Technology; Grant McLevy, Director of Human Resources; Michael Kelly, Director of Transportation Services; Randy Scherzer, Director of Planning and Development; Mike Muir, Director of Emergency Management Services, Ashleigh Weeden, Communications and Accessibility Coordinator and Renate Cowan, Long-Term Care Administrator.

Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Hazel Lynn was also in attendance.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

Adoption of Minutes

CC140-13 Moved by: Councillor Barfoot Seconded by: Councillor Burley

THAT the minutes of the September 3, 2013 Session of Grey County Council be adopted as circulated.

Carried
Retirement Presentation

Christine Fenton-Stone was presented with a retirement gift. Ms. Fenton-Stone has worked for the County for 27 years as an Ontario Works Caseworker. On behalf of County Council, Warden McKinlay congratulated Ms. Fenton-Stone on her retirement.

Communications and Correspondence

The Clerk presented correspondence and recommendations for its disposition as follows:

- Letter from City of Kenora to Premier Wynne requesting the Province ban flying lanterns
- Letter from Minister of Transportation regarding way-finding signage on Highway 410
- Letter from Township of Southgate supporting Grey County’s draft smoking in outdoor spaces by-law

Received for information

CC141-13   Moved by:  Councillor McQueen    Seconded by:  Councillor Jack

THAT the disposition of Council correspondence as recommended by the Clerk be approved.

Carried

Notice of Motion

No Notice of Motion was given.

Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the previous meeting.

Presentation and Adoption of Reports

Board of Health

Council considered the minutes of the Board of Health and the Report of the Board.

CC142-13   Moved by:  Councillor McKay    Seconded by:  Councillor Fitzgerald

THAT the minutes of the Board of Health dated August 16, 2013 and the Report to the Board dated September 2013 be received.
CC143-13 Moved by: Councillor McQueen    Seconded by: Councillor Barfoot

THAT Grey County Council do now go into closed session at 10:13 AM to discuss:

I. an item related to labour relations or employee negotiations regarding negotiations with the Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 1530 per Section 239 (2) (d) of the Municipal Act, 2001;

II. proposed or pending acquisition of land per Section 239 (2) (c) of the Municipal Act, 2001 with regard to Report TR-TAPS-63-13

III. Adoption of closed meeting minutes of July 18, 2013

AND THAT all staff remain in attendance.

Carried

CC144-13 Moved by: Councillor Barfoot    Seconded by: Councillor Burley

THAT Grey County Council do now return to open session at 11:04 AM.

Carried

Deputations

Bluewater Wood Alliance

Mr. Mike Baker, Manager of the Bluewater Wood Alliance provided an update to Council on the group’s activities. He provided background information on the organization and business clusters. Mr. Baker noted there at 52 current members in the Alliance which includes manufacturers and suppliers of wood products.

He highlighted the organization’s objectives including recruitment of new members and the provision of services to increase member competitiveness. He also noted the current projects of the organization which include the development of a web configuration website and export development.

Councillor Milne joined the session.

Questions and comments then followed.
Economic Development Update

Mr. Bryan Plumstead, Manager of Economic Development and Tourism, Meredith Bowers and Philly Markowitz, Economic Development Officers provided Council with an update on Economic Development in Grey County. Mr. Plumstead outlined what economic development is and how Grey County’s objectives align with other similar strategies. He also provided an analysis of top employment areas within Grey County and how those compare provincially.

Ms. Bowers spoke about the First Impressions Community Exchange Program (FICE) currently underway. FICE is a simple low-cost and highly effective process that revelas the first impressions a community conveys to visitors, including tourists, potential investors or people looking for a new place to live. Business tours have also commenced in various municipalities with a variety of stakeholders around the County.

Ms. Markowitz spoke about local food and specifically about direct support for producers through grant applications, training, hub development and networking opportunities.

Councillor Haswell left the session.

Questions and comments then followed.

Council recessed for lunch at 12:18 PM and reconvened at 12:56 PM with Warden McKinlay in the Chair.

Councillor Burley was absent for the afternoon session.

CAOR-CC-21-13 South West Economic Alliance (SWEA) Regional Transportation Initiative

CAO Lance Thurston presented the above report. He outlined what is contained within the new regional transportation initiative spearheaded by SWEA.

CC145-13 Moved by: Councillor Barfoot Seconded by: Councillor Richardson

WHEREAS communities in Southwestern Ontario, including Grey County, are alarmed at the declining level of passenger transportation options available in the region;

AND WHEREAS the Board of the Southwest Economic Alliance (SWEA) has adopted an action plan to spur Provincial and Federal
planning and re-investment in passenger transportation services across Southwestern Ontario;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Grey County Council hereby endorses and lends it support to SWEA's Regional Passenger Transportation Initiative, as outlined below:

1. Cutbacks to VIA Rail passenger service in Southwestern Ontario is a central and critical issue and SWEA, on behalf of the communities of the region, will:

   a) Demand re-investments and service enhancements in the short term.

   b) Advocate, for a renewed commitment to passenger rail service across Canada.

2. Lack of inter-city transportation options within the region is an equally critical issue. The following are the key requests that SWEA will make to the provincial government on behalf of the communities of the region:

   a) That the provincial government support demands to improve VIA Rail services along both main lines.

   b) That the provincial government immediately address regional passenger transportation issues beyond the current GTHA focus

   c) That the provincial government supports the establishment of an all-party committee of the Ontario legislature to immediately study regional transportation needs in Southwestern Ontario.

3. That SWEA seek to convene a high profile regional transportation summit in autumn of 2013 to draw attention to the critical issue of limited passenger transportation options in Southwestern Ontario with the intent is to kick-start a broad public debate on the issue and to spur immediate study of options and commitment to re-investments.

4. That SWEA engage all possible stakeholders, in partnership with communities in the region, to build awareness of passenger transportation issues and possible solutions.

5. That SWEA coordinate a meeting with senior VIA Rail management to get an accounting of their service strategy for Southwestern Ontario and to stress the need for the corporation to partner with regional municipalities meaningfully in efforts to improve passenger rail service and ridership levels in the region.

Carried
Social Services Committee

Council considered the minutes of the Social Services Committee.

CC146-13 Moved by: Councillor Milne Seconded by: Councillor Richardson
THAT the minutes of the Social Services Committee dated September 11, 2013 and the recommendations contained therein be adopted as presented and engrossed in the minutes.
Carried

Planning and Community Development Committee

Council considered the minutes of the Planning and Community Development Committee.

CC147-13 Moved by: Councillor Maskell Seconded by: Councillor McQueen
THAT the minutes of the Planning and Community Development Committee dated September 17, 2013 and the recommendations contained therein be adopted as presented and engrossed in the minutes.
Carried

Corporate Services Committee

Council considered the minutes of the Corporate Services Committee.

CC148-13 Moved by: Councillor Greenfield Seconded by: Councillor Barfoot
THAT the minutes of the Corporate Services Committee dated September 10, 2013 and the recommendations contained therein be adopted as presented and engrossed in the minutes.
Carried

Transportation and Public Safety Committee

Council considered the minutes of the Transportation and Public Safety Committee.

CC149-13 Moved by: Councillor Barfoot Seconded by: Councillor McQueen
THAT the minutes of the Transportation and Public Safety Committee dated September 5 and 19, 2013 and the recommendations contained therein be adopted as presented and engrossed in the minutes.
Carried
By-Laws

CC150-13  Moved by: Councillor Fitzgerald  Seconded by: Councillor Eccles

THAT By-Law 4807-13 be introduced and that it be taken as read a first and second time and that Council go into Committee of the Whole on this By-Law.

Carried

Councillor Milne assumed the Chair in Committee of the Whole.

On motion of Councillor Eccles, Committee arose and Council resumed with Warden McKinlay in the Chair.

CC151-13  Moved by: Councillor Pringle  Seconded by: Councillor Wright

THAT the following By-Law as passed in Committee of the Whole be taken as read for a third time, finally passed, signed by the Warden and the Clerk, sealed with the seal of the Corporation and engrossed in the By-law book.

4807-13  A By-law to authorize the Warden and Clerk to execute an agreement between the Corporation of the County of Grey and Edward Acheson and Mary Scott for a drainage easement agreement

Carried

Good News and Celebrations

Council was apprised of good news and celebrations occurring within the County.

Adjournment

On motion of Councillor McKay, Council adjourned at 1:41 PM to the call of the Warden.

Council closed with the singing of O Canada.

_________________________  _______________________
Duncan McKinlay, Warden                     Sharon Vokes, County Clerk