

BYLAW NO. 2026-1

A BYLAW TO AUTHORIZE ENTERING INTO AGREEMENTS FOR THE PROVISION OF FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES WITH URBAN MUNICIPALITIES

The Council of the Rural Municipality of Francis No. 127, in the Province of Saskatchewan, enacts as follows:

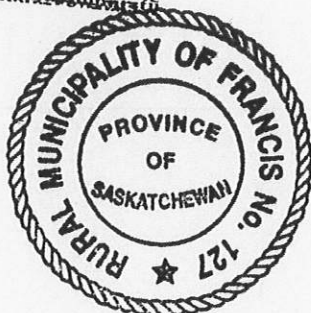
1. Authorization: The RM is authorized to enter into Fire Protection Services Agreements with any Urban Municipality located within or adjacent to the RM (each, an "Urban Partner").
2. Execution: The Reeve and Administrator are authorized to execute Agreements substantially in the form attached as **Exhibit A**, together with **Appendices A through I**, as amended from time to time by Council resolution or by the Joint Oversight Committee where expressly permitted herein.
3. Appendices: For administrative efficiency, Appendices may be updated, replaced, or expanded by resolution of Council or by the Joint Oversight Committee without reopening this Bylaw or the core Agreement, provided no substantive change to **Sections 1-9 of Exhibit A** occurs.
4. Repeal: **Bylaw No. 2022-08** is repealed upon adoption of this Bylaw.
5. Effective Date: This Bylaw comes into force on the date of final passing.

Read a first time this 7th day of May, 2026.

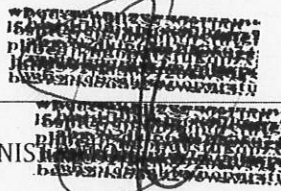
Read a second time this 7th day of May, 2026.

Read a third time and adopted this 7th day of May, 2026.

REEVE



ADMINISTRATOR



MASTER FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES AGREEMENT

Rural Municipality of Francis No. 127 (the "RM")

Parties

Between: The Rural Municipality of Francis No. 127 (the "RM").

And: ___ Village of Vibank _____ (the "Urban Partner")

And: ___ Village of Sedley _____ (the "Urban Partner")

And: ___ Village of Odessa _____ (the "Urban Partner")

And: ___ Town of Francis _____ (the "Urban Partner")

Recitals

WHEREAS the Urban Partner operates a volunteer fire department capable of providing Fire Protection Services;

AND WHEREAS the RM desires to contract with the Urban Partner for Fire Protection Services within designated portions of the RM;

AND WHEREAS the parties wish to establish unified dispatch, equipment standards, training, communications, governance, and billing frameworks;

1. Definitions

1.1 "Designated Area" means the geographic area within the RM to be served by the Urban Partner as described in **Appendix A**.

1.2 "Fire Protection Services" means fire suppression, rescue, and related emergency response as dispatched by 911.

1.3 "**Response Form**" means the RM Incident/Fire Call Response Form (**Appendix B**).

1.4 "Quick Response (QR) Truck" means an RM-owned rapid attack or support vehicle specified in **Appendix F**.

1.5 "EMS" means Emergency Medical Services, which are separate and distinct from the volunteer fire department for the purposes of this Agreement (see Section 5).

2. Services and Designated Area

2.1 The Urban Partner shall provide Fire Protection Services throughout the Designated Area. All residents within the Designated Area are protected under this Agreement.

2.2 The Designated Area is set out in **Appendix A** and may be amended by mutual written agreement.

2.3 Unified Dispatch: All incidents shall be dispatched via 911 following the unified procedures in **Appendix D**. The first arriving Fire Chief or Acting Incident Commander (IC) assumes command under ICS.

3. Term and Termination

3.1 Term: Four (4) years from the Effective Date.

3.2 Termination: Either party may terminate on ninety (90) days' written notice.

3.3 Immediate Termination for Cause: This Agreement may be terminated immediately if either party fails to adhere to or comply with the clauses herein. If terminated before year end, grant funding may be prorated. If an agreement with Village/Town housing an RM QR truck terminates, the truck shall be immediately returned to RM possession.

4. Training, Competency, and Operations

4.1 Minimum Standard: All departments shall meet the mandatory training and competency levels in **Appendix E** (including cross-training to operate RM QR trucks).

4.2 Additional Funding: Additional requests for funding over the allocated amount within, is at Council discretion and must be pre-approved.

4.3 Annual Training Audit: **Upon request**, each department shall submit annual training records, certifications, and attendance as per **Appendix E**; the RM or the Joint Oversight Committee (JOC) may request receipts and other information necessary for audit purposes.

4.4 Equipment Readiness: Each party shall maintain apparatus to the baseline equipment expectations in **Appendix D**.

4.5 Communications: Radio channels, interoperability, and protocols shall follow Appendix D; incident reporting shall use Appendix B.

5. Financial Terms

5.1 Annual Fire Department Grant: The RM shall pay each volunteer fire department an **annual grant of \$10,000.00**, payable by December 31 each year, in consideration of the

commitment to provide services. **Payments shall be made as directed to either the Fire department or Village/Town.**

5.2 Village/Town Storage & Maintenance Support: Each **Village/Town fire department shall receive \$1,000.00 annually for storage and assistance with maintenance** relating to hosting and basic care requirements.

5.3 EMS Grant (Separate from Fire): EMS is separate from the fire department. **The RM shall pay \$2,500.00 annually per EMS that provides service.** Payment shall go directly to the EMS provider and/or joint Fire/EMS services if they provide a service, not to the Village/Town.

5.4 Call-Out Charges (RM Incidents): **For incidents occurring within the RM, billing is based on RM-established flat rates (SGI rates do not apply):**

(a) **Unproductive call: \$1,000.00.**

(b) **First hour per department: flat rate of \$1,500.00 regardless of the number of fire trucks/vehicles responding.**

(c) **Second hour and subsequent hours thereafter per department: flat rate of \$500.00 regardless of the number of fire trucks/vehicles.**

(d) **Incident Maximum: \$20,000.00 total combined across all responding fire departments for the incident (this is a combined cap, not per department).** If the incident reaches the \$20,000.00 maximum, the JOC may review billing after investigation.

(e) **Secondary Department Rate:** If a secondary department is required at the call of first on scene fire chief (Incident commander), they bill at the same rates set out above up to \$20,000 combined total between departments.

5.5 **Invoicing Requirements: Billing must be submitted within thirty (30) days** of the incident; late billing will not be paid. **All logs, response information, and dispatch records must accompany invoices.** The RM may conduct investigations to validate billing and response details.

6. Command, Dispatch, and Resource Pooling

6.1 Incident Command: The first arriving department's Chief (or delegate) has command until relieved. **Unified command shall be established for multi-department responses.**

6.2 Secondary/Mutual Aid: **The first fire chief on scene is responsible for dispatching a second unit if necessary.** If a secondary department or resource is not needed, it should be called off. Any additional QR truck agreements are at the discretion of Council.

6.3 **Simultaneous Incidents:** If fires occur at the same time in both the Village/Town and the RM, the Village/Town incident takes precedence for the main fire truck; RM equipment should be called for RM backup as needed. Mutual aid with surrounding communities using RM equipment may require RM Council pre-approval and copy of agreements prior to services.

7. Insurance, Liability, and Assets

7.1 Firefighter Insurance: Insurance coverage for firefighters is to be provided by the Urban Partners (Village/Town). The RM must be notified annually of changes to members in order to qualify for volunteer firefighter insurance if provided by SARM.

7.2 **RM Assets (QR Trucks):** RM QR trucks remain RM assets. Any agreements shall be at the discretion of the RM council and between the RM and the corresponding housing fire department, not applicable to this agreement.

7.4 **Village/Town-Owned Assets:** Village/Town are responsible for repairing their own assets and for insurance on those assets.

7.5 Village/Town are required to carry a minimum of \$5,000,000.00 insurance coverage for fire fighters and equipment. **Upon request,** the RM may require proof (copy) of insurance for audit purposes.

8. Reporting and Governance

8.1 Joint Oversight Committee (JOC): A standing committee with representation from each Urban Partner and the RM shall meet annually under the Terms of Reference in **Appendix G**. A JOC review is required annually.

8.2 **Annual Reporting by Village/Town:** Village/Town shall supply the RM with the annual audited financial statements as provided to the Village/Town. Upon request and if available, Fire department meeting minutes can be supplied to the RM.

Note: *Fire Committee members may be invited to open fire meetings for informational purposes and important updates.*

8.3 **Awareness of Resources:** Each urban community should be made aware of additional resources within the RM and updates may be provided with the information at an annual JOC meeting or directly to Fire chiefs.

9. Payment Direction

9.1 Payments will either go directly to the volunteer fire departments or Village/Town as directed by the Fire Departments/EMS.

10. Appendices

Appendix A - Designated Area (maps/legal descriptions)

Appendix B - Incident / Fire Call Response Form and Billing Checklist (must attach 911 dispatch form)

Appendix C - Fee Schedule & Billing Examples

Appendix D - Unified Dispatch, Communications & Radio Standards

Appendix E - Training Standards, Competency & Annual Audit

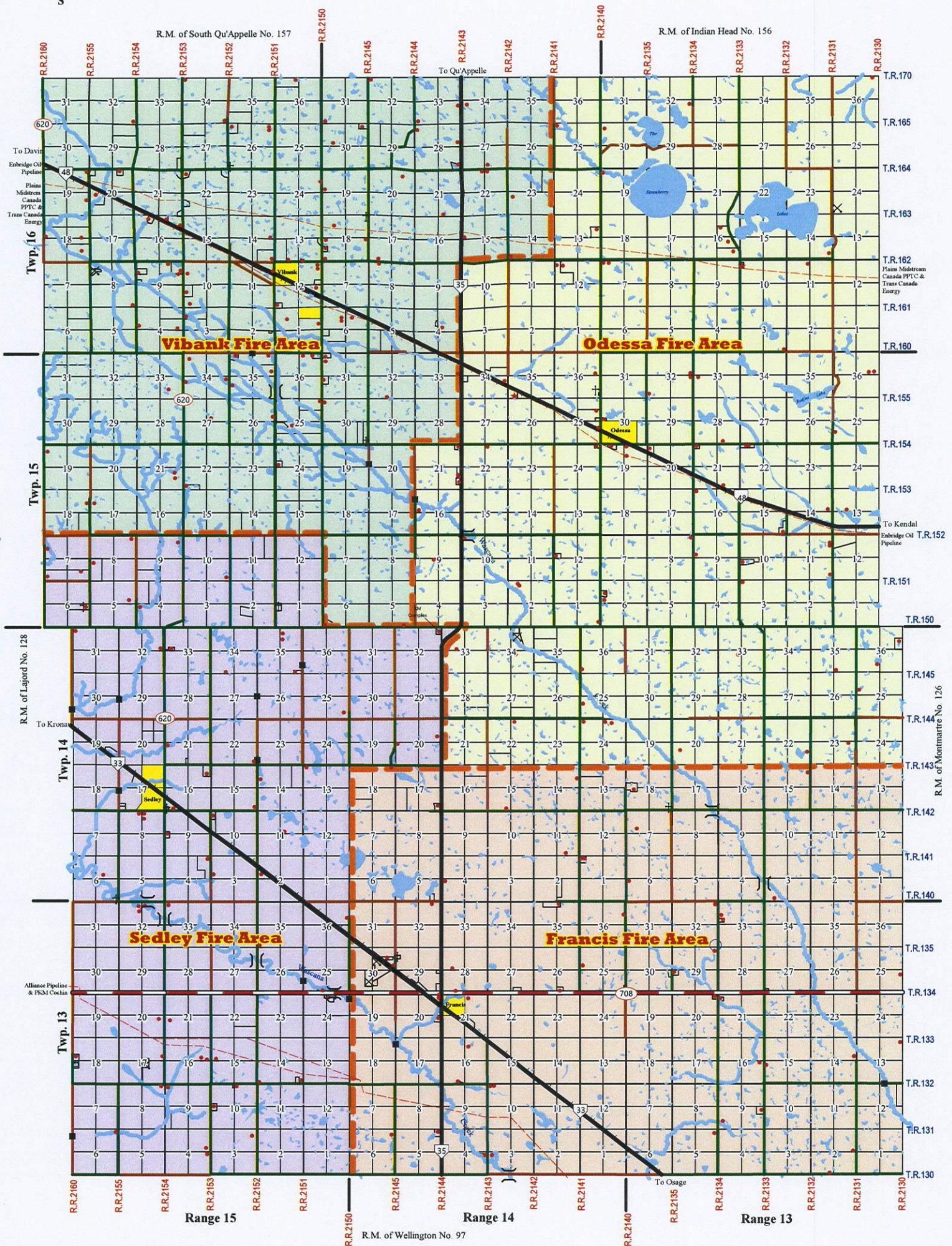
Appendix F - Equipment Baselines & RM Quick Response (QR) Integration

Appendix G - Joint Oversight Committee (JOC) Terms of Reference and review procedures when the \$20,000 cap is reached

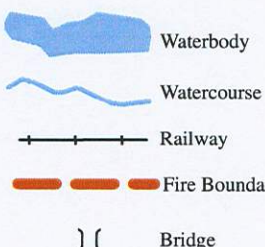
Appendix H - Major Event Resource Pooling & Mutual Aid

Appendix I - Incident Investigation & After-Action Review (AAR)

Fire Boundary Map



- Highways - Paved
- Primary Grid Road
- All Weather
- Clearing The Path
- Seasonal
- Pipeline



- Structure/Residence
- Community Well
- ✕ Material Site
- † Cemetery
- ★ Compressor
- Low Level Crossing

	Francis
	Odessa
	Sedley
	Vibank



Update August 2025