

Wheatland County

Department Report

Regular Council Meeting

July 7, 2020

Report prepared by: Cindy Sweere



June Transportation and Agriculture GM Report

Recommendation from Administration

That Council accepts the General Manager of Transportation and Agriculture, June 2020 report.

Report

Public Works Crews

- While the Gravel Crew is at Lund's they will add gravel to RR190 and fix some areas on RR193 north of Dalum and Twp.280, once complete they will move and continue gravelling for Divisions 2 and 5.
- The Construction Crew is working on RR245 and should be completed by July1st, clean-up will take all of July to complete.
- Surfacing Crew has completed the first round of Calcium and are now patching in the hamlets, once done they'll take the road reclaimer to RR261 and work up a couple areas then over to Lyalta to rework the access road to the elevator.
- When the Mulching Crew finishes in the Standard area, they will be moving to RR190.

The Hamlet and Utilities / WTS

Carseland

There was a water break at the north end of McKinnon Drive, gravelling of alleyways has been completed and grading is underway. Valve exercising and leak detection base line testing has been completed. In the process of obtaining quotes for sidewalk replacement at 413 Mckinnon Drive. At the WTS there was 2 transtor bins replaced and a tree was removed by contractor because it was hanging on the power line.

Cluny & Chancellor

Completed alleyway grading in Cluny and all roadways have been graveled in Chancellor Gleichen

Performed cc locates and shutoffs on County owned facilities for meter installs. Grading of lanes and alleyways has been completed and the removal of dead trees and stumps has been done throughout the hamlet, tree watering is being performed weekly. Gray's did a water and sewer install for a lot on 9th Ave. At the WTS a transtor bin was damaged and repaired by a contractor.

Rosebud

Sewer break at 312-Severn Ave was repaired also need to do a cleanup of trees and branches because of the windstorm, also had to replaced 1 transtor bin at the WTS.

Speargrass

Valve exercising, leak detection and base line testing has been completed. Graveling of the WTP access road has been done.

General

- Street cleaning has been completed in all hamlets
- Installed Alberta Recycling signs at the used oil areas at all sites.
- Hydraulic fittings have been changed out on all transfer bins to a new type to prevent leaking of hydraulic oil.
- Garbage p/u from ditches by WTS Co-ordinator as needed.

Facilities

- Fire alarm deficiencies still ongoing.
- Gleichen Arena is about 75% complete. End date middle of July.
- Completed the flow testing on the fire pump.
- Alarm and camera system maintenance being completed in June. (Siemens and Tyco)
- Irrigation repairs are ongoing.

Gravel / Roads

- Contractor has crushed 22,000 tonnes at the Ridgeland pit, once finished they will move to the Fish Lake Pit.
- Working with consultant on a five-year report for Christensen Pit, Alberta Environment requires an update every 5 years.
- Coordinating funding for railway crossing upgrades
- Working with GIS department on a GPS finder to track curb stops, manholes etc. to update current drawings.
- Coordinating Water Act Notification for TWP Rd 230 for future road construction. Notification has been posted on signs at TWP RD 230 for one (1) week.
- Ongoing approach inspections and traffic counts.

Land

- Still working on the Rosebud Telus Lot.
- Namaka Hall Lease – still waiting for the local community association to get together so that the agreement can be signed.
- Gleichen encroachment – document has been sent to LTO for registration.
- Lease at Carseland transfer site - tender is typically the process but need approval to lease/proceed first from Council.
- Rosebud encroachment – working with an owner in Rosebud for a proposed path and retaining wall.
- Assist landowners enquiring about land purchases within Wheatland County, as well as a couple of legal office questions.

General

- Preparing RFD for Muirfield lots process.
- Coordinated request for Father's Day event put on by the Mercantile in Muirfield, working on updating lease with legal.
- New tenants have signed up for Muirfield RV lot, working on updating rental agreements with legal.
- CSMI Cooperative discussions ongoing, agreements still under review.
- Redland informal survey regarding WRC Phase III being conducted, continuing to connect with residents in the area.
- Coordinating with multiple departments and legal counsel on transfer of Muirfield infrastructure to the County. Reviewing multiple requests from the Muirfield community and determining our authority before responding.

Agriculture & Environment Report

- Roadside mowing program started on June 9th.
- 15ft mower will do only one cut this year in the fall due to staff reduction. Grader mowers will cut all roads on their first cut.
- Seeding completed on 245 until construction crew finishes up. Seeding also completed on Rockyford access road and Wintering Hills and Cluny gravel pits.
- 230 plastic grain bags rolled to date.
- Sprayed County sites: Fire halls in Strathmore and Gleichen, Transfer sites: Cluny, Carseland, Gleichen, etc.
- Responded to 7 weed complaints & requests for weed identification
- Bertha Armyworm traps put out the week of June 8th with counts every week to the end of July.
- Dealing with some severe Black Henbane infestations in the Redland/Rosebud area.
- Working with IT to develop an online strychnine application form and payment method.
- Received an extension to April 27, 2021 for the Livestock Emergency Response Grant.
- ALUS Wheatland Partnership Advisory Committee meeting held June 9th via teams. 8 projects considered, 6 approved for a total of 115 acres.
- Continuing to support producers completing EFP (10 completed, 11 in progress) and CAP applications (14)
- Working with the Alberta Invasive Species Council to update the Identification Guide of Alberta Invasive Plants
- 1 Rosebud WRRP project approved in Rocky View County (fencing and off-site watering)
- The Wheatland Agricultural Stewardship Program (4 projects approved) and the Safe Water Wells Action Program (6 projects approved, 1 on the wait list) are now fully allocated.
- Agricultural Land Trust Resolution for Fall RMA Conference and 2021 ASB Conference completed with assistance and information from Stan Carscadden of Alberta Farmland Trust.
- Shelterbelt and Ecobuffer Seedling Funding Program was closed to applications as of April 9, 2020. 13 applications were received under the program requesting a total budget allocation of approximately \$12,000. Budget reduced due to 2020 budget cutbacks. Four planting projects have been completed to date for a total fund distribution of \$2,230.
- Completed soil movement educational campaign and fact sheet publication.
- Exploring opportunity presented by the Alberta Environment and Parks Wetland Replacement Program that has a current intent to partner with municipalities for the pursuit of wetland restoration and construction opportunities.

- Applied for and received two seasonal Temporary Water Diversion Licenses for dust control to support the gravel crew; one for Severn Reservoir and one for Duck Lake.
- Discussions with P&D employees about ER/ERE policy being written. Task created to develop draft ER/ERE Management Policy to describe Transportation and Agriculture department responsibilities in managing ER and ERE lands; draft to be completed by end of August.

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	June Transportation and Agriculture GM Report.1.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Jun 30, 2020

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'MZ' followed by a long, sweeping horizontal stroke.

Michael Ziehr

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Brian Henderson' in a cursive script.

Brian Henderson