

Wheatland County

Department Report

Regular Council Meeting

October 6, 2020

Report prepared by: C. Sweere



September Transportation and Agriculture GM Report

Recommendation from Administration

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

Report

Public Works Crews

- Gravel crew will move to the Chizik pit once their done at the Lund stockpile site.
- Mulching crew finished 3 miles on Twp. 250 from RR195 to RR 202, they are now mulching RR202 from Twp.250 to Twp.242, once complete they will move to RR210 to mulch from Twp.260 to Twp.262.
- Surfacing crew is currently in Rosebud widening the road into the seed cleaning plant once finished they will move to Twp. 272 to work on the slide area that has developed along the north side ½ mile west of the junction at #569 and #841.
- Construction crew is currently working on the parking lot and pathway for the new playground in Speargrass once complete they'll move to Muirfield to construct the hockey rink pad before they move east to start on reclamation work within existing gravel pits.

The Hamlet and Utilities / WTS

- In Rosebud removal of 1 tree on Martin Ave. and stump ground in preparation of tree planting project, Hydro-vac to expose gas line to seed cleaning plant for road construction.
- Completed the sidewalk replacement at Mckinnon Dr. and the paving and top soiling repairs in Carseland.
- The sidewalk replacement project in Gleichen has been cancelled after difficulties with the contractor, project will be deferred until a later date. The garbage can service, and tree watering is being performed weekly.
- The playgrounds at Cluny and Spreargrass are underway.
- Clean up and mowing at the Muirfield WTP and County owned vacant lots has been completed and the groundwork for the rink construction in Muirfield will be starting soon.
- Regular mowing rotation has concluded and fall mowing rotation is underway, patching around manholes and valves has been completed in all hamlets.
- Meeting held with ARMA regarding phase 2 of the electronics recycling program. ARMA has expanded the eligible materials list that collectors may receive payment for. Program will be commencing September 1st; new signage was provided by ARMA and has been installed at sites.
- Clean Farms is now paying collectors per tonne for twine collection and has partnered with DBS to perform collection from sites. DBS will now collect the twine from Wheatland County sites as part of their regular pickups that already occur.
- Fencing was damaged at Wheatland West by a car that went off HWY 817. Temporary fencing has been installed and quotes are being obtained to perform repair.

Facilities

- Window washing was completed September 12th
- Final walk through for the Gleichen Arena renovation was Sept. 11th
- Completing repairs found during the quarterly mechanical maintenance inspection.
- Heating maintenance for all county shops scheduled for end of September.
- Majority of the roof repairs have been completed on the County shops.
- New fire suppression for vault and server room has been awarded to Levitt Safety, material is on order.
- Underground fire water loop at the Public works building being repaired by Gray's and Knibb.

Gravel / Roads

- Gravel contractor has started crushing at Fish Lake Pit, they have crushed 15,000 tonnes.
- The Rosebud Lagoon Project has been awarded; a pre-construction meeting is scheduled for Sep 23, 2020.
- Working on updating the Public Works Policies.

Land

- Rosebud Lagoon: landowner access agreement for vehicles from east end has been secured; survey plan for the lagoon has been sent to Land Titles.
- County purchase of land from Telus in Rosebud – subdivision approval/registration package has been provided to the surveyor for registration at Land Titles.
- Twp. Rd. 272 slide – Landowner access agreement in process of being secured so Public works may access the site to repair the slide at SE 16-27-20-4
- Assist with landowner concerns on previous road projects for Duck Lake Road, RR 270 & RR 245
- In Muirfield the real estate documents, land sales and enquiries regarding lot sales and rentals are being finalized, an RFD to Council regarding encroachment will be done for October.

General

- Internal review of the CSMI Cooperative draft agreements continue with expected completion September 19, 2020. Alberta Environment has approved the regulatory application for Stage 1 construction. The table has approved a proposal from MPE for the ACP Grant Funding that will begin after all agreements have been signed.
- Preparing engineering RFP and prequalification tenders as the current agreement expires at the end of 2020. The RFP will cover day to day consultant services and small or internal project engineering. Capital projects will be covered under the prequalification tender where 3 to 5 consultant firms will be chosen to bid on individual capital projects.

Wheatland Regional Water

- Due to the hot dry weather in August there have been some taste and odor problems in the regional plant which could affect Gleichen, our crews are working to improve the problem.
- Third quarter testing has been completed for all water and wastewater systems and the effluent irrigation has wrapped up for the season.
- The raw water line feeding the plant in Muirfield has been repaired and is now operational.
- The meter reading conversion in Muirfield is scheduled to take place throughout October.

Agriculture & Environment Report

- Mowing & Spraying completed in 9 grader divisions. On track to finish by late October.
- 15' mower cut completed on paved roads on West side of County.
- Spot spraying underway on grader divisions that were mowed first in the season.
- Seeding and straw shredding on RR245 construction when time permits.
- 2 rentals for Weed wiper and pasture sprayer.
- 14 canola samples collected to inspect for clubroot and sent to Alberta Agriculture for sclerotinia and blackleg testing. Clubroot surveying will continue until the first of October.
- 6 weed complaints responded to in August.
- Inspected abandoned CN Rail line.
- 3rd round of Village inspections completed September 4th.
- Surveyed Bow River for Purple Loosestrife on August 19th with 27 plants controlled and no new locations found.
- Grain Bag rolling is starting up again with 2 bags rolled and 3 on the waiting list.
- Bursary committee meeting held September 16th with the recommendation to award 3 bursaries going forward to the October 7th ASB meeting.
- Agricultural Land Trust Resolution submitted to fall RMA conference and South Region ASB Conference.
- Environmental Coordinator initiated program in partnership with Health and Safety Advisor offering support to all staff developing RFDs in effectively noting and evaluating environment and safety considerations associated with projects.
- Informal inspection of County properties will occur in latter part of September as follow-up to the 2018 Environmental Audit to keep track of compliance on County-operated sites. Activity will aid our due diligence and offers a record of review for the purpose of environmental management.
- Will be advertising for Environmental Stewardship nominations for review.
- The Wheatland Agricultural Stewardship Program – 4 projects approved & 2 completed; Safe Water Wells Action Program – 9 applications with 7 projects approved; Rosebud Watershed Resiliency Restoration Program – 2 projects approved; Environmental Farm Plan – 12 in progress with 11 completed; ALUS – 5 projects approved; Shelterbelt and Ecobuffer Seedling Program – 13 applications with 5 projects completed.

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	September Transportation and Agriculture GM Report.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Sep 25, 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