

Spring 2019 Ratepayer Minute Book

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Special Areas Board Mission Statement

WE ARE DEDICATED TO IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF THE RESIDENTS OF THE SPECIAL AREAS THROUGH THE PROVISION OF COST EFFECTIVE, PROACTIVE AND RESPONSIVE MUNICIPAL SERVICES AND EFFECTIVE LONG-TERM LAND AND WATER MANAGEMENT. WE WILL ACTIVELY WORK TO INCREASE THE POPULATION OF THE SPECIAL AREAS AND WORK TO OFFER DIVERSE OPPORTUNITIES TO FACILITATE THAT GROWTH.

Introduction

Special Areas is a unique form of local government located in the southeast part of Alberta. The Special Areas was set up under the *Special Areas Act* in response to extreme hardship of the depression years of the 1930's.

The Special Areas Board is a Crown Agency of Alberta Municipal Affairs responsible for the provision of rural municipal government and public land management to the residents of the area. The four-member board is appointed by the Lieutenant Governor and supported by a thirteen-member Advisory Council who is elected in accordance with the *Local Authorities Elections Act*.

The primary business of the Special Areas is:

- Responsible land management of the 2,514 million acres of public land within the boundaries of the Special Areas,
- Provision of Municipal Services including construction and maintenance of local roads, hamlet services, and waste management, and
- Rural Population Stabilization

These primary activities are assisted by various support services including financial, human resources, information technology, and administrative support.

Supplementary Data:

Population:	4,184
Area:	5,080,353.85 acres (7,938 sq. miles) (222 Townships)
Assessment:	\$4.108 billion
Km of Local Road:	6,380
Web Site:	https://www.specialareas.ab.ca/

1. MUNICIPAL SERVICES

1.1 ROADS – THREE-DIGIT HIGHWAYS & MAJOR MARKET ROADS

Current Status – Three Digit Highways

Three-Digit Highways require:

- 67 kms of Reconstruction,
- 32 kms of Cement Stabilized Grade (CSG)/Double Seal Coat (DSC),
- 269 kms of Granular Base Course (GBC)/Double Seal Coat (DSC),
- 305 kms of Asphalt Surface.

Special Areas has 495.93 kms of three-digit highways the Board is tasked to maintain as a part of a cost-sharing agreement/maintenance partnership with Alberta Transportation. The agreement was renewed in 2017 for another three-year term.

Current Status - Major Market Roads

Major market roads are defined as all local surfaced roads. There are 224 kms of major market roads in the Special Areas.

Major market roads require:

- 6.4 kms of reconstruction,
- 0 kms of Cement Stabilized Grade (CSG)/Double Seal Coat (DSC),
- 128 kms of Granular Base Course (GBC)/Double Seal Coat (DSC),
- 154 kms of Asphalt Surface.

There are 20 kms of major market roads that will not be surfaced as a part of the current Staged Surfacing Strategy.

Outcome Statement

Special Areas will build a road network which will eventually enable a ban free, final lift of asphalt for three-digit highways. Major market roads will be all weather, paved and potential ban free.

1.2 ROADS - MINOR MARKET ROADS

Current Status - Minor Market Roads

Minor market roads are defined as all high-grade graveled roads. There are 3,275 kms of minor market roads in the Special Areas.

Outcome Statement

Special Areas will build a road network with will enable minor market roads to be passable with minimal delays due to weather events (collectors and connector roads included).

Desired Outcome	Actions	Measurements/Standards
Road surfacing, construction and equipment replacement operations are cost-effective and support a road network which connects communities and meets ratepayer needs.	Ensure capital and operational expenditures achieve best value for money by using a combination of external consultants and in-house work.	Costs competitive with the provincial average road construction costs for Alberta while meeting Alberta Transportation's Design Standards (Business Plan 2017 Appendix A).
	Ongoing operator training program, with increased focus on skills which improve cost-effectiveness of operations.	Construction design standards are being met.
	Ensure appropriate equipment in place for the scope of work.	Adapt to current and evolving technologies and processes.
	Develop a stripping and reclamation program, including work process planning, training and dedicated operator hiring	Land disturbance training is completed for operators.

	Maintaining existing road system as a priority over constructing new roads.	Current construction plans are weighted towards highest need.
	Develop an effective road network.	Local road network matches with the direction received from SAB, Advisory Council and local road committee.
	Meeting regularly with managers and staff from all departments to ensure coordinated approach.	Quarterly meetings with managers, weekly meetings with foremen.

1.3 ROADS - 1-3 FARM ROADS AND BACK TRAILS

Current Status

1-3 farm roads are defined as roads which provide access to up to three residences. Back trails are defined as all maintained un-graveled roads.

Special Areas has:

- 287.2 kms of 2-3 family farm access roads,
- 490.5 kms of 1 family farm access roads,
- 2145.8 kms of back trails.

Outcome Statement

Special Areas will ensure 1-3 farm roads are passable with minimal delays due to weather events. An access road will be completed within one year of construction to facilitate new residences and other sites as required.

Back trails will be rebuilt or reconstructed as required.

Desired Outcome	Actions	Measurements/Standards
Sustainable back trail network with appropriate maintenance program.	Ensure a defined road grade is constructed where there are developed trails.	5% of developed trails have a constructed (to road design standards) defined road grade. Trails are passable with minimal delays 3 days after a rain event.
	Maintain the road grades once defined.	100% of defined road grades are maintained.

Road Work Summary of Expenditures

Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2018

	Prior Year Kilometers	2017 Prior Year Expenditures	Current Year Kms	2018 Current Year Expenditures
ROAD MAINTENANCE:				
Grading		\$5,199,587.10		\$5,268,904.93
Snow Removal		\$732,683.59		\$808,108.89
Gravelling	1001	\$2,502,187.32	1019	\$2,135,243.80
Other **		\$3,732,850.00		\$4,550,576.76
Total		\$12,167,308.01		\$12,562,430.50
BRIDGES & CULVERTS:		\$ 95,685.66		\$ 101,731.00
CONSTRUCTION: Local				
	11	\$ 4,000,925.96	28	\$ 7,616,997.90
SH 586 (SAB CREW)	11	\$ 3,721,666.55		
SH 862		\$ -		
SH 586 (Contractor Work)	5	\$ 1,237,754.52		
Total		\$8,960,347.03		\$7,616,997.90
BACK TRAIL REPAIRS		\$ 494,211.46		\$614,674.40
GRAVEL LOCK		\$961,083.39		
CALCIUM/LIGNO DUST ABATEMENT		\$207,633.97		\$200,403.88
OILING:				
Hamlet				
Oil Repair:		\$658,901.09		\$465,231.03
New Oil:				
Dust Control:				
Total		\$658,901.09		\$465,231.03
STAGED SURFACING PROGRAM:				
GBC & DSC	886 & 855	\$4,787,938.10	886 30	\$4,049,028.25
CSG (Cement Stabilized Grade) Local Rds				
Secondary Roads	586 & 862	\$2,074,694.99	586 & 862	\$13,484.22 \$3,060,769.97
Total	23	\$2,074,694.99	34	\$3,074,254.19
GBC (Granular Base Course) Local Rds		\$691,714.87		\$429,762.29
DSC (Double Seal Coat) Local Rds				
	30	\$1,280,483.30	12	\$561,909.99
Secondary Roads	11	\$1,043,113.34	33	\$1,773,401.45
Total		\$2,323,596.64		\$2,335,311.44
ACP (Asphaltic Concrete Pavement)		\$6,853,019.17		
(Includes Turnout Lanes on 570 & 36 and Turning lanes on 876 & 570)				
REPORT TOTAL		\$40,276,134.38		\$31,449,824.88

**Other: Administration, Base, Checking, Culvert Install, Culvert Repair, Earthwork, Education, Engineering, Equipment Haul, Equipment Move, Equipment Repair, Equipment Service, Fence Material, Fire Guard, Flagging, Gravel Checking, Gravel Testing, Haul, Mowing, Road Side spraying, Rock Picking, Safety, Salt & Sand, Signs, Snow Fence, Staking, Stockpile, Supervision, Sweeping, Texas Gate, Travel, Water, Weeds & Brush

Subdivision Mileages for 2018

Special Area No. 2

<u>Subdivision No.1</u>	2017	2018
	Kilometers	Kilometers
Gravel	53	60
Construction	5	
Cement Stabilized Base	10	
DSC (Double Seal Coat)	25	
Granular Base Course (GBC)	14.6	
Back Trail Repair	6	
Asphaltic Concrete Pavement		0.35
Dust Abatement	1.16	1.16

Advisory Council Member, Kevin Bossert, Hanna

Subdivision No. 2

Gravel	100	110
Cement Stabilized Base	13	13
DSC (Double Seal Coat)	13	13
Dust Abatement - Calcium Chloride	22	23
Dust Abatement (Lignosulfonat)	7	

Advisory Council Member, Neal Roes, Homestead Coulee

Subdivision No. 3

Gravel	32	27
Construction	0.95	
Back Trail Repair	0.07	3

Advisory Council Member, Brad Slorstad, Sunnynook

Subdivision No. 4

Gravel	50	62
Asphaltic Concrete Pavement	42	
Back Trail Repair		6

Advisory Council Member, Brent Horner, Pollockville

Subdivision No. 5

Gravel	63	155
Construction	10.59	
Cement Stabilized Base		20
DSC (Double Seal Coat)		20

Advisory Council Member, James Madge, Stanmore

Subdivision No. 7

Gravel	35	12.5
Construction		
DSC (Double Seal Coat)		6
Back Trail Repair		
Shoulder Pulls		
Granular Base Course		6

Advisory Council Member, Daryl Swenson, Bindloss

Subdivision No. 8

Gravel	19	27
Construction		15
Oil Repair		
DSC (Double Seal Coat)		
Back Trail Repair		

Advisory Council Member, Brad Osadczuk, Iddesleigh

Special Area No. 3

	2017	2018
	Kilometers	Kilometers

Subdivision No. 4

Gravel	55	109
Granular Base Course	8	
DSC (Double Seal Coat)	8	
Back Trail Repair	12	1

Advisory Council Member, Travis Foot, Esther

Subdivision No. 5

Gravel	86	77
Construction		3
Re-shaping	21	
Granular Base Course	16.5	8
DSC (Double Seal Coat)	40	8
Back Trail Repair		2
Soil Max	21	

Advisory Council Member, Sam Shadlock, Cereal

Subdivision No. 6

Gravel	63	59
Construction		1
DSC		24
Granular Base course		24
Dust Abatement - Ligno Sulphanate	15	11

Advisory Council Member, Kevin Wilson, Oyen

Special Area No. 4Subdivision No. 1

Gravel	162	152
Construction	1.6	5
Dust Abatement	0.3	

Advisory Council Member, Graham Schetzle, Veteran

Subdivision No. 2

Gravel	193	137
Construction	8	4
Back Trail Repair	0.3	
Dust Abatement	1.6	

Advisory Council Member, Barry Redel, Consort

Subdivision No. 3

Gravel	90	30
Soft Spot Repairs	5.5	
DSC (Double Seal Coat)	7	6
Dust Abatement	0.6	
Back Trail Repair	0.3	16

Advisory Council Member, Doug Noble, Altario

Aggregate Resources Report

1. Exploration:

- a. Continued to focus on demand driven exploration.
- b. Significant discoveries made in 2018:
 - i. Rutledge pit (SA#4) 75,000 Tonnes
 - ii. Simkins pit (SA#2) 150,000 Tonnes
 - iii. Esther pit (SA#4) 50,000 Tonnes
 - iv. **Total:** **~275,000 Tonnes**

Current spending on exploration in 2018 is \$41,000.

2. Pit Operations:

- a. Reentered the Lockhart pit and crushed ~90,000 Tonnes to replace the Solberg pit.
- b. Signed an agreement with the Village of Empress to purchase 50,000 Tonnes of aggregate to replace the Hern pit.
- c. Crushed the Rutledge deposit to provide GBC for the 2019 Kirriemuir Road project, saving
- d. Have crushed a total of 414,000 Tonnes to date.
- e. Currently completing tender document for 2019-2021 crushing contract.

Current spending on pit operations in 2018 is \$2,714,000.

3. Reclamation:

- a. Reclaimed the Doolaege, Crisp, Motz and Suntjens #2 Pits to maintain the target of annual reclamation area being equal to or greater than disturbance area.

Current spending on reclamation in 2018 was \$300,000.

4. Focus for 2019:

- a. Continue exploration in areas of high demand. This winter, focus will be on the Veteran to Monitor area.
- b. Continue with exploration on exhausted pits and focus on direct placement in active pits where practical – using new technology to decrease costs (UAV surveys, reclamation software, wetland development and machine control in dozers).
- c. Soil screening prior to placement in Hadwin and Doolaege pits to decrease overall reclamation costs as was done in the Motz pit in 2018.

Respectfully Submitted by Kelsey Martin.

1.4 BUILDING INFRASTRUCTURE

Current Status

A capital asset infrastructure replacement/revitalization plan is being developed and will have established an infrastructure manager position to determine the status of all Special Areas buildings (approximately sixty buildings).

Outcome Statement

Have buildings on a regular maintenance schedule and have all major repairs completed to ensure all buildings are at a minimum of “Fair” condition.

Desired Outcome	Actions	Measurements/Standards
Have a current inventory listing and maintenance schedule for all buildings to ensure all buildings are at a minimum of “Fair” condition.	Develop a capital asset and infrastructure inventory and replacement/revitalization plan.	Have all buildings at a minimum of “Fair” condition.
	Continue data capture and assessment of infrastructure repair history.	Have a current listing with all repairs included.
Reduce the overall carbon footprint and improve the energy efficiency of SA facilities.	Track improvements to greenhouse gas, energy efficiencies made.	Comparing results and improvements by using energy benchmarking with other similar municipal buildings in Alberta.
	Coordinate capital plan to ensure reduction of footprint in any repairs or revitalizations.	

1.5 EMERGENCY PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Current Status – Fire Operations

There are 14 rural volunteer fire departments including equipment. An emergency response plan is in place and can be mobilized on short notice. Nine fire departments have modernized Fire Halls, with ten fire departments having a 4x4 rated pump truck. The East Central Emergency Training Partnership has been established to facilitate training of fire fighters.

Joint fire operations with the County of Cypress for Jenner Fire Department managed via an inter-municipal agreement signed in 1997.

Current Status – Emergency Management

Emergency Management in the Special Areas is managed through the Director of Emergency Operations, with four Deputy Directors (Area Administrators & Fire Chief).

Emergency Social Services are provided and operated by the urban municipalities within the boundaries of Special Areas as per Alberta Emergency Management Agency.

Outcome Statement

Special Areas provides coordinated and well-equipped emergency responses for fire events, motor vehicle accidents, and disaster events. Special Areas has well trained and appropriately certified emergency/first responders, with emergency responders and equipment maintained in all 14 locations within Special Areas.

All fire departments are equipped with adequate equipment, capital infrastructure and volunteer staff to meet the needs of the immediate and adjacent communities.

Fire Services

Desired Outcome	Actions	Measurements/Standards
<p>To provide well equipped emergency responses for fire events, motor vehicle accidents, and emergency management events.</p> <p>To ensure all fire departments are equipped with adequate equipment and capital infrastructure to meet the needs of the immediate and adjacent communities.</p>	<p>Continue to update the Capital Fire Plan with scheduled upgrades to facilities and equipment in consultation with towns, villages and adjoining municipalities.</p>	<p>Departments have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 65% of “rated” Pumpers. • 35% of “unrated” Pumpers. • 70% of “rated” Tenders. • 30% of “unrated Tenders. <p>Vehicle extraction services maintained at Hanna/ Oyen/Consort/ Jenner FD.</p>
<p>Have well-trained and appropriately certified first responders and volunteer fire-fighters personnel.</p>	<p>Support medical first responder (MFR) groups in Special Areas.</p>	<p>Issue letter of support to appropriate MFR groups upon request.</p>
	<p>Develop a training program/protocol for use in volunteer fire departments.</p>	<p>100% of fire departments utilize training program to varying degrees. Participation from at least 60% of departments annually.</p>
	<p>Facilitate the East Central Emergency Training Partnership.</p>	<p>Deliver two training sessions per year to fire departments.</p>
<p>To ensure current administrative documents comply with all relevant legislation, regulations and policy.</p>	<p>Continue to review and update inter-municipal agreements and inter-municipal co-operation for provision of fire services.</p>	<p>85% of agreements are reviewed within the next three years.</p>
	<p>Fire Checks are investigated and reported. Quality Management Plan (QMP) is updated annually</p>	<p>Pass QMP Audit</p>
	<p>Update appointments of Fire Guardians annually through a Board Order.</p>	<p>Annual BO</p>

Emergency Management

Desired Outcome	Actions	Measurements/Standards
Have well-trained and appropriately certified emergency management personnel.	Training in safety and disaster initiatives is current for Director and Deputies of Emergency Operations.	Required courses/training completed as required.
To provide well-coordinated response for emergency services events.	Ensure regularly scheduled training and currency meetings for Emergency Operations team.	Meetings held annually.
To ensure current administrative documents comply with all relevant legislation, regulations and policy.	Review Delegation of Authority (MSL 009/15) for <i>Emergency Management Act</i> .	
	Monitor all relevant legislation, regulations and policy to ensure currency/accurateness.	

Fire Chief's Report

2018 Call Numbers (Nov 1/17 to Oct 31/18)

Type	Number	% of total
Grassfires	68	30.6%
Equipment Fires	18	8.1%
Vehicle Fires	15	6.8%
Powerline Fires	12	5.4%
Structure Fires	10	4.5%
Hay Bale Fires	3	1.4%
Flare Stack Fires	1	0.05%
ALL FIRES (TOTALED)	127	57.2%
MVC	65	29.3%
Medical (MFR)	15	6.8%
False Alarm	7	3.2%
Livestock Response (Specialized Unit)	2	1.0%
Disaster Services	1	0.5%
Carbon Monoxide Alarm	1	0.5%
Stood Down	4	1.8%
TOTAL CALLS	222	

As you may recall, 2017 was our record year for grassfire call at 101 calls. This was compared to the prior years of 16 calls (2016), 64 calls (2015), and 32 calls (2014). 2017 was a record year for all calls as well, with 369 calls in total. The previous record for total calls was 190 calls (2015). On average over the last 11 years, we are seeing around 188 calls each year. 2018 continued to have above average number of calls. Fire departments responded to more grassfire calls along Highway 12 response areas this year which we don't typically see. This was likely a combination of factors including moisture (or lack thereof), industrial activity, and other environmental factors.

Some notable personnel changes happened in Consort and Youngstown over the last year. Craig Stillings (Consort Fire Chief) left the area, Corey Crann moved into this role from his

deputy position. Corey is relatively new to fire services, so this has meant a significant amount learning and training for him and the Consort department. In Youngstown, Dustin Dick (Fire Chief) stepped down, meaning Jason Fidley has stepped up to the Fire Chief role.

An orientation for all Special Areas Fire departments was completed this year which outlined role expectations related to conduct, training, safety, radio etiquette, patient confidentiality and some history of the area. This orientation allowed all volunteer firefighters in the Special Areas to hear the same message about what roles and expectations are. We have developed this into an ongoing program to ensure all new recruits also get the opportunity to complete this orientation.

Major projects were completed including the installation of a dry hydrant at the Homestead Dugout, allowing the department to fill by their hall – even in the winter. Communications projects included the Handhills tower getting wired in for a backup generator, with New Brigden anticipated for 2019. Cappon site has solar backup already in place. Our radio system is the backbone to our operations and works well for our responders. We also have access to the Highway 12 radio system which is used by our north departments in addition to our SA radio system.

This spring all fire radios were entered into the “Hilda Repeater” which provides coverage to the Bindloss area & into Cypress county. Several units in our public works fleet had Provincial Fire added as their code plugs have been delayed. This ensured SAB public works can communicate with fire in case of emergency. For the public works side, the remainder of code plugs required will be entered by early next year.

A number of our radio towers were inspected this past year, with some maintenance required. The Altario repeater is going to be moved to another site as the Penn West operations no longer maintains the current tower. Radio and paging still function well from the site, so a suitable cost-effective site to house this repeater / paging system will be decided in 2019. The Acadia Valley repeater should be setup to come online early 2019. On May 29th Special Areas 4 switched over to Red Deer 911 as the Public Service Answering Point & dispatch center. Currently, the only municipality remaining on Wainwright 911 is the Village of Consort. Although this is not ideal for our departments, we are managing the two dispatches on an ongoing basis.

Capital purchases included a new one-ton truck for Cereal fire, two tenders, and a pumper unit. The one-ton in Cereal replaced their 2000 model as parts are not readily available causing it to be out of service for extended lengths of time. The two tenders will be delivered in the next few weeks, replacing 1991 and 1994 units. The pumper unit is being built on the 2018 budget cycle, however delivery won't be till late January 2019.

Our relationship with CFB Suffield continues to be developed, with both sides working to complete some of the recommendations from the Board of Inquiry. The training of soldiers was completed, and will be ongoing as new recruits cycle in. Another positive note is, our fire departments were able to access the base for fire suppression throughout the year, a step in the right direction. The positive impact of our training with the soldiers was evident throughout these responses as well. CFB Chief Eric Schweitzer and Deputy Chief Doug James have been very cooperative and receptive as we have met up with them several times this year. Thanks to both gentlemen along with Lt Col. Michael Onieu in bridging this working relationship which will enhance public safety. **A very special thank you to Jeff Lewandowski for his relentless work over the years in establishing a working relationship with the Base.** We continue to work with the Base on water sources (bladders/cisterns) and fire guarding. The notification system is in place and has been tested. Some changes discussed on Oct 9th are needed in communicating fires to the Public and are taking place on the Base. They also are working on a Mutual Aid agreement with us as well

as changing radios so they can communicate with us. Their frequency was inputted into our radios back in spring.

Special Areas signed an agreement with Deerforks Municipality (SK) this fall and will be revisiting the Mutual Aid agreements this coming spring, including ones for Coronation and Castor. The Coronation Fire Chief was a good resource on several grass fires this past fall with his tridem water truck.

For 2018, regional training held one course (S-300), the basic firefighting course. We had 24 students with 2 from Coronation. This is first course to be done in the training tower which worked very well. We typically have two courses a year, so probably a course early in the year which can be done inside fire hall or now with training tower in place. The training tower building is completed externally, but props, stairs, internal work, and site preparation is ongoing. The next phase will be props procurement and installation of props. Three members of Cessford attended the Lethbridge Firefighter conference: Chad Williams, Wade Christianson & Robin Lacelle. They certainly enjoyed this training and I encourage others to attend if they have a chance.

Rob Palmer (Deputy SAB Fire Chief) and I attended the Alberta Fire Chief Association conference this past spring in Edmonton. While there, a number of Firefighters from Hanna including Murray Orr, Kelly Pedersen, Rhys Bevan, Brent Olesen and Rob Palmer (SA Deputy Chief); Paul Lijdsman (Fire Chief) from Oyen; and Darryl Tkach (Fire Chief) from Veteran all received Exemplary Metals. Stan Allison from Veteran was not at the ceremonies but was presented this medal at the Veteran Fire fundraiser by MLA Strankman. This certainly is quite an accomplishment as a minimum of 20 years is needed to qualify along with service above the normal expected duties of a firefighter.

The end of this year Special Areas hosted a series of Community Grassfire Information Sessions in Hanna, Oyen, Consort, Youngstown and Bindloss. These sessions were a direct response to the devastating fires last year which highlighted the need for fire prevention and response information for grassfires. Scott Vandermeer of VDM Fire Inc. was hired to prepare the information and other training materials and was on-hand to present this information to each of these communities. FireSmart materials were a major takeaway for many in how to mitigate and prepare for grassfires in our rural areas. Grass fires present a danger to our communities and to the welfare of our firefighters. We know we cannot stop grass fires from occurring but certainly with FireSmarting practices our community can be better positioned to limit fire damage by implementing these practical principals.

Moving into the next year, our goal is to begin to develop a prevalent culture of Fire Prevention throughout the Special Areas. We may be ahead of the curve on this but with recent fires in California & British Columbia, I'm certain insurance companies and local governments will be lobbying and campaigning to implement these proven strategies.

In closing, I would like to express a special "Thank you" to Special Areas for their support, to our Firefighters and families for their commitment and support as fire calls takes them away their family time, and to the employers of firefighters for granting them time to respond. Without the support of these key groups, firefighting would not be able to happen at the level we currently are providing.

Yours in Public Safety,
Glen Durand,
Special Area Fire Chief



1.6 PROTECTIVE SERVICES – ENFORCEMENT/COMMUNITY PEACE OFFICER PROGRAM
Current Status – Enforcement (CPO) Operations

The Special Areas has a joint service agreement with MD of Acadia for a Community Peace Officer (CPO). Additional enforcement activities for Special Areas Parks are being managed by the CPO/Parks Supervisor as required.

Outcome Statement

To protect municipal infrastructure through overload permitting and enforcement activities. Support the outcomes (quiet enjoyment, protection of fish resources, and safety of users) of the parks through enforcement of applicable policies and legislation.

Desired Outcome	Actions	Measurements/Standards
Protection of municipal infrastructure through overload permitting and enforcement.	Utilize a joint service agreement with the MD Acadia for Peace Officer.	
	Utilize a mutual aid agreement with the County of Paineearth for enforcement activities (CPO).	
	Monitor the effectiveness of provincial TRAVIS program.	100% of cost recovery.
	Develop and implement a succession plan for Peace Officers.	
	Support the outcomes (quiet enjoyment, protection of fish resource, and safety of users) of the Parks through enforcement of the applicable policies and legislation by conducting bi-annual surveys.	Positive feedback from user surveys.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES – ENFORCEMENT 2018 REPORT

Public safety and infrastructure protection continue to be the primary focus of Protective Services for the Special Areas.

Special Areas employs three Peace Officers: John Armstrong, Jamie Erickson, and Terry McMahon.

The MD of Acadia has opted to no longer have a Peace Officer for their municipality and has provided notice they were terminating the cost-sharing agreement with Special Areas. This agreement will no longer be active effective January 1, 2019.

Parks Enforcement

CPO Armstrong completes most enforcement activities in Special Areas municipal parks including: Prairie Oasis, Blood Indian, Carolside and other parks. A uniformed presence continues to have a positive effect on any behavior issues which occur. It is anticipated increased enforcement at Carolside will be needed as a result of the increased use of the area. The protection of municipal infrastructure, fish stocks, and public safety continue to be the focus of enforcement in the municipal parks.

Roads/Infrastructure Enforcement

2018 continued the trend of increased activity along the Highway 12 corridor from Highway 872 to the Saskatchewan border. Close to 300 wells were drilled within the Special Areas by a variety of companies including: Tamarack Acquisitions, Karve Energy, Rolling Hills Energy, High Ground, West Lake, High Pine, Traverse, and Baytex. Much of this activity was horizontal drilling, where multiple wells are drilled off a single pad. This activity added traffic to SAB roads meaning significant road monitoring requirements which were shared between

CPOs, Area Maintenance Foremen, and Operators. The use of high-quality water (instead of local sloughs and ponds) required 1000-barrel water storage tanks – often as many as 30 - being trucked onto the sites. This continued to put pressure on road infrastructure in areas of high activity; however, companies worked with us to effectively protect municipal infrastructure.

Roadata continued to manage road permits, contacting CPOs with issues related to permits. We work with Roadata on an ongoing basis to determine whether routing is meeting requirements and if loads and axle groups are consistent with other moves throughout the province.

Special Areas CPOs patrol throughout the Special Areas, including secondary highways. Significant increases in traffic volumes continued to be seen throughout our region, most notably on Highway 570. Our staged surfacing strategy created high quality surfaced roads throughout the region, and these routes are becoming primary inter-provincial travel routes. Enforcement activities in 2018 focused on many of these routes, with an emphasis on public education when possible. As of October 31, 2018, 161 warnings (55%) and 129 citations (45%) were issued for a variety of infractions. We continue to use statistical data gathered to focus our enforcement activities on priority routes, issues and areas. Information including peak travel days and times inform enforcement activities, often with shift schedules targeting these periods.

Regional Enforcement

CPOs have been working closely with other enforcement agencies this year, enhancing agency working relationships through joint force operations and regional initiatives. These operations have focused on regional priorities and resident complaints, including Commercial Vehicle Regulations, speeding concerns, and passenger traffic. Work with other internal departments was completed as required for enforcement activities related to road damage, native prairie, well site and construction access, and noxious weeds.

Alberta Justice and Solicitor General Audit

As a part of Alberta Justice and Solicitor General's regular audit process, Public Security Division completed an audit of the Special Areas Board enforcement services in July. The audit generated one recommendation – an updated Traffic Safety Plan - which has been completed. An outcome from this audit was the streamlining of our administrative processes and reporting, with standardized processes being put in place for all CPOs. Additional work on safe work practices, standard operating procedures, and policies will continue into 2019.

Respectfully Submitted,

Owen Francis, Director
Municipal Services

1.7 PARKS

Current Status

Major Park Developments include:

- Blood Indian Park – 37 serviced sites plus 300 random camping sites.
- Prairie Oasis Park – 101 serviced sites.

Minor Park Developments include:

- Carolside Campground - situated on a waterbody (significant natural fishery), is suitable for water based recreational activities (water skiing, personal watercraft use). There is an elevated degree of maintenance and supervision. Overnight camping permitted, with \$15/unit/night fee in place for 2018 season.
- Cactus Corner Rest Area – One-night camping permitted and day use area
- (South) River Parks – adjacent to the Red Deer River, have community function usage (weddings, reunions etc.) as well as heavy nonlocal hunter usage. Overnight camping is supported and encouraged in these areas. Includes Bindloss, Buffalo and Jenner parks.
- (North) Rest Areas - generally not used for extended overnight camping; predominantly day use. Include Hemaruka, Sedalia and Esther parks.
- Partnership Parks – some level of infrastructure and/or operational support is provided by the Special Areas.
 - Dorothy - SAB provides toilet facilities and supplies, the community provides management and maintenance of the park.
 - Fox Lake – SAB provides road infrastructure maintenance.
 - Gooseberry Park (Eccles Spray Park) - SAB leases 0.4 hectares from Alberta Tourism, Parks and Recreation. Eccles Spray Park and the shower/washroom facility is owned and maintained by SAB on this lease area. A water storage building is maintained off the lease site adjacent to the Provincial Parks water treatment facility is also maintained on-site to ensure adequate water supplies for the SAB facilities.

Park infrastructure ranges from current to 50 years old and some areas and infrastructure require upgrading or replacement. Refer to Park Capital Plan in Appendix D.

Current operating cost recovery for the major parks is approximately 65%.

Outcome Statement

To maintain a major park in each Special Area which meets local recreational needs while encouraging tourism. Ensure required infrastructure is developed and maintained to have service standards at current levels.

User fees will continue to cover approximately 65% of major park operating costs.

Enhance and support sport fishing opportunities at Blood Indian Park and Carolside Reservoir.

Desired Outcome	Actions	Measurements/Standards
To maintain a major park in each Special Area which meets local recreational needs while encouraging tourism. Ensure required infrastructure is developed and maintained to have service standards at current levels.	Blend contract and in-house provision of services to ensure best use of resources.	Overnight rates are competitive with industry standards.
	Assess maintenance standards and operational budget to ensure service standards and capital planning requirements are being met.	User satisfaction measured through user surveys. Capital plan projects completed as per capital plan (Business Plan 2017 Appendix D)
Parks in the Special Areas contribute to a family oriented, intergenerational quality of life, landscape appreciation and outdoor experience. Integrating the social, economic and environmental sustainability needs of the Special Areas community.	Support community development through locally driven recreational facilities and programs.	Park facilities are affordable and accessible to locals. No day use fees.
	Adjust enforcement focus commensurate with increased park usage.	Park users' satisfaction on quiet time enforcement and boater safety education.
Better and more equitable allocation of serviced sites at Blood Indian Park; an on-line	Perform needs assessment for implementing a reservation system for Blood Indian Park.	

reservation system implemented for Blood Indian Park if required.		
Enhance sport fishing opportunities and serviced sites at Blood Indian Park,	Negotiate with AEP to introduce a secondary species at Blood Indian Reservoir and implement controls for invasive Prussian Carp.	
	Work with AEP to ensure fish stocking program at Blood Indian Reservoir is meeting user needs.	
The fishery be re-established at Carolside Reservoir.	Coordinate with AEP to re-establish a fishery at Carolside Reservoir.	

Parks Report

Blood Indian Park

- Parks staff hosted a group of local and exchange 4H students in July for a day of community service and planted a variety of trees, stained the camp kitchen, assembled and installed the new docks and they purchased and placed a commemorative firepit in the park
- Surveyed out and maintained a footpath along east side of reservoir that allows loop access of the campground without going onto the highway
- Completed yearly dust abatement program
- Completed north playground - very unique
- Completed final purchase and build of new picnic tables
- Continued with mulching and tree planting program
- Continued with shoreline erosion control
- Completed concrete floor in cold storage shop
- Did not complete upgrade of dock pilings as this project was tied to permitting of piling install at Carolside which has not yet been granted
- Reservoir was recipient of numerous large trout (Brooks, Browns & Tigers)

Prairie Oasis Park

- Purchased Marina Fueling System (operational 2019)
- Purchased Traffic Calming Sign (operational 2019)
- Purchased and placed pea gravel and additional playground structure for North Forty
- Good start on Handicap washroom (operational 2019)
- Continued with mulching and tree planting program
- Completed final purchase and build of new picnic tables
- Customer service and satisfaction is time consuming

Carolside Campground

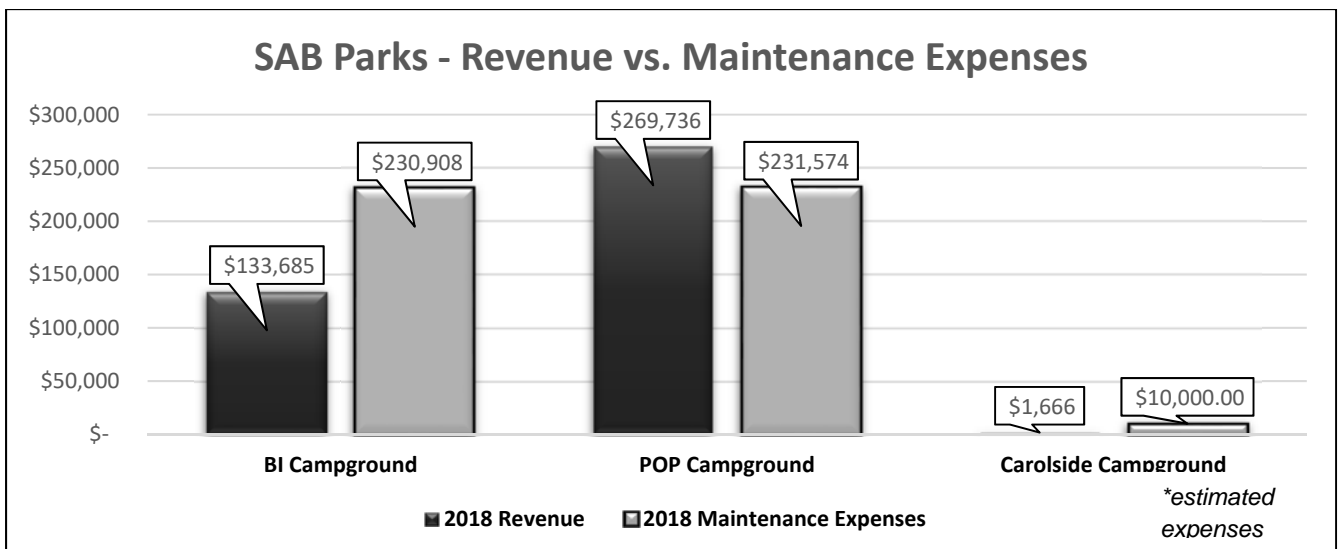
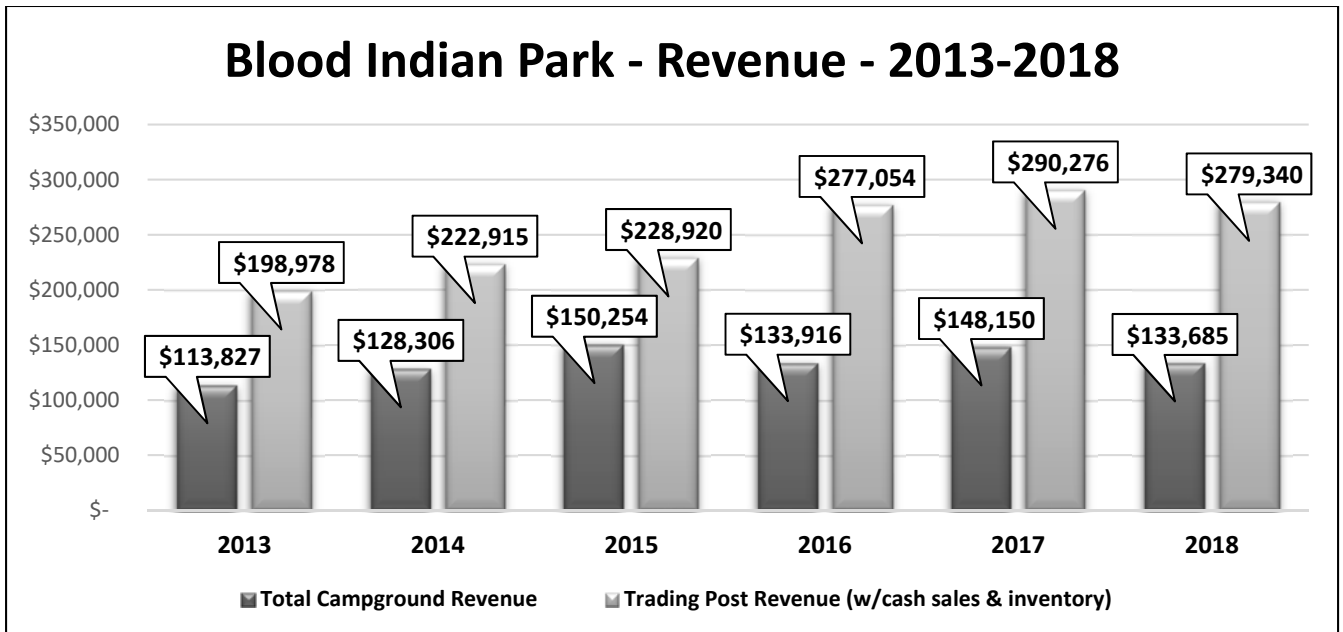
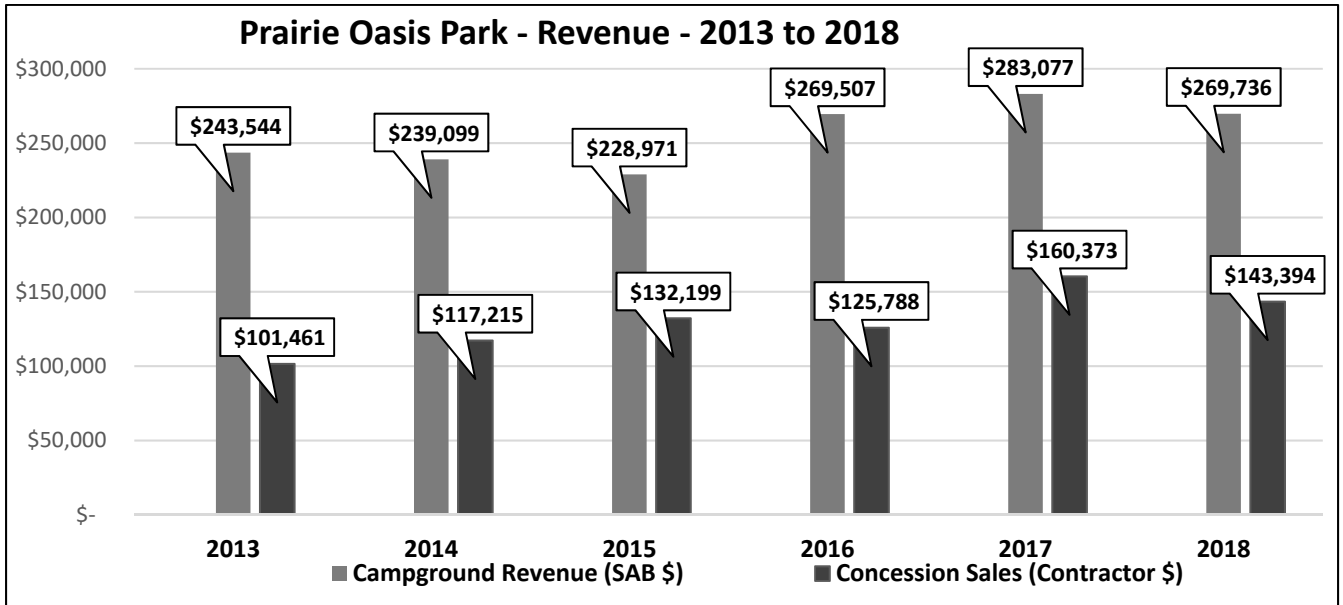
- Installed self-registration booth & signage for overnight camping fee
- Completed upgrade to new washrooms and constructed trailer dump
- Purchased material to upgrade gazebo with walls to the north
- New firepits and graveled campsites
- Purchased docks and will install this winter on ice after receiving permit to install pilings
- Completed Rest Area - family handicap accessible washroom, picnic table, garbage bin & gravel turnaround (approached Alberta Transportation for signage)

Parks General

- Veteran's memorial entry gate at Cactus Corner on schedule to complete before year-end
- Hamlets, water stations, grader sheds, outlying campgrounds and waste sites were kept mowed and trimmed
- Contracted with Alberta Environment & Parks for maintenance of Spray Park and shower building at Gooseberry

Respectfully Submitted,
CPO John Armstrong
Parks Supervisor

	Prairie Oasis Concession (Non SAB - Contractor)		Blood Indian Trading Post	
Year	Total Cash Sales	Total Inventory/ Labour Costs	Total Cash Sales	Total Inventory/ Labour Costs
2013	\$ 101,461.40	\$ 76,139.33	\$ 198,691.14	\$ 226,613.52
2014	\$ 117,214.65	\$ 92,718.65	\$ 222,915.15	\$ 212,066.88
2015	\$ 132,198.90	\$ 124,001.91	\$ 228,919.58	\$ 226,209.69
2016	\$ 125,787.96	\$ 121,214.61	\$ 226,847.74	\$ 227,186.30
2017	\$ 160,373.19	\$ 147,418.79	\$ 225,490.78	\$ 238,066.42
2018	\$ 143,393.92	\$ 145,123.97	\$ 218,644.10	\$ 238,871.35



1.8 YOUNGSTOWN SERVICE CENTRE

Current Status

A well-established capital equipment replacement plan and preventative maintenance schedule are in place. The current shop rate is \$124.00/hr (as compared to industry rate of \$173.00/hr)

Outcome Statement

Customer service-oriented provision of equipment repair and fleet management support services to all Special Areas departments and staff. Ensure equipment has a high utilization rate and the shop is responsive so equipment is ready for use when required. Well maintained equipment, with all safety standards met. Shop rate and service level is more competitive than private industry.

7 heavy duty mechanics with 2 apprentices, 3 automotive mechanics, 3 welders, and 2 parts person roles are staffed.

Updated diagnostic technology software for shop mechanics is used to reduce frequency and cost of external work orders. Effective preventative maintenance planning is used to achieve maximum work flow through improved work scheduling, follow up and reporting.

Desired Outcome	Actions	Measurements/Standards
Customer service-oriented provision of equipment repair and fleet management support.	Analyze current work processes and procedures to ensure customer satisfaction.	
Well maintained equipment with all safety standards met.	Design a detailed equipment maintenance plan.	Equipment is maintained to meet manufacturers' service and safety standards.
Shop rate and service level more competitive than comparable private industry.	Ensure adequate staffing rates, retention rates, and training program/course completion rates.	Shop Rate is below industry rate.
Maximize workflow through shop for preventative maintenance work.	Improve work scheduling, follow up and reporting to ensure optimum work planning.	Seasonal workload requirement planning is completed quarterly.
	Implement updated diagnostic technology/ software for mechanics to use.	Reduction in frequency/cost of external work orders.
	Capture and assess equipment repair history.	Repairs are within projected rate for each equipment class.
	Substantially increase training (air conditioning, pro heat systems, diagnostic equipment)	100% of technicians have completed training.
	Recruit and train technicians using apprenticeship as an option (commitment agreements key).	65% retention rate for apprentices (annual).

1.9 WASTE MANAGEMENT

Current Status

Youngstown Regional Landfill is a Class II Landfill with more than 10,000 tonnes per year of waste. Hazardous waste is disposed of in a Hydrocarbon Contaminated Soil Treatment Facility. The Special Areas supplies the Operations Manager and administrative support for Big Country Waste Management Commission (BCWMC) at no cost to the Commission.

Outcome Statement

BCWMC operates independently from the Special Areas with no management or administrative functions provided to the Commission. Waste management services are affordable for municipalities through lower requisition rates. A recycling program which meets the needs of ratepayers and communities is in place for the Special Areas.

Desired Outcome	Actions	Measurements/Standards
BCWMC is an independent operation from SAB.	Provide services through a Regional Services Commission.	
Develop waste management services to be more affordable for municipalities by reducing requisition rates.	Complete landfill expansion process and importing of waste as a revenue stream.	Landfill expansion and approval is completed.
	Monitor the funding model for BCWMC with respect to a percentage of assessment ceilings for smaller members.	

Big Country Waste Management Commission Report

Youngstown Regional Class II Landfill including a Waste Treatment and Storage Facility (Approval No. 307766-00-00)

5,113,000 acres (8000 square miles), approximately 10,208 population. One Regional Landfill to which all waste is hauled from 28 Transfer Station Sites. Involves nine-member municipalities: The Special Areas, Hanna, Youngstown, Cereal, Oyen, Empress, Veteran, Consort, and MD of Acadia.

Member Municipalities and Representatives:

Kevin Bossert	Special Areas 2 Representative
Kevin Wilson	Special Areas 3 Representative
Graham Schetzle	Special Areas 4 Representative
Robert Blagen	Youngstown Representative
Gerald Campion	Hanna Representative
James Walker	Oyen Representative
Crystal Anderson	Cereal Representative
Roy Gill	Empress Representative
Jerry Wipf	Veteran Representative
Michael Beier	Consort Representative
Aaron Skappak	MD of Acadia Representative

Executive of Big Country Waste Management Commission:

Chairman - Gerald Campion	Vice-Chairman - Robert Blagen
Secretary/Treasurer – Kevin Wilson	Member-At-Large – Kevin Bossert

Financial:

- Revenue derived in 2018 by requisitioning member municipalities at a 45% per capita and 55% assessment basis as well as tipping fees on non-household, non-local waste.
- Total annual budget of approximately \$2 million in 2018.
- Grants from Alberta Environment were received for initial construction.
 - o \$1,867,200.00 Construction Grant from Alberta Environment
 - o \$ 225,360.00 Construction Shortfall Grant from Alberta Environment
 - o \$ 24,000.00 Chemical Storage Sites
 - o \$ 64,900.00 2nd Waste Trailer
 - o \$ 92,700.00 Upgrade of Oyen Transfer Station
 - o \$ 85,000.00 Construction - Handhills Transfer Station
 - o \$ 17,988.00 Tire Marshalling Grant Hanna – ARMA 2013
 - o \$ 200,000.00 Compactor - Alberta Community Partnership Grant 2016
 - o \$ 21,250.00 Tire Marshalling Grant Oyen – ARMA 2017

Equipment & Vehicles:

- 1 2013 MAC Tri Axle Trailer (Unit 9012)
- 1 2011 Mac Tri Axle Trailer (Unit 9010)
- 2 2012 Kenworth W900 (Units 9123 & 9124)
- 1 2004 Ford F450 c/w Compactor (Unit T-413)
- 1 2002 Ford 1 Ton with Portable Welder – Miller Big Blue 251D (Unit T-214)
- 3 Bobcats S185 – 2 X 2011 (Units 9011 & 9111) & 2003 (Unit 304)
- 1 2007 JD Model 624J Loader (Unit 962)
- 1 Toyota Forklift (Recycle – Unit F-08)
- 1 Dur-Bilt Tite Wad 72” Baler – Hanna Transfer Station & Recycling Centre (Baler 1)
- 1 Harmony Baler – Hanna Transfer Station & Recycling Centre (Unit Baler 2)
- 1 2013 966K Wheel Loader (Unit 966K-13)
- 1 2013 973D Track Loader (Unit 973D-13)
- 1 2016 Chev Silverado LT (Unit T1 – Operations Manager)
- 1 2011 Ram 1500 Quad (Unit T2 - Foreman)
- 1 2010 Aljon Advantage 600 Compactor (Unit Aljon-10)
- 1 2008 Yamaha Rhino 450 (Unit Marie)
-

Employees:

Six full-time salary employees - one landfill operations manager, one landfill foreman/equipment operator, two truck drivers, one admin/maintenance employee, one recycling attendant.

Two full-time wage employees – recycling & transfer station attendant.

One full-time wage employee - general laborer/equipment operator.

One part-time wage employee - landfill attendant.

Contracts:

15 transfer station attendants.

Administrative support supplied by Special Areas.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Darlene Herzog

1.10 WATER SERVICES

Current Status

The Special Areas provides treated potable water to 40 sites including hamlets and truck fills. Testing is performed to meet drinking water standards which are reported to and monitored by AEP. Feasibility studies for four potential rural pipelines have been completed. Any work related to these would require grant funding which is currently not available. Remote monitoring and control systems are present in 19% (5/27) hamlets Jenner, Monitor, Cessford, Wardlow, Pollockville, Empress, Youngstown, Cereal and Hanna East.

There are 40 water plants in Special Areas: 1 requires daily site inspections (falls under the Code of Practice for High Quality Groundwater), 5 require five days/week site inspections, 26 require 2-3 days/week site inspections and 8 require weekly site inspections. There are 12 water treatment/distribution systems, 19 are water distribution systems, 8 are potable drinking water truck fills, and 7 are non-potable water truck fills. There are 3 regional water lines (Hanna East, Sunnynook-Wardlow, and Loyalist-Monitor). Refer to Appendix G for a map of the water stations.

Operational costs for water stations and associated costs range from \$3.84/m³ to \$55.32m³ with an average of \$14.30m³.

Special Areas operates three sewage collection and treatment systems. (Youngstown, Cessford, and Altario).

Remote monitoring and control systems are present in 19% (5/27) of hamlets (*Jenner, Cessford, Wardlow, Pollockville and Empress*)

Outcome Statement

Special Areas supplies water to residents which meets the Canadian Drinking Water Standards. Water rates are reviewed every four years, and operational cost-recovery rates are compiled annually. The planned treated waterline extension(s) from Shirley McLellan Regional Water Services Commission (SMRWSC) and Henry Kroeger Regional Water Service Commission (HKRWSC) have been completed with available grant funding. Potable water (truck fills, etc.) is located at appropriate intervals throughout Special Areas.

Distribution systems are standardized with pipe quality, line location, and curb stop locations according to hamlet distribution system improvement plan. Rural distribution systems are developed where feasible.

Remote monitoring and control systems are present in hamlets if it is determined to be cost effective. The mapping of water system infrastructure is completed with a current inventory.

Desired Outcome	Actions	Measurements/Standards
Have a consistent level of service for all residents/ ratepayers which is cost effective and meets AEP and Canadian Drinking Water standards.	Complete and maintain an accurate inventory of water infrastructure and facilities through mapping.	30% of inventory is completed. 30% of mapping is completed.
	Establish consistent billing.	Billing and reporting procedures are consistent in district offices.
	Evaluate and adjust potable water rates annually.	
	Boil Water Advisories and Orders are being complied with and reported effectively.	

Water Technical Services Report

The water services department continues to focus on delivering current projects while streamlining operations to capture cost efficiencies.

Staffing Update

The water services department has six (6) certified operators including: Wyatt Girletz, Dale Rolheiser, Ken Lenfesty, Levi Westerlund, Janice Berg and Mike Kern. Both Levi Westerlund and Mike Kern passed the Level 1 Water Operators Certificate. Mike Kern plans on writing his Level 1 Water Distribution and Waste Water Collection in 2019.

Our certified operators continue to fulfill AEP's continuing education requirements, allowing them to respond quickly and safely to water/waste water issues. There has been a large volume of projects in 2018, both planned and unexpected. Due to the preventative maintenance program in place, and as a result of our operators' excellent performance, all issues were resolved in a timely and safe manner. We have continued to supply safe drinking water and have enjoyed providing services for the Special Areas.

Special Areas continues to provide relief operating support for the Town of Oyen, Village of Cereal and the Village of Empress. Our certified operators fill in and operate these systems as needed.

A major project completed in 2018 was the deregistration of the Highway 9 waterline. This route ran from SDS truck fill to Oyen Co-op, requiring operator checks 5 days a week. A request to AEP allowed the deregistering of this line, reducing site visits from 5 to 2/3 days a week. This has reduced operating costs. Other projects completed in 2018 included: amendments to water licences, updates to SOP's and procedures, updates to safety manual, inspections of water line from Highway 9 to Wardlow, and inspections the Hanna East water line. Investigations on deep water wells located throughout the Special Areas has continued, with information gathered to allow for next steps with AER. Monthly electronic submissions were updated, with a well usage database created for use with WURS (Well Usage Reporting System).

Respectfully submitted,

Wyatt Girletz,
Technical Services Supervisor

SPECIAL AREA NO. 2

Hamlet of Scapa:

- Installed pump to circulate water, more consistent chlorine reads and less water usage when testing. Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory.

Hanna East:

- Several meter vaults repaired/replaced due to fittings used in the past degrading. A meter vault/ fitting replacement program implemented to proactively address issues, with data and mapping of updates being captured. Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory.

Stanmore/ Scotfield/ BCWM:

- Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory. No operational issues.

Hamlet of Richdale:

- An unmetered hydrant installed years ago was locked resolving the ongoing water loss issue. Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory.

570 Truck Fill:

- Tank clean completed. Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory.

Hamlet of Dorothy:

- Cleaned tank. Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory.

Hamlet of Sunnynook:

- Sealing work around PRV vault north of water plant completed. Calibrate analyzer. Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory.

Hamlet of Cessford:

- AEP annual inspection completed on November 8th. Analyzer was calibrated, with Troy Life and Fire Safety performing annual maintenance on fire pump. A new walk-in door on plant was installed, and a distribution pump was replaced.
- All raw hydrants within the hamlet were locked and repairs on the Bartman dam line were completed. At the end of the season, the line was pigged and cleaned out, with all lines blown out to prevent freezing. A new pump and dock are being looked at for 2019.
- Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory.

Hamlet of Pollockville:

- Sewer line to septic tank repaired and analyzer was calibrated. Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory.

Hamlet of Wardlow:

- New truck fill work being completed, with SCADA transfer taking place once ATCO finishes (November 23rd). Calibrate analyzers. Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory.

Hamlet of Iddesleigh:

- Cleaned tank and installed new flush hydrant to eliminate the manganese buildup in the water line. Flushing of the existing hydrants improved the water flow but water still not as clear as hoped. An airlift of the well and a new tank install will be taking place in 2019. Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory.

Hamlet of Jenner:

- Working with MPE and AEP to upgrade the water plant and amend our Approval to reduce site visits to 3-4 days a week. Pronghorn/MPE installed new raw turbidity analyzer on raw water line, installed new treated water temperature probe, and new contact time calculation (computer generated). Facility operations binder and emergency procedures were also updated.
- Notice of Application was sent out to all residents and businesses in October, with next steps awaiting AEP review.
- Water plant sewer repair and curb stop repairs completed. Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory. AEP annual Inspection completed on November 15.

Social Plains Truck Fill:

- No operational issues.

Homestead Coulee:

- Dry hydrant installed for easier fire dept. access (and year-round water filling).

Hamlet of Bindloss:

- Tank was cleaned, and chlorine pump upgraded. Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory.

Hamlet of Buffalo:

- Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory. No operational issues.

Buffalo Truck Fill:

- Cleaned tanks. No operational issues.

SDS (Watts Truck fill):

- Re-circ line was installed enabling more consistent chlorine in the cistern.
- New sample point was installed for better access and to avoid shutting valves.
- Coin box was replaced. No operational issues. Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory.

Remount Community Pasture:

- Well shocked and tank cleaned end of November.

Burnatt Truck Fill:

- Cleaned tanks. No operational issues.

SPECIAL AREA NO. 3

Hamlet of New Brigden:

- Tank clean completed, chlorine pump replaced, and new circulation line installed. Unused well at school grounds was reclaimed. Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory.

Hamlet of Sedalia:

- Hauling water program in place for Sedalia, with x2 per week (summer) and x1 per 10 days (winter). This has significantly reduced operator time and operating costs. Water plant was broken into twice, with both incidents reported to RCMP.

Village of Youngstown:

- High chlorine was delivered to the reservoir in Youngstown due to a liner break at the Henry Kroeger tower East of Hanna. As soon as the high chlorine was discovered, it was reported to AEP. Isolation of the reservoir and flushing of the distribution line was undertaken until a suitable chlorine residual was reached. This issue was found very quickly due to our operators working together after the high chlorine was discovered. The issue was resolved before a large amount of high chlorinated water was able to enter the system.
- Heat went out in the waste water lift station. A pump was damaged, and replaced, with measures in place to avoid this issue from reoccurring.
- A water break occurred in the yard at the Youngstown SAB shop, with repairs completed. Mapping information for the line has now been collected, along with an additional valve installed. The annual inspection with AEP took place November 7th. Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory.

Hamlet of Chinook:

- New truck fill meter and plant distribution meter were installed to assist with water meter balancing.
- Replumbing work for the building was completed, with all valves mapped. The flush hydrant was repaired. Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory.

Hamlet of Excel:

- Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory. No operational issues.

Hamlet of Lanfine:

- A new truck fill meter, refurbished pump, and lines were installed. Tank was cleaned. Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory.

Oyen Co-op Distribution Line:

- AEP annual inspection was passed. This inspection confirmed SAB was operators in charge as SAB operators were completing the testing work. SAB will continue to work to ensure all testing and work is to standard for this line. HKRWC had to shut the line off to repair a major break, with AEP contacted due to a non-compliance resulting from line pressure loss. Extensive flushing was completed, suitable chlorine residual was reached, and samples were taken before returning the water to the consumers. Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory.

Oyen West Distribution:

- Bac-t samples taken monthly and have been satisfactory. No operational issues.

Oyen Special Areas Shop:

- Bathroom was updated and tank for spray tank filling installed. Repairs to valve in cistern were completed.

Hamlet of Sibbald:

- Tank clean was completed, new service and curb stop was installed to shop. Filtration options continue to be investigated. A new meter vault installed at camp site. Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory.
- Water break at a residence was discovered resulting in curb stop being shot off. The cistern in plant was drained as a result, requiring flushing and isolation due to high chlorine and colored water. After flushing, system returned to normal operating procedures.

Sibbald Truck fill:

- McAllister Drilling air lifted and acidized the well pump and casing, improving outputs from 2 GPM to 60 GPM. This will become part of the preventative maintenance program as it removed hardened manganese and debris around the pump. A truck fill building is planned in 2019.

Big Stone:

- Higher chlorine is being run in the water supply, decreasing turbidity. PRV and valve on supply line were replaced. Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory.

Sounding Creek Community Pasture:

- A new UV system - including a water softener – was installed. Bac-t samples taken monthly and have been satisfactory since system was installed.

SPECIAL AREA NO. 4

Hamlet of Altario:

- In June an alarm light indicated significant water loss. Inspection of the school showed a missing compression fitting. The school was saved significant repair costs as a direct result of our system infrastructure knowledge, service and specialized training.
- In August a line repair was needed on the water main. October required the jetting of sewer lines and repairs from line collapses. A sewer flushing program is now in place to prevent similar issues in the future. A tank clean was completed on all 6 tanks. Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory.

Hamlet of Compeer:

- A load sharing device was installed to alternate pumps so if one fails the other pump will continue to run, decreasing the chance of the hamlet going without water. Tank clean was completed. Installed curb stop on sites with no curb stops. Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory.

Hamlet of Kirriemuir:

- No operational issues. Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory.

Hamlet of Monitor:

- One of the highest volumes for truck fill use. Annual calibration of analyzers, and calibration of flow meters. AEP annual inspection completed March 1. Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory.

Hamlet of Loyalist:

- High use truck fills. A valve on the main line was installed to isolate parts of distribution system for future development. Bac-t samples taken weekly and have been satisfactory.

2. PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION

2.1 PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT – AGRICULTURAL USES

Current Status

Special Areas administers approximately 2.5 million acres of agricultural lease land, maintaining native prairie habitat.

Composition of public lands in the Special Areas is:

- Grazing Leases - 83%
- Cultivation Leases – 11%
- Vacant Land – 6%

Outcome Statement

Administer approximately 2.5 million acres of agricultural lease land, maintaining native prairie habitat, with an added emphasis on facilitating options within Special Areas existing policies for items such as; sublets, re-grassing, conversion to cultivation lease, and conversion of abandoned farm lands into improved pasture.

Land is managed to ensure healthy range conditions and sustainable land stewardship standards are being maintained, with a focus on ensuring rates are current and reflective of market realities.

Desired Outcomes	Actions	Measurements / Standards
Grazing Leases are in healthy range condition.	All grazing leases inspected on a 20 year schedule, prior to expiry. Compile inventory of leases in healthy, healthy w/ problems, and unhealthy condition.	100% leases inspected every 20 years. (approx. 125,000 acres/yr) Follow up inspections of unhealthy range condition every 3-5 years. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • >75 % in healthy • <20 % in healthy with problems • <5 % in unhealthy
Lease holders able to utilize options as set out under SAB policies.	Co-ordinate with leaseholders who are interested in alternative uses of leases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-grassing • Sublets • Conversion of Lease 	Time frames to complete applications are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 week • 4 weeks • Preparation & application to the Board – 5 weeks • Registration of Conversion– 3 weeks
Ensure undisturbed native prairie remains intact.	Not allowing cultivation of undisturbed native prairie on lease land.	100% policy enforcement of unauthorized cultivation on grazing lease.
	Review restrictive agreements on TRLS to ensure compliance on a five-year rotation.	
Rental rates are relevant to the present agricultural situation.	Review lease rental rates.	Review of Grazing Lease Rates annually. Review of Cultivation Lease Rates annually.
Develop phase 4 of a Tax Recovery Land Sale (TRLs) policy.	As per council/board recommendation.	
Maintain the grassland vegetation inventory (GVI).	Compile vegetation data from grazing lease inspections and establish benchmarks.	
Ensure compliance with Special Areas Disposition Regulation and relevant Special Areas policies.	Undertake yearly inspections of non-compliance issues. Work with lessee to bring issues into compliance.	100% leases in compliance with Special Areas Disposition Regulation and policies.

		100% of non-compliance issues to be rectified within 3-5 year time frame.
Special Areas Disposition Regulations are current.	Undertake a Regulatory review. Revisit regulations every 5 years.	Expires October 31, 2019
Special Areas Service Fee Regulation is current.	Undertake a review of all rates within Special Areas on a five year schedule.	Expiry date was removed by OC 166/2018.

Special Areas Tax Recovery Land Sale

	As of Dec 31, 2017	As of Dec 31, 2018
2004 Sale Total Agreements in Place to Date	946	951
New Agreements Initiated During Year	40	5
Acres Sold this Year	7,004.63	1,234.05
2004 Sale Total Acres Sold to Date (2004 - 2017)	244,446.06	245,680.11
Agreements Paid Out & Transferred to Date	887	900

Agreements For Sale in Arrears:

***All Arrears Includes Penalty Interest*

	As of Dec 31, 2017	As of Dec 31, 2018
Area	Number	Number
SA #2	4	0
SA #3	6	2
SA #4	2	1
TOTALS	12	3

	As of Dec 31, 2017	As of Dec 31, 2018
Time	Amount	Amount
< 1 Year	31,608.21	9,926.36
1 Year	6,189.30	6,442.59
2 Years	3,616.79	1,773.07
> 2 Years	0.00	0.00
TOTALS	\$41,414.30	\$18,142.02

NOTE:

⇒ Acres Offered Under 2004 Sale:
435,000 (More or Less)

Respectfully Submitted: Brenda Schnurer

2.2 PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT - INDUSTRIAL USES

Current Status

Special Areas administers approximately 2.5 million acres of agricultural lease land, with regards to oil and gas, mining, wind power, power lines, seismic, and other industrial activities.

The number of industrial leases in the Special Areas are:

- Easements – 1,487 (Active 1,449, Inactive 38)
- License of Occupation – 76 (Active 75, Inactive 17)
- Rights of Entry – 728 (Active 348, Inactive 380)
- Pipeline – 8,757 (Active 7905, Inactive 852)
- Pipeline Applications - 549 (Active 135, Inactive 414)
- Mineral Surface Leases (MSL) – 15,831 (Active 10,471, Inactive 5,360)

Outcome Statement

Administer approximately 2.5 million acres of agricultural lease land, with regard to oil and gas, mining, power lines, seismic, etc., with an added emphasis on reclamation compliance.

Desired Outcomes	Actions	Measurements / Standards
Reclamation on oil & gas development's since 1992 are in compliance.	Yearly program in place to inspect and ensure new reclamation applications are in compliance. Issue complaints to Alberta Energy Regulator and operating companies for reclamation applications not in compliance.	100% compliance as per Special Areas policy.
Developments comply with Minimal Disturbance Policy (#06-05) on native range.	Monitoring program in place to ensure Minimum Disturbance Policy is being adhered to.	100% compliance with Minimal Disturbance Policy on native prairie.
Ensure new MSL's have the appropriate operational conditions.	Inspect all sites under MSL applications; authorize with appropriate operational conditions.	100% inspection of new MSL's.
Ensure non-compliance issues are dealt with.	Follow-up with non-compliant operators and if necessary file complaints.	100% resolution of non-compliant issues.
Timely response to new MSL applications.	Set procedure on turnaround of applications.	10 working days.
Appropriate rental rates for MSL/LOC in place.	Review rental rates and proceed to make the necessary adjustments.	
Proper reclamation of gravel pits.	Create a procedure and a program which ensures proper reclamation of gravel pits.	AEP standards.

Mineral Surface Leases (M.S.L.'s), Right of Entries (R.O.E.'s) and License of Occupations (L.O.C.'s). As of December 31, 2018

Active Oil & Gas Leases:

Easements	1,471
License of Occupation	75
Mineral Surface Lease	10,213
Right of Entry	347

Pending:

Mineral Surface Lease	1
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Total	<u>12,107</u>
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Inactive Oil & Gas Leases:

Easements	38
License of Occupation	17
Mineral Surface Lease	5,654
Right of Entry	382

Total	<u>6,091</u>
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Pipeline Agreements/Applications:

Pipeline Agreement	8,810
Pipeline Applications	601

Total	<u>9,411</u>
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Pipeline Agreements	-	Inactive	-	882	
		-	Active	-	7,919
		-	Abandonment	-	7
Pipeline Applications					
		-	Inactive	-	434
		-	Pending	-	167

MSL, PLA, ROE, LOC and EASEMENT REVENUE

January 01, 2018 to December 31, 2018

	<u>December 31st, 2017</u>	<u>December 31st, 2018</u>
Mineral Surface Lease Applications Received	63	36
Mineral Surface Lease Revenue	\$ 3,307,052.51	\$ 3,248,214.11
Pipe Line Application Revenue	\$ 74,820.50	\$ 40,018.50
Rights of Entry Revenue	\$ 94,903.50	\$ 94,903.50
License of Occupation Revenue	\$ 67,034.00	\$ 67,034.00
Easement Revenue	\$ 140,656.75	\$ 212,790.23
	<u>\$ 3,684,467.26</u>	<u>\$ 3,662,960.34</u>

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL REPORTS

2017

-----December 31, 2018-----

<u>APPLICATIONS</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>HANNA</u>	<u>OYEN</u>	<u>CONSORT</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
Received	47	13	18	15	46
Approved	46	13	18	15	46
Appealed	0		1	0	1
Estimated Development Costs	\$247,454,332	\$36,949,500	\$592,479,509	\$49,393,000	\$ 678,822,009

Brett Richards, Administrator, Hanna
 Darran Dick, Administrator, Oyen
 Corinne Kelts, Administrator, Consort



Acreage by Land Use Classification, as of December 2018

	SA #2	SA #3	SA #4	TOTAL
PRIVATE LAND				
Private Patented	1,084,863.08	823,076.62	664,483.47	2,572,423.17
PUBLIC LAND				
Crown	774,542.72	491,177.40	303,737.22	1,569,457.34
Tax Recovery	480,927.16	322,255.02	130,684.28	933,866.46
Departmental Patented	3,274.62	355.03	855.42	4,485.07
TOTAL Public Land	1,258,744.50	813,787.45	435,276.92	2,507,808.87
TOTAL ALL Land	2,343,607.58	1,636,864.07	1,099,760.39	5,080,232.04

CLASSIFICATIONS

	Community Pasture	129,356.94	43,174.85		172,531.79
	Cultivation Lease	7,185.35	40,990.36	13,412.44	61,588.15
	Cultivation Permit	140.37	23.57		163.94
Disposition	Grazing Lease	1,038,781.45	690,597.10	370,598.55	2,099,977.10
	Grazing Permit	5,846.20	347.93	11,975.79	18,169.92
	Miscellaneous Lease	5,481.53	363.49	123.62	5,968.64
	Water Body	23,046.67	6,958.97	12,959.65	42,965.29
	River Accrued Area	820.45	38.69		859.14
Private	Tax Recovery AFS	9,550.52	14,029.61	8,898.19	32,478.32
	Titled / AFS Paid	1,098,839.94	837,553.55	677,613.73	2,614,007.22
	Exceptions	24,558.16	2,785.95	4178.42	31,522.53
	[e.g. crown vacant, road plans, railway, etc.]				
TOTAL		2,343,607.58	1,636,864.07	1,099,760.39	5,080,232.04

2.3 PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT - ENVIRONMENTAL
Current Status

Administer approximately 2.5 million acres of public land, with policies in place to protect native prairie habitat.

Outcome Statement

Administer approximately 2.5 million acres of public land, with policies in place to protect native prairie habitat, while protecting key wildlife habitat and managing to multiple uses.

Desired Outcomes	Actions	Measurements/Standards
Maintain and protect key wildlife habitat.	Generate a list of all key areas. Ensure developers & ratepayers are aware of all restricted areas. Monitor development bordering restricted areas.	Monitor all areas for 100% compliance of policies and procedures.
Special Areas is communicating with other government and other non-governmental organizations.	Ensure a current listing of agencies required to be contacted for environmental issues.	
Develop policies in conjunction with AEP and ratepayers for controlling problem wildlife populations.	Identify over populations concerns raised by local producers. Work with AEP to ensure effective programs are in place to control populations.	

GRAZING LEASES, CULTIVATION LEASES AND PERMITS

(January 1 to December 31, 2018)

	HANNA	OYEN	CONSORT	TOTAL
G.L. Rentals				
2018 Current Levy	\$933,721.08	\$809,810.45	\$438,634.87	\$ 2,182,166.40
Current Outstanding	\$ 33,453.84	\$ 27,728.76	\$ 10,661.14	\$ 71,843.74
Number of Accounts	32	43	24	
1 Year in Arrears	\$ 25.03	\$ 7,663.24	\$ 1,685.41	\$ 9,373.68
No. of Accounts	1	10	4	
2 Years in Arrears		\$ 5,651.83	\$ -	\$ 5,651.83
No. of Accounts		6	0	
>2 Years in Arrears		\$ 6,523.55		\$ 6,523.55
No. of Accounts		5		
Total G.L. Rentals	33,478.87	19,838.62	12,346.55	\$ 93,392.80
G.L. Taxes				
2018 Current Levy	\$285,464.00	\$238,332.10	\$146,572.23	\$ 670,368.33
Current Outstanding	\$ 9,908.34	\$ 6,632.41	\$ 2,717.91	\$ 19,258.66
Number of Accounts	26	37	19	
1 Year in Arrears	\$ 2.21	\$ 1,394.91	\$ 844.32	\$ 2,241.44
No. of Accounts	1	11	4	
2 Years in Arrears		\$ 579.97		\$ 579.97
No. of Accounts		2		
>2 Years in Arrears		\$ 854.29		\$ 854.29
No. of Accounts		2		
Total G.L. Taxes	9,910.55	9,461.58	3,562.23	\$ 22,934.36

C.L. Rentals				
2018 Current Levy	\$ 33,622.95	\$290,019.78	\$ 92,020.68	\$ 382,040.46
Current Outstanding	\$ 268.08	\$ 29,358.91	\$ 4,732.85	\$ 34,091.76
Number of Accounts	1	17	4	
1 Year in Arrears		\$ 3,567.86	\$ 884.52	\$ 4,452.38
No. of Accounts		2	1	
2 years in Arrears		\$ 2,711.40		\$ 2,711.40
No. of Accounts		2		
>2 years in Arrears		\$ 3,725.35		\$ 3,725.35
No. of Accounts		2		
Total C.L. Rentals	268.08	39,363.52	5,617.37	\$ 44,980.89
C.L. Taxes				
2018 Current Levy	\$ 4,943.09	\$ 39,585.09	\$ 12,261.19	\$ 56,789.37
Current Outstanding	\$ 12.02	\$ 1,724.42	\$ 424.06	\$ 2,160.50
Number of Accounts	2	7	3	
1 Year in Arrears	\$ 0.53	\$ 395.68	\$ 135.84	\$ 532.05
No. of Accounts	1	4	1	
2 Years in Arrears		\$ 71.10		\$ 71.10
No. of Accounts		2		
>2 Years in Arrears		\$ 592.55		\$ 592.55
No. of Accounts		2		
Total C.L. Taxes	12.55	2,783.75	559.90	\$ 3,356.20
Total Outstanding	43,670	71,447	22,086	\$ 119,683.36

Regrassing, Grazing, Feed, Cultivation, and Hay Permits

	2017 ACTUAL		TO Dec 31, 2018	
REGRASSING PERMITS	NO. OF PERMITS	AREA (ACRES)	NO. OF PERMITS	AREA (ACRES)
Hanna	2	292	4	726
Oyen	1	80	5	1042
Consort	9	1486.48	5	775
TOTAL	12	1858.48	14	2543
GRAZING PERMITS	NO. OF PERMITS	AREA (ACRES)	NO. OF PERMITS	AREA (ACRES)
Hanna	25	7453.21	26*	7453.21
Oyen	7	307.84	4	140.49
Consort	33	11,566.89	32	10,958.81
TOTAL	65	19327.94	36	18552.51
			*3 Permits under Misc. Lease to Alberta Power 2000, 767.20 acres	
FEED PERMITS	NO. OF PERMITS	AREA (ACRES)	NO. OF PERMITS	AREA (ACRES)
Hanna	5	40	5	40
Oyen	13	448	14	667
Consort	2	62	2	62
TOTAL	20	550	21	769
CULTIVATION PERMITS	NO. OF PERMITS	AREA (ACRES)	NO. OF PERMITS	AREA (ACRES)
Hanna	4*	252.14	4*	252.14
Oyen			0	0
Consort			0	0
TOTAL	0	252.14	0	252.14
*2 Permits under Misc. Lease to Alberta Power 2000 for 436.4 acres and 1 permit to Luscar under ROE130 for 70 acres			**1 Permit under Misc. Lease to Alberta Power 2000 for 110.85 acres	

HAY PERMITS (TONS)	NO. OF PERMITS	AMOUNT (TONS)	NO. OF PERMITS	AMOUNT (TONS)
Hanna	4	94.656	1	12
Oyen	0	0	0	0
Consort	5	155	4	295
TOTAL	9	249.656	5	307

2018 Range Management Report

The 2018 spring started off late this year with winter conditions hanging around until mid-April. The slow growth in the spring pressured stored forage supplies for most ranchers in the area. The need to turn cattle onto pasture earlier than the readiness of the grasses may have impacted the overall production in pastures.

Summer rains were variable throughout the region. Compared to long term normal, most areas received between 75-100% of growing season precipitation with the best in the Buffalo-Atlee and Hanna areas. Drought impacted the Bindloss, Youngstown, Cereal, Oyen and Sedalia areas with the most severe area south of Big Stone.

In the dry conditions it is extremely important to leave adequate residual forage during the grazing season and the effects of not doing so was very noticeable this year. Heavier grazed pastures had significantly less production than those grazed at appropriate carrying capacity. Spring run-off was adequate, filling most dugouts. Utilization of grass is affected the most by water availability, so with adequate water, relatively even grazing patterns were observed this season. Good rangeland management practices amongst most of the grazing lease holders in the Special Areas continues to keep pastures healthy despite the challenges. Most problems found on the land relate to the sensitivity of degraded abandoned cultivation to the drought conditions. Encroachment of non-native species and tree cover, especially on moist grasslands in the north continues to be a management concern.

Overall there were 116 grazing leases inspected throughout the summer covering approximately 84,000 acres. Approximately 82% of the grazing leases rated *Healthy* overall, 17% fell into the *Healthy with Problems* category, and 1% rated *Unhealthy*.

Biota Consultants was hired through a contract to do a detailed range health assessment of approximately 10,000 acres in the Esther area this summer. The data collected through this work will be used by *Alberta Environment and Parks* to update and expand the rangeland plant communities found within the *Northern Fescue Range Plant Community Guide*. The Special Areas agrologist team benefits from these Guides to make accurate assessments of range condition and establish carrying capacities for grazing leases when required.

Oil & gas activity in 2018 saw a continued increase in the Special Areas No. 4 region. A total of 272 wells were drilled to date this year, 59 of those wells occur on Public lands. Special Areas has been working closely with industry to ensure new drilling and pipeline activity occurs with the lightest impact to the land as possible. Several companies have struggled to operate sites constructed to minimally disturb the native grassland.

Special Areas has received reclamation certificate applications for 189 well sites on Public land this year, almost double the amount received previously in one year. All these applications continue to be inspected with most of the well sites being in routine acceptable condition however, several did not meet the Special Areas Board standards. The work of restoring the abandoned well sites is likely to keep increasing throughout the next several years. Reclamation certificate applications are expected to increase yearly as well.

Submitted By:
Nolan Ball, Rangeland Agrologist

2.4 LAND USE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Current Status

Manage the development of property through the Special Areas Board Land Use Order.

Outcome Statement

Manage the development of property through the Special Areas Board Land Use Order with an added emphases on promoting and facilitating long-term sustainable (measured) growth.

Desired Outcomes	Actions	Measurements / Standards
Planning land use framework is reflective of the needs of stakeholders.	Effective land use districts.	
Ensure all stakeholders have avenues to address concerns or support for projects, while ensuring neighbors have quiet enjoyment of their property.	Effective public consultation and appeals processes.	
Timely application responses.	Streamlined approval process for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • permits, • subdivisions, • land use order amendments. <i>(redistricting Agricultural land)</i>	Timelines for decisions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40 days • 60 days • 90 days
Receive value-adding professional assistance for both the municipality and the developers with subdivisions, area concept plans, area structure plans, etc.	Palliser Regional Municipal Services partnership in place.	Quality of advice and service is comparable to industry standards.
Receive value-adding professional services from economic development partners which stimulates targeted growth.	Work with stakeholders and other agencies to promote growth through strategic economic development.	Operative economic development alliances in each Special Area. Strategic Operational Plans in place for each economic development alliance, approved annually. Annual Results/Projects Report presented at Advisory Council Conference.

2.5 ASSESSMENT & TAXATION

Current Status

Provide fair and equitable Property Assessments that comply with the *Alberta Municipal Government Act*, the *Matters Relating to Assessment and Taxation Regulation* and the *Community Organization Property Tax Exemption Regulation*. Assessment and tax notices comply with the *Alberta Municipal Government Act*.

Outcome Statement

Provide fair and equitable Property Assessments that comply with the *Municipal Government Act*, the *Matters Relating to Assessment and Taxation Regulation* and the *Community Organization Property Tax Exemption Regulation*. Assessment and tax notices comply with the *Municipal Government Act*.

Desired Outcomes	Actions	Measurements / Standards
Fair and Equitable Assessments.	Provide assessments that meet the requirements of all government legislation and regulations. Maintain the tax roll and provide a combined assessment and tax notice that meet the requirements of all government legislation and regulations.	Mail out the Assessment and Tax Notices on May 15 of every year.
Administer Linear Assessment Notices.	Update all Linear Property with the assessments provided by the Linear Assessment Branch.	
Fair appeal process.	Provide all relevant assessment information to ratepayers and provide assistance to the ratepayer in preparing for an assessment complaint hearing.	All complaints heard and decided by December 31 of the tax year that the complaint was filed.
Communicate assessment changes.	Provide Advisory Council with an overview of how the assessment base changed.	
Valuation Requests.	Provide appraisals, reassessments and tax recovery information.	

Assessment Report

Key Points

- The annual assessment is on schedule to be completed by the end of February 2019.
- Benchmark Assessment Consultants Inc. have been brought in on contract to review residential aspects of the roll for year-end process and to help finalize the roll for the 2019 tax year.
- On February 28, 2019, the annual 2019 Designated Industrial Property Assessment will be mailed to the assessed persons (owners/operators of designated industrial property) with a copy to the affected municipalities. A complaint about an assessment for designated industrial property must be filed on or before May 7, 2019 as pursuant to s. 309(1) of the *Municipal Government Act*.
- In 2018 Farm residences were re-inspected in Special Area #2 portions north of Hanna and the southern portion from east of Wardlow as part of our five-year cycle to re-inspect all residences within Special Areas. Farm residences will be re-inspected in Special Area #4 starting in the spring of 2019.

2018 was still a transition year for the Assessment department. Staffing is now at one Assessor. Jerry Hannah has been brought in in the fall of 2018 to complete a farmland reinspection cycle with the new aerial photos. The goal of the department is to maintain status quo while all the changes with staff and any direction from Municipal Affairs is given. Processes, workload and responsibilities are subject to change in the future as we work together with Benchmark Assessment Consultants Inc.

Assessment Department

2.6 WATER DEVELOPMENT

Current Status

Providing water supplies for domestic use, irrigation, stock water and recreation.

Outcome Statement

Introduce and develop opportunities which work toward drought proofing the Special Areas and stabilizing the farm units, with an added emphasis on creating economic development opportunities, and coordinating with Provincial agencies and special interest groups with regard to water usage and development in the Province.

Desired Outcomes	Actions	Measurements / Standards
Special Areas Water Supply Project (SAWSP) will aid in drought proofing the Special Areas while creating economic development opportunities to improve the areas stability.	Continue to pursue the Special Areas Water Supply Project.	An approved SAWSP with opportunity for 8,000 acres of irrigation.
Secure water storage reservoirs to aid in drought proofing, and recreation opportunities.	Maintain water storage reservoirs through both small and large dams. Complete annual inspections and document all findings for SAB licensed dams and repair as needed Work with AEP to ensure all AEP licensed reservoirs are managed.	Inspect and repair as needed all 28 SAB Licensed small and 5 AEP Licensed large dams. Completion of all inspections
Maximize opportunities for irrigation on the Sheerness Deadfish System.	Work with AEP to provide opportunities for irrigators along the Sheerness Deadfish System. Work with AEP and Carolside South Irrigation Advisory Committee (CSIAC) to move expansion plans forward. Promote use of more efficient irrigation systems. Manage distribution system as effectively as possible.	20,000 acres of irrigation on the Sheerness Deadfish System.
Special Areas participates in provincial and special interest groups in planning activities.	Ensure SAB representatives are at table discussions and meetings for RDRWA & RDRMUG & Water SMART, etc. Review plans which work for the long-term sustainability of the land, resources, and farm and ranch units and provide feedback.	Monitor plans and proposals from Water SMART, SSRB, RDRMUG etc.
Have strategically placed water sources for: potable, spray, livestock, etc.	Work with local communities in the development of water truck fill stations, water supply pipelines or other community water sources.	Ongoing monitoring of truck fill needs.

WATER DEVELOPMENT CREDITS

2017	Hanna	Oyen	Consort	TOTAL
Number of Leases		1	3	4
2017 Applied Credits		\$131.37	\$2,822.94	\$2,954.31
2017 Carry Forward				\$0.00
2018				
2018	Hanna	Oyen	Consort	TOTAL
Number of Leases	1	2	1	4
2018 Applied Credits	\$87.49	\$1,555.32	\$354.38	\$1,997.19
2018 Carry Forward	\$900.01			\$900.01

Respectfully Submitted,
 Lisa Bietelspacher
 Lease Supervisor

Pumping Units Report to December 31, 2018

	2018	2017
Applications For Use	12	14
Customers Pumped	10	13
Usage of Pump (Hours)	8 to 54	6 to 38
Total Hours Pumped	141	133
Customers Cancelled	2	1
Customers to Do	0	0
Charges For Usage	\$10,800.00	\$19,815.00
Total Revenues	\$10,800.00	\$19,815.00

	2018	2017
Man Hours Moving Pump	\$2,506.12	\$822.80
Truck Hours Moving Pump	\$6,833.60	\$2,070.80
Pump Repairs	\$15,408.09	\$3,113.38
Trailer Repairs	\$8,511.92	\$5.65
Pipe Parts/Labour	\$3,025.41	
Total Expenses	\$36,285.14	\$6,012.63

The line item "Pipe Parts/Labour" represents that hose was replaced on M-140, a small pump trailer.

Respectfully Submitted,
 Paulette Pratt

3. AGRICULTURAL SERVICES

Current Status Statement

Manage the agricultural services program covering four broad agricultural areas: pest control, weed control, animal disease prevention, and soil management.

Outcome Statement

The Special Areas provides agricultural services and manages programs to ensure the effective prevention, control or eradication of pests, weeds and animal disease in the Special Areas. Soil management programs are designed to prevent soil erosion and support long-term agricultural productivity.

A regional emergency response program allows fast and effective responses to control and mitigate the impact of widespread or sudden animal disease (outbreak) in a coordinated manner with local stakeholders, veterinary groups and agricultural industry.

Desired Outcomes	Actions	Measurements / Standards
Control or eradicate large weed patches, preventing spread of weeds.	Identify special weed projects and formulate a plan for each.	Business Plan 2017 Appendix H
Provide effective roadside weed control on municipal roads.	Work with Municipal Services on roadside spray projects. Evaluate expansion of the project.	Business Plan 2017 Appendix H
Increased producer awareness of weed control issues resulting in effective noxious weed control, prevention, or eradication.	Educate ratepayers on noxious weeds.	Business Plan 2017 Appendix H
Administer a safe chemical container disposal program.	Facilitate safe disposal of chemical containers.	100 % of sites cleaned, and containers moved to the crushing facilities prior to fall crushing.
Effective noxious weed control, prevention, or eradication along the river system.	Continue with South Saskatchewan and Red Deer River noxious weed project.	Contain weeds within the river valley. Control weeds from spreading within the valley. Work with upstream municipalities to prevent spreading.
Increased producer awareness issues related to four program areas which results in sustained or increased agricultural productivity.	Support CARA on their programs for improving producer awareness. Include SAB articles in CARA quarterly newsletter.	Education efforts for producers are resulting in greater awareness.

Agricultural Service Board Report- Special Area No. 2

In 2018 four summer students were hired; with returning students Jordyn Stockwell, Shantal Smith and Mike Page, and new summer student, Janay Durand. Ag Fieldman Jesse Williams began her maternity leave mid-July and plans to return September 2019. I was hired as Jesse's maternity leave coverage, beginning in May.

The 2018 annual inspections included all 14 hamlets, twice, all active SA2 gravel pits (16), twice, and half of inactive SA2 gravel pits (14), the Sheerness Coal Mine, ATCO, and the west and south areas of Prairie Oasis. All bridges (41) within SA2 received two herbicide applications for total vegetation control with substantial growth on some bridges. Our Clean Farm pesticide container recycling program also required two visits at the 10 sites. Clean Farms who manages the program will be providing new signage for us to post next season with directions of proper disposal and items accepted.

Special Areas 2 ASB staff were joined by ASB 3 & 4 at the Majestic Special Project near Buffalo where 13.5 sections were inspected over 250-man hours for control of leafy spurge, burdock and knapweed. Work was done primarily with quads, trucks and backpack sprayers

in the hard to reach steep coulee terrain. Weather was an issue, but the work plan was completed.

At the Jenner Colony Project inspections occurred on 30 sections (33% of project), including large portion of cropland. With the help of ASB 3 & 4 staff over 350-man hours were spent on the project. Inspections were focused mainly on the south end of the project. We revisited bottom portions along the Red Deer river overlapping the previous year of spraying. Biocontrol beetles were released in hard to access coulees near the past release sites.

ASB 2 staff devoted 3 days to Special Areas 3 Hern Ranch Project which was done by back pack and some truck and 3 days were allocated to Special Areas 4 Forrester Leafy Spurge Project which used quads.

The majority of the Iddesleigh to Buffalo rail line was inspected. 101 additional formal inspections of new, current projects or previously reported noxious weeds were completed.

180 km of ditches of Highway 555 (from Highway 41 to Jenner) were mowed twice by Alberta Transportation to provide control of Baby's breath.

Scentsless Chamomile, White Cockle, Baby's breath and Dames Rocket are all aggressive in the North portion of Special Areas 2. Leafy spurge, knapweed, burdock and Baby's breath seems to be more prominent in the southern area.

Several new infestations of Burdock were discovered this summer. The Cosgrave Project located along the Handhills Lake was visited with 64 man-hrs over 5 quarters of land. Jenner and Majestic Special Projects with known areas of Burdock along the Red Deer River did not seem to be too significant this year. We have three other significant burdock sites that we visited which will be revisited next year. Time was spent at Berg/Conner's and Cutter projects and new locations on Buffalo Atlee Community Pasture (BACP) were identified by Shane Miller.

The Downey Brome identified on the BACP in 2017 was found to be more extensive and spread on a number of fireguards in the south and east areas of the pasture, and near Highway 555. We are currently planning a two-staged approach and have applied a seed sterilant this fall and will apply chemical in the spring as early as possible to control new growth.

The 3 annual pest surveys were conducted this year was the continued Bertha Armyworm, grasshopper and the new native bee survey, which entailed collecting, bagging and freezing then returning them to be identified.

ASB2 rental equipment utilized this year included the 3" pipe plow and trailer (1), employee assisted fusing's (17), and skunk trap rentals (2).

Strychnine sales for ASB2 were 1226 bottles to be used over approximately 95 land parcels and purchased by 32 landowners compared to 85 the previous year. Strychnine was recently re-evaluated as part of the Pest Management Regulatory Agency's Re-evaluation Program and Health Canada is proposing to cancel the registration of Maxim 2% Liquid Concentrate due to environmental concerns. Considering the possibilities of cancellation, we purchased another 54 cases to our inventory. Should the registration be cancelled we will have approximately three years to sell out our supply.

We had one application for the AAAF Memorial Bursary.

Over all the summer was busy and managed through some extreme hot weather, smoke, breakdowns of equipment we managed to visit every area of the program.

Respectfully Submitted By:
Marcia Raymond, Agricultural Fieldman
Special Area No. 2

Agricultural Service Board Report – Special Area No. 3

The 2018 summer season began with training of new and returning staff. Kyle Hoffmann (third year) and Codie Lum (first year) attended Special Areas Orientation and ASB Orientation. Foot Hills County hosted the Dow Agro Science Pesticide Course at Lynn Wood Ranch in May. The first part of June we went to Weed School, hosted by the County of Newell, for the staff. Kyle, Codie, and the river staff attended both courses.

A considerable number of weed infestations were controlled with chemical or picked and bagged throughout the summer. Leafy Spurge, Baby's Breath, Burdock and Scentless Chamomile are SA3's most prevalent weeds.

The staff sprayed bridges in late May and again in July to control the vegetation around the guard rails. They also cleaned the pesticide container transfer sites four times over the summer, there seems to be more chemical jugs being used than there is totes or barrels. Rats were found in the Sibbald area; the MD of Acadia handled the issue, with no more rats being found. The SA3 summer staff joined SA4 on the Forrester project. SA3 also helped SA2 with their Majestic and Jenner projects. Grasshopper surveys were completed towards the end of August; all SA3 townships were covered. The clubroot survey was done at ten (10) locations throughout SA3.

Bill Kolkman was very helpful again this year taking on different tasks. Bill performed weed inspections throughout Special Areas. He was also asked to help on the Red Deer River Project and help with different special projects Special Areas #3 manage on a yearly basis.

555 Leafy Spurge Project – The project was inspected and sprayed. Progress is being seen and we are beginning to get ahead of the problem. Bio control was used again at this site; 4,000 beetles were spotted in various locations within the site. SA3 staff and river staff spent 10 days together on this project.

Burdock Project – Joined by the MD of Acadia staff, a total of 10 days was spent picking and spraying Burdock at the Hern Ranch. We are seeing lots of first year growth and we are getting good control on this noxious weed; routine inspections will continue to this site.

Baby's Breath Project – This project had combined efforts from the river staff, SA3 staff, and Alberta Transportation. Transportation did two cuts on Highway 555 from Jenner to Highway 41, Highway 9 East of Oyen to the Saskatchewan Border, and on Highway 899 to Esther.

Sedalia Scentless Chamomile Project – Quad sprayers were used on this project, bringing the total time down to two days. The quad spraying also reduced the amount of chemical used. This project will continue to be checked regularly to ensure the Chamomile is kept under control.

V—V Project – This project was completed in early August with a total of 10 days spent quad spraying, skid spraying and backpack spraying. The river crew joined on this project as well. The infestation is different from year to year making this a recurring project.

Don Hogan, Ag. Fieldman
Special Areas No. 3, Oyen

Red Deer River Report

The Red Deer River project began on July 3rd in the Dorothy area with three staff. Before the start of the summer, the air boat was in Vernon, BC for some repairs. Guy Inkster, owner /operator of Canadian Airboats, did repair work to the airboat before the 2018 season started on the Red Deer River, he did an excellent job. The airboat ballasts were saturated with water, adding an excess of 700 pounds. Navigating the lower water levels this season was made easier once the extra weight was removed. A new tilt trailer was purchased this year, which made loading and unloading on the river much easier.

The river crew found Scentless Chamomile, Toadflax and Black Henbane. From Highway 36 on, Burdock, Leafy Spurge and Russian Knapweed were found. Black Henbane is a growing concern. In the last few years Black Henbane has been found spreading to new areas and has even been found as far as Empress. Most of the infestations were in small spots,

however a few larger spots were also discovered. A few weeks of poor weather hindered inspection on the river crew; they were able to complete the Red Deer River but were unable to reach the South Saskatchewan River. Overall, it was a successful summer thanks to the hard work and dedication of Shayna Shead, Tanya Niwa and Austin Wiltse.

Don Hogan, Ag. Fieldman
Red Deer River Project

Agricultural Service Board Report- Special Area No. 4

The 2018 summer work season began with training of the new summer staff Kaylee Dick and returning staff member Shania Kropinske. Kaylee also succeeded in passing her Pesticide Applicators exam for the Agricultural and Industrial classes, making both students certified applicators. The students also attended a Weed School in Rolling Hills, as well as DOW training at Lynwood Ranch.

Weather made for a bit of late season for our weeds this year. Drought early in the season led to slow emergence but once moisture was available, the weather made it difficult to stay caught up with our weed calls as well as staying on top of our known sites thanks to wind shut downs. In the beginning of the season summer staff focused on re-inspecting the previous years weed sites, as well as tackling sites called in by ratepayers or old sites we thought could be making a comeback. Last year these inspections resulted in a total of 152 sites confirmed to have noxious weeds requiring control, this year we added 28 new sites that required pest control and revisited approximately 115 other sites on private land, ROW, and lease land combined. This year also saw the addition of a new piece of equipment to our fleet. We purchased a Kubota RTV accompanied by a 325L sprayer complete with a small clean water containment within the tank, and adjustable boom buster nozzles with a handgun as well. These pieces of equipment proved extremely useful as the increased capacity of the UTV sprayer was a great feature to have in many of our infestation areas. This piece of equipment was a replacement of one of the quads so we were left with one quad in addition to the Kubota in the fleet adding flexibility to our inventory ensuring we have the right piece of equipment for the task at hand.

The most problematic weed issues this year came from Leafy Spurge infestations along and surrounding the 899 highway south of Altario and around the area. This area required multiple visits beginning in June and lasting right through until August, there were some late season flare ups. Baby's Breath was also of great concern this year as it is extremely drought tolerant and vigilantly will grow new plants right until September. Monitor continues to be a hotbed for the noxious species as well as North of Loyalist, where we are most concerned with its spread into weaker native grass stands and over grazed pasture that are susceptible to infestation. White Cockle seemed to be slowed by the early dryness of the summer but soon caught up as was controlled in its usual habitat both east of Consort and South of Veteran on Highway 884 being the primary infestation areas. Common Mullien again appeared and was controlled in the Loyalist area, along with Hoary Cress east of that area and Scentsless Chamomile South of Loyalist. It is our estimation that Leafy Spurge, Baby's Breathe, and White Cockle remain Special Areas 4's most prevalent weed problems. Special Area's 4 'new' prohibited noxious weed site from last season was also picked and sprayed as it came back in about half strength from last year purple loosestrife infestation. The surrounding area was scoured for a root cause or bigger infestation to blame for the outlying patch but again nothing else was found. As per prohibited noxious weed protocol, Alberta Agriculture was given the coordinates of patch again this year and informed of its destruction.

While we lent a hand to the ASB 2&3 crews on their special projects; our special project, the Forrester Project, closer to home required extra attention. The Spurge at the Forrester project was spread over large areas, but the patches were small making ideal targets for the quads, and side by side, with a couple outlying patches were handled readily by the trucks. The Oyen, Consort, and Hanna crew came together for a combined two days with four quads, UTV and two trucks running this project. The blueweed project required little

attention with only a few plants being spotted at time of inspection due to great landowner cooperation and its biennial nature.

Other spraying this summer included mosquito control at the Gooseberry Lake Rodeo Grounds for the Rodeo.

The summer staff cleaned the pesticide container transfer sites twice this year. The two-inch pipe plow was rented twice. Skunk and mag pie traps remained popular this year and we are still renting out the skunk trap to those needing it. Other smaller tasks included weed eating at the Consort weigh scale and spraying with Round-Up, and the Consort and Altario fire halls. The mapped areas from the 2017 brush cutter were also sprayed. Grasshopper surveys were completed the first days of August. Clubroot surveys we also wrapped up in September with no symptomatic plants found again. Funding was lost to continue the provincial initiative for the fusarium surveys this year and hopefully they will find more funding for next year. Strychnine sales also concluded in August with 719 bottles sold this year, down significantly from the 1831 sold last year. To date, we have not received a decision on the fate of the use of 2% Strychnine as it is currently under review by PMRA. Though we have purchased an additional 126 cases as Maxim made stock available this fall to add to our inventory for spring sale as PMRA has ensured the Municipalities of a gradual phase out if the decision is made to cancel the registration.

Respectfully Submitted,
Justine Comeau
Agricultural Fieldman
Special Areas 4

4. COMMUNITY PASTURES

Current Status Statement

Manage the community pastures by providing grazing allotments to help stabilize farm & ranch units for successful resident applicants, based on need, while maintaining a healthy range.

Outcome Statement

Manage the community pastures by providing grazing allotments to help stabilize farm & ranch units for successful resident applicants, based on need, while maintaining a healthy range, with an added emphasis on maintaining quality facilities.

Desired Outcomes	Actions	Measurements / Standards
Ensure sustainability with moderate, manageable rate increases.	Evaluate the grazing fees to ensure costs of operation are relevant.	Cost recovery.
Ensure range condition is healthy going into drought cycles.	Range stocked at appropriate carrying capacity to ensure long term range health. Stocked as per Special Areas Rangeland Agrologist recommendations.	Unless in drought conditions etc., the range health (as measured by AEP "Rangeland Health Assessment" framework should be approximately: 100% healthy 0% healthy w/problems 0% unhealthy.
Stable membership group which are not prone to cyclical nature of the cattle industry.	Maintain modest turnover in each pasture.	98% of allotment.
Sustainable community pasture for the future with the ability to attract and retain quality staff.	Maintain quality facilities such as; fences, water development, homes, equipment, corrals, etc.	Long term capital plan is in place.

Fall 2018 Community Pasture Report

Buffalo Atlee Community Pasture

Dry conditions of 2017 continued into 2018 but timely rain helped to maintain grass, reduction of grazing days was not needed.

Total AUM'S = 10,602 Total Allotment = 10,602 % Allotted in 2018 = 100%

Three new patrons admitted into the pasture in 2018. One Remount patron's allotment has been temporarily moved to Buffalo Atlee. We completed the house replacement.

Future plans:

- Remove old house;
- Continue interior fence replacement, as is warranted.

Bullpound Community Pasture

Dry conditions in 2017 and 2018 have drawn into the carryover reserve of grass, no reduction of grazing days is yet planned.

Total AUM'S = 4,658 Total Allotment = 4,656 % Allotted in 2018 = 100%

1 new patron admitted to Bullpound Breeders.

Future plans:

- Examine placement and condition of existing interior fences, replace where needed; and
- Continue to monitor the mine reclamation for additional grazing opportunities.

Remount Community Pasture

In the unburnt area, general dry conditions in 2017 and 2018 have drawn into the carryover reserves of grass. The area burnt in 2017 was assessed this fall and found to be recovering but will take time to build up volume of litter needed to sustain grazing.

Total AUM'S = 8136 Total Allotment = 6053 % Allotted in 2018 = 74%
 No new patrons were admitted into Remount. Allotment for 2018 was generally 20% reduction of 2017 allotment (Cavendish and Remount Breeding).
 Planned recovery from the 2017 September Fire from CFB Suffield includes: replace damaged fence, cross fence and water development in Cavendish to create breeding field, temp fence south east corner to utilize unburnt area.

Future plans:

- Fire recovery;
- Continue to rebuild corrals with pipe; and
- Additional water development.

Richdale Community Pasture

The pasture handled the increase from 336 AUM to 700 AUM well in the 2018 grazing season. Capacity has been updated from the previous 915 AUM to 700 AUM based on Grassland Vegetative Index data.

Total AUM'S = 700 Total Allotment = 700 % Allotted in 2018 = 100%
 2 new patrons admitted to Richdale and one Remount patron's allotment has been temporarily moved to Richdale, which has brought the pasture to full capacity.

Future plans are to investigate options for future of pasture:

- divest the pasture and move current patrons AUMs to the Bullpound pasture when current mining land becomes available for grazing; or
- lease the pasture to a grazing co-op whose membership would be determined by our allotment process and policy; or
- recruit additional patrons to stock pasture at capacity when Remount fire recovery is complete or as patrons retire.

Sounding Creek Community Pasture

Dry conditions of 2017 continued into 2018 but timely rain maintained the grass growth.

AUM'S = 7,920 Total Allotment = 7,919 % Allotted in 2018 = 100%

2 new patrons admitted to Cereal West.

Long-time Pasture Supervisor Ken Picotte retired this spring. Richard Houston started in May 2018. Some renovations were made to the house this spring. Cereal West and Sedalia fields were cross fenced to better manage grazing.

Future plans:

- Consider best position for corrals and replace;
- Interior fence replacement;
- Replace bunkhouse; and
- Build new barn/shop.

Respectfully Submitted,
 Brett Richards

**SPECIAL AREAS COMMUNITY PASTURE
 2018 FINANCIAL STATEMENT ACTUALS TO DECEMBER 31, 2018**

REVENUE:

912,116 days	\$0.71	\$ 647,602.36
5,959 calves	\$8.00	\$ 47,672.00
Pasture Supervisor House Rentals		\$ 17,280.00

\$ 712,554.36

Note: Reduction of allotment in 2018 for Remount Fire Recovery amounts to approximately \$55,000.00 in lost revenue.

Operating Expenditures:

Salaries	\$ 244,896.68
Wages for Assistants	\$ 114,605.75
Employer Contributions	\$ 61,207.17
Worker's Compensation Board	\$ 7,032.03
Travel & Sub	\$ 2,640.15
Mileage	\$ 3,298.80
Membership and Conference fees	\$ -

Telephone	\$	9,703.54
Advertising	\$	1,677.72
Training & Education	\$	310.00
Building Repairs	\$	84,091.16
Mach Repair	\$	13,509.97
Contract Repairs	\$	12,344.72
Machinery Equip. Rental	\$	1,080.00
General Supplies	\$	9,889.45
Water Development	\$	53,803.38
Fuel/Oil	\$	55,824.20
Fencing Supplies	\$	12,621.05
Attractive Items	\$	2,463.90
Chemicals & Salt	\$	10,521.98
Grass Seed & Fert	\$	-
Natural Gas	\$	4,659.83
Electric Power	\$	20,548.42
		\$ 726,729.90

Depreciation of Capital Assets:

2018 One Generator	5 yrs	1	\$	410.00
2017 Buffalo Atlee House	40 yrs	2	\$	10,000.00
2017 Buffalo Atlee Jeep	10 yrs	2	\$	2,730.00
2017 Two Gators (Bullpound & Remount)	5 yrs	2	\$	9,200.00
2016 Remount Gasoline Tank	5 yrs	3	\$	1,560.00
2016 Two Generators	5 yrs	3	\$	700.00
2016 Three Shipping Containers	10 yrs	3	\$	840.00
2015 30' Goose Neck Trailer	5 yrs	4	\$	4,000.00
2015 Buffalo Atlee Spratt Camp	10 yrs	4	\$	1,000.00
2015 Generator	5 yrs	4	\$	1,200.00
2014 Three Generators	5 yrs	5	\$	1,200.00
2013 Two Gators (Sounding Creek & Remount)	5 yrs	5	\$	6,900.00
2013 Two Generators (Remount)	5 yrs	5	\$	820.00
2013 Post Pounder (Bullpound)	10 yrs	5	\$	1,300.00
2013 Bullpound Water (Cystern & Bldg)	10 yrs	5	\$	769.70
2013 Bullpound Corrals	40 yrs	5	\$	1,074.46
2013 Cereal West Corrals	40 yrs	5	\$	769.88
2012 Water Development	20 yrs	6	\$	1,776.70
2012 SCCP Natural Gas	40 yrs	6	\$	562.50
2012 Buffalo-Atlee Corrals	40 yrs	6	\$	1,875.00
2011 Trucks	10 yrs	7	\$	11,731.00
2011 Buffalo Atlee Barn	20 yrs	7	\$	2,063.00
2011 Water Development	20 yrs	7	\$	197.00
2010 Assistant Quarters (Bullpound)	40 yrs	8	\$	1,890.23
2008 Water Development	20 yrs	10	\$	1,941.00
2007 Remount Barn	20 yrs	11	\$	1,250.00
2007 Water Development	20 yrs	11	\$	280.00
2006 Water Development	20 yrs	12	\$	1,650.00
2005 Water Development	20 yrs	13	\$	1,000.00
2005 Assistant Quarters (Buffalo Atlee)	20 yrs	13	\$	2,660.00
2004 Fire Skids	20 yrs	14	\$	500.00
2004 Water Development	20 yrs	14	\$	2,250.00
2003 Water Development	20 yrs	15	\$	1,583.00
2002 Water Development	20 yrs	16	\$	5,700.00
2001 Water Development	20 yrs	17	\$	4,000.00
2000 Water Development	20 yrs	18	\$	2,000.00
1999 Water Development	20 yrs	19	\$	1,350.00
				\$ 90,733.47
TOTAL OPERATIONS				\$ 817,463.37
TOTAL REVENUE				\$ 712,554.36
SURPLUS / LOSS				-\$ 104,909.01

EXPENDITURES:

Royalty and Taxes:

Royalty				
173,206	acres	0.9941	(\$/acre)	\$ 172,180.62
Taxes				
5,662,500	Assessment	9.33	(mils)	\$ 52,831.13
				\$ 225,011.75

5. FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

5.1 RURAL STABILIZATION – COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Current Status

Rural sustainability and growth are priorities, recognizing that “remote” rural strategies are key.

Outcome Statement

Rural sustainability and growth are priorities, recognizing that “remote” rural strategies are key. Special Areas is ensuring regional supports are in place, which encourage community and business development, population growth and innovation.

Desired Outcomes	Actions	Measurements / Standards
There is regional collaboration to implement community economic development projects and initiatives.	Maintain and support three regional economic development alliance boards: Cactus Corridor Economic Dev. Corp, SA 4 Economic Development & SAMDA Economic Partnership.	Annual reports are received from each alliance.
Access to internet is available to residents that can be used for both personal and business applications.	Continue partnership with Netago to upgrade and add necessary towers and equipment to supply high-speed internet to residents.	95% of rural residents have access to internet. 10-15 MB service available to all serviced residents.
Youth have opportunities to make Special Areas their home.	Support and grow the Return to Rural initiative.	Annual reports are received.
Tourism industry is promoted and supported in the Special Areas region.	Maintain regional partnership via Travel Special Areas, Canadian Badlands, Alberta Tourism, etc.	Annual report on statistics and activities.
Strong viable Towns and Villages exist within S.A.	Industrial tax transfer assists the Towns and Villages within the Special Areas.	
Diverse recreational facilities are available throughout the region.	Recreation grants to assist with the annual operations of recreation facilities within the Special Areas, and within the Towns and Villages for use by the Special Area residents.	

SPECIAL AREAS NO. 2 RECREATION REPORT FOR 2018

COMMUNITY CLUB	10 YEAR ADVANCE ADJUSTMENT	GRANT \$	INSURANCE DEDUCTION	CHEQUE ISSUED
Berry Creek Ag Society	\$ 22,547.69			
	\$ (7,000.00)	\$ 15,547.69		\$ 15,547.69
Berry Creek Community Club		\$ 5,311.02	\$ 2,408.67	\$ 2,902.35
Berry Creek (Cessford) Library		\$ 2,124.41		\$ 2,124.41
Big Country Riding & Roping Club		\$ 2,655.51	\$ 1,419.00	\$ 1,236.51
Bindloss Community Hall Board	\$ 22,547.69			
	\$ (2,500.00)	\$ 20,047.69	\$ 2,696.67	\$ 17,351.02
Buffalo Agricultural Society	\$ 25,999.86			
	\$ (18,000.00)	\$ 7,999.86		\$ 7,999.86
Cessford Home & School Association		\$ 1,593.31		\$ 1,593.31
Diamond Jubilee Rec & Cult Centre		\$ 28,969.20	\$10,779.67	\$ 18,189.53
Dorothy Community Club		\$ 8,787.32	\$ 807.00	\$ 7,980.32
Empress, Village of		\$ 42,922.70		\$ 42,922.70
Empress & Dist Friendship Centre		\$ 5,311.02		\$ 5,311.02
Empress Library		\$ 1,448.46		\$ 1,448.46
HandHills Lake Club		\$ 13,277.55		\$ 13,277.55
Hanna, Town of	\$ 187,430.73			
	\$ (90,000.00)	\$ 97,430.73		\$ 97,430.73
Hanna Municipal Library		\$ 2,655.51		\$ 2,655.51
Hanna Motorcross Association		\$ 2,124.41		\$ 2,124.41
Hanna Rod & Gun Club		\$ -		\$ -
Homestead Coulee Community Assoc		\$ 11,177.28	\$ 2,049.66	\$ 9,127.62
Iddesleigh Community Centre		\$ 5,311.02		\$ 5,311.02
Jenner Hall Committee		\$ -		\$ -
Pollockville Curling Club		\$ 22,016.59		\$ 22,016.59
Red Rose Community Club		\$ -		\$ -
Richdale Community Club		\$ 5,311.02	\$ 1,757.66	\$ 3,553.36
Sandhills Roping Club		\$ 2,124.41		\$ 2,124.41
Scapa Athletic Association		\$ 5,311.02		\$ 5,311.02
Social Plains Community Club	\$ 2,414.10			
	\$ (500.00)	\$ 1,914.10		\$ 1,914.10
Spondin Community Club		\$ 8,690.76		\$ 8,690.76
Table Rock Riding & Roping Club	\$ 2,124.41			
	\$ (1,900.00)	\$ 224.41		\$ 224.41
Supplemental Library Funding		\$ 12,000.00		\$ 12,000.00
TOTAL INSURANCE PREMIUM DEDUCTIONS			\$21,918.33	
		TOTAL GRANT \$ 332,287.00		
		HOLDBACKS \$ (119,900.00)	Total of Chq Issued	\$ 310,368.67
		TOTAL ALLOCATION LEVY \$ 452,187.00		

The Special Areas No. 2 Recreation Board consists of the following members:

Glenn Quast	Cody Mashon
Mark Sturm	Wade Christianson
Darcy Ferguson, Special Areas Board	Brett Richards, Secretary

*Submitted by: Brett Richards,
Secretary*

Special Area No. 2 Recreation Board

SPECIAL AREA NO. 3 RECREATION REPORT FOR 2018

The 2018 Recreation Mill Rate Levy was designated as follows:

	Grant Withheld for 10 yr Advance	Jubilee Insurance	Total Amount
Village of Cereal			\$32,806.26
Cereal & District Library Board			\$5,005.13
Village of Youngstown			\$34,257.86
Youngstown & District Library Board			\$5,005.13
Town of Oyen	(\$10,000.00)		\$104,515.50
Oyen Municipal Library Board			\$10,016.07
Big Stone Community Building Fund Assoc.	\$0.00	(\$2,448.67)	\$9,829.65
Cappon Community Club		(\$1,317.67)	\$4,138.80
Chinook & District Community Club		(\$1,750.67)	\$7,587.80
Esther Community Hall New Building Society		(\$1,516.67)	\$8,967.40
Lanfine Hall Community Association		(\$1,111.66)	\$1,117.48
New Brigden Community Association	\$0.00	(\$2,011.66)	\$9,829.65
New Brigden Central Curling Club			\$8,967.40
Sedalia Hall Club		\$0.00	\$9,457.16
Sibbald Community Club		\$0.00	\$9,457.16
Big Country Agricultural Society		\$0.00	\$10,451.55
Misc.			\$0.00
Misc.			\$0.00
			\$271,410.00

Approximately 75% of the total funds generated are distributed to the Town of Oyen and Villages of Cereal and Youngstown.

The Special Area No. 3 Recreation Board consists of the following members:

Erin Logan - Chair
 Quinn Wagstaff - Member
 David Eaton -Member
 Darcy Ferguson, Special Areas Board
 Darran Dick, Secretary

note 1 (numbers are total allocation before insurance and 10 yr advances are removed)

note 2 (Jubilee Ins. paid directly)

note 3 (includes special allocation \$ 1,000.00 extra for insurance)

note 4 (year 3 of 10 year rec advance - ball concession/training facility)

note 5 (Lanfine did not provide financials & have very limited activity - S.A. covered only insurance)

**SPECIAL AREA 4
RECREATION REPORT FOR 2018**

The 2018 Recreation Mill Rate Levy of \$233,589 was designated as follows:

	Advance	RMA Insurance	Total Grant
Village of Consort	(\$92,500.00)		\$108,863.55
Consort Municipal Library Board			\$15,000.00
Village of Veteran			\$48,173.07
Veteran Municipal Library			\$5,000.00
Altario Community Association		(\$2,020.67)	\$8,724.26
Compeer Community Centre	(\$4,500.00)	(\$1,773.,34)	\$22,758.93
Hemaruka Hall Association	(\$350.00)		\$4,000.00
Kirriemuir Community Association		(\$1,127.66)	\$7,586.31
Monitor Community Club			\$4,000.00
Consort Lakeview Golf Club			<u>\$9,482.89</u>
			\$233,589.00

The 2018 Special Areas No. 4 Recreation Board consists of the following members:

Gordon Long
 Krista McGregor
 Dana Sansregret
 Darcy Ferguson
 Corinne Kelts

Corinne Kelts, Secretary
 Special Area No. 4 Recreation Board

Economic Development

SPECIAL AREA NO. 4 REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

2018 regional initiatives were successfully administered. Here is a sampling of the initiatives that I worked on. The year started off with presenting the history of the Special Areas to the attendees of the Growing Rural Conference. Then there was the introduction of wind power with EDP Renewables to local businesses, followed by the excitement of preparing for the Trans Canada Keystone XL pipeline, along the way there was lot more promotion of the Special Areas and one of the most exciting things to happen since the Stepping Stones Daycare Project, was that Consort became a connected community with the installment of fiber. Let me tell you more!

PROMOTION

Growing Rural Tourism Conference – February 2018, I sat on a panel with three fellow economic development officers from Sundre, Leduc, and St. Albert. We discussed how each of our regions provided support for tourism operators. It also provided me with the opportunity to speak about the Special Areas and our unique history to approximately 150 people. The last day of the conference, I and a colleague facilitated a round table of 30 fellow EDO's and tourism operators. This was a great event to connect and share what and where the Special Areas is.

SUPPLY CHAIN EVENTS

EDP Renewables (EDPR) – April 11th, SAMDA and SA4RED worked together to organize and host a supply chain event for EDP Renewables. Connecting with local businesses to ensure they were informed about the event and attended was a priority for us. The event saw over 100 people/businesses attending from all over Alberta and southern Saskatchewan. EDPR was pleased and while we did not advocate one way or the other for the wind turbines, we did take advantage of the opportunity to speak with business owners.

EDPR was also interested in learning more about our communities. After touring around Consort and meeting with community representatives from two significant projects they awarded Consort Community Pool Association and East Central Housing Society \$10, 000 each respectively.

As an R2R initiative, EDPR was connected with the school divisions to provide an educational segment. In November, EDPR representatives facilitated a program with PLRD Schools in SA4.
Note – I remain neutral and do not advocate for or against the Sharp Hills Wind Project.

TransCanada Keystone XL – Work on preparing for the TransCanada Keystone XL Pipeline began in June. Businesses directories from Special Area 2, 3, and 4 were updated and forwarded to Palliser Economic Partnership (PEP) to be forwarded to TransCanada. In August and September, meetings with Rebecca McElhoes were held in Consort, with Village of Consort administration and council for information purposes.

At the time of this report, preparation for the TransCanada Keystone XL supply chain event taking place November 27th in Oyen is underway. This has been a collaborative effort with PEP and TransCanada. Attendance of 50 – 60 people is projected.

CONNECTIVITY – SUCCESS STORY

Consort Fiber Optic Network - After attending numerous information sessions through PEP the idea of having broadband in the Village of Consort seemed insurmountable, but not impossible. Special Area No. 4 Regional Economic Development, on behalf of the Village of Consort, reached out to service providers in the fall of 2016 to see if fiber could be installed in the village. Terry Duchcherer, owner of Netago, not only showed up at the table, he showed up with a plan to install a fiber optic network in Consort.

The network became live in August 2018! Business owners and residents are thrilled to be one of the first communities to have this infrastructure in their village. This opens the door to many opportunities.

TOURISM

Travel Special Areas

Tourism Operator Meeting – A regional tourism operator meeting was held in March. Over 35 people attended and discussed tourism successes and concerns with us. Cody Verbeek from the Alberta Government was present to discuss tourism initiatives the government has

to offer and Craig Burke from the Rural Alberta Business Centre in Hanna was on hand to assist operators with business concerns. A concern that came out of the meeting was signage.

Marketing – The 2018 marketing campaign for Travel Special Areas has wrapped up. A new website is being built for Travel Special Areas through Travel Alberta's Cooperative Funding program. Future marketing in 2019 will see an increase in digital marketing and less print advertising. More storytelling with people and less talking at people.

Mobile Visitor Information Services (MVIS) – The Mobile Visitors Information Services booth was piloted this year. A summer student was hired to travel to events and places around the Special Areas and the MD of Acadia #34 to cross promote events and places. The booth was equipped with Wi-Fi and a charging station to help visitors stay connected. The booth went to 16 events as well as the parks and campgrounds. Overall 161 people were provided information about the region. Some determining factors that led to low numbers were:



- a) Location of the booth at events. Many times the booth was separated from the actual event which was unfortunate.
- b) This was something new that people were not familiar with.
- c) Residents thinking there is nothing to promote in the Special Areas.

The MVIS program will be tweaked for 2019 and will travel outside of the Special Areas as well as some events within the region.

A familiarization tour of Special Areas was held in May. The tour was organized for the summer staff who would be working in the Visitor Information Centre in Hanna, Oyen and Consort. Staff were provided with information and toured Special 2, 3, 4 and the MD of Acadia #34. An Indigenous Tour at the Bar Diamond Guest Ranch was the highlight. Side note: We were informed in late summer the ranch would no longer be providing guest services. This is unfortunate as it is the only tourism operation, in the Special Areas region, that met Travel Alberta's standards for marketing overseas to China and Germany especially.

The MVIS booth and FAM tour were funded in part by the Visitor Services Innovation Fund, through Alberta Tourism and Culture.

Open Farm Days – TK Ranch asked for representation from the Special Areas for this event. I attended and interacted with close to 300 people from urban locations. This was a great event to attend and showcase the region and answer questions.

A few recurring questions were:

- Do I have access to public lands for hunting and how do I get permission from landowners?
- Is there a trail system in the Special Areas?

These questions will be discussed more in depth at upcoming planning sessions.

Travel Special Areas was successful with our application to host one day of a four day Roger Brooks Community Development Tour sponsored by the Canadian Badlands Ltd. and the Alberta Government. Roger Brooks is one of the most recognized and frequently quoted experts in the travel industry. He has appeared on every major television network and has been quoted in the Wall Street Journal, New York Times, and in dozens of other media outlets. Roger presented to approximately 35 attendees from every corner of the Special Areas as well as Stettler and Edgerton. His message to each community is an honest evaluation of that community along with recommendations and strategies on how to improve.

There was an item of concern that came from Roger's visit. When Roger was leaving the host city of Brooks he typed Consort into Google maps for directions. The map took Roger to Stettler! Not being from the country, he thought Consort must be just outside of Stettler. This is not the first time that Google has provided the wrong directions and is a concern for people travelling through the area and who are not from here. Efforts are being made to minimize these errors. If you notice errors on Google please report them.

Tourism Event Initiatives

Taste of Consort – The 2nd annual Taste of Consort took place on June 29, 2018. This annual event sees 400 – 500 people congregate on the main street of Consort and support local food and

beverage vendors. I have compiled a committee of dedicated businesses to take the lead in this event and my role will be minimal if not completely diminished in 2019.

Highway 41 Pheasant Festival – The 3rd annual Highway 41 Pheasant Festival took place on October 27, 2018. As this group is organized and sustainable, my involvement with the committee is finished.

These are a few of the projects that I am currently working on. My office door is always open and I welcome a visit to discuss future projects.

Respectfully submitted by,

Wanda Diakow |Economic Development Officer |Special Area No. 4 Regional Economic
Development

5.2 RURAL STABILIZATION – COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES & PHYSICIAN RETENTION AND RECRUITMENT

Current Status

Strategies are in place to preserve health services in the region, focused on the three health services centers in the region: Big Country Hospital Oyen, Consort Hospital and Hanna Hospital. Special focus is on proactive physician retention and recruitment strategies and initiatives to ensure diverse services are maintained.

Outcome Statement

Diverse, community focused health services are in place for the people of Special Areas, with special focus on physician retention and recruitment.

Desired Outcomes	Actions	Measurements / Standards
The hospitals in Hanna, Consort, & Oyen are strong and deliver diverse, community focused services.	Continue to support relationships with local health stakeholders, Alberta Health Services and the Medical Dental Boards to identify bottlenecks, issues, and work with these stakeholders to eliminate problem areas.	Hospitals with active care beds and emergency services in Hanna, Consort, and Oyen.
Full quotas of physicians are maintained at the hospital sites in Hanna, Consort & Oyen.	Effective physician recruitment and retention strategies in place and operating and include: effective incentive packages; working relationships with Physicians, municipal partners, AHS and community stakeholders.	Physicians quota is met: Oyen: 3 Hanna: 4 Consort: 2
Modern physician clinics in three communities for both the physicians and residents.	Determine the needs for physician clinics and ensure appropriate clinics are constructed and operating.	Three modern physician clinics.
Full spectrum of seniors' health care services are available. (i.e.: aging in place, homecare, diverse housing, long term care, dementia, hospital services, etc.)	Partnerships are maintained and conversations continue on improving health services via: Acadia Foundation, Seniors Health Task Forces, BCMDB, AHS, municipal partners and community stakeholders.	
Health professionals are in place in our communities: (dentists, nurses, therapists, pharmacists, optometrists, etc.)	Where required, support recruitment and retention strategies over the full spectrum of professionals in health services.	

AFSC

The following information has been prepared for the Special Areas Fall 2017 Advisory Meeting. November 1, 2017 to October 31, 2018

	Hanna Approved				Provincial	
	<u>Oct 31, 2018</u>		<u>Oct 31, 2017</u>		<u>Oct 31, 2018</u>	
	#	Loan Amt	#	Loan Amt	#	Loan Amt
Alberta Farm Loans	39	\$12,079,995	59	\$18,035,032	1,355	\$ 308,671,553
Commercial Loans		\$ 0		\$ 0	58	\$ 21,226,008
VAAP		\$ 0		\$ 0	63	\$ 29,798,700
TOTAL	39	\$12,079,995	59	\$18,035,032	1,454	\$393,250,028

Loan Statistics	Hanna Oct 31, 2018	Hanna Oct 31, 2017	Provincial Oct 31, 2018
Total Loans	430	436	11,842
Approved Amount	\$109,026,677	\$103,342,895	\$3,131,308,283
Loan Balance	\$87,657,585	\$81,810,202	\$2,340,029,154
Arrears #	23	20	728
Arrear \$	\$129,877	\$67,320	\$66,058,748
% of total	0.148%	0.08%	2.82%

	Provincial <u>Oct. 31, 2018</u>	Provincial <u>Oct. 31, 2017</u>
Loan statistics:		
Total direct loans	11,842	12,005
Loan Balance	\$ 2,340,029,154	\$ 2,320,768,151
Average loan balance	\$ 197,604.22	\$ 193,316.80
Difference in loans	-163 or 0.99% decrease	
Difference in loan balance	+19,261,003 or .99% increase	

We would like to express our appreciation to the Board Members, to the staff of Special Areas, plus to the Advisory Council, for their help and cooperation this past year. We look forward to working with all of you in the future.

Hanna AFSC Lending Specialist (LS)

Shaina Griffith, B. Comm

Information provided by Shaina Griffith November 26, 2018



Highlights of the past year:

- **Celebrating the grand opening of CARA’s Soil Health Lab July 30**
- Approval of Soil Health Benchmark project proposal for Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) funding
- New projects: Multi-Crop Rotation Project, Cocktail Crop Rotation/Fertility Project, Quinoa Trials, Wheat Agronomy Trial, Activate and Crop Aid Trials, Magnesium Trial on Barley & Canola
- Lots of great extension events

CARA 2018 Board of Directors and Staff

Richard Bailey, Veteran	Dianne Westerlund, <i>Manager & Forage Agronomist</i>
Curtis Benedict, Hanna	
Nathan Berg, Cessford	Yamily Zavala, <i>Soil & Crop Nutrient Management Specialist</i>
Kyle Christianson, Sedalia	
Darryl Conners, Hanna	Olivia Sederberg, <i>Conservation and Extension Technician</i>
George Doupe, Oyen	
David Eaton, Sibbald, <i>Past President</i>	Lacey Gould, <i>Conservation Agronomist (part-time)</i>
Matthew Gould, Consort	
Dan Grudecki, Acadia Valley	Shelley Norris, <i>Office Manager</i>
John Kimber, Youngstown	Jerry Pratt, <i>Field Technician</i>
Kirby Laughlin, Youngstown	Karen Raynard, <i>Field Technician</i>
Kevin Letniak, Consort	Dan Rude, <i>Field Technician</i>
James Madge, Stanmore <i>Vice President</i>	Lizanne Gaudet, <i>Summer Technician</i>
Marvin Molzan, Sibbald, <i>Financial Supervisor</i>	Irene Timms, <i>Summer Technician</i>
Gloria Nelson, Veteran, <i>President</i>	
Landon Olsen, Cereal	
Anne Rafa, Acadia Valley, <i>ARECA Rep</i>	
Barry Redel, Consort	

CARA 2018 PROGRAM SUMMARY

Crop Component

Dan & Vince Grudecki, Acadia Valley	AB RVT's: Wheats, Durum, Triticale, CPS Durum Crop Rotation Study, Activate Trial
Barry Redel, Consort	SK Oats, Barley AB Barley, Green & Yellow Peas
Dwayne Smigelski, Oyen	Green & Yellow Peas, Lentils Winter Wheat & Fall Rye, AB Durum, SK Durum Barley Fertility (AB Barley Comm), Flax, Camelina
Madge Farms, Hanna	AB RVT's: Wheats, Durum, Triticale Annual Forage Trial
Scory Estate, Oyen	Quinoa Variety & Agronomic Trials (NorQuin) Spring Wheat Agronomics & Fertility Trials (AWC), Crop Aid Cocktail Cover Crop Mixes & Special Crop Demo Poultry Manure Evaluation
Landon Olsen, Cereal	Soybean Variety Trial, CCC Demo Intercropping Trial (AB Pulse Growers)
Lane Woods, Sibbald	Magnesium Trial on Wheat & Canola (IPNI)
Daryl Peers, Acadia Valley	Plant Nutrient Trial with RA West International
Jenner Colony, Jenner Acadia Colony, Acadia Valley	
Aaron Rude, Sedalia	CCC - Reduced Fertility Inputs Study (Funding Consortium and AB Canola Comm)
Multiple Sites: Caskey, Kuhn, Gould Ranches	Pest & Disease Surveys: Bertha army worm, Diamond back moth, Cabbage seedpod weevil, Sawfly, Wheat midge, Swede midge, Wheat midge soil

Crop Extension

Ag Inform	Tax Changes, Insurance, Risk Management, Farm Safety, Production Cost Insurance	February 6, Acadia Valley
Ag Producer Meeting	Club Root, Sprayer Tips, CARA Program	March 2, Provost
RVT Protocol Training	Review of 2018 Trials	March 6, Leduc
Young Farmer/Rancher Forum	Soil Health, Use of Drones, Acctg 101, Crop Cocktails, Market Outlook	March 9, Consort
Crop Scouting Field Day	Clair Langlois (AAF); Nevin Rosaasen (AB Pulse)	July 12, MD of Acadia
Soil Health and Crop Field Day	RVT's (Neil Whatley & Clair Langlois (AAF), Wheat Fertility & Agronomics (Clair Langlois), Alternative Crops Kevin Elmy (Friendly Acres) Quinoa (Derek Flad, Norquin)	July 30, Oyen
Field Diagnostic Calls	Crop disease, pests and fertility issues	On-going
Facilitation of Seed & Disease Analysis	Submit samples to labs, info to producers	On-going
One-on-one producer inquiries	On-going, follow-up from extension events	CARA Center
Monthly Newsletters	Research Information, coming events	Mass-mailed
Crop Contact Email List	Coming events, crop information	90+ producers

Forage/Grazing Component

Madge Farms, Stanmore	Regional Silage Trial
Aaron Rude, Sedalia	Perennial Forage Trial (CARA coordinating for 9 sites across the province)
Gould Ranches, Consort	High Legume (Sainfoin) Pasture Demo
Madge Farms, Stanmore	Hayland Rejuvenation

Forage/Livestock Extension

Winter Grazing Field Day	Grazing High Legume Pastures (Grant Lastiwka, Bill Newton & Matthew Gould); Water Quality & Nutritional Needs (Barry Yaremicio); Winter Watering & Windbreaks (Calvin Bishell & Mathew Gould); Farm Safety (Donna Trottier, AgSafe)	January 15, Consort
Ladies Calving Clinic	Tips for Safe & Successful Calving (Dr. egan Wakefield, Zoe Gould, Donna Trottier)	February 28, Consort
Young Farmer/Rancher Forum	Use of Drones (Dr. John Church, Derek Dooleage), Accounting 101 (Monica Jeffries), Crop Cocktails (Kevin Elmy), Soil Health (Yamily), Market Outlook (Neil Blue, Jason Wood, AAF)	March 9, Consort
Broadview Ranch, Duchess Gould Ranching, Consort Madge Farms, Stanmore	Rancher/Researcher Pilot Project Evaluation of Several Innovations	On-going
Southern Alberta Women's Grazing School	Various presentations related to grazing management, riparian health and plant identification	July 24, 25, Stavely
Ag Canada/Public Lands Range Tour	Xiying Hao – Soil Carbon storage and greenhouse gas emission from tame and native pasture; Yamily Zavala – Soil health; Cameron Carlyle (or student) – Effect of drought on dry mixed-grass plant communities; Lisa Ratz – Downy Brome; Dianne Westerlund – CARA program; Kevin Floate/student – Dung beetles	July 4, Sounding Creek Comm Pasture, Oyen
ABFGC/Rancher Tour	Management & Advisory Group visit to Rancher/Researcher Pilot Ranches & Solick Seeds	August 8 Madge Farms

Grazing Field Day	Grazing Principles and Range Management, Jim Gerrish	August 13, Bindloss
Feed What You Need	Strategies for Winter Feeding Programs (Dwayne Summack, Sask Ag, Karen Schmil, Blue Rock Mineral, Karin Schmidt, AB Beef), Farm Grant Updates (Olivia Sederberg)	October 30, Pollockville
Cattlemen Clinic	Perinatal Care (Dr. Claire Windeyer, U of C), Cattle Health (Dr. Cec Ruschkowski, OVS), Feed Analysis (Karen Schmil, Blue Rock Mineral), Feeding Options (Courtney O'Keefe, BRM), Farm Grant Updates (Olivia Sederberg)	November 6, Oyen
Facilitation of Feed Analysis	Hay probe; various labs	CARA Center
Assistance with Ration Development	Assistance for producers Lacey Gould	On-going
Forage/Livestock Team	Provincial Initiatives; represented by Dianne	On-going
Beef/Forage Email Contacts	Event, information updates	175+ members
One-on-one producer inquiries	Various Topics	On-going
Alberta Forage, Beef and Grazing Center	Dianne represents Forage and Livestock Team	Lacombe
Monthly Newsletters	Research Information; Coming Events	Mass-mailed to all producers

Conservation Component

Niwa Ranching, Acadia Valley Bar X Ranch, Kirriemuir Don Osadczuk, Iddesleigh	Biological Control of Canada Thistle Demo
CARA/Mark Strutt, Oyen Berry, Big Stone and Sounding Creeks	Shelterbelt Demo, Mulch Demo Riparian Health Assessments
Wanda and Matt Diakow, Cereal	Pollinator Project
Soil Health Benchmark Project	Coordination and analysis of soil samples from across Alberta
Carbon/Pasture Management Project	Monitoring of carbon levels under various grazing management practices; site not yet confirmed
Several Sites	Soil Health Management – various demonstrations Cocktail Cover Crops, Humalite Demos

Conservation Related Extension

Altario School Ag Presentations	Presentations on Water Quality & Careers in Agriculture (Dianne)	January 30
Environmental Farm Plan Workshops & Individual Help	Assisting individual producers Group Seminars	February 13, Oyen February 20, Hanna February 26, Consort March 12, Coronation
Altario School Environmental Evening	Water Quality, EFP's & CAP (Lacey)	March 13
Soil Health and Crop Field Day	See Crop Section	July 30
Periodic Newsletters CAP Info	Updates (newsletters, newspapers) Respond to inquiries, assist with applications	On-going
	Research Information; Coming Events	Mass-mailed to all producers
Oyen Public School Ag Club	Soil health and other ag related topics (Olivia)	On-going

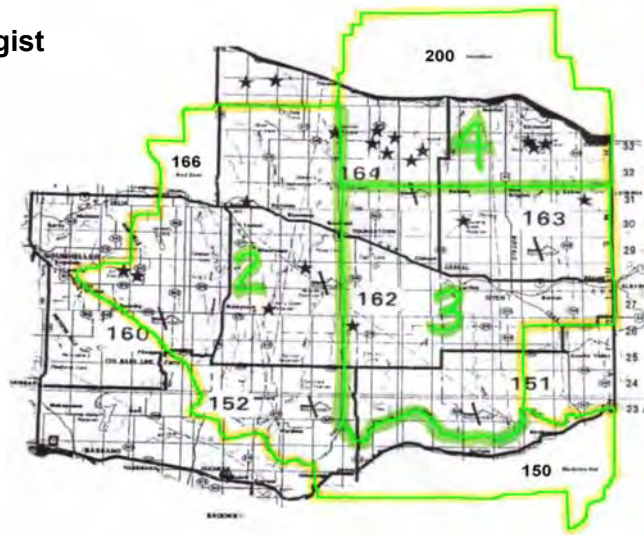
Economic Development and General Awareness Component

Cooperator Appreciation Night	Curtis Weber, Hi Voltage Cons'g	January 29, Oyen
Annual Meeting & Projects Review	Project Update RCMP Constables Day & Beaton	February 27, Cereal
Farm Safety	Youngstown K-6 & 7-12; Oyen K-6 & 7-9	January 29 & 30
	Acadia Valley & Jenner K-6 & 7-9	March 7 & 8
	Oyen SCHS 10-12	
	Consort & Altario K-6 & 7-12	
	AgforLive Van – Consort & Oyen Schools and Communities In partnership with Big Country, Buffalo, Empress & Neutral Hills Ag Societies	September 11-13
Classroom Ag Program	Hanna, Prairieview Colony , Oyen ARC, Acadia Colony, Warren Peers, Consort, Veteran	March/April
4-H Weigh-in & Achievement Days	Use of CARA's scale	June 4, Delia; June 9, Oyen November 11, Sedalia
Age Verification		CARA Center
General Inquiries	Weed ID, custom rates, business contacts, etc.	CARA Center
Newsletters	Monthly or Bimonthly	Mass mailed
Meals on Wheels	Delivery of Meals	2 weeks in January

Wildlife Management Update for Special Areas, 2018

Scott Stevens, Senior Wildlife Biologist

Alberta Environment and Parks



Wildlife Management Units (WMUs) in Special Areas

Since 2014, winter Aerial Ungulate Surveys have been conducted in Special Areas WMUs 151, 152, 162, 163, and 166. WMU 160, last surveyed in 2009, is a regional priority for the RDNSR and will be flown in winter 2018/19 conditions permitting. WMU 164, last flown in 2010, is also considered high priority within the region. When funding is available, aerial Pronghorn surveys are conducted annually.

Wildlife Summaries

Elk

- No elk were observed north of the Red Deer river during Pronghorn surveys conducted July 2018. This is unusual compared to previous surveys where multiple groups, primarily bulls, were observed in 151, 152, and 162. Fewer elk were observed north of Suffield base in WMU 150 than in previous years (187 in 2018 vs 553 in 2016).
- Surveys in January 2015 indicated no resident herd established in WMU 151 (i.e. no cows/calves); appeared to be a small resident herd in WMU 152 located (January 2015) east of highway 36 in vicinity of Cessford, but no recent reports of elk activity in that area.
- No elk were observed in WMU 163 during the aerial survey in January 2016. No elk have been harvested in that unit since it was added to 164/166 zone in 2015.
- 2018 is the fifth year of a general archery hunt for elk in WMUs 151/152 and 164/166/162/163 and the third year in WMUs 156/158/160.
- All Special Areas WMUs now have regulated elk hunting. These regulation changes were brought in to increase harvest on elk and provide harvest opportunity for landowners (antlerless elk), while general archery seasons limit increases of hunter density during the rifle season November 1-November 30. In 2017, the combined harvest of elk including Special Licence, General Licence and Landowner Licences, was estimated to be 46 in WMU 151/152, 57 in WMU 162/163/164/166, and 52 in WMU 156/158/160.

CFB Suffield Elk Summary

- Since 2012, there have been at least 5,927 elk harvested from CFB Suffield and the surrounding area by licenced and Indigenous hunters.
- Elk population has been reduced from >7,000 in 2014 to a current estimate of 3,600-3,800 (based on 2016 survey of 4,574 elk and taking into account last winter's harvest and calving this past spring).
- 500 antlerless special licences (two tags/licence) and 430 antlered special licenses issued for 2018/19 in the Suffield area and surrounding WMUs.
- Following the 2018/19 hunting season it is anticipated that the elk population will be further reduced to less than 3,000 head.
- 2,117 elk harvested at CFB Suffield have been tested for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD). One bull elk tested positive in 2016 and one cow elk tested positive in 2017 (0.1% prevalence).
- Concerns have been raised about the possibility of bovine tuberculosis (bTB) in the elk population associated with CFB Suffield. A testing program for elk will be continued through 2020 as part of an active disease surveillance program.

- In 2017/18, 138 elk harvested at CFB Suffield were tested specifically for bTB. Testing is complete with all cases NEGATIVE for bTB.
- In 2017/18, no visible lesions suggestive of bTB were detected in lymph nodes associated with CWD diagnostics in 3,472 mule deer, 2,517 white-tailed deer, 229 elk, and 204 moose.

Moose

- There are antlered and antlerless moose seasons in all WMUs in the Special Areas.
- Complaints were received from WMU 152 in winter 2014-2016 reporting damage to fences from moose. Surveys of WMUs 151 and 152 in 2015 substantiated increased number of moose in those units, and special licences were increased by 60% for antlerless and 80% for antlered moose. Similar allocations for 2017 and 2018.
- Survey of WMU 163 in 2016 indicated substantial increase of moose in that WMU. Allocations in 2016 were increased by 60% for antlerless and 55% for antlered moose. Given similarities between WMU 163 and 164, population of moose inferred to have increased there as well. Similar increases in allocations in WMU 164. Similar moose allocations in WMUs 163 and 164 in 2017 and 2018.

Mule deer

- Based on 2016 aerial survey in WMU 163, 2015 aerial surveys in WMUs 151 and 152, and 2014 surveys in WMUs 162 and 166, mule deer populations appear to be near department goals in most WMUs in Special Areas. In 2016, numerous complaints were received from hunters that numbers are 'too low'.
- After increased allocations in 2013 and 2014, combined with difficult winters in 2012 and 2013 and current information from aerial surveys, special licences were reduced slightly in most Special Areas WMUs in 2015-2017, with modest increases in 2018.

White-tailed deer

- A General Licence (no draw) can be purchased for white-tailed deer which allows harvest of either an antlered or antlerless animal. Currently there is also a Special Licence draw for antlerless white-tailed deer in all WMUs in Special Areas.
- Based on 2016 aerial survey in WMU 163, 2015 aerial surveys in WMUs 151 and 152, and 2014 surveys in WMUs 162 and 166, white-tailed deer populations appear to be near department goals in most WMUs in Special Areas. Antlerless special licence numbers were reduced slightly in 2015, and double tags removed; 2018 allocations similar to 2017.

Pronghorn

- Provincial survey was conducted in July 2018. AMAs G (WMUs 150,151,152) and H (WMUs 160,162,163,164,166) combined had 13% higher abundance than the last provincial survey in 2017. Moderate increase in allocations for trophy, archery, and non-trophy tags.
- Provincially, the population increased 23% between 2015 and 2017 to an estimated 18,185, but declined 18% to 14,972 in 2018. The decline is attributed to harsh winter/spring conditions in southern parts of the range.

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)

CWD was detected in:

- 327 of 6370 total samples (5.2%; up from 3.5% in 2016/17).
- 8.2% of 3417 mule deer
- 1.8% of 2489 white-tailed deer
- 0 of 198 moose (primarily from CFB Wainwright).
- 0.4% of 229 elk (primarily from CFB Suffield).

In the 5903 deer for which gender/sex was reported, CWD was detected in:

- 12.4% of 1778 male mule deer
- 3.7% of 1639 female mule deer
- 2.5% of 1739 male white-tailed deer
- 0.1% of 747 female white-tailed deer

The disease continues to expand westward into central Alberta. It was detected in seven new Wildlife Management Units (WMU) in the Red Deer/South Saskatchewan/Bow

watershed (102, 124, 138, 156) and Battle watershed (204, 206, 228). These units are adjacent to previous cases and indicate further geographic spread of CWD westward along major waterways. Of particular note, a cluster of cases was found near Tofield (WMU 242) and CWD was detected well up the Bow River east of Strathmore (southeast WMU 156).

Respectfully Submitted by:
Scott Stevens

100 YEAR FARM FAMILY AWARDS

Year:	# of Awards
1908	12
1909	36
1910	46
1911	36
1912	14
1913	6
1914	4
1915	2
1916	3
1917	1
1918	1
TOTAL	161

Respectfully submitted,
Shyanne Jones

Motions & Resolutions from 2018 Ratepayer Meetings

SA2SUB1&5 - Motion 1: Bob Gainer moves that the Special Areas Board send a letter to CFIA to tell them that the results of the Bovine TB investigation were not satisfactory and that further explanation is required. Seconded by Mike Hart. **Carried.**

SA2SUB1&5 – Motion 2: Mike Hart moves that Special Areas supply 1 million dollars to further the SAWSP Project but upgrade the application to include burying the pipe, rather than using open canals or creek channels, for downstream use. Seconded by Bob Gainer. **Carried.**

SA2SUB1&5 – Motion 3: Clint Blair moves to increase the lands available for conversion from grazing lease to cultivation lease to eight quarters. Seconded Bob Gainer. **Carried.**

SA2SUB1&5 – Motion 4: Scott Viste moves that the Special Areas Board invest in a shredder or use a shredding service to destroy important documents. Seconded by Bob Gainer. **Carried.**

Nominations:

Bob Gainer nominated Scott Viste to the road committee for SA 2 Subdivision 1.
Clint Blair moved nomination cease.

SA2SUB2 - Motion 1: Stratton Peake moves to look at options for increased irrigation on main pipeline, Bullpound and Carolside systems. Seconded by Neil Dornan. **Carried.**

SA2SUB2 - Motion 2: Stratton Peake moved to support further investigation of tax recovery land sales based on assessment, taking into account lands not sold under previous sales, to move forward at the appropriate time. Seconded by Neil Dornan. **Carried.**

SA2SUB3&4 – Motion 1: Regan Curry moves SAB conduct a feasibility study on providing water for irrigation from the Bullpound Creek. Seconded by Trevor Warburton. **Carried.**

SA2SUB3&4 – Motion 2: Jack Bunney moves that SAB conduct a feasibility study on irrigation waterline from Bartman Dam to Cessford area. Seconded by Randy Pierson. **Carried.**

SA2SUB3&4 – Motion 3: Calvin Rooke moves that SAB conduct feasibility studies of irrigation mainlines on the west side Highway 36 and near the Highway 876. Seconded by Greg Gordon. **Carried.**

SA2SUB3&4 - Motion 4: Lee Fryberger moves that SAB request recovery of the cost of peace officers patrolling secondary highways of Special Areas from the Province. Seconded by Andy Andrus. **Carried.**

SA2SUB3&4 – Motion 5: Lyle Connors moves that the SAB review the policy regarding Texas gates on the Wardlow road. Seconded by Lee Fryberger. **Carried.**

SA2SUB3&4 – Motion 6: Kevin Slorstad moves that SAB continue to investigate another tax recovery land sale. Seconded by Lee Fryberger. **Carried.**

SA3SUB4,5,6 – Motion 1:Moved by Lane Madge to have Special Areas allow a conversion of up to 7 quarters in total from grazing lease to cultivation lease per ratepayer. Seconded by Mark Perrault. **CARRIED.**

SA3SUB4,5,6 – Motion 2: Moved by Lane Madge to hold a referendum on wind energy in Special Areas. Seconded by Bernadine Coates-Perreault. **CARRIED.**

SA3SUB4,5,6 – Motion 3: Moved by Aaron Rude to revisit the guidelines and regulations Special Areas has in place for future wind projects. Seconded by Sheldon Kroker. **CARRIED.**

SA3SUB4,5,6 – Motion 4: Moved by Bruce Peacock and Seconded by Mark Perreault to appoint John Kimber to replace Sam Shadlock as Road Committee member for the NW corner of Special Areas 3-5. **CARRIED.**

SA4SUB1,2,3 – Motion 1: Doug Fawcett moved that the Consort & District Medical Centre board, moving forward, be more accountable to the Special Areas and the Village of Consort with accurate reports and that there be complete transparency. Darren Simpson seconded, **CARRIED.**

Resolution:

Whereas:

An increasing number of SA leaseholders are aging and scaling back in numbers in livestock,

Many younger ranchers would benefit greatly from being able to rent pasture from a neighbor,

The present lease sub-rental policy is found to be too restrictive and outdated.

Therefore be it resolved:

That the Special Areas Board and Advisory Council amend the lease sub-rental policy to include, along with the family, fellow ratepayers, meaning no fees.

Moved by Murray Sankey,

Seconded by Pat Rutledge. DEFEATED.

Moved by Doug Fawcett moved that Jay McGregor replace Doug Noble as road committee member in SD#3, SE Corner. Darren Simpson seconded. Carried.

**SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 28 & 29, 2018**

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Kevin Bossert	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 1
Neal Roes	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 2
Brad Slorstad	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 3
Brent Horner	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 4
James Madge	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 5
Daryl Swenson	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 7
Brad Osadczuk	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 8

Travis Foot	Special Area No. 3, Subdivision No. 4
Sam Shadlock	Special Area No. 3, Subdivision No. 5
Kevin Wilson	Special Area No. 3, Subdivision No. 6

Graham Schetzle	Special Area No. 4, Subdivision No. 1
Barry Redel	Special Area No. 4, Subdivision No. 2
Doug Noble	Special Area No. 4, Subdivision No. 3

SPECIAL AREAS BOARD

Jordon Christianson	Chair, Special Areas Board
Owen Francis	Director, Municipal Services
Darcy Ferguson	Director, Finance & Administration
Trent Caskey	Director, Property Administration
Corinne Kelts	Administrator, Special Area No. 4
Taryl Abt	Office Manager, Special Area No. 4
Brett Richards	Administrator, Special Area No. 2
Crista Stringer	Office Manager, Special Area No. 2
Darlene Herzog	Administrative Assistant, Special Area No. 2
Darran Dick	Administrator, Special Area No. 3
Victoria Munroe	Office Manager, Special Area No. 3
Wayne Bosch	Superintendent of Roads
Shaune Kovitch	Shop Superintendent – Absent March 28th
Ken Orum	Youngstown Shop
Darren Jones	Coordinator of Financial Services
Maeghan Chostner	Communications
Shyanne Jones	Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER 10:02 A.M.

Welcome and Introductions. Ms. Crista Stringer has recently joined the team as the Office Manager in Hanna. Mr. Christianson reviewed a few housekeeping items for the meeting then reviewed the meeting agenda.

MOTION AC01-01-18: CHAIRMAN OF MEETING

BRAD SLORSTAD NOMINATED JORDON CHRISTIANSON TO ACT AS CHAIRMAN OF THE FALL ADVISORY COUNCIL, SECONDED BY KEVIN WILSON. DARYL SWENSON MOVED NOMINATIONS CEASE. CARRIED.

MOTION AC01-02-18: VICE-CHAIRMAN OF MEETING

BRENT HORNER NOMINATED DARCY FERGUSON TO ACT AS VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE FALL ADVISORY COUNCIL, SECONDED BY BRAD OSADCZUK. NEAL ROES MOVED NOMINATIONS CEASE. CARRIED.

MOTION AC01-03-18: ORDER OF BUSINESS CHAIR

BRAD SLORSTAD NOMINATED BRAD OSADCZUK AS THE ORDER OF BUSINESS CHAIR, SECONDED BY NEAL ROES. KEVIN WILSON MOVED NOMINATIONS CEASE. CARRIED.

MOTION AC01-04-18: RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

BRAD OSADCZUK NOMINATED BRAD SLORSTAD; JAMES MADGE NOMINATED TRAVIS FOOT; BRENT HORNER NOMINATED DOUG NOBLE TO THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE. SECONDED BY KEVIN WILSON. NEAL ROES MOVED NOMINATIONS CEASE. CARRIED.

Ms. Corinne Kelts will assist the Resolutions Committee.

Mr. Christianson noted the minutes from the 2017 Fall Advisory Council meetings were distributed ahead of this meeting and asked if there were any errors or omissions.

MOTION AC01-05-18: ADOPTION OF DECEMBER 6, 7 & 8, 2017 AC MEETING

MOVED BY KEVIN WILSON AND SECONDED BY DOUG NOBLE THAT THE MINUTES OF THE 2017 FALL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING BE ADOPTED AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

The Hanna and District Historical Society has submitted a request for assistance with funding for an employee. The request was brought to the Board and further requested for Council's recommendation. The Board has also requested the Council provide direction on other funding requests coming in. The museum request is for \$10,000 annually. The Town of Hanna has committed \$10,000.

The Board has received requests from mental health to school sports and programs and would like direction from Council on how to proceed. Supporting the requests does provide a lot of good will in the community for the dollars spent.

Discussion returned to funding and recreation dollars noting 90% of funds come from industry. Funds are also available for recreation from the MSI Operational stream which has generally been allocated to Big Country Waste Management Commission. Typically, the Board handles the requests administratively - but does like to get Council input to see if the needs of communities are changing. The more SAB says yes to requests – the more requests come. For some requests, the Board can provide camping certificates or a load of gravel. There was a suggestion to pull \$100,000 from the Special Areas Trust Account and place into a Community Investment Fund for use. The pot of funds available for recreation is finite as it's based on a mill rate levy. The current recreational grant allocations are reasonably fair across all Special Areas. It was suggested the Resolutions Committee discuss and make a recommendation.

Mr. Christianson reviewed the issues surrounding Dinosaur Provincial Park (DPP). A quick review of the issues: Special Areas has issued grazing leases since 1938, DPP was established in 1955 and some lands overlapped with SA2. Special Areas has continued to issue grazing leases and now Alberta Environment and Parks wants to issue the leases as legal opinion indicates the lands in question are under Parks jurisdiction. This affects six lease holders. At the meeting with Minister Phillips and Minister Anderson, SAB requested status quo: the ability to issue and administer the leases. Minister Phillips indicated status quo could be maintained but the only tools available are to use what's currently in the toolbox – there will not be a legislative change. A memorandum of understanding has been signed before between AEP and SAB to allow SAB to administer and renew the leases. There is no documentation when DPP was established, leaseholders were given a handshake deal. When DPP was created, the premise was to protect the bone beds on the north side of the Red Deer River.

One potential option is for Special Areas to lease from Parks, then sublease to current leaseholders. Another option may be for Minister Phillips to sign a delegation of authority over those specific lands. At this point, lease holders can't leverage their leases – they have no value. Two of the leases have expired and this situation is causing financial harm as some of these lands are held as security.

It was noted this is a moral issue not a legal issue, since it was a hand shake deal nothing is on paper. In the process it is important to keep sight of the lease holder, it's leaseholders who are losing out. Precedent should count for something; Special Areas has been issuing the leases and should continue to do so. It was suggested a letter be sent thanking the Minister for her time and suggesting next steps.

Mr. Christianson provided an update on the Consort and District Medical Centre Board (CDMCB). Recently the Board rescinded the motion made at the Advisory Council Organizational meeting appointing Bonnie Sansregret and Lawrence Letniak to the CDMCB. There is still a lot of frustration and rescinding the appointment should not reflect the respect or quality of work the committee has performed. New appointments are needed.

An update was provided on the installation of the Sheerness Pipeline noting the pipe is in the ground and a second pressure test was recently completed. Reports are the pipeline will be good for spring irrigation.

There was a question about elk as this topic was also brought forward in the joint meeting with Minister Phillips and Minister Anderson. Minister Phillips requested a letter with specific asks be sent to her attention. It was suggested the letter include a request for a general elk season, a specific herd size, and landowner tags. Previously the Board has discussed costs for wildlife damage, the letter could be copied to the Ag. Minister as well. Fish & Wildlife have talked about taking away landowner tags – landowners may shut down their lands for hunting if the landowner tags are removed. There should be a general tag until the population numbers are where they should be.

LUNCH

Mr. Ferguson reviewed the proposed Advisory Council Code of Conduct. It was suggested to add 'elected Advisory Council' to the titles. The Councillor role is to bring concerns of their subdivision forward and advocate for the best of all Special Areas as a whole. Discussion continued on a few other points to be clarified. Mr. Ferguson will rework and thanked the Council for their attention.

Mr. Christianson welcomed Ms. Jesse Williams, Mr. Don Hogan, and Ms. Justine Comeau, Special Areas Ag. Fieldmen. This year the teams performed 101 extra inspections for noxious weeds and have put data onto a live map which was reviewed by Council. The live map enables the Ag. Fieldmen to look back and see if areas have shrunk or moved. Good data entered means they get good data out. There was a question on clubroot in SA4, Ms. Comeau noted SA4 is clean and there was a suspected case in SA3 but not confirmed. Mr. Christianson thanked the group for coming to show the map and provide updates.

BREAK

Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Jones came forward to review the 2017 Financial Statements. Beginning with the statement of financial position, there is less cash because of the paving job on Hwy 876. The provincial government did partner and provide 50% of the funding for the paving project. Note receivables are going down as the Acadia Foundation pays off the loan for building lodges in Hanna, Oyen and Consort.

The province has stepped in to aid with the Provincial Education Requisition Credit (PERC) which provides a tax credit for uncollectable education property taxes on oil and gas properties. Special Areas received \$578,420 after applying to the program which will be applied to the June school requisition. Mr. Ferguson noted net financial assets are a good indicator of financial health noting if Special Areas liquidated everything there would be \$63M in the bank. One more year of a deficit budget is forecasted, with 2019 being close to a balanced budget.

Mr. Jones reviewed the cash basis position of Special Areas noting the planned deficit is now \$2.8M. Revenue came in \$5.7M ahead of budget due to lease revenue which includes the cost sharing on Hwy 876 and a bill will be submitted for the fire originating from CFB Suffield for approximately \$679,000. On the expenses side, the work on Solon Rd was done in-house, and development of the Oyen Rail Yard is \$720,000 so far. The projected deficit was \$2.01M and came in at \$2.32M due to MSL write-offs, gravel pit reclamation, the Bindloss Fire and PERC funding. It was noted when Special Areas spends to a deficit, the deficit is fully funded by the operational surplus from previous years.

Mr. Christianson thanked Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Jones for the update.

Mr. Dale Thacker from HALO joined the meeting and was introduced. Mr. Thacker appreciates the opportunity to come and provide an update to Council, the last update was a few years ago. He has

been Chairman of HALO for the past two years and wanted to inform the Council how appreciative HALO is for the Board's consistent support. HALO has had approximately 80 missions in Special Areas. The Bell 206 is a long-range chopper that can go from Medicine Hat to Hanna and onto Calgary without refueling and can land just about anywhere. A new helicopter is expected in May 2018 which will build in redundancy and allow for more missions. HALO is not government funded – yet, the government is beginning to appreciate the services HALO provides to residents in this area.

Mr. Christianson thanked Mr. Thacker for the information and the updates.

Ms. Tally Quaschnick joined the meeting to provide an update on Assessment. Ms. Quaschnick is the designated assessor for Special Areas and focuses on industrial properties. The assessment base is steady and assessment year modifiers for linear property were frozen this year, which was the cause of the assessment downturn the past couple of years. There were no appeals save for the ATCO Sheerness Powerplant appeal. Assessments in Special Areas peaked at \$4.5B and are down to \$4B with drilling picking up in SA4. The province has decided to centralize industrial assessments but there are still a number of questions to be answered and the transition will take a couple of years.

Mr. Christianson thanked Ms. Quaschnick for the information.

Mr. Ferguson noted how mill rates are incorporated with assessment. Starting to see results delivered in a timely manner. Special Areas begins budgeting in November based on the current year's assessment as assessments are generally not delivered until the end of the 1st quarter of the next year. Then adjustments are made to the mill rate (which is 90% paid by industrial ratepayers). Special Areas has tried to avoid big fluctuations in the mill rates. In April, the Board determines the mill rates depending on how much revenue needs to come in. It is thought recovery is happening in the oil and gas sector and assessment may continue to increase.

Mr. Christianson welcomed Mr. Nate Horner to the Council Meeting. Introductions were made around the room. Mr. Horner thanked the Council for allowing him the opportunity to come and present himself as a candidate with the United Conservative Party and provided his background information. Mr. Horner decided to become a delegate on the PC side after the current government came into power. At this time, there's no party policy or timelines for creating policy as the AGM is scheduled for May. Mr. Horner has travelled throughout the constituency and connected with a number of people to determine if there is an appetite for change as he would like to become the UPC candidate for this riding and challenge the current incumbent.

Mr. Christianson thanked Mr. Horner noting the Special Areas relationship with the MLA is important as this form of governance is unique and not all in Edmonton understand who or what the Special Areas is. Thanks for taking the time to come and talk with Council.

ADJOURNMENT AT 4:16 P.M.

THURSDAY, MARCH 29TH – CALL TO ORDER 9:00 A.M.

Mr. Christianson welcomed everyone to the second day and reviewed the days agenda; one addition to discuss - a business incentive program in Special Areas.

MOTION AC01-06-18: GO IN-CAMERA

MOVED BY BRAD OSADCZUK AND SECONDED BY BRAD SLORSTAD THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL GO IN-CAMERA AS PER SECTION 24, FOIP AT 9:06 AM. CARRIED.

Special Areas staff and managers left the room.

MOTION AC01-07-18: RECONVENE MEETING

MOVED BY TRAVIS FOOT AND SECONDED BY BRAD SLORSTAD THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL COME OUT OF CAMERA AT 10:20 AM. CARRIED

Staff and managers returned.

Mr. Francis brought forward the Road Program noting Road Committees have met and no further changes were made from the Fall Advisory Council Meeting. A motion to proceed is required.

MOTION AC01-07-18: 2018 ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

MOVED BY DOUG NOBLE AND SECONDED BY GRAHAM SCHETZSLE THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMEND TO THE SPECIAL AREAS BOARD TO PROCEED WITH THE 2018 ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

MOTION AC01-08-18: 2018 ROAD SURFACING PROGRAM

MOVED BY BARRY REDEL AND SECONDED BY SAM SHADLOCK THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMEND TO THE SPECIAL AREAS BOARD TO PROCEED WITH THE 2018 SURFACING PROGRAM AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

There was discussion on a business incentive program in Special Areas and thought it would be a good tool for the Board and Management of Special Areas. At the moment, nothing formal is written. Generally, the responsibility is on the developer but Special Areas has partnered for some commercial developments. With raw land, the developer is responsible to create an Area Structure Plan, line up utilities and work with PRMS to create subdivisions. There are opportunities for Special Areas to assist with the planning, earthwork or maybe even utilities.

It was suggested the provincial government be engaged to provide a rural remote assistance grant similar to the northern allowance.

The Resolution's Committee can discuss and determine if a request for policy should come forward.

Mr. Christianson began a round-table discussion to review any updates from boards and committees Council are appointed to.

Acadia Foundation: A number of employees want to unionize so AF is trying to keep up with union wages and provide incentives for pension however costs will need to be curbed. Current requisition is approximately \$4M however a large portion is for repayment of the loan. Operating and maintenance should be \$1M per year. Consort struggles to have a full house, Oyen is generally full, and Hanna has a couple of empty rooms. Consort has renovated to create two-bedroom units as a strategy to entice more residents.

Ag Service Board 2: nothing to report.

Ag Service Board 3: no meeting since election.

Ag Service Board 4: no meeting since election.

Alfred Brown Handibus: the bus ran into a deer, it was written-off however they bought it back for \$1,000 and once repairs are done it will need to be recertified in Red Deer. The group is trying to raise funds through Casinos.

Big Country Medical Dental Centre Board: there are monthly meetings to discuss building updates and a new clinic. Doctor recruitment will commence shortly.

Big Country Waste Management Commission: the last cell is completed and is bigger than originally thought. Mr. Greg Sheppard has retired as CAO, Mr. Sean Olmstead is managing operations.

Revenue is down however expenditures are also down. The new cell is expected to last longer.

Recycling is a liability but society insists on it – there is no market for the materials submitted.

Battleriver Watershed Alliance: last meeting was in February, a book titled Traversing the Terrain is very interesting with a lot of good information. The group provides good programming to schools and take students to the watershed to go through biology etc. The group may need to move to a new building.

Canadian Badlands Corporation: convention was held recently and Mr. Brad Slorstad was elected as a CBL Board Member. It was a good convention with good information.

Carolside South Irrigation Advisory Committee: water is still frozen. The ATCO Pipeline is complete and pivots are in place.

Chinook Applied Research Association: CARA is slow this time of year.

Consort District Medical Centre Board: new appointments are required for this board.

MOTION AC01-09-18: APPOINTMENT CDMCB

MOVED BY KEVIN WILSON AND SECONDED BY TRAVIS FOOT THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL APPOINT BARRY REDEL AND GRAHAM SCHETZSLE TO THE CONSORT & DISTRICT MEDICAL CENTRE BOARD. CARRIED.

East Central 911 Call Answer Society: Special Areas has withdrawn from this group. Consort has not made their decision yet. Work has begun with Red Deer 911 to change over. It is anticipated the move will happen in May.

East Central Ambulance: meetings are monthly, the group just went through the accreditation process with AHS.

Mr. Christianson suggested the rest of the round table be tabled for now to welcome the Hanna Climate Change Taskforce members: Jay Slemp, Chris Warwick, Trisha Sewell and Kim Neill. Mr. Slemp thanked the Council for the invitation and provided a quick recap of why the group was formed. When the province announced the Climate Change policy in November 2015, a decision was made to form a taskforce which immediately got to work and engaged a 3rd party, Urban Systems, to provide an impact study and asset mapping study. The study was conducted on the premise Sheerness would completely close. The taskforce has also engaged with various Ministers including: Bilous, Phillips, Anderson and McCuaig-Boyd to impress upon them the impacts of the Climate Change policy will not happen in 2030, the impacts are happening now. One example is the reduced housing prices in Hanna. With the Climate Change policy, it is difficult to attract business to Hanna and the taskforces wants to mitigate that. As people move when the opportunity presents, it means less people using the facilities, less volunteers, less kids in schools etc. The taskforce has proposed the idea of a fund to assist the community. The Coal Community Transition Fund was approached, and funding was received to investigate a community power generation project. Youngstown also applied received funding for a snow-bird park.

The engagement sessions produced several good ideas, one of which will be released in the next week. Community Action Teams have been created to create diversification, momentum is going on a number of large projects. One project is a Livestock Hub which would bring together equine, mini-slaughter house, vet services etc. – essentially bringing a bunch of services together for the agriculture community. Its thought projects in this area could focus on energy or agriculture as there are plenty of each.

The Federal government is becoming engaged and more will be asked of them, it will be important for both provincial and federal governments to be at the table. It was asked if this was the time to move forward with SAWSP, that project hasn't been brought forward yet. The shut-down or conversion of Sheerness Generating Station has been discussed as if the plant is not pumping as much water, the province could pick up the costs to maintain or expand current levels so irrigation in the area could benefit.

The community fund referred to earlier would require \$2-4M annually for at least 10 years which could help with recreation facilities seeing fewer users. Its not just a Hanna issue, it's an issue for the surrounding area. Business retention and research & development opportunities are other opportunities to consider. The taskforce would like to know Council's thoughts on this type of fund and if the solar project should be explored.

The solar project does have regulator hurdles to overcome such as a municipality owning a utility or using public lands for the project. It was noted solar generates power at the right time, and when there is a power shortage solar enters the market ahead of coal and gas.

If Council is interested, the Hanna Climate Change Taskforce will pursue a proposal to government and attempt to work on environmental studies this spring/summer.

Mr. Christianson thanked the group for coming to provide an update.

LUNCH

The Council returned to the round table discussions.

East Central Housing: haven't attended a meeting yet, fundraising is still happening for the community centre, the grant for furnishing is almost complete.

Henry Kroeger Regional Water Services Commission: work continues on the water tower.

Municipal Planning Commission: an appeal hearing was held for the Jenner Wind Farm. Blu Earth is going to submit an application shortly; they need to go back to AUC as they changed what was originally approved under the previous SA LUO.

There was a question on reviewing the SA LUO. It is not under review at this time but scheduled to be reviewed every five years. There was concern if technology is jumping forward so quickly, the policy may not be keeping up.

Palliser Economic Partnership: the Oyen Rail Project received two awards from the Economic Developers of Alberta. The vision of the group is good and worth pursuing.

Palliser Regional Municipal Services: not much to report on at this time.

Prairie Conservation Forum: wasn't able to attend the AGM.

Recreation Boards: ongoing work.

Red Deer River Watershed Alliance: haven't been able to attend.

Red Deer River Municipal Users Group: haven't attended a meeting recently.

SAMDA: AGM is coming mid-April.

Shirley McClellan Regional Water Services Commission: funds are being spent to get water to White Sands including a truck fill. Lone Pine Colony wants to withdraw and the Commission doesn't want that to happen, Balf also wants to withdraw as lines haven't gotten there yet. There is a question of how much debt does the community own since they were owners in the beginning.

That covers the Board and Committees roundtable.

Mr. Francis reviewed Issues Binder issues on the surfacing strategy and BCWMC. The Carolside turnout is planned to allow a truck to turn around which may require a 2nd approach. There was a question of moving the water shack back and to the west. Placement will be explored on the other side of the dam. The Carolside Camp ground will have \$15/night camping fee, same as Blood Indian this year. Upgrades will be done at the boat launch docks and washrooms.

An Animal By-law is proposed to deal with animals in communities. Once drafted, it will go through Administrators and come to the Board for a recommendation for the Minister to create a Ministerial Order.

Moving SA4 to Red Deer 911 was reviewed, there are still discussions on radios.

Regional training – a grant application was submitted and a Request for Proposal advertised. Five bids were received, the low end was \$40,000. There was a question about developing a wildland fire training manual which would be developed and rolled out prior to the fire season. SAB employees are going to require rudimentary training. It is not clear when the grant will be released. If a module is developed the training centre in Hanna could be used to recoup costs.

Mr. Caskey provided an update on the Tax Recovery Land Sale noting one application is waiting on a survey around a water body.

The Assessment Review Board is investigating if hearings for the Sheerness appeal could occur in Calgary or Edmonton – these hearings are at the SAB costs for the Chair, CARB panel, legal on the appeal board's end, SAB legal counsel etc. So, rent free options are being pursued in Calgary/Edmonton or Red Deer. There was discussion on the multiple appeals and noted each new assessment is appealable, ATCO keeps coming with different complaints each year.

On the elk issue, a letter will be submitted to Minister Phillips with specific asks.

Mr. Christianson requested the Issues Binder be tabled and welcomed Mr. Terry Duchcherer from Netago. Mr. Duchcherer thanked the Council for the opportunity to review some of the challenges with the internet and rural service. CRTC has ruled the internet is a utility and everyone has a right to it. Netago's goal is to take everyone to 50Mb service. There was discussion on the wireless channel widths noting the preferred channel is 20Mhz, and the different spectrum options. Netago's towers are a fair distance apart so LTE is used as it is high power and goes a long way. The back-haul options were reviewed. Upgrade work is being done over the next few years. Customers biggest

complaints are issues with home routers so they are being switched out for routers that report to an analytic tool. It was asked if a FAQ sheet could be made available, and that has been talked about but there hasn't been the manpower to do it.

Mr. Christianson thanked Mr. Duchcherer for this time and the explanation, and for donating wireless access to the new Consort Community Centre and other local community events. Mr. Duchcherer thanked the Council for support noting they are happy to work with non-profits so long as the Netago logo is displayed.

The Council returned to the Issues Binder items.

Mr. Caskey noted Community Pastures are allotted 100% except for Remount Pasture which is down 20% due to fire. Patrons in those fields received letters. A new range rider will be starting at Sounding Creek the beginning of June with Mr. Ken Picotte retiring.

Bovine Tuberculous investigation is essentially complete, waiting on tests of some to see if cultures will grow. The Federal Agriculture Minister was out last week to celebrate the end of the issue. It's great news, thanks to Mr. Brad Osadczuk for all his efforts on this issue.

There was a question on reclaiming unused road allowances. Mr. Caskey will request Mr. Ball provide information to Mr. Swenson.

On the Buffalo-Atlee house, everything should have been completed yesterday and water swapped next week.

It was asked if any funds have flowed from the federal government in relation to the fire at CFB Suffield, there was talk of interim payments offered. Affected residents are being told they cannot disclose their dealings on this issue – it was noted full disclosure was of benefit for the bovine TB issue.

The SAWSP draft Terms of Reference and consultation process has begun – which is the last component of the EIA. After the last portion is complete, the whole project will be pulled together and Council will need to determine if it should move forward to the NRCB. It is forecasted that application process will be upwards of \$500,000.

The Rail bed policy has been drafted but needs review by the Chair before being brought to Council.

Mill Rates have not been discussed at the Board yet – those discussions will happen in April.

The Medical Mill Rate was reviewed noting the fund is in a deficit this year but is expected to build up in future years. It will need to be determined if there are enough funds for the Oyen clinic. There was discussion the doctors should manage the clinic. Each area has it's own model: in Hanna, doctors pay for the clinic but not the staff, in Oyen doctors pay for staff and not clinic, and in Consort there are no doctors. Oyen doctors have full patient lists but some on those lists have relocated and they need to clean up their lists so new local residents can get in.

AHS have taken over recruiting and is doing more. Recruiting internationals is no longer an option as there are many doctors here in Canada that have completed their programs but don't want to come to rural Alberta.

The capital equipment plan was reviewed.

Mr. Christianson noted the ABC Review is wrapped up and completed.

The Oyen Rail Yard project was reviewed noting cars are coming in. A Part 9 company has been struck for the Town of Oyen and Special Areas (50/50) to manage this project. The company will require two directors from each participant and one jointly appointed representative. Special Areas has committed \$2.1M for this project thus far.

Mr. Christianson reminded the Council the Hanna Climate Change Taskforce was looking for direction.

MOTION AC01-10-18: HCCTF TO PROCEED

MOVED BY BRAD SLORSTAD AND SECONDED BY BRENT HORNER THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL SUPPORT THE SPECIAL AREAS BOARD TO FURTHER INVESTIGATE PROJECTS/OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE HANNA CLIMATE CHANGE TASKFORCE. CARRIED.

The Resolutions Committee presented their resolutions.

RESOLUTION #1 – Hanna and District Historical Society

WHEREAS the Hanna District Museum is an asset to the community of Hanna and the Special Areas,

WHEREAS volunteers are difficult to find to help operate the museum,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Special Areas provide \$10,000 to the Hanna and District Historical Society for one (1) year.

MOVED BY Travis Foot
SECONDED BY Brad Slorstad

CARRIED.

The Council intends for this to be one-year funding and not an ongoing commitment.

RESOLUTION #2 – Incentives for new business

WHEREAS there is no current existing policy in the Special Areas for incentives for new businesses,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Special Areas administration draft a policy to present to Council for incentives for new businesses in the Special Areas.

MOVED BY Brad Slorstad
SECONDED BY Graham Schetzsl

CARRIED.

This would be a good starting point.

RESOLUTION #3 – Appointment of Special Areas Board Chair

WHEREAS Jordon Christianson's appointment as Chair of the Special Areas Board expires in September 2018,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that on direction of the Advisory Council, Jordon Christianson's term as Chair of the Special Areas Board be renewed.

MOVED BY Kevin Wilson
SECONDED BY Brad Osadczuk

CARRIED.

No discussion.

RESOLUTION #4 – In Camera Sessions

WHEREAS there is confidential business that the Advisory Council may wish to discuss at council meetings,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that during every Council meeting an in-camera session be held.

MOVED BY Brad Slorstad

SECONDED BY Neal Roes

CARRIED.

It was suggested the Council need time to convene, it may not require an in-camera session but time can be allotted on the agenda.

RESOLUTION #5 – Term for Chair, Special Areas Board

WHEREAS Jordon Christianson's appointment as chair of the Special Areas Board expires in September 2018,

WHEREAS the previous Chair's term was a lifetime appointment,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that on direction of the Advisory Council, Jordon Christianson's term as Chair of the Special Areas Board be a minimum of 5 years.

MOVED BY Kevin Wilson

SECONDED BY Brad Osadczuk

CARRIED.

No discussion.

Mr. Christianson noted direction was required on the Code of Conduct.

MOTION AC01-11-18: ADVISORY COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

MOVED BY TRAVIS FOOT AND SECONDED BY KEVIN BOSSERT THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL ADOPT THE CODE OF CONDUCT AS DISCUSSED AND AMENDED. CARRIED.

The Council was requested for an appointment onto the Endangered Species Conservation Committee.

MOTION AC01-12-18: APPOINTMENT TO ESCC

MOVED BY NEAL ROES AND SECONDED BY KEVIN WILSON THAT DOUG NOBLE BE APPOINTED AS THE SPECIAL AREAS REPRESENTATIVES ON THE ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSERVATION COMMITTEE AND BRAD OSADCZUK BE THE ALTERNATE. CARRIED.

Mr. Trent Caskey presented Ms. Corinne Kelts with her 35-year award from Municipal Affairs. Congratulations.

Mr. Christianson thanked Ms. Richards for the hospitality suite, Ms. Herzog and Ms. Stringer for the refreshments at the meeting, Ms. Kelts for supper last night, Ms. Jones for organizing the meeting, and the Advisory Council members for their time and attention.

Have a great Easter everyone!

JORDON CHRISTIANSON MOVED FOR ADJOURNMENT AT 3:34 P.M.

SPECIAL AREAS SPRING ADVISORY COUNCIL

JUNE 21, 2018

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Kevin Bossert	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 1
Neal Roes	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 2
Brad Slorstad	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 3
Brent Horner	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 4
James Madge	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 5
Daryl Swenson	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 7
Brad Osadczuk	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 8 - Absent

Travis Foot	Special Area No. 3, Subdivision No. 4
Sam Shadlock	Special Area No. 3, Subdivision No. 5
Kevin Wilson	Special Area No. 3, Subdivision No. 6

Graham Schetzle	Special Area No. 4, Subdivision No. 1
Barry Redel	Special Area No. 4, Subdivision No. 2
Doug Noble	Special Area No. 4, Subdivision No. 3

SPECIAL AREAS BOARD

Jordon Christianson	Chair, Special Areas Board
Owen Francis	Director, Municipal Services
Darcy Ferguson	Director, Finance & Administration
Trent Caskey	Director, Property Administration
Corinne Kelts	Administrator, Special Area No. 4
Brett Richards	Administrator, Special Area No. 2
Darran Dick	Administrator, Special Area No. 3
Shaune Kovitch	Shop Superintendent
Ken Orum	Infrastructure Manager
Darren Jones	Coordinator of Financial Services
Maeghan Chostner	Communications
Shyanne Jones	Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER 10:04 A.M.

Welcome and Introductions. Mr. Christianson welcomed everyone and reviewed the agenda. Introductions were made around the room to introduce the Town of Hanna Council as well as the Hanna Climate Change Taskforce members.

Mr. Jay Slemp, Mayor Chris Warwick and Ms. Trisha Sewell from the Hanna Climate Change Taskforce came forward to provide both Councils with an update on the proposed Hanna Solar Project which is one prong with the broader coal transition strategy. A Coal Community Transition Fund grant was received with an intent to use it for economic development projects going forward. A call was put out to the community and a number of large-scale project ideas have come forward. The livestock hub previously discussed is moving forward after a busy spring, there's a potential project to investigate growing more food here as grocery stores have indicated transportation is becoming a barrier. Another opportunity is to focus on youth resiliency as an impact mitigation piece or looking for a business model around Seniors assistance.

An eco-system is being created to help businesses that have already started, bringing service providers together to try and develop better collaboration to work with each business. A strategy for social impact mitigation is being investigated. It's important the long-term strategy drives actions not projects driving actions.

The Canada West Foundation has also engaged, the group looks at competencies and skills of the human capital in the area. The intent is to show potential businesses the skills sets of people in the area and encourage them to use this area as their base.

Mayor Warwick provided a brief history of how the Hanna Climate Change Taskforce came to be and steps already taken. It has been determined a fund is needed to bring in yearly funds to assist this community with the transition away from coal. Meetings have been held with provincial and federal Ministers to stress the importance of creating a Coal Community Transition Fund to assist this community through the transition away from coal. The community is trying to find positive solutions and that is being recognized.

One avenue being explored is the Hanna Solar Project which would be supported by a joint venture between Special Areas, the Town of Hanna, Greengate Power and ATCO. Mr. Slemp reviewed the proposed project and previous discussions with Council. A recap of last discussion:

- the municipal equity for this project should be sought from the province
- site location could be on public lands (specifically the previously mined area)
- project would provide yearly funds to the Coal Community Transition Fund

Mr. Christianson thanked the representatives for the recap and invited Mr. Dan Balaban, CEO for Greengate Power; Ed Whittingham, Consultant; and ATCO representatives Asanga Gunatillaka, Dwight Redden and Dean Kroetsch to come forward. Mr. John Ell was introduced as another consultant working with the Hanna Climate Change Taskforce to understand the industry and guide the Taskforce.

The Taskforce has formulated specific asks of the provincial and federal governments to assist with getting the project going and creating the Community Fund to assist this coal affected community. The provincial and federal governments are engaged with this project and discussions continue.

Mr. Christianson thanked everyone for the information and invited the group to stay for lunch.

LUNCH

Mr. Christianson welcomed Mr. John Englert from Alberta Transportation, Mr. Ron Middleton, consultant and Mr. Darrell Toma, consultant to the meeting to provide an update on the SAWSP (Special Areas Water Supply Project).

Mr. Englert reviewed the roles of the government departments involved and the current state of the project. The end of phase 1 which includes field studies and technical work is approaching. The next phase is review by NRCB and most likely public hearings. The funding model for the EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) was reviewed noting the project requires a champion.

Mr. Middleton provided an overview of the project noting the intent is to take water from the Red Deer River and distribute it into Berry Creek, Craig Lake and down the Sounding Creek. There would be secondary storage near Oyen. Water would be available for non-irrigation use throughout the route. The project began in the late 1980's, initially the concept was for 7m³/sec and 20,000 acres of irrigation with 27 multiuse projects. Then in 2004 it was amended and further amended in 2007 to 2.5m³/sec and 8,000 acres of irrigation with 14 multi-use projects. The supply of water is available in the RDR and a diversion licence of 6,000 dam³ was applied for by the SAB. The EIA noted it is a good environmental project, but it's economically challenged.

Mr. Toma reviewed the finding from the socio-economic study which included a cost-benefit analysis. The scale of the current project is much lower than the original which causes some issues with the cost-benefit analysis – it's best to put in \$1 of investment and get \$1 of benefit in return. At the current scale, this project yields 12.8 cents per \$1 of investment (ratio of 0.128). Other provincial projects were reviewed: Oldman River Dam had a cost-benefit ratio of 1.17, Meridian Dam's ratio was 0.33-0.35.

Options going forward:

- Option 1: Complete the EIA report and put it on a shelf. (would save time and money).
- Option 2: Complete the EIA report, submit to AEP for regulatory review and sign-off. Then put it on a shelf (would cost time and most likely funds but would be further ahead).
- Option 3: Complete the EIA report, and request the AEP Minister to direct NRCB to undertake a Public Interest Determination without federal CEAA participation (would require a project champion).
- Option 4: Complete the EIA report, and embark on the NRCB Public Interest Determination with federal CEAA participation.

A decision from the Council is not required today but will be required after the EIA is completed in Fall 2018.

The original objective of the project was to drought proof the Special Areas but with the reduction in the scale, there is a great reduction in benefit.

Mr. Christianson thanked Mr. Englert, Mr. Middleton and Mr. Toma for coming to provide an update to the Council.

BREAK

Mr. Ferguson reviewed the proposed Public Participation Policy. Like the Code of Conduct, much of what is already done has been captured. The new *Municipal Government Act* requires more public participation, Special Areas does have tools meeting the requirements such as Ratepayer Meetings or Road Committee Meetings. General policy principles include good governance and promoting sustainable decisions while taking in public input into decisions.

MOTION AC02-01-18: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION POLICY

MOVED BY KEVIN WILSON AND SECONDED BY GRAHAM SCHETZSLE THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMEND TO THE SPECIAL AREAS BOARD TO APPROVE THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION POLICY IN PRINCIPLE AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

Mr. Christianson noted the Spring Advisory Council Minutes were emailed for review prior to this meeting. If there are no comments or amendments, a motion to approve would be appreciated.

MOTION AC02-02-18: SPRING ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

MOVED BY BRAD SLORSTAD AND SECONDED BY TRAVIS FOOT THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE SPRING ADVISORY COUNCIL HELD MARCH 28 & 29, 2018 AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

The requirements for closing a meeting under the *MGA* will be sent to Council.

Mr. Christianson thanked the Council for taking the time to attend today.

JORDON CHRISTIANSON MOVED FOR ADJOURNMENT AT 3:01 PM.

SPECIAL AREAS SPRING ADVISORY COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 27, 2018

OYEN SENIORS RECREATION CENTRE

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Kevin Bossert	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 1
Neal Roes	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 2
Brad Slorstad	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 3
Brent Horner	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 4 - Regrets
James Madge	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 5
Daryl Swenson	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 7
Brad Osadczuk	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 8

Travis Foot	Special Area No. 3, Subdivision No. 4
Sam Shadlock	Special Area No. 3, Subdivision No. 5
Kevin Wilson	Special Area No. 3, Subdivision No. 6

Graham Schetzslle	Special Area No. 4, Subdivision No. 1
Barry Redel	Special Area No. 4, Subdivision No. 2
Doug Noble	Special Area No. 4, Subdivision No. 3

SPECIAL AREAS BOARD

Jordon Christianson	Chair, Special Areas Board
Owen Francis	Director, Municipal Services
Darcy Ferguson	Director, Finance & Administration
Trent Caskey	Director, Property Administration
Corinne Kelts	Administrator, Special Area No. 4
Brett Richards	Administrator, Special Area No. 2
Darran Dick	Administrator, Special Area No. 3
Shaune Kovitch	Acting Superintendent of Roads and Equipment
Kelsey Martin	Aggregate Manager
Darren Jones	Coordinator of Financial Services
Maeghan Chostner	Communications
Shyanne Jones	Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER 9:35 A.M.

Mr. Christianson welcomed everyone and reviewed the agenda noting there are a few speakers and the agenda will be fluid today.

Mr. Christianson welcomed the Delia School Enhancement Society (DSES) representatives Ms. Amber Marshall, Ms. Kim Thompson, and Ms. Shandele Battle, PLRD Trustee, and Mr. Steven Nielsen, Chief Deputy Superintendent of PLRD.

Ms. Marshall and Ms. Thompson came forward to discuss the Community Hub proposal. The community of Delia was approved for a new school and the community would like to capitalize on the footprint being proposed. A Value Management Assessment was completed in 2016 which outlined three priorities that can be incorporated into the new school build. The Community Hub would include a Library to continue with a bricks and mortar space, a multi-purpose space for community events or enhanced learning, and a field house for sporting events. The proposed project is estimated to cost \$1.2M for the 370m² Community Hub.

According to the province, a community group can add to the footprint of a project from Alberta Infrastructure – provided the additional funds for the project are in place before the architectural drawings are done. DSES began fundraising efforts in Summer 2018 and have raised \$649,500 to date. The Village of Delia has committed \$100,000, Starland County has committed \$200,000 and Prairie Land Regional Division has committed \$100,000 in addition to the maintenance and operation of the Community Hub once constructed.

Having a school keeps a community viable and DSES is requesting broad municipal support – understanding Deila is not in Special Areas however approximately 9% of the school population of 139) does reside in Special Areas. Enrollments in Deila are expected to remain stable for at least the next 10 years.

The request is for Special Areas to contribute \$50,000 toward this Community Hub project.

Ms. Marshall and Ms. Thompson thanked the Council for the time and opportunity to present. Mr. Christianson thanked the group for coming and providing good information - noting it will generate good discussion.

Mr. Christianson reviewed the minutes from the June 21, 2018 Advisory Council meeting.

MOTION AC03-01-2018: MINUTES OF JUNE 21, 2018

MOVED BY BRAD OSADCZUK AND SECONDED BY DOUG NOBLE THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL APPROVED THE MINUTES OF JUNE 21, 2018 AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

Mr. Ferguson reviewed the requirements for In-Camera sessions during Advisory Council meetings. The *Municipal Government Act* outlines the specific instances 'in-camera' can be utilized. A summary of the requirements will be emailed to Council.

Representatives from CNRL joined the meeting. Mr. Christianson welcomed Mr. Nicholas Gafuik, Mr. Randy Stamp, Mr. Andy Astalos, Mr. Brent Lawrence and introductions were made around the room.

Mr. Stamp thanked the Council for the opportunity to come, noting the vastness of Special Areas is appreciated. CNRL appreciates all the support to date and wants to continue being a part of the community. Costs are rising, and production is declining in this region, there has been a long-term decline in natural gas prices and prices are expected to remain low. Mr. Stamp reviewed the status of current operations. CNRL has been working to reduce operating costs and improve operational efficiencies. The goal is to keep wells producing to ensure property taxes are paid to the municipality, lease rentals paid to the farmers and ranchers in the area, and jobs are available for well operators. CNRL is requesting a 30% reduction in all costs, and an answer would be appreciated as soon as possible as budgets are being reviewed.

CNRL currently supplies employment to 58 local residents and provides \$66M in local yearly contribution. The length of reduction would depend on markets and other inputs.

Some concerns were raised regarding downy brome issues created when the pipeline was put in, and the lack of fairness shown to landowners when prices were good.

Mr. Christianson thanked the representatives for coming and providing information.

LUNCH

Mr. Roy Bedford, Municipal Viability Advisory, joined the meeting to discuss a Viability Review with the Village of Cereal. The Minister of Municipal Affairs has ordered a viability review for the Village of Cereal to evaluate the operations and functions and determine if the Village is able to continue or should be incorporated into the surrounding rural municipality. The *Municipal Government Act* sets out the process and regulations required for a municipality to dissolve and the viability review is one step in the process. It was noted the receiving municipality does not have a choice, however the receiving municipality will receive five-years of MSI funding and be eligible to apply for transitions funding.

A number of items are reviewed including: governance and regional cooperation; administrative and operational capacity; financial stability; and infrastructure. The process takes up to 24 months to complete.

Mr. Christianson thanked Mr. Bedford for coming and the information provided.

Mr. Ferguson reviewed the current status of the budget and projections to year end. Revenues are up \$3.2M and expenditures are down due; in part, to vacant positions. The revised budget deficit for 2018 is \$1.135M.

Discussion moved to the request from the Delia School Enhancement Society. The request is for \$50,000 and Special Areas has provided support for projects in neighboring municipalities.

MOTION AC 03-02-2018: DELIA SCHOOL ENHANCEMENT SOCIETY

MOVED BY GRAHAM SCHETZSLE AND SECONDED BY BRAD OSADCZUK THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMEND THE SPECIAL AREAS BOARD PROVIDE THE DELIA SCHOOL ENHANCEMENT SOCIETY WITH A ONE-TIME DONATION OF \$50,000 FOR THE COMMUNITY HUB PROJECT. CARRIED.

The Council discussed the presentation and request from CNRL. Administration noted the reduction would not only be to CNRL, it would be applied industry wide which could impact the budget by upwards of \$15M. There was a suggestion CNRL speak to the provincial government about reducing the assessment on low producing wells.

MOTION AC03-03-2018: CNRL REQUEST

MOVED BY KEVIN WILSON AND SECONDED BY TRAVIS FOOT THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMEND THE SPECIAL AREAS BOARD WRITE A LETTER TO CNRL TO THANK THEM FOR COMING TO PRESENT AND THE INFORMATION THEY PROVIDED, HOWEVER THE BOARD IS NOT IN POSITION TO ENTERAIN THEIR REQUEST. CARRIED.

Mr. Christianson noted the Oyen Rail Update could be provided while on tour of the Rail Yard.

Work continues on the Hanna Solar Project, specifically refining budgets and looking for cost reductions to make a viable project. A recent press release from ATCO indicates they are seeking buyers for coal fired generating stations.

Mr. Caskey and Ms. Richards came forward to discuss the Community Pasture policy. The current policy has served Special Areas well, however there have been comments and concerns raised with sections of the policy. The reason for review stems from motions made at 2018 Ratepayer Meetings. This will be discussed further at Fall Advisory Council.

Mr. Francis brought forward a strategy for the Cement Stabilized Grade (CSG) crew equipment. A brief history, back in 2004 the SAB undertook a staged surfacing approach on 500kms of road. The equipment used for the CSG crew could be used to attend to items put on the back burner during the staged surfacing program such as hamlet streets, cemetery roads, and requests received from Towns and Villages. The equipment in question could be used for back trail repairs, intersection improvements and shoulder pulls. Shoulder pulls address the top and immediate area by fixing up slopes and getting the proper geometry for a road. Some roads have widened from 8.5m tops to 11m tops with heavy industrial users. It is estimated a shoulder pull crew could rectify 50 miles per year with no additional equipment.

The Shoulder Pull program will be part of the 2019 budget discussions.

Mr. Caskey provided a review of an issue with filling dug outs near Cessford. Dug outs are not being filled until late in the year and there have been issues with the pumps. A plan is in place to fill the dug outs sooner in the season.

Mr. Christianson thanked the Council for taking the time to attend today noting those interested can come on a short tour of the Oyen Rail Yard.

JORDON CHRISTIANSON MOVED FOR ADJOURNMENT AT 3:38 P.M.

**SPECIAL AREAS FALL ADVISORY COUNCIL
DECEMBER 5, 6, & 7, 2018
HANNA PROVINCIAL BUILDING**

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Kevin Bossert	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 1
Neal Roes	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 2
Brad Slorstad	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 3
Brent Horner	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 4
James Madge	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 5
Daryl Swenson	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 7
Brad Osadczyk	Special Area No. 2, Subdivision No. 8 – Regrets Dec 5 th AM
Travis Foot	Special Area No. 3, Subdivision No. 4 – Regrets Dec 6 th AM, Dec 7 th
Sam Shadlock	Special Area No. 3, Subdivision No. 5
Kevin Wilson	Special Area No. 3, Subdivision No. 6
Graham Schetzle	Special Area No. 4, Subdivision No. 1 – Regrets Dec 7 th
Barry Redel	Special Area No. 4, Subdivision No. 2
Doug Noble	Special Area No. 4, Subdivision No. 3

SPECIAL AREAS BOARD

Jordon Christianson	Chair, Special Areas Board
Owen Francis	Director, Municipal Services
Darcy Ferguson	Director, Finance & Administration
Trent Caskey	Director, Property Administration
Corinne Kelts	Administrator, Special Area No. 4
Brett Richards	Administrator, Special Area No. 2
Darran Dick	Administrator, Special Area No. 3
Shaune Kovitch	Acting Superintendent of Roads and Equipment
Ken Orum	Facilities Manager
Kelsey Martin	Aggregate Manager
Crista Stringer	Office Manager, SA2
Victoria Munroe	Office Manager, SA3
Taryl Abt	Office Manager, SA4
Darren Jones	Coordinator of Financial Services
Maeghan Chostner	Communications
Shyanne Jones	Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER 10:00 A.M.

Mr. Christianson welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming to the last Council meeting of 2018. Introductions were made around the room.

The Hanna Historical Society submitted a package which has been handed out to all Councillors.

Mr. Christianson reviewed the agenda for the next three days; one addition was requested to discuss wind towers. Any further additions can be added later.

MOTION AC04-01-18: CHAIRMAN OF MEETING

JAMES MADGE NOMINATED JORDON CHRISTIANSON TO ACT AS CHAIRMAN OF FALL ADVISORY COUNCIL. KEVIN WILSON MOVED NOMINATIONS CEASE. CARRIED.

MOTION AC04-02-18: VICE CHAIRMAN OF MEETING

DARYL SWENSON NOMINATED DARCY FERGUSON TO ACT AS VICE-CHAIRMAN OF FALL ADVISORY COUNCIL. NEAL ROES MOVED NOMINATIONS CEASE. CARRIED.

MOTION AC04-03-18: ORDER OF BUSINESS CHAIR

KEVIN WILSON NOMINATED BRAD SLORSTAD TO ACT AS ORDER OF BUSINESS CHAIR FOR FALL ADVISORY COUNCIL. DARYL SWENSON MOVED NOMINATIONS CEASE. CARRIED.

MOTION AC04-04-18: RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

BRAD SLORSTAD NOMINATED KEVIN WILSON; KEVIN WILSON NOMINATED BRAD OSADCZYK; BRENT HORNER NOMINATED NEAL ROES TO THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE. DARYL SWENSON MOVED NOMINATIONS CEASE. CARRIED.

The minutes of the September 27th Advisory Council meeting were reviewed.

MOTION AC04-05-18: ADOPTIONS OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2018 MINUTES
MOVED BY GRAHAM SCHETZLE AND SECONDED BY BRAD SLORSTAD THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL ADOPT THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2018 AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

Business arising out of the Spring Advisory Council minutes and subsequent meetings:

Resolution 1: Hanna Historical Society did request funds and were granted a one-time payment. A further request has now been submitted.

Resolution 2: Incentives for new business - this will be discussed with Economic Development officers this afternoon.

Resolution 3: appointment of SAB Chair – completed.

Resolution 4: In-camera session. This was discussed and reviewed at the September 27th meeting.

Resolution 5: Term of Chair. The new appointment included a three-year term. This question could be posed to ADM Sandberg tomorrow.

Motion from June meeting: recommendation of public participation policy – this is in place and has been ratified by the Board.

Motions from September meeting: \$50K to Delia School Enhancement Society was advanced, they were very grateful; letter to CNRL was sent indicating a reduced tax rate of 30% will not be implemented – their response will be forwarded to the Council for information.

Motions from Ratepayer Meetings were reviewed.

AC MOTION 04-06-18: SA2 SUB1&5 MOTION 1 TO FLOOR
MOVED BY DARYL SWENSON AND SECONDED BY KEVIN WILSON THAT MOTION 1 FROM SA2 SUB1&5 BE MOVED TO THE FLOOR TO DISCUSS. CARRIED.

SA2SUB1&5 - Motion 1: Bob Gainer moves that the Special Areas Board send a letter to CFIA to tell them that the results of the Bovine TB investigation were not satisfactory and that further explanation is required. Seconded by Mike Hart. **Carried.**

There are concerns the CFIA has not provided a solid explanation for the catastrophe.

MOTION AC04-07-18: LETTER TO CFIA
MOVED BY TRAVIS FOOT AND SECONDED BY KEVIN WILSON THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMEND TO THE SPECIAL AREAS BOARD TO WRITE A LETTER TO CFIA REQUESTING FURTHER EXPLANATION ON THE RESULTS OF THE BOVINE TB INVESTIGATION IN ALBERTA. CARRIED.

AC MOTION 04-08-18: SA2 SUB1&5 MOTION 2 TO FLOOR
MOVED BY JAMES MADGE AND SECONDED BY DOUG NOBLE THAT MOTION 2 FROM SA2 SUB1&5 BE MOVED TO THE FLOOR TO DISCUSS. CARRIED.

SA2SUB1&5 – Motion 2: Mike Hart moves that Special Areas supply 1 million dollars to further the SAWSP Project but upgrade the application to include burying the pipe, rather than using open canals or creek channels, for downstream use. Seconded by Bob Gainer. **Carried.**

Mr. Christianson noted the final EIA report has not been received, the report is in the final editing stages. Calls have been received to request funds be used to further the project and others have indicated there is no economic benefit and the project should be discontinued. Once the final EIA report is received, it will be reviewed, and focused public meetings will be arranged to get general feedback from the public. It was asked if the project could be amended to have increased pipe and increased acres. Special Areas could request amendments at the NRCB level who would direct Alberta Transportation to amend the application. Another option is to investigate a brand-new project which could include regional projects for capturing water in particular areas.

Options for the SAWSP project include: Option one: discontinue investigation and project – at this point, there has been over seven-figures invested. Option two: take the report to Alberta

Environment and Parks (AEP) to sign off – sending to AEP may result in further studies being required. Option 3: take to NRCB.

MOTION AC04-09-18: TABLE SA2 SUB1&5 MOTION 2

MOVED BY JAMES MADGE AND SECONDED BY SAM SHADLOCK THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL TABLE MOTION 2 FROM SA2 SUB1&5 UNTIL FURTHER INFORMATION CAN BE PROVIDED ON THE SAWSP PROJECT. CARRIED.

MOTION AC04-10-18: SA2 SUB1&5 MOTION 3 TO FLOOR

MOVED BY JAMES MADGE AND SECONDED BY BRENT HORNER THAT MOTION 3 FROM SA2 SUB1&5 BE MOVED TO THE FLOOR TO DISCUSS. CARRIED.

SA2 SUB1&5 – Motion 3: Clint Blair moves to increase the lands available for conversion from grazing lease to cultivation lease to eight quarters. Seconded Bob Gainer. **Carried.**

Mr. Madge noted this topic has been discussed for some time. The Board is in place to look at individual cases. While eight quarters could be high, the uptake when two quarters were available is not clear. Mr. Christianson noted the policy for conversion was not published, a cultivation lease would only be approved if it fit with regressing permit guidelines. Mr. Slorstad noted if the conversion would make operations more viable, it should be considered. Farming methods have changed since these policies were implemented.

There was more discussion on the number of quarters, land use, and what defines Native Prairie. It was suggested the definition of abandoned cultivation needs to be clarified.

MOTION AC04-11-18: CL CONVERSION POLICY

MOVED BY GRAHAM SCHETZSLE AND SECONDED BY SAM SHADLOCK THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMEND TO THE SPECIAL AREAS BOARD TO PROVIDE FURTHER INFORMATION TO REVIEW THE CULTIVATION LEASE CONVERSION POLICY INCLUDING GIS WORK NOTING LAND USE. CARRIED.

SA2 SUB1&5 - Motion 4: requested Special Areas invest in a shredding service. Completed- a contracted shredding service has been arranged for the Hanna Office.

MOTION AC04-12-18: SA2 SUB2 MOTION 1 TO FLOOR

MOVED BY NEAL ROES AND SECONDED BY BRAD SLORSTAD THAT MOTION 1 FROM SA2 SUB2 BE MOVED TO THE FLOOR TO DISCUSS. CARRIED.

SA2 SUB2 - Motion 1: Stratton Peake moves to look at options for increased irrigation on main pipeline, Bullpound and Carolside systems. Seconded by Neil Dornan. **Carried.**

MOTION AC04-13-18: INVESTIGATE IRRIGATION

MOVED BY BRAD SLORSTAD AND SECONDED BY NEAL ROES THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMEND TO THE SPECIAL AREAS BOARD TO INVESTIGATE AND SUPPORT OTHER OPTIONS FOR IRRIGATION IN SPECIAL AREAS. CARRIED.

MOTION AC04-14-18: SA2 SUB2 MOTION 2 TO FLOOR

MOVED BY BRAD SLORSTAD AND SECONDED BY NEAL ROES THAT MOTION 2 FROM SA2 SUB2 BE MOVED TO THE FLOOR TO DISCUSS. CARRIED.

SA2 SUB2 - Motion 2: Stratton Peake moved to support further investigation of tax recovery land sales based on assessment, taking into account lands not sold under previous sales, to move forward at the appropriate time. Seconded by Neil Dornan. **Carried.**

MOTION AC04-15-18: TABLE MOTION 2 SA2 SUB2

MOVED BY NEAL ROES AND SECONDED BY KEVIN WILSON THAT MOTION 2 SA2 SUB2 BE TABLED UNTIL FRIDAY'S DISCUSSION ON TAX RECOVERY LAND SALES. CARRIED.

SA2 SUB3&4 Motions 1, 2, and 3 all request investigating irrigation; all have been covered.

MOTION AC04-16-18: SA2 SUB3&4 MOTION 4 TO FLOOR

MOVED BY BRAD SLORSTAD AND SECONDED BY TRAVIS FOOT THAT MOTION 4 FROM SA2 SUB3&4 BE MOVED TO THE FLOOR TO DISCUSS. CARRIED.

SA2 SUB3&4 - Motion 4: Lee Fryberger moves that SAB request recovery of the cost of peace officers patrolling secondary highways of Special Areas from the Province. Seconded by Andy Andrus. **Carried.**

It was noted ticket fines are paid to Alberta Treasury and are not sent back to the area, Mr. Francis indicated if a fine is on a local road, funds can be directed back to the municipality. Special Areas is not interested in having the perception CPO's have a ticket quota to fill. The point of the motion was to request the provincial government stop downloading to municipalities.

MOTION AC04-17-18: SA2 SUB 3&4 MOTION 5 TO FLOOR
MOVED BY BRENT HORNER AND SECONDED BY BRAD SLORSTAD THAT MOTION 5 FROM SA2 SUB 3&4 BE MOVED TO THE FLOOR TO DISCUSS. CARRIED.

SA2 SUB3&4 – Motion 5: Lyle Connors moves that the SAB review the policy regarding Texas gates on the Wardlow road. Seconded by Lee Fryberger. **Carried.**

Texas gates have been an issue – the person who enjoys the benefit of the gates should be responsible to maintain them. Special Areas maintains the gates installed for SAB benefit. The vast majority are on private roads and road allowances. If the gate doesn't need to be reset, Special Areas will hire a vac truck to clean it out. It was suggested Special Area connect with those who have Texas gates near when cleaning out to share costs.

MOTION AC04-18-18: TEXAS GATE MAINTENANCE
MOVED BY BRENT HORNER AND SECONDED BY DARYL SWENSON THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMEND TO THE SPECIAL AREAS BOARD TO CONTACT ADJACENT LANDOWNERS WHEN TEXAS GATES ARE TO BE CLEANED SO ALL GATES IN THE AREA ARE CLEANED AND EACH OWNER PAYS THEIR SHARE. CARRIED.

This will require coordination, so landowners are billed separately and not through SAB.

SA2 SUB3&4 Motion 6 requested investigating another TRLS – this will be addressed on Friday.

SA3 SUB4,5&6 Motion 1 requested conversion of grazing lease to cultivation lease and has already been addressed.

MOTION AC04-19-18: SA3 MOTION 2
MOVED BY SAM SHADLOCK AND SECONDED BY BRAD SLORSTAD THAT MOTION 2 FROM SA3 BE MOVED TO THE FLOOR TO DISCUSS. CARRIED.

SA3SUB4,5,6 – Motion 2: Moved by Lane Madge to hold a referendum on wind energy in Special Areas. Seconded by Bernadine Coates-Perreault. **CARRIED.**

There have been a lot of discussions on wind towers with the EDP Renewables Sharp Hills project. Those at the SA3 Ratepayer meeting were not supportive of the project citing studies from Europe regarding noise harm. Special Areas Land Use Order (LUO) has setback requirements from residences based not only on distance but also include noise levels at the residence. The LUO is well written however it was last reviewed five years ago, it may be time to update the document.

A concern was noted that one party can change the contract and the contract remains valid.

Property rights need to be considered, there are those who want the project on their private lands and they have signed contracts. The EDP Renewables project is on deeded land. Special Areas has heard the frustration of the community and respects the decision of private land owners.

MOTION AC04-20-18: TABLE MOTION 2
MOVED BY BRAD SLORSTAD AND SECONDED BY DOUG NOBLE THAT MOTION 2 FROM SA3 BE TABLED UNTIL AFTER THE LUNCH BREAK. CARRIED.

LUNCH

Mr. Scott Stevens has arrived, Ratepayer motion discussions will continue after his presentation.

Welcome Mr. Stevens. Mr. Stevens thanked the Council for the opportunity to provide an update. Mr. Stevens manages WMU 162 and 163, WMU 150 is managed out of Medicine Hat and WMU 200 is managed through Edmonton/Vermillion. Mr. Stevens manages 15 WMUs across the province. An overview on Pronghorn Antelope, Mule Deer, Moose, and Elk was provided.

In Spring 2014, Elk herds were 7,000+, after significant harvests the number was down to 3,800 after the 2016 hunting season. It is estimated 6,000 elk have been harvested since 2012/2013. Every WMU in Special Areas has an elk season now.

There was discussion on Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) noting last year had the highest number of positives with mule deer. This is still monitored.

Another concern is moose, they were introduced and the numbers have grown. It was noted moose go through a fence – not over and motor vehicle accidents are a concern. Mr. Stevens appreciated the information noting more regular surveys will assist.

Discussion returned to elk, noting the hunt is appreciated however there is still a lot of frustration in the community. A lot of damage continues, some adjacent to the Base are paying for 6-7foot electric fence as one individual lost \$45,000 in feed this year. Mr. Stevens was asked to provide direction for Council to communicate their frustration, letters and meetings have occurred with Ministers, Commanders, the Western Commander. It was suggested the Base Commander is a good avenue to request hunting continues. There is a challenge to balance hunter density with harvest.

Mr. Christianson thanked Mr. Stevens for coming and providing an update.

Ms. Wanda Diakow and Ms. Trisha Sewell joined the meeting to discuss business incentives. It was noted Special Areas has provided incentives in the past and other municipal incentives were reviewed. Ms. Diakow suggested some guiding principles SAB may want to consider when setting up business incentives. It was recommended a committee be appointed to develop a Business Retention & Expansion (BRE) strategy and an investment toolkit.

Mr. Christianson thanked Ms. Diakow and Ms. Sewell for coming to Council.

Council returned to discuss the remaining Ratepayer motions.

MOTION AC04-21-18: RATEPAYER SA3 MOTION 3 TO FLOOR

MOVED BY DOUG NOBLE AND SECONDED BY KEVIN WILSON THAT MOTION 3 FROM SA3 BE MOVED TO THE FLOOR TO DISCUSS. CARRIED.

SA3 SUB4,5,6 – Motion 3: Moved by Aaron Rude to revisit the guidelines and regulations Special Areas has in place for future wind projects. Seconded by Sheldon Kroker. **CARRIED.**

MOTION AC04-22-18: REVISIT LAND USE ORDER

MOVED BY DOUG NOBLE AND SECONDED BY TRAVIS FOOT THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMEND TO THE SPECIAL AREAS BOARD TO REVISIT THE LAND USE ORDER. CARRIED.

MOTION AC04-23-18: RATEPAYER SA4 MOTION 1 TO FLOOR

MOVED BY DOUG NOBLE AND SECONDED BY BRENT HORNER THAT MOTION 1 FROM SA4 BE MOVED TO THE FLOOR TO DISCUSS. CARRIED.

SA4 SUB1,2,3 – Motion 1: Doug Fawcett moved that the Consort & District Medical Centre Board, moving forward, be more accountable to the Special Areas and the Village of Consort with accurate reports and that there be complete transparency. Darren Simpson seconded, **CARRIED.**

There was discussion on improvements that could be made with this Board. It was suggested the Board sell the clinic to the incoming doctor however with the turnover AHS has indicated the transition cannot occur. There was a suggestion to have one administrator for all three clinics in SAB. At this point, each clinic is operated under a different model. When patient loads build up in Consort, the transition discussion can resume.

BREAK

Mr. Caskey brought forward a draft Abandoned Rail Bed policy to discuss. A flow chart was reviewed with a number of the options for lands adjacent to rail beds. This draft only references selling lands and has not considered lease lands. Mr. Christianson noted at present, Special Areas does not have the authority to transfer lands without Minister approval – that authority has only been delegated for tax recovery land sales.

Caveats were discussed noting water line caveats are not respected but caveats should be included for a potential utility. Special Areas has had access issues with easements. It was suggested clean-up of the parcel should be a condition of the sale to make it a win/win. One concern is when the rail companies walk away, and liability becomes the responsibility of the landowner. It may be worth

getting a legal opinion on who the environmental liability falls to. Where there is existing interest, Special Areas should retain title – however in some areas, it does not make sense for the Board to maintain an interest.

Introductions were made for Ms. Morgan Horvath, the new Director of Property Administration Administrative Assistant as well as Ms. Lisa Bietelspacher, Lease Supervisor.

Mr. Brad Osadczuk joined the meeting.

Ms. Brett Richards came forward to review the Community Pasture Policy. Points of contention in the policy include: Pension Eligibility/Exit Age, Spouses, Assessment, AUMs in pastures outside SAB, distance from pasture and residence (some have a lot of land in Special Areas but reside just outside).

It would be helpful to review the policy and have specific guidelines. The current policy works however very few are happy using it.

Mr. Christianson thanked Ms. Richards for the review.

Discussion continued on the purpose of the Community Pastures and costs for maintaining the pastures. It was noted the cost of grazing in the Suffield Block is over \$1/day. If a large increase is proposed, a letter could be sent to the patrons to give advance notice. It was suggested a resolution be made for Community Pastures.

Mr. Christianson reviewed emergent issues noting cultivation leases have been discussed as has the SAWSP project. The Hanna Solar Project discussion will occur Friday with members of the Taskforce. Livestock at large is an issue that came from the Animal Control Order discussions. Wind turbines have already been discussed.

The Hanna Solar project has been a joint project with the Town of Hanna to develop a community owned utility. The municipal portion of revenues generated would go into a community development fund. The project has been pitched with a formalized ask to the provincial government. Recently Mayor Warwick and Mr. Christianson met with Ministers Bilous and Anderson where it was communicated the province will not support the project as it doesn't fit into the renewable procurement process, and their projected price of the long-term contract (cost for difference). It was noted, for this community the project was not about infrastructure but about the ability to create a sustainable long-term community development fund.

There is no plan for coal affected communities. Hanna is different from Parkland or Leduc communities as they are closer to larger centres. If workers are trained to do other positions – they are most likely positions outside Special Areas. A project such as this will not save the Hanna community, but it could be part of a solution. Currently the group is looking at merchant markets on power and assessing federal infrastructure grants – if grants are acquired for capital there may be opportunities on the merchant market.

Mr. Foot noted there are a lot of unused grazing leases in Special Areas, AEP seems to keep better handle on use or over used leases. Some are purchasing and running the price up.

Items which require continued discussion: Livestock at large.

ADJOURNMENT 5:04 P.M.

DECEMBER 6, 2018

CALL TO ORDER 9:02 A.M.

Mr. Christianson welcomed everyone back to day 2 and reviewed the days agenda.

Mr. Darcy Ferguson and Mr. Darren Jones reviewed the interim financial statements and proposed 2019 Budget. The interim financial statements project the revenues and expenses to the end of this year.

Mr. Ferguson reviewed the statement of financial position noting last years deficit was \$2.9M and this year a surplus of \$2.3M is projected. Revenues caused the surplus this year, extra revenue was received for MSI as the province advanced funding (\$1.7M in 2018) which will be taken out of the 2019 allocation. Assessment stayed strong. If there is a slow withdraw from well revenue it could be off set by oil well drilling tax which is increasing due to horizontal wells. There was cost savings in the GBC and oiled road program due to inclement weather this fall – 8kms of GBC were not completed. Unexpected projects, such as paving at the Hanna Airport was grant funded at 80% and

the remaining 20% was cost-shared with the Town of Hanna; and an overlay was done at Cactus Corner.

Going into budget, the accumulated surplus is approximately \$11M which can change spending program and advancing programs. Once the accumulated surplus reaches \$5M, cash flow considerations will be required.

Mr. Ferguson moved on to the projected 2019 Budget noting a \$2.9M deficit it planned which includes contract work. Projected revenues are \$52M with taxation being the largest component. There is an expected increase in bad debt as a couple more companies have been added to the list, some of these debts could be cleared if a takeover occurs. The province did send a rebate for the school portion of bad debt from oil and gas companies. Interest revenue was discussed noting one of the advantages of being a Crown agency is having access to the government investment vehicles like CCITF (consolidated cash investment trade fund). Oil well drilling tax has a conservative number. There was discussion on the Miscellaneous Lease rate and mill rates including the splits in the mill rate. Grant revenue was reviewed noting MSI funding is being negotiated – it's a balance between per capita and per kilometer funding.

On the expenditure side, it was noted Advisory Council have not seen a per diem increase in 10 years – the rate was tied to a Ministerial Order in 2008. Hanna Administration Office expenditures were reviewed along with each District Office. The 10-year capital plan was reviewed noting planned fire halls for Big Stone and Homestead Coulee have been moved to 2020 and 2021 respectively. STARS and HALO contributions remain constant at \$25,000. Discussion continued on each area. The Youngstown Service Centre is a significant cost centre with \$2.8M including capital. YSC budget includes a full contingent of employees (mechanics and service technicians). Roads and streets maintenance was reviewed noting there is a proposed 25-mile shoulder pull program. Only one grader replacement is planned for 2019. Two scrapers are scheduled to be rebuilt with new serial numbers and new warranty and two additional scrapers purchased. Special Areas is looking to sell two scrapers as well. 2019 will see the cement base course work finish up and provide opportunity for that crew to work on hamlet improvement projects, cemetery jobs and some shoulder pull work. Granular Base Course work scheduled for 2018 was not completed and will be carried forward to 2019. There was discussion on the Dorothy Elevator and status, Mr. Francis noted the site was cleaned up this fall. There was discussion on the Parks revenues and expenditures noting the report with detailed numbers is in the Minute Book.

BREAK

Mr. Gary Sandberg, ADM, Municipal Affairs and Mr. Darin Perusini joined the meeting. Mr. Sandberg thanked the Council for the opportunity to provide updates on a few items. The *Local Authorities Election Act* had amendments which will come into effect January 1, 2019 and deal with campaign finance and how much can be donated to candidates. This change is not expected to have an impact on Special Areas. Another change is the campaign period moving from four weeks ahead of election to six weeks; and removing the pressure for candidates to submit nominations within a two-hour window on a particular day (Nomination day).

Another major item is municipal funding which will be tied to provincial revenues. MSI funding will continue as outlined, then a new baseline of funding for municipalities will be implemented. Discussions with AUMA and RMA continue.

Specific to Special Areas, the Minister did approve an interim budget for 2019 to spend up to 50% of the 2018 budget providing authority to spend as of January 1, 2019. Considerable work has been done on the Animal Control Order and work continues. The expiry dates on the Application of the Public Lands Act Regulation and Special Areas Service Fees Regulation have been repealed – those can come forward anytime a change is required instead of a prescribed timeline. The process for the Village of Cereal's Viability Review was discussed and options reviewed.

It was noted Advisory Council submitted a resolution on the term of the Special Areas Chair and Mr. Sandberg noted the provincial government decided to appoint Chairs of Agencies, Boards or Commissions for a three-year term.

Mr. Christianson thanked Mr. Sandberg and Mr. Perusini for taking the time to address Council.

LUNCH

Mr. Foot joined the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER 1:06 P.M.

Mr. Christianson reviewed the agenda for the rest of the afternoon. Appreciation awards for Council will be directed to the Hospitality Room.

Mr. Francis reviewed the 2019 Road Program including the scheduling and timelines. It was noted 100% of the 2018 Road Construction program was completed. More detail on the GBC program will be covered in Mr. Kelsey Martin's presentation. 2019 Road construction was reviewed noting priorities come from local road committee meetings. There is a lot of pre-planning and trying to synchronize with ATCO and Telus.

MOTION AC04-24-18: 2019 ROAD PROGRAM TO ROAD COMMITTEES
MOVED BY NEAL ROES AND SECONDED BY TRAVIS FOOT THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS
ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMENDS TO THE SPECIAL AREAS BOARD THAT THE 2019
PROPOSED ROAD PROGRAM BE PRESENTED TO ROAD COMMITTEES. CARRIED.

Mr. Russ Watts from Alberta Transportation came forward to provide an update to Council. Future projects were discussed noting an overlay on Hwy 36 south of Hwy 9 will be rescheduled, due to the inclement weather in September it was not completed in 2018. Hwy 41 from Hwy 570 to Hwy 9 had an overlay completed. A few other projects were discussed for Hwy 884, Hwy 872 and Hwy 41 which have been published on the three-year AT Program. Alberta Transportation has also developed a plan that will expand the overweight/over dimensional load corridor to support the movement of these loads throughout the province. Highway 41 through Special Areas is included in these proposed new routes. Mr. Watts commented the partnership on three-digit highways is working well and will be open for discussions after departmental approvals are received (expected some time in April 2019).

Mr. Watts invited questions from Council. There was a question on Hwy 9 repairs planned and noted there is still a challenge as it's not clear why the road is failing. Another question was raised on widening for Hwy 36, it costs three times as much to widen a road as it does to pave.

Mr. Francis thanked Mr. Watts and Alberta Transportation for partnering with paving, using AECON Special Areas was able to utilize the services and complete adjacent projects.

Mr. Christianson thanked Mr. Watts for attending.

Mr. Kelsey Martin came forward to provide an analysis on the road program and review historical costs. Road surfacing, construction and maintenance employ an average of 149 individuals and represents 53% of the Special Areas annual budget; project coding in the budget ensures each project can be tracked. Initiatives implemented were reviewed noting the Special Areas costs versus industry. SAB standard cost compares crew productivity while actual costs measures the cost efficiency of the entire organization. Actual costs have been 22% lower than Alberta Transportation actual rates. The intent of this work is to create a benchmark which can be used to communicate information for day to day operations. It was suggested Mr. Martin attend Road Committee meetings.

There is a lot of information in the presentation, it will be made available to Council.

BREAK

Mr. Francis reviewed the proposed Shoulder Pull Program which has a goal to re-establish the width and crown of older roads in the interest of decreased maintenance costs. Concern from Road Committees are roads that are 30-35 years old where the driving surface has deteriorated due to different traffic styles and requirements. There is an opportunity to utilize the cement crew for 10-12 weeks of shoulder pull work. The potential locations for the project were reviewed. The other option is to hire a contractor for the work – both options have been included in the 2019 proposed budget.

Council returned to the budget discussion picking up with Water. Dams, Carolside and SAWSP were reviewed noting SAWSP funds drop in 2020 and into the future. Other areas were reviewed such as regional waste management, FCSS (partially funded, province pays up to 80%); Ag Service Boards, range management and community pasture operations. Discussion moved to the Recreation Board funding noting big projects on the horizon include the Consort Swimming Pool, Oyen pool liner (with the Hanna pool liner expected in the near future), Town of Hanna Community Hall renovation project, or there is a Hanna community spray park proposal. Special Areas has included \$300,000 across all three areas for special projects.

Discussion continued on Parks, in a campground it's difficult to run without some form of subsidy unless sites are awning to awning. There was a question on residents using the parks and surveys have come back 70% local or a tie in to local. The playground by the concession at POP has deteriorated and the budget includes funds for a replacement in the same area. It was noted if fees are increased, there is an expectation of increased services.

Mr. Armstrong informed the Council of the amazing job Ms. Riley Thompson has been doing as the Safety Coordinator, Mr. Neil Stringer has done a great job as a Parks Foreman, and Mr. Jamie

Erickson is very knowledgeable and a great resource. Mr. Christianson echoed those comments and thanked Mr. Armstrong for another dedicated year.

The remaining areas of the budget were reviewed. Mr. Ferguson noted there was revenue available which was used to enhance the scraper fleet.

The total deficit proposed is \$2.8M which can be taken from accumulated operational surplus that currently has \$11M. This budget proposes some contract work and project work to draw down the accumulated operational surplus.

Mr. Ferguson reviewed the In/Out Budget List. Improved internet service would require a \$2M investment – the current infrastructure is at capacity. Netago has installed fibre in the Village of Consort and improvements will be seen rurally. Other projects on the list were discussed, Veteran Fire Hall in 2019 is going ahead. Corrals at Sounding Creek Community Pasture were discussed noting the new range rider is examining and evaluating moving the corrals closer to Hwy 41. The remaining items on the In/Out list were reviewed.

Mr. Christianson thanked Mr. Darcy Ferguson and Mr. Darren Jones for their work on the Budget and In/Out sheet.

The Council moved to discuss emergent issues: Mr. Foot brought forward Grazing Lease issues and utilization. There are cases of over abused GL's and under-utilized GL's. There are some lease holders who have a carrying capacity of 300 but only run 100 cows and buy more GL to access the oil and gas revenue. There are issues with subletting without permission. It was noted Special Areas does monitor, however with the number of leases it is a 20-year inspection cycle to cover each lease. Anonymous tips are followed up on, phone calls are made, and inspections performed. Administration would like further direction from Council on this issue.

Mr. Schetzle brought forward a concern from a ratepayer on a RCMP amalgamation. With rural crime on the rise, low staff levels in the rural areas will become even more of a concern.

MOTION AC04-25-18: LETTER SUPPORTING CURRENT RCMP STRUCTURE
MOVED BY GRAHAM SCHETZSLE AND SECONDED BY BRAD SLORSTAD THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMEND TO THE SPECIAL AREAS BOARD TO DRAFT A LETTER SUPPORTING THE CURRENT STRUCTURE AT THE CONSORT RCMP DETACHMENT AND REQUESTING A MEETING TO DISCUSS. CARRIED.

Livestock at large is another issue brought forward with the work on the proposed Animal Control Order. Through public consultations, ratepayers noted tools are needed to deal with livestock at large. There are provincial acts such as the *Fence Line Act* and *Stray Animals Act*. It was noted the Animal Control Order was not drafted for livestock, but to give Community Peace Officers and RCMP a tool to use in hamlets. It was noted the Brand Inspector has been a resource for this issue in the past. There are tools in place that need to be enforced.

The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) process was questioned noting part of the application submitted requires municipal support – for the EDP Renewables project, Special Areas provided a letter in principle provided the project meets the Land Use Order requirements. EDP Renewables has changed towers again and is proposing to build towers never erected before so the decibel level is not known. It was noted if the decibel levels are not met, Special Areas could issue a stop operation order and shut down turbines that are infringing. There was a question on next steps if the company gives up and leaves turbines strewn across the landscape. Special Areas Administration will investigate and bring next steps back to Council.

MOTION AC04-26-18: LETTER TO AUC RE: EDP RENEWABLES WIND TOWERS
MOVED BY TRAVIS FOOT AND SECONDED BY DARYL SWENSON THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMEND TO THE SPECIAL AREAS BOARD TO DRAFT A LETTER TO THE AUC OUTLINING CONCERNS WITH THE CHANGE IN TOWER SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE EDP RENEWABLES SHARP HILLS WIND PROJECT. CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT 4:56 P.M.

DECEMBER 7, 2018

CALL TO ORDER: 9:00 A.M.

Mr. Christianson reviewed the agenda for the day.

MOTION AC04-27-18: IN-CAMERA

MOVED BY BRAD OSADCZUK AND SECONDED BY DARYL SWENSON THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL GO IN-CAMERA AS PER SECTION 19, FOIP AT 9:03 A.M. CARRIED.

MOTION AC04-28-18: OUT-OF CAMERA

MOVED BY KEVIN WILSON AND SECONDED BY SAM SHADLOCK THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL COME OUT OF CAMERA AT 9:50 p.m. CARRIED.

Mr. Christianson noted the Special Areas Christmas Banquet is next week and the RSVP deadline is today.

Committee round table discussions began.

Alfred Brown Handibus: Mr. Redel – the bus is repaired. Casino funds will be used to purchase a new bus. It was asked if the bus could be rented out noting it could be a revenue source.

Acadia Foundation: Mr. Horner, Mr. Swenson and Mr. Schetzle – Hanna has 97% occupancy, Consort is 77% occupied and Oyen is 94% occupied. The project to build onto the Oyen Lodge is at a standstill. The roof at the Hanna Lodge requires work, it has been an issue since day one and is not under warranty.

Ag. Service Board SA2: Mr. Osadczuk, Mr. Roes – young engaged board - Conference in January. Board will send letters in support of strychnine being renewed.

Ag. Service Board SA3: Mr. Shadlock – gravel pit north of cereal has Baby's Breath that's spreading. Also sending strychnine letters of support. It was questioned if there was feedback on the grass seed drills being sold and not much has been heard.

Ag. Service Board SA4: Mr. Redel and Mr. Schetzle – A weed notice and fine was issued. The new side-by-side works well, capital planning is underway and there is good teamwork.

Battle River Watershed Alliance: Ms. Kelts – meeting is coming up. AGM is held in June, there is a lot of awareness and watershed health information going into schools for Grades 5 & 9.

Big Country Medical Centre: Mr. Wilson, Mr. Foot - clinic options are being reviewed. Process has started for AHS to recruit another doctor.

Big Country Waste Management Commission: Mr. Bossert, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Schetzle – business as usual.

Cactus Corridor Economic Development Corp: Ms. Richards – applying for more grants from Western Economic Diversification on behalf of Hanna Taskforce.

Canadian Badlands: Mr. Slorstad, Mr. Wilson – pursuing direct marketing as vehicle for businesses. Grants are drying up provincially and federally. Bar Diamond Ranch has stepped away from Riverboat Tours. It was noted Special Areas is working with CBL on a pathway linking Tyrell Museum and Dinosaur Provincial Park with highway signage.

Carolside South Irrigation Advisory Committee: Mr. Slorstad, Mr. Roes – reservoirs started full, new pipeline worked well. Rehab is scheduled for Janet and Woodrow reservoirs. Folks are looking for expansion and rising the level at Carolside Reservoir has been discussed.

CARA: Mr. Madge – lots of good things happening, soils lab is up and running. CARA may look to purchase 10 acres across from the building site. Funding is showing a small deficit – this is on the radar. Ms. Diane Westerlund has done some great work.

Consort and District Medical Centre Board: Mr. Redel – Consort has a doctor four days a week. Coronation is the AHS hub. One litigation is settled, and another lawsuit was received two days before expiry. The group is moving forward.

East Central 911: no longer a member

East Central Ambulance: Mr. Schetzle: nothing to report.

East Central Housing Society: Mr. Noble – defers to Ms. Kelts, focus has been to pay down Gem Centre debt. More rentals are occurring with weekly events. This will be the first full year of operations.

Hanna Medial Society: Mr. Bossert – another meeting is scheduled next week, recruitment process for another doctor continues.

Henry Kroeger Regional Water Services Commission: Mr. Madge – business as usual.

Marigold: no representatives present.

Municipal Planning Commission: Mr. Osadczuk, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Redel – business as usual, appeal on wind farm project north of Oyen. MPC decision was appealed to the Subdivision and Development Appeal board. One comment at the appeal was that Special Areas didn't take enough time to review the application – however development officers were in contact with the proponent months in advance of the application. Mr. Christianson commended MPC members on their work – it's not easy decisions but the MPC members followed the process and provided due diligence. The Special Areas Land Use Order is well written and the requirements were met. It was noted MPC has set timelines to follow in the *Municipal Government Act* once an application is submitted.

Mr. Caskey reviewed some history on Tax Recovery Land Sales and the draft 2014 Sale Policy. The 1981 sale expired in summer 1996 and had 700,000 acres offered - 635,000 acres sold. The 1988 sale expired in December 2002 and had 300,000 acres offered - 249,000 acres sold. The 2004 sale expired February 2014 and had 435,000 acres offered - 245,680 acres sold. The 2014 Sale policy was drafted to roll in after the last sale expired. Conditions of that sale were reviewed.

MOTION AC04-29-18: TRLS POLICY

MOVED BY KEVIN WILSON AND SECONDED BY BRAD SLORSTAD THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMEND TO THE SPECIAL AREAS BOARD TO INVESTIGATE AND DEVELOP A TAX RECOVERY LAND SALE. CARRIED.

Discussion continued on hurdles for a future sale and other issues to consider for any future Tax Recovery Land Sales.

Mr. Nate Horner, UCP Candidate for Drumheller-Stettler, was welcomed to the meeting. Mr. Horner thanked the Council for the opportunity and is interested to receive direction from Council on issues of concern. If UCP is successful in the next election, there will be changes in caucus. Issues for the Special Areas include another Tax Recovery Land Sale, dementia care in Oyen and finding innovative ways to finance that type of project recognizing the current provincial financial position.

Mr. Christianson thanked Mr. N Horner for attending.

BREAK

Mr. Christianson welcomed Mayor Chris Warwick and Mr. Kim Neill, CAO for the Town of Hanna. Mayor Warwick provided an update on the Hanna Solar Project which has been a key focus for the Hanna Climate Change Taskforce (HCCTF) as well as other projects with the Community Action Teams (CATS). The Hanna Solar Project history was reviewed noting the vast number of meetings held to organize the project and the purpose was to create a community fund for annual use. On November 6th, the group received word from Ministers the province is not able to partner for this project and it was disappointing no options were offered. The Hanna Solar group has met to review options. The Town of Hanna wrote a letter to the Premier requesting assistance with this project.

The recent renewable energy program announced has criteria that does not fit with this project as proposed. A considerable amount of time, energy and funds have been dedicated to the project. The project partners have decided to investigate options for green energy projects with Canada Infrastructure Bank and Western Economic Diversification. There is still local support for the project.

Mr. Christianson thanked Mayor Warwick and Mr. Neill for attending and providing an update.

LUNCH

Mr. Christianson welcomed Ms. Shaina Griffith from AFSC. There have been changes in the AFSC office and even though the numbers are down – current numbers are at a good level. New programs were announced November 4th. There is now a central hub for loans, so the Hanna office is doing less. Loan rates and amortization periods were reviewed. AFSC now offers 35-year amortization.

Mr. Christianson thanked Ms. Griffith for providing an update from AFSC.

Council returned to the Roundtable Committee discussions.

Palliser Economic Partnership: Mr. Slorstad – things are going well, PEP continues to promote and assist with investigating projects for rural areas.

Palliser Regional Municipal Services: Mr. Slorstad, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Noble – PRMS hired a senior planner and Mr. Justin Hill is acting CEO. Positive changes have happened.

Prairie Conservation Forum: Mr. Osadczuk – will make connections with this group in 2019.

Recreation Boards – defer discussions.

Red Deer River Watershed Alliance: Mr. Foot – defer discussions.

Red Deer River Municipal Users Group: Mr. Foot – defer discussions.

SAMDA: Mr. Shadlock – restructuring is happening, SAMDA is currently without an Economic Development Officer. Direction for this group needs to be determined and a focus defined.

Shirley McClellan Regional Water Services Commission: Mr. Redel – work is being done to extend the line to the Saskatchewan border. More capacity is available than what was previously thought.

South Eastern Alberta Watershed Alliance: Mr. Swenson – haven't had contact from this group.

Southern Alberta Energy from Waste Alliance: Mr. Sheppard is the representative. Mr. Francis noted the group is looking for grant funding – it's been difficult to get provincial buy-in on projects.

Subdivision and Development Appeal Board: Mr. Swenson, Mr. Shadlock and Mr. Schetzle – recently had one appeal. Mr. Slemple did a good job chairing the hearing. Training sessions have occurred which need to be revisited every few years. Special Areas staff now have training.

Special Areas and Oyen Development Corporation: Mr. Caskey, Mr. Swenson, Mr. Doug Jones, Mr. Joe Lazzari and Mr. Jay Slemple – Iron Horse is in the process of completing their frac sand business. There were complaints on the temporary loading site and noise levels. Iron Horse is a 24hr/day operation with rail cars and trucks moving sand. A public meeting is scheduled for December 18th to inform the public of the project status. As of October 31, 2018, 1222 rail cars have come into the temporary site. Revenues received are put back into developing the rail.

That concludes the Roundtable Committee discussions.

MOTION AC04-30-18: TAKE OFF TABLE – MOTION 2 SA2 SUB1&5

MOVED BY SAM SHADLOCK AND SECONDED BY BRENT HORNER THAT MOTION 2 SA2 SUB1&5 BE TAKEN OFF TABLE AND DISCUSSION RESUMES. CARRIED.

Mr. Christianson noted it would be premature to make a decision on the SAWSP without having reviewed the EIA. There are options: 1. End project; 2. Submit to AEP and request sign-off understanding more reports could be required to finalize the project; 3. Move the project to NRCB.

MOTION AC04-31-18: SAWSP DIRECTION

MOVED BY BRAD SLORSTAD AND SECONDED BY SAM SHADLOCK THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMEND TO SPECIAL AREAS BOARD TO EVALUATE THE THREE OPTIONS PRESENTED FOR SAWSP AFTER THE EIA REPORT HAS BEEN RECEIVED AND ANALYSED. CARRIED.

MOTION AC04-32-18: TAKE OFF TABLE – MOTION 2 SA2 SUB2

MOVED BY BRAD SLORSTAD AND SECONDED BY KEVIN WILSON THAT MOTION 2 SA2 SUB2 BE TAKEN OFF TABLE AND DISCUSSION RESUMES. CARRIED.

Direction on the LUO has been received.

Mr. Christianson welcomed Mr. Mark Nikota to address Council. Mr. Nikota is the Alberta Party Candidate for the next election and provided some information on his background. Clarification on the Alberta Party was requested – Mr. Nikota indicated this party is fiscally conservative and socially responsible. The Party believes in balancing environmental and budgetary priorities. Council asked questions on how balancing would be accomplished, where agriculture fits in with the Alberta Party, management of public lands, and the Alberta Party stance on a sales tax. Mr. Nikota provided information on all the questions.

Mr. Christianson thanked Mr. Nikota for taking the time to come meet with Council.

BREAK

Ms. Kelts come forward to present the Resolutions.

RESOLUTION #1: Community Pasture Policy

WHEREAS the community pasture policy has not been revisited for some time

WHEREAS the current policy has items which are not being followed and is cumbersome to administer

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a committee of council members and administration be struck to develop a new community pasture policy.

MOVED BY Brad Osadczuk
SECONDED BY Neal Roes
CARRIED.

RESOLUTION #2: BRE and Investment Toolkit

WHEREAS to make a more informed decision regarding business incentives within the Special Areas,

WHEREAS to use the tools available to assist in gathering this information,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a committee of council members and administration be struck to guide in the completion of the Business Retention & Expansion (BRE) and Investment Toolkit with the Economic Development Officers.

Moved by Kevin Wilson
Seconded by Brad Osadczuk
CARRIED.

Appointees to these committees will be made after all Resolutions are reviewed.

RESOLUTION #3: Cultivation Lease Policy

WHEREAS there is not enough information at present to make an informed decision regarding the existing cultivation lease conversion policy

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that administration provide more detailed information to council on the leases within the Special Areas to review at a later council meeting.

MOVED BY Neal Roes
SECONDED BY Brad Osadczuk
CARRIED.

RESOLUTION #4: Land Use Order

WHEREAS the existing land use order is 5 years old

WHEREAS there are changes that need to be made

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT administration move forward on reviewing the land use order.

MOVED BY Kevin Wilson
SECONDED BY Brad Osadczuk
CARRIED.

RESOLUTION #5: Abandoned Rail Policy

WHEREAS there is a need to update the abandoned rail policy

WHEREAS more information, investigation and discussion is required on this subject,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT a committee consisting of councillors and administration complete this additional work and bring back to council at a later meeting.

MOVED BY Brad Osadczuk
SECONDED BY Neal Roes
CARRIED.

RESOLUTION #6: Hanna and District Museum

BE IT RESOLVED that the Special Areas Board partner with Town of Hanna and award Hanna and District Museum a one-time contribution of \$5,000.00 for 2019.

MOVED BY Brent Horner
SECONDED BY Neal Roes
CARRIED.

Appointments are required for the Community Pasture Committee, BRE and Investment Toolkit Committee and Abandoned Rail Beds Committee.

MOTION AC04-34-18: COMMUNITY PASTURE COMMITTEE APPOINTEES
BRAD OSADCZUK NOMINATES BRETT RICHARDS AND TRENT CASKEY AS REPRESENTATIVES FROM ADMINISTRATION, KEVIN WILSON NOMINATES BRAD OSADCZUK; BARRY REDEL NOMINATES GRAHAM SCHETZSLE, NEAL ROES NOMINATES TRAVIS FOOT; TO THE COMMUNITY PASTURE POLICY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE. KEVIN WILSON MOVED NOMINATIONS CEASE. CARRIED.

MOTION AC04-35-18: BRE AND INVESTMENT TOOLKIT COMMITTEE
MOVED BY BRAD OSADCZUK AND SECONDED BY KEVIN WILSON THAT VOLUNTEERS BRAD SLORSTAD, SAM SHADLOCK, AND DOUG NOBLE BE APPOINTED TO THE BRE AND INVESTMENT TOOLKIT COMMITTEE ALONG WITH WANDA DIAKOW, EDO AND TRISHA SEWELL, CCEDC. CARRIED.

It was noted Mr. Jay Slemp would be another good resource for this committee.

MOTION AC04-36-18: ABANDONED RAIL BEDS COMMITTEE
MOVED BY KEVIN WILSON AND SECONDED BY BARRY REDEL THAT VOLUNTEERS BRAD OSADCZUK, KEVIN BOSSERT, SAM SHADLOCK, BRENT HORNER, AND NEAL ROES ALONG WITH CORINNE KELTS AND TRENT CASKEY REPRESENTING ADMINISTRATION BE APPOINTED TO THE ABANDONED RAIL BED COMMITTEE. CARRIED.

MOTION AC04-37-18: ADDITION TO COMMUNITY PASTURE POLICY COMMITTEE
MOVED BY BRAD OSADCZUK AND SECONDED BY BRENT HORNER THAT VOLUNTEER DARYL SWENSON BE APPOINTED TO THE COMMUNITY PASTURE POLICY COMMITTEE. CARRIED.

MOTION AC04-38-18: ADDITION TO COMMUNITY PASTURE POLICY COMMITTEE
MOVED BY SAM SHADLOCK AND SECONDED BY NEAL ROES THAT VOLUNTEER KEVIN WILSON BE APPOINTED TO THE COMMUNITY PASTURE POLICY COMMITTEE. CARRIED.

Mr. Christianson noted the Administrators have been working on Crop Loss payments and compensation. Ms. Kelts noted values have been discussed each year as there has been concern around multi-year compensation.

MOTION AC04-39-18: CROP LOSS COMPENSATION
MOVED BY BRENT HORNER AND SECONDED BY DARYL SWENSON THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMEND TO THE SPECIAL AREAS BOARD TO FOLLOW THE RECOMMENDATION AND AMEND POLICY 04-04: CROP LOSS TO 3 X ASSESSED VALUE WITH \$250MIN/ACRE. CARRIED.

Right-of-Way compensation could also be updated. It is sometimes difficult to acquire required land for construction.

MOTION AC04-41-18: 2019 ROAD CONSTRUCTION

MOVED BY DARYL SWENSON AND SECONDED BY DOUG NOBLE THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMEND TO THE SPECIAL AREAS BOARD TO APPROVE THE 2019 ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

Mr. Christianson noted a few motions are still required for Budget, Road Construction and Road Surfacing.

MOTION AC04-41-18: 2019 ROAD CONSTRUCTION

MOVED BY DARYL SWENSON AND SECONDED BY DOUG NOBLE THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMEND TO THE SPECIAL AREAS BOARD TO APPROVE THE 2019 ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

MOTION AC04-42-18: 2019 ROAD SURFACING

MOVED BY DARYL SWENSON AND SECONDED BY JAMES MADGE THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMEND TO THE SPECIAL AREAS BOARD TO APPROVE THE 2019 ROAD SURFACING PROGRAM AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

There was discussion on the proposed Shoulder Pull program to have work done in-house and/or via contract.

MOTION AC04-43-18: SHOULDER PULL PROGRAM ANALYSIS

MOVED BY DOUG NOBLE AND SECONDED BY NEAL ROES THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL DIRECT THE ANALYSIS OF THE CONTRACTED 2019 SHOULDER PULL PROGRAM BE REPORTED BACK AT THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING. CARRIED.

Mr. Ferguson reviewed the budget In/Out sheet. There was a question on the Hanna Office building reno and noted the project is being done over time using local contractors which has not cost more but has taken more time.

There was discussion on internet service and if Special Areas should set aside funds for a project like this. The intent is to develop better rural service, Netago has plans to enhance service in urban areas which can filter better service to the rural network.

Veteran Fire Hall was discussed, Veteran has the third largest volunteer fire department. Other halls for Homestead Coulee and Big Stone are scheduled for 2020/2021.

Hamlet clean-up includes funds for the Dorothy Elevator roof. Water projects are waiting on grant funding. Recreation funding – SA2 has \$150,000 not tied to any project, SA4 has \$125,000 for the Consort Pool. The Board is open to Council suggestions for funds.

The 2019 projected deficit is \$3.9M with all the contracts in, in 2020 a surplus of \$330k is projected with a further surplus of \$1M projected for 2021. This plan would include the scraper replacements and is fully financed. In 2021 there is no projected financing for scrapers. It was asked if the scraper fleet will be reduced as it's the most expensive capital – that will depend on Road Committee priorities and the road program.

The In/Out list is an opportunity for Council to set priorities.

Moved by Sam Shadlock and seconded by Doug Noble that the Special Areas Advisory Council recommend the Special Areas Board remove the Prairie Oasis Park and Carolside Campground Playgrounds from the 2019 Budget. DEFEATED.

MOTION AC04-44-18: 2019 SAB BUDGET

MOVED BY KEVIN WILSON AND SECONDED BY SAM SHADLOCK THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMEND TO THE SPECIAL AREAS BOARD TO APPROVE THE 2019 BUDGET AS OUTLINED. CARRIED.

Mr. Christianson noted there has not been a Special Areas Advisory Council tour for a couple of years – if Council is interested in a tour a motion would assist.

MOTION AC04-45-18: SUMMER TOUR

MOVED BY BRAD OSADCZUK AND SECONDED BY BRAD SLORSTAD THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMEND TO THE SPECIAL AREAS BOARD TO ORGANIZE A TOUR EACH SUMMER. CARRIED.

The Sublet Policy was discussed noting there are individuals who do not live in Special Areas but run their operations in SA. It was suggested Special Areas review the Sublet Policy.

Mr. Osadczuk noted Special Areas has been left out of the Federal Disaster relieve based on numbers from AFSC. Mr. Christianson noted he did connect with Mr. Kevin Sorenson, MP, who could reach out to Minister MacAulay if Special Areas wished. It was suggested getting declared this year could assist if there is another drought next year.

MOTION AC04-46-18: LETTER TO AFSC AND MINISTER MACAULAY

MOVED BY BRAD OSADCZUK AND SECONDED BY KEVIN WILSON THAT THE SPECIAL AREAS ADVISORY COUNCIL RECOMMEND TO THE SPECIAL AREAS BOARD TO WRITE A LETTER TO AFSC AND MINISTER LAWRENCE MACAULAY REGARDING DISASTER RELIEF. CARRIED.

Mr. Christianson thanked Ms. Crista Stringer for the refreshments throughout the meeting, Ms. Brett Richards for the hospitality room, and Ms. Shyanne Jones for organizing the meeting. Thanks to all staff for their support and input.

ADJOURNMENT 4:02 P.M.

Resolutions and Actions Taken

RESOLUTION #1: Community Pasture Policy

WHEREAS the community pasture policy has not been revisited for some time
WHEREAS the current policy has items which are not being followed and is cumbersome to administer

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a committee of council members and administration be struck to develop a new community pasture policy.

MOVED BY Brad Osadczuk
SECONDED BY Neal Roes
CARRIED.

Action Taken:

The Committee has met three times since the beginning of 2019. Plans are underway for public consultation. This process is open for public input as of Monday, May 27, 2019 and after feedback is received, the committee will begin drafting a new policy. A draft is anticipated to be presented for feedback from Advisory Council in the fall of 2019 for its consideration.

RESOLUTION #2: BRE and Investment Toolkit

WHEREAS to make a more informed decision regarding business incentives within the Special Areas,

WHEREAS to use the tools available to assist in gathering this information,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a committee of council members and administration be struck to guide in the completion of the Business Retention & Expansion (BRE) and Investment Toolkit with the Economic Development Officers.

MOVED BY Kevin Wilson
SECONDED BY Brad Osadczuk
CARRIED.

Action Taken:

The committee has been formed and has met initially. Wanda Diakow is leading the work on the Business Retention and Expansion toolkit. Further work will be ongoing with the committee over the next few months.

RESOLUTION #3: Cultivation Lease Policy

WHEREAS there is not enough information at present to make an informed decision regarding the existing cultivation lease conversion policy

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that administration provide more detailed information to council on the leases within the Special Areas to review at a later council meeting.

MOVED BY Neal Roes
SECONDED BY Brad Osadczuk
CARRIED.

Action Taken:

Administration has begun to research the issues and assemble information to be presented to Advisory Council. The intent is to present some further background information to Advisory Council at the June 19th meeting for consideration.

RESOLUTION #4: Land Use Order

WHEREAS the existing land use order is 5 years old

WHEREAS there are changes that need to be made

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT administration move forward on reviewing the land use order.

MOVED BY Kevin Wilson

SECONDED BY Brad Osadczuk

CARRIED.

Action Taken:

Administration has engaged Palliser Regional Municipal Services to discuss timing on a full review of the SAB LUO. A number of issues that need to be addressed have been identified with PRMS. It is anticipated that this review may begin late 2019. However, the current priority of PRMS is completion of the Intermunicipal Development Plans, and Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks that are required to be in place in all of the partnering municipalities by April 2020.

RESOLUTION #5: Abandoned Rail Policy

WHEREAS there is a need to update the abandoned rail policy

WHEREAS more information, investigation and discussion is required on this subject,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT a committee consisting of councillors and administration complete this additional work and bring back to council at a later meeting.

MOVED BY Brad Osadczuk

SECONDED BY Neal Roes

CARRIED.

Action Taken:

A draft policy has been presented to the Advisory Council and from that initial review, a committee has been formed to review the draft policy further and provide additional feedback. The committee has not meet as of this time. It is the intent for the committee to meet late summer/early fall to complete their work on the policy document and present to Advisory Council at the fall meeting.

RESOLUTION #6: Hanna and District Museum

BE IT RESOLVED that the Special Areas Board partner with Town of Hanna and award Hanna and District Museum a one-time contribution of \$5,000.00 for 2019.

MOVED BY Brent Horner

SECONDED BY Neal Roes

CARRIED.

Action Taken:

The cheque was sent early January 2019 to assist the Museum with operations.