

**ANNUAL RATEPAYERS MEETING  
SPECIAL AREA NO. 2, SUB-DIVISION NO. 2  
Homestead Coulee Hall  
June 1, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 1:29 p.m. with approximately 13 ratepayers in attendance.

Colin Kloot nominated Neal Roes for Chairman. Richard Mashon moved nominations cease.  
**CARRIED.**

Colin Kloot moved the 2019 minutes be adopted as presented. Seconded by Frank Roes.  
**CARRIED.**

**ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORT**

**Neal Roes – Subdivision 2:**

Commented on:

- Acadia irrigation project
- Irrigation on our area
- Tour this summer planned

**SPECIAL AREAS BOARD REPORTS**

**Jordon Christianson, Chair, Special Areas Board:**

Commented on:

- Municipal elections 2021 – 5 new Advisory Councillors, Senate election polling stations were not offered by Special Areas (SA), SA heard a lot of negative feedback, will do differently in future
- Special Areas Board Appointments – Jordon Christianson, Brad Slorstad, Doug Noble, Daryl Swenson.
- Village of Cereal voted to dissolve, became a Hamlet of SA on Jan 1, 2021
- Red Tape Reduction Initiative – working to reduce by one third, will see changes to forms
- Regional Irrigation Feasibility Partnership – with SA, MD of Acadia, Canada Infrastructure Bank and AB Agriculture and Forestry with potential project
- Tax Recovery Land Sale Update – draft policy being reviewed by the Minister of Municipal Affairs office
- Previous motions – online payments, tax recovery, length of miscellaneous lease, sale of Little Fish Lake lots as titled, purchase of gas wells, Dorothy elevator, Little Fish Lake structure.

**Darcy Ferguson, Director of Finance and Administration:**

Commented on:

- Covid 19 Pandemic – Impact on 2020-2022 Budgets
- 2021 Financial Statements
- Village of Cereal Dissolution
- Special Areas Trust Account

**Owen Francis, Director of Municipal Services:**

Commented on:

- Supply chain, staffing shortages, fuel price
- Roads – Crews return to full capacity in 2022, third year of four-year agreement with AB Transportation, Shaune Kovitch presented 2022 road plan
- Water – new truck fill at Chinook, planned SDS truck fill expansion, Water and Sewer in Cereal
- Emergency Services

- Fire – Glen Durand retiring, Rob Palmer appointed Chief, will recruit new Deputy Fire Chief, Big Stone fire Hall Replacement, Rapid attack unit in Oyen
- Regional Emergency Management Agency formed 2022
- Community Peace Officers – Town of Hanna contract for Bylaw enforcement, focused on surfaced roads and new industrial construction
- Parks – record usage in 2020 and 2021, John Armstrong pending retirement, Assistant hired and training, Prairie Oasis online booking, 10-year agreement to operate Gooseberry Lake and Little Fish Lake Provincial Parks, Carp have collapsed fishery at Blood Indian and fishery establishment planned for Little Fish Lake.

**Trent Caskey, Director of Property Administration:**

Commented on:

- Assessment total 3.7 billion
- Assessment Notice just mailed, deadline to appeal July 22, 2022
- Community Pasture rates 2022- \$0.95/head/day, allotment reductions for drought
- Cultivation Lease rate 2022 – 0.075
- Grazing Lease Rental 2022 – \$45.17
- Land Use Order Review ongoing
- Wind Energy Projects – Six permitted in Special Areas
- Tax Recovery Land Sale – Proposed four quarter sale, crown and tax recovery parcels, priced to fill the value gap between lease and deeded lands, restrictions reduce cost by one third
- Oyen Railyard Project was developed and successfully sold
- Lease Conversion Policy now allows for a maximum of four quarters to be converted
- Oil well drilling tax discontinued and assessment holiday for three years on oil and gas
- Dinosaur Provincial Park Grazing Leases have been renewed
- Sheerness Industrial Park (where the test track was previously) project development through grant funding

**Discussion:**

- WIFI at Dorothy
- Access to rail line from Dorothy to Finnegan, should be incorporated into the lease
- Reservation system at Prairie Oasis Park
- Fire department practices alienating volunteers
- Beach area at Carolside
- Beach at Little Fish Lake
- Surfacing on the 862
- Start time of the Special Areas Crews – should be lengthened
- Special Areas Camp allowance – should be increased
- River weed crew is staffed and running
- Potential to hire a biologist for Special Areas
- Having grader/snowplow/mowing on private driveway
- TRLS and the exchange of tax recovery and crown quarters
- Transmission capacity for the wind farms
- Gas well reclamation
- Fire Hall, number of personnel need before equipment mobilizes
- Strychnine registration and other options of funding available
- Sale of Netago to Telus and Special Areas investment and ownership of towers
- Water projects – possible water line to replace sending water down Bullpound Creek

**Motions:**

**SA2SUB2 - Motion 1:** Special Areas Board investigate and engineer a water line to facilitate stockwatering down the Bullpound Creek. Moved by Regan Curry. Seconded by Carson Slorstad. **CARRIED.**

Regan Curry moved for adjournment at 4:26 p.m.

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Brett Richards, Administrator  
Special Area No. 2

*Motion to approve minutes to occur at the next annual ratepayer meeting.*

ADOPTED