

August 2021

ANNUAL
NEWSLETTER

RM of Rocanville No. 151

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Office Hours
Monday to Friday
9 am—4 pm

Dear Residents of the RM of Rocanville,

Here is your annual newsletter. We've included some additional information and pictures this year, in the spirit of increasing awareness and being transparent with your tax dollars.

We hope you enjoy the read!

FAREWELLS



Murray Reid served as a Councillor from 1997-2000 and as Reeve from 2001-2020. Thank you for all your years of service, Murray!



Sylvia Anderson served as Administrator for 15 years. We are so grateful for her dedication to the RM. Best wishes in your retirement, Sylvia! Our intern Sydney Unick is our new Administrator.

MEET YOUR COUNCIL



Melissa Ruhland

Reeve

(306) 434-8345



Conrad Fafard

Division 1

(306) 645-4450



Clint Birkenshaw

Division 2

(306) 435-9954



Tim Wushke

Division 3

(306) 532-4545



Ernest Holland

Division 4

(306) 645-4223



Floyd Tebb

Division 5

(306) 434-7220



Marcia Polvi

Division 6

(306) 643-2116

Council meetings are held the second Thursday of each month. If you wish to speak to council on a meeting day, please call the RM office to be scheduled as a delegation on the agenda.

EMPLOYEES & APPOINTMENTS

Administrator: Sydney Unick

Foreman: Chad Selby

Operator: Lorne Bailey

Operator: Derrell Clark

Operator: Brock Dufour

Summer Student: Callie Hermanson

Weed Inspector: Gerald Flaman

Pest Control Officer: Raymond Charles

Plant Health Officer: Katey Makahoniuk

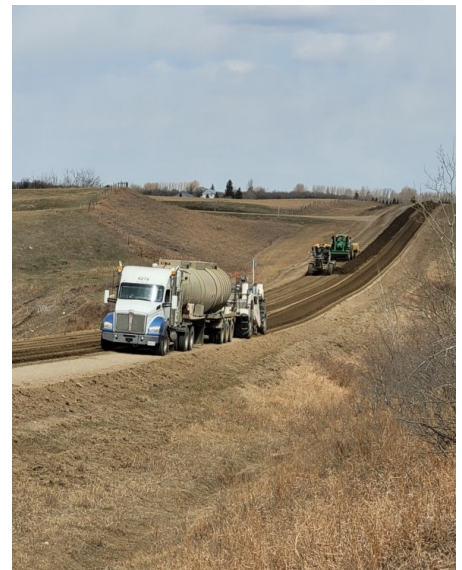
Fire Chief: Owen Wilson

YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK

MG-30

In 2020, the RM trialled a 2 mile stretch of MG-30, which is a calcium chloride/magnesium hydroxide solution. The solution is mixed into the clay and gravel of the road surface in order to stabilize it and suppress dust. The decrease in maintenance costs due to grading only a couple times per year along with the increased life expectancy of these roads make it an attractive option.

The RM spent **\$279,000** to add another 5.6 km of MG-30 in 2021.



E & N 1-17-31 W1

The RM hired C. K. Construction & Repairs Ltd. to cut down some unsafe hills on these roads; the East-West road was recapped with clay, the ditches were deepened, and the slopes were shaped. The project totalled **\$91,000**.

Valley Hill

Vanro Oil Supplies & Rentals Ltd. has been contracted by the RM to install drain basins and pipe to capture the continuous flow of spring water in the valley north of the Nutrien Mine. The spring is causing frost boils in the road and icy conditions in the winter time. The quote for this project is **\$150,000**. This construction is currently underway.

Range Road 1331

The RM will be cutting down two unsafe hills and installing a new culvert, along with building slopes along the steep shoulders of the road. Estimated cost is **\$60,000**.

Other Notable Expenses

- 2002 T-800 Kenworth Truck **\$130,000**
- Snow equipment for graders **\$116,000** (some current equipment is 1965!)
- Replace 2003 Ford F150 with 2021 Ford F350 **\$40,000**
- Annual recreation grant to the Town of Rocanville **\$40,000**
- **65%** of annual fire department expenses
- **45%** of annual Rocanville Medical Centre expenses
- Donation to Rocanville Ski Trails for new walking trail **\$6,000**
- Covid Safe Restart Program funds fully disbursed to many community organizations

GOOD TO KNOW

MILL RATE

Council lowered the mill rate from 10 mills to 9 mills to reduce the increase on property taxes due to this being a reassessment year. At the same time, the mill rate is a determining factor in our potash tax share revenue, so the decision needed to balance the decrease of potash tax share we will receive based on a lower mill rate.

STRYCHNINE

The RM has ordered as much strychnine as we could and will have it available for our ratepayers until March 2022. Strychnine will be unavailable to be bought or sold in Canada after this date.

SERVICES

- **Gravel:** Ratepayers are entitled to 5 loads of gravel per farm family at cost plus trucking. Gravel delivery now occurs on specific days of the month and RM trucks will only deliver within the RM boundaries.
- **Garbage Bin & Recycling:** The RM has a garbage bin and recycle bins for ratepayers at the Town of Rocanville Transfer Station. The RM gets paid for recycled material, so it's very much appreciated when you do your part! Please check the Community Calendar for current hours.
- **Water:** Water from two sources is available free to ratepayers. For water at the RM yard in town, please see the Administrator to purchase a key fob for \$20.

WELL WATER NOT POTABLE

Please be advised that the well water located on NW 33-13-32 W1 is not treated or tested and is considered unpotable. **DO NOT USE** this water for drinking, cooking, food preparation, and oral hygiene purposes.

PLEASE RESPECT THE RIGHT OF WAY

- RM Bylaw No. 05-2001 prohibits fencing, spraying, cultivating, or otherwise damaging the right of way. Fines are up to \$5,000 and may be applied, for example, where vegetation in the ditch has been sprayed off. There are to be no equipment, bales, or other items stored in the right of way.
- Please SLOW DOWN. Our radar speed sign has recorded speeds up to 147 kph on the 719 grid, which is an 80 zone.

CONTROLLED BURNS

Always report your planned, controlled burn! This will avoid fire trucks responding to a 911 call from a concerned party. If your burn is not reported, you will be invoiced for the cost of the fire department call. Call **1-866-404-4911** to report your burn.