

**WaterWolf  
Executive Minutes  
January 13, 2011**

Members present: Dave Cross, Edna Laturnus, Garry Book, Joyce Aitken, M.L. Whittles, Nick Patkau, Tony Peter, Yvonne Arntsen, Sylvia Matwe (attended via Skype).  
Staff: Russ McPherson, Adam Toth, Kristin Genest  
Regrets: Donald Shirtliff

**1. Call to Order:**

Meeting called to order at 10:13 a.m. by Chairman, Dave Cross

**2. Business Arising:**

**a) Application to Gas Tax Fund**

- Russ discussed what some of the expenses are going to be going forward and explained some of the hurdles that have been faced so far in the past year. Enterprise Saskatchewan put a large block in the road which will see the office being somewhat divided. Maureen will now represent the MidSask Enterprise region as the CEO with Holly and Kristin as staff. Things will have to be a lot more structured but we are not sure what kind of support we will be receiving from Enterprise Saskatchewan going forward. We have had some financial set backs which will impact our ability to be flexible.
- We also see many of the large farms having a big impact on Rural Saskatchewan and Crown Corporations are developing larger regions.
- We have had negotiations with Great West College in regards to the possibility of co-locating at the MidSask office. The college has the capacity to do many renovations which would update the usability of the building. There would also be many training initiatives particularly in tourism around the lake area.
- Adam will be moved as a full time employee of the Planning Commission.

**b) Request for Economic Impact Study to be done in the Lucky Lake area.**

- We need to come up with common Bylaws for the region in terms of Wind Power
- Currently waiting on Municipal Affairs.
- Think we are going to see highway maintenance contracted out.
- Should start thinking and talking about how we would structure for the changes coming in road maintenance and how we are going to handle that.
- The approval of the Feedlot on this side of the river has moved ahead, some of the implications of this include highways committing to finishing the highways all the way to Gardiner Dam.

*Arntsen:* That we approve the request for an Economic Impact Study to be done in the Lucky Lake area. *Cd.*

**3. Staff Reports**

**Adam – Forecast of workload**

- There has been a proposed subdivision west of Hanley on the old highway.
- Currently trying to get some servicing standards together and will be documenting the steps that have been taken.
- Updating planning policies for everyone as well as the future land use maps to go along with the growth management plan.

*Peter:* Motion to set up a meeting with the Minister of Municipal Affairs so that when this reaches their department they will have a plan in place and be able to take action in the process. *Cd.*

**Russ – Negotiations with Parks Ministry**

- Suggested that they should be providing core funding
- Need to come up with new ways to make things sustainable

#### **4. Model for services from planning commission staff to members after March 31, 2011**

It is evident that there will be a shortfall, we can possibly pursue some funding from WD but ultimately we need to be talking about how we run this as a business and how we are going to deal with things going ahead.

- Discussed the possibility of user pay or upping the fees for everyone.
- Need to be very careful how we put an increase forward.
- Possibly a sliding thing where you get 10 hours of work for free and then you are charged a certain rate after that initial 10 hours has been used up.
- Possibly what they need initially is a consultation
- If they want some specific work done then there does need to be a fee for it or some kind of a fee structure. The fee needs to be reasonable but it is still a good deal for a member municipality because if they were going to go out and hire a planner it will cost them a lot more.
- The process of accessing the services should be initiated by the RM
- Need to keep promoting what it is that we are actually doing for that money.
- Growth management piece is huge but we are not sure if every municipality really understands the value of that.
- Example of the cost of an official community plan and zoning bylaw would be useful.

*\*\* Put in a request for Nick, Adam, Dave (or Russ), Joyce, Edna, Tony and bill Sheppard (REEVE) to attend the next RM of Coteau council meeting. We would ask that they take a letter from the member Municipalities (in that area) encouraging their participation in the Commission. This letter would contain a list of the advantages that we have all enjoyed as a part of WaterWolf. Dave should contact Clayton Ylioja as it needs to be a political issue.\*\**

*\*\* Need to send someone around to the large urbans and RM's to keep them informed about what WaterWolf is and what the organization is doing for them. Administration changes and people don't keep up. It might be a good thing to go around and keep people up to speed on what is happening on a regular basis. \*\**

#### **5. Involvement of the Commission in waste water solutions.**

- Main question at hand is if we are asked should we be involved?
- Millar is looking into some short term solutions to waste water
- Looking at places who have lagoon capacity for people who have no other place to take their waste water.
- Ecolibra Systems – Cost, etc.
- This is an area where we could possibly demonstrate some leadership.
- Explore some funding and see if that is useful

*\*\*Resource some speakers for one the next meeting on this topic\*\**

#### **6. Positioning strategically for the next one to three years.**

- Meeting with the Minister to get some of the red tape out of the way.
- Possibly useful to contact our MLA's and have them come to a meeting to discuss the road block and the problems that we are having. We can't be cutting edge without assistance.
- Possibly ask for a meeting with the Minister of Municipal Affairs. We need to make it clear to him that we need to make some structural changes. There is a political price to pay if things don't work out properly. We need to put the issues forward so that they know that growth is needed. We need to be treated a little differently and possibly there are some rules that need to be changed as we are the only entity of this kind. They need to move that next step forward with us.
- Board needs to be thinking about where they want to be down the road. Need to start preparing ahead of time what we want to do. It all takes time so if there are ideas out there, the sooner we get them to the table the sooner we can take care of the issues.\

*\*\* Set up a meeting with the Minister of Municipal affairs with some of the representation from this Executive. (Dave, M.L., Russ, and Adam)\*\**

#### **7. Draft budget in the Planning for Growth application**

- See Attached budget

- Contracted Tim Cheeseman as a Senior Contractor to help Adam through the process
- Met with Denise to discuss the possibility of supplying contract GIS services

**8. Next Meeting Date: March 15, 2011**

**9. Adjournment:**

**Whittles: That we adjourn the meeting at 12:04 p.m. Cd.**

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**Chairman**

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**Secretary Treasurer**