

`DISTRICT OF LAKELAND NO. 5211
ANNUAL MEETING – SATURDAY, JULY 9, 2011
RESPONSES

1. Request for more enforcement on the water at Emma and Christopher Lakes. Noise, liquor and lack of boat registrations. Need presence at the boat launches as well, District Special Constable, Conservation Officers or RCMP. The District was asked to follow up on getting this presence established and coordinate the efforts between the various jurisdictions.
2. Need to make boaters aware of the rules and regulations for boating and the water rules that pertain to the lakes in our District.
3. Concern over the liquor presence on the water at Emma Lake.
4. A concern and request was made to have a greater presence of RCMP in the District. Inspector Jay McInnis from the RCMP responded by stating that the costs for greater RCMP presence would be more costly in terms of an annual per capita cost (from 32.45/capita to 54.50/capita). The new regulations would require a minimum of 5 members should a detachment be established in the District. A Community office could be established in the new District office. A request was made from the ratepayers present to proceed and follow up with the RCMP on a potential community RCMP office and the costs associated with this project.

RESPONSE/ACTION - Letter has been written to RCMP (Inspector Jay McInnis) advising of the concerns expressed at the District of Lakeland No. 521 Annual information meeting. A meeting has been requested to discuss and develop a plan of action for the 2012 summer season. Council will be pursuing the issue of a District RCMP office for the Lakeland District.

5. Concern was expressed by a ratepayer from Okema Beach over the quality of grading being done in the District. More attention needs to be paid to detail and the drainage patterns established for each road in the various subdivisions. The District indicated that they have secured a grader and a municipal employee to run the grader and that this will be in place by the end of July, 2011.

RESPONSE/ACTION – The District has now committed to the purchase of a Grader to maintain our municipal roads in each of the subdivisions. The District has also hired a new seasonal employee who has been operating our grader for the summer as well as assisting our other maintenance staff in areas of public works and drainage. The Council has received many positive comments regarding the condition of our roads as we are able to respond to concerns on a more timely basis with our own equipment.

6. The District needs to establish a policy and list of Public Reserves and indicate which ones are going to be maintained for Public access and use. A definite maintenance schedule should be established by the District and ensure that all encroachments from adjacent ratepayers are addressed so that the general public can utilize these Public Reserves adequately.

RESPONSE/ACTION - The Council is presently reviewing all of the Public Reserves and pedways to determine which can be maintained for public access and which are to be left in their natural state. This review is being done in conjunction with the development of the Boat Dock/Lift Policy as some consideration is being given to permitting limited dock development on several municipal reserves throughout the municipality adjacent to Emma and Christopher Lakes.

7. A request was made to research and develop an access between Carwin Park and Guise Beach. Apparently there was one there before and now has been eliminated. The District is to research the request and review the possibility of reinstating an access between the two subdivisions.

RESPONSE/ACTION - Research has been conducted on the property separating the North end of Carwin Park and the South end of Guise Beach. The property between these two subdivisions is privately owned. The District has determined that it would not be financially prudent to pursue the purchase of additional land for the development of a pedway to connect the subdivisions.

8. An explanation was requested regarding the Library hours and whether they could be extended during the summer when the District was busier with seasonal residents. It was explained that the number of hours was dependant on the usage of the library but the District will look into the issue further.

RESPONSE/ACTION - This concern has been passed onto the Library Board for their review and consideration. Extension of the library hours comes with a cost and an analysis of cost versus perceived increased usage will have to be undertaken.

9. Concern was expressed over the Noise bylaw and the number of infractions throughout the summer. More "No Parking" signs were requested in various areas however it was explained that the residents are removing them and the District is having difficulty in keeping the signs replaced. The ratepayers were requested to file all complaints with the District office and that all complaints would be kept confidential.

RESPONSE/ACTION - This concern has been passed onto the Enforcement and Protective Services Department. A course of action for the 2012 summer season will be developed to try and address the noise concerns. Additional "No Parking" signs will be erected and a greater emphasis will be placed on enforcement of these regulations.

10. Concern was expressed that the Dust Control program was inadequate this year and that many areas were missed completely. The District replied that they would be establishing a policy for dust control in the future but that the program for 2011 was cut back because we could not get our gravelling done yet due to the wet weather. The District will look at their budgetary limitations to determine if any more dust control product could be on this year. Concern was also expressed over the quality of gravel in the past year – too sandy.

RESPONSE/ACTION - The District Council is reviewing their policy with respect to Dust Control. In order to achieve fiscal responsibility and manage the operating budget, emphasis will be placed on areas where the volume and speed of traffic dictates the need for dust control. Gravel has been obtained from a different supplier and is of better quality than previous years. Gravelling operations are to be completed by the fall of 2011.

11. It was requested that the District needs to improve the cleanup of various signs located throughout the municipality. There are no set rules in place and the areas along Highway 263 and 953 are becoming very unsightly. A signing corridor could alleviate some of the problem. A suggestion was made to develop several areas where people could place their garage sale signs. This way all one has to do is drive up to the area and then note all the areas where garage sales are being held on any given weekend.

RESPONSE/ACTION - The District agrees that the signs are unsightly and that a signing corridor needs to be established. Several locations have been identified and the District is seeking permission from private landowners to develop two or three signing corridors in the municipality that would alleviate some of the congestion at crucial intersections. The timing of the construction of Highway #263 by Saskatchewan Highways may delay the development of the signing corridors along this Highway until such time as their construction is completed.

12. A question was raised as to whether the R.M. could develop Community wells for general use by the Public. Water testing and water quality issues were also brought up and this continues to be a deterrent to this type of project.

RESPONSE/ACTION - The District Council reviewed the possibility of establishing a community well or wells in the municipality. The issues of liability and the need for daily testing of the water quality, coupled with the need to purchase land and the cost of drilling these wells and preparing them for public use was determined to be too costly.

13. A question was raised as to why motions cannot be passed at the Annual meeting to ensure that the District Council acts on the concerns expressed at these meetings.

RESPONSE/ACTION - The meeting held annually in the summer is strictly an informational meeting. This venue provides for an exchange of concerns from the ratepayers of the municipality with the Council and in return the Council provides information on various projects and developments ongoing within the municipality. Recommendations can be made from the floor for the municipality to review and consider.