



RM OF MARTIN NO 122

JULY 2020 NEWSLETTER

OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION:

Cheryl Barrett – Chief Administrative Officer
Box 1109
602 Main Street
Moosomin SK S0G 3N0
Phone: 306-435-3113 extension 2
or 306-435-4951 (direct line)
Fax: 306-435-4313
Email: rm122@sasktel.net

COUNCIL:

| | |
|------------|------------------------------|
| Reeve | Gerald Flaman (306-435-7304) |
| Division 1 | Wayne Beckett(306-435-9686) |
| Division 2 | Glen Ekert (306-532-4844) |
| Division 3 | Peter Currie (306-435-9092) |
| Division 4 | Hal Garrett (306-435-7757) |
| Division 5 | Ray Donald (306-435-7457) |
| Division 6 | John Gordon (306-435-7414) |

PUBLIC WORKS INFORMATION:

| | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Foreman | Darcy Jamieson |
| Maintenance Operator | James Greening |
| Maintenance Operator | Dave Osborne |
| Maintenance Operator | Leo Beier |

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday to Friday 8 am to Noon and 1-4 pm

WEBSITE: www.rmofmartin.com

Council meetings are generally held the **second Wednesday of each month at 8:00 am** in the Municipal Office located in Moosomin. If you would like the opportunity to speak to Council, please make an appointment by contacting the office at least one week before the date of the meeting.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Every two (2) years there are Municipal Elections. The 2020 elections will be for **Reeve and Councilors of Divisions 1, 3 and 5**. The term of all members of Council is four (4) years. The Nomination Period will begin when the Returning Officer publishes the Call for Nominations in the paper in late August/beginning of September. Nominations may be filed during regular office hours from the time of the Call for Election to the deadline of 4pm on **Nomination Day (Wednesday, October 07th)**. To be eligible to run for Council you must be at least 18 years of age, a Canadian citizen, eligible to vote in the Municipality and a resident of Saskatchewan. New this year in legislation is the requirement to complete a Public Disclosure Statement and it must be submitted with Nomination Paper (instead of after you're elected). If you are considering running for Council please stop into the RM Office and speak with Cheryl for more information.

ELECTION DAY for REEVE, DIVISIONS 1, 3 & 5
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2020

Email the RM of Martin at: rm122@sasktel.net to add your email address to our emailing list for updates on important events that effect ratepayers.



Follow us on Facebook at: **RM Martin**

Check out of website at: rmofmartin.com



APAS Representative Elections

Participating APAS RMs elect a representative from among their ratepayers to participate in APAS policy development and governance.

Vote to elect your APAS Representative on November 9, 2020.

Elections take place during rural municipal elections.

Learn more at APAS.ca

REMINDER OF YEARLY NOTIFICATION FOR USERS OF NON-POTABLE WELLS

Please be advised that the water from the Jacobi/Gillich Well (NE 01-13-33-W1); Correction Line Well (SW 02-15-33-W1) and Red Jacket Well (SE 33-14-32-W1) that is available to the public is not potable (the water is not safe for human consumption). The water from these wells is **NOT TREATED or TESTED** and is considered unsafe for human consumption. **DO NOT USE** this water for drinking, cooking, food preparation and/or oral hygiene purposes.



MOWING REQUEST

Mowing will soon be underway for 2020. Please remember **not to drop gates in the ditch area!** Please put the gates along the inside of your fence so they are visible to the mower operator – your gates will inevitably last longer!

NOTE FOR NEXT YEAR – if you wish to cut ditch hay please contact the office before June 15th to let us know so that we leave you something to cut!



CANADIAN
AGRICULTURAL
PARTNERSHIP
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WATER WELL DECOMMISSIONING

There are many risks involved with abandoned water wells such as:

1. Contamination of our groundwater supply
2. Safety hazard for people, animals and equipment, especially for large diameter wells
3. Liability risk – landowners with abandoned wells on their property are responsible for proper decommissioning of those wells
4. Reduced property values



Contact Karmen Kyle at 306.452.7953 for information on how to apply for **90% cost-share funding** to decommission abandoned water wells to mitigate these risks.

This program is available to agricultural producers, agri-businesses, First Nations and Saskatchewan Rural Municipalities. There is also opportunity for acreage owners and urban municipalities to access this funding. Contact us today to find out how.



THIS IS THE LAW!

SPEED LIMIT on gravel roads is 80 km/hour

Section 203 (1)(c) of the *Traffic Safety Act* states: “No person shall drive a vehicle on a highway at a speed greater than 60 kilometres per hour when passing... (c) any highway equipment on a highway that has ministry issued warning lights in operation, whether in motion or not.” This means gravel road and municipal equipment with flashing lights!

PLEASE SLOW DOWN TO 60KM/HR when passing and meeting RM Graders and workers.

DEVELOPMENT

PERMITS

ALL RATEPAYERS must contact the Administrator for a DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION for any and all development(s) on their property. Development must not proceed until the Administrator has issued a Development Permit. The reason for the issuance of a Development Permit is to ensure that all development meets the Zoning Bylaw requirements and most importantly that the Ratepayer (you!) have not developed on a road allowance, too close to the road or property line, on environmentally sensitive land, etc. **This is for your protection!**

GRAIN BAG BURNING THAT'S A BIG NO NO!!!!

It is illegal to burn grain bags on public OR private property. Fines for burning grain bags range from \$0 to \$1 Million based on the severity of the offense. The most relevant restrictions related to grain bag burning can be found in *The Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2002* under Section 4(1) and *The Clean Air Regulations* under Section 11.

**The office will be
CLOSED Fridays in
*July and August***

RCMP Non-Emergency Line
310-RCMP (310-7267)



Congratulations to Chief Administrative Officer Cheryl Barrett on her appointment as **Division 1 Director** to the Board of Directors of the Rural Municipal Administrators Association (RMAA).

PAYMENT METHODS FOR TAXES & ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

In 2014 the RM implemented **On-Line Banking** through the Royal Bank and Conexus Credit Union. On-Line Banking name is: **Martin No 122 (RM)** Please use your 4-digit account number found on your tax notice (add zeros in front to make it 4-digit).

In 2017 the RM started accepting **DEBIT CARD, MASTERCARD, and VISA**. We still accept cheques or cash!

Did you know that you may also make arrangement to pay your taxes **MONTHLY** either by Internet Banking or via Post-Dated Cheques? This option makes budgeting for your tax payment easier!

Remember these tips for a safe fire burn



As a farmer, there are times when you have no choice but to start a controlled fire to burn things like windrows, grass, stubble and piles.

Before you burn, please consult your local RM Office to verify no fire ban is in place for your area and call and report your activity to the Control Burn line at 1-866-404-4911. If you plan to burn within 4 km of a provincial forest, please call your local fire base.

Dry grass, grain/hay fields and pastureland

Reducing dry grass, hay and stubble will help prevent a yard fire from spreading, or stop a fire from entering your yard.

Barn barrels and fire pits

Never leave your barn barrel or fire pit unattended when not in use.

Windrows

Avoid building windrows on swamps/bogs and use a brush rake or excavator to reduce the amount of dirt in the rows.

Grass and stubble

Blade or plow down to mineral soil, at least five metres around your burn, to create a guard that keeps the fire from spreading.

Piles

Burn when there is no snow cover and frozen ground, whenever possible — and always re-pile and re-burn, if necessary, until the pile is completely gone.

When to burn

The early mid-morning or late afternoon is your best time to burn.

When not to burn

Do not burn under extremely dry conditions, at the end of the day, or when the forecast calls for high temperatures or windy conditions

Mow your lawn

Short, green grass can help prevent the spread of grass fires.

saskatchewan.ca/fire

Saskatchewan
PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCY

If you are planning a controlled burn please call the number above so you are not billed for a fire call. The number is answered 24/7 – 365 days a year!
1-866-404-4911

If there is a FIRE BAN issued by the Municipality and you burn you will be charged with a fire call (if fire department is called out) as well as a fine. **Most importantly DID YOU KNOW you are NOT covered by your insurance and could be liable for any damages that occur as a result of the fire!**

Fire Ban Notice is emailed to ratepayers who have given their EMAIL address, posted on Facebook, posted to the RM of Martin Website and a poster in the Wapella Post Office.

Included in our Newsletter and 2020 Tax Notice is a magnet with the Controlled Burn phone number for you to keep in a handy location!

Remember to always call the controlled burn number

1-866-404-4911

before doing any burning.



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FARM STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (FSP) & FARM & RANCH WATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM (FRWIP)

The Farm Stewardship Program provides funding to Saskatchewan producers to implement Beneficial Management Practices in the priority areas of water, climate change and biodiversity.

It focuses on:

- Improving water quality
- Reducing in greenhouse gas emissions
- Enhancing resilience in the agriculture sector
- Maintaining biodiversity

The Farm & Ranch Water Infrastructure Program is designed to:

- support the development of secure and sustainable water sources for agricultural use in Saskatchewan
- Mitigate the impact of drought
- Improve public safety and reduce potential groundwater contamination through well decommissioning

Projects eligible for funding through the Farm Stewardship Program:

- Seeding annual cropland to perennial tame or native forage
- Fencing projects for riparian grazing management and native grassland management
- Livestock stewardship – corral relocation, surface runoff control, improved manure storage, improved carcass disposal, nutrient management planning
- Drainage Stewardship – installation of water control and erosion control structures
- Invasive Plant Biocontrol & Targeted Grazing – targeted small ruminant grazing and insect biological control
- Variable Rate Mapping – consultation and soil sampling to create initial zone maps for variable rate fertilizer application & variable rate irrigation (rebate)

Projects eligible for funding through the Farm & Ranch Water Infrastructure Program:

- New dugout or dugout expansion (of at least 1/3 size increase) - *rebate*
- Large or small diameter well - *rebate*
- Deep or shallow buried pipeline - *rebate*
- Well decommissioning – *pre-approval*
- Special projects – including community water development - *pre-approval*

**remote watering systems and fencing can be included as an add-on to a dugout, well or pipeline development project.

** **Rebate projects completed anytime after October 1, 2017 can be applied for provided eligibility requirements are met!**

To be eligible for cost-share funding to implement beneficial management practices (BMPs) on your farm or to apply for water development or well decommissioning projects, you must:

- Demonstrate a minimum of \$50,000 gross farm income in Saskatchewan
- Provide a Premises Identification Number (PID) if involved in livestock operations
- Comply with any regulatory requirements, including any required permits or approvals
- For pre-approval projects, no work can be done prior to receiving written approval for the project
- For the Variable Rate Mapping BMP, you must have an Environmental Farm Plan certificate or other sustainability initiative (Verified Beef Production Plus, 4R Nutrient Stewardship or an International Sustainability and Carbon Certificate)
- **BMPs may have additional eligibility requirements

For more information and to apply for these programs:

- 1) Call Karmen Kyle, Agri-Environmental Advisor with the Lower Souris Watershed, at 306-452-7953
- 2) Check out Saskatchewan.ca/cap
- 3) Contact the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377



The following information is reprinted with permission from SGI's Saskatchewan Driver's Handbook.

Grid, municipal and resource access roads

Saskatchewan has a large network of roads connecting its main highways.

These roads present driving challenges which differ from provincial highways. Sight distances may be **shorter**. There are no shoulders, curves are sharper and there are many T-intersections, which means that the road comes to an end, often with little notice.

Unlike main highways, these roads are not designed to permit you to get out of trouble if you happen to be travelling faster than the posted speed limit. The speed limits are to be taken seriously and should be regarded as maximums under ideal conditions. When there is no posted speed limit, the speed limit is 80 km/h under ideal conditions.

Gravel surfaces may cause problems. At times, the gravel may be deep and loose, making it difficult to steer around curves. At other times there may be so little gravel that you are actually driving in dirt, which is very slippery when wet.

When dry, gravel surfaces also create visibility problems. Every moving vehicle creates clouds of dust that make meeting and passing other vehicles very dangerous.

Railway crossings, crossroads and farm entrances are more difficult to see on these roads than when you are driving on provincial highways that provide better sight distances. You are also more likely to encounter slow-moving farm vehicles, livestock and wildlife.

Driving techniques for gravel roads

Drive at a speed suited to the conditions. This means drive slowly. When you exit from a provincial highway, slow down. Keep your eyes up. You need all the advance notice you can get.

To steer in deep gravel, grasp the wheel firmly. Expect that the vehicle will wander. You will not steer as precisely as you do on pavement, so do not fight it by turning the steering wheel too much - you could lose control.

Stay well back from dust clouds.

Always drive with your headlights on so that others can see you earlier than they otherwise might.

When meeting large trucks or farm equipment, slow down and pull as far to the right as possible. You may have to stop.

WHAT HAS THE RM OF MARTIN BEEN UP TO THIS PAST YEAR?

Moosomin/Kipling (Grid 709) Repair

The Grid 709 (Township Road 133.1 to 133.2) sand seal had a bad spot that needed to be dug out and repaired. This spot will be re-sand sealed when the entire sand seal surface is re-done either next year or 2022.

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| Moosomin/Kipling (Grid 709) | |
| Construction (Budget \$30,000) | \$22,369.80 |
| Clay Crop Damage (Budget \$2,000) | \$ 2,000.00 |
| Miscellaneous (Culverts, Gravel, RM Labour) | \$ 7,925.10 |
| GRAND TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COST | \$ 32,294.90 (this amount includes PST) |

Hazlecliff (Grid 601 Range Road 1333) Repair

The Grid 601 North (Range 1333.19 to 1333.20) bad spot that needed to be dug out and repaired. This spot ended up costing a bit more to repair than what we anticipated as we had large equipment continue to go through the road closed signs and damage the road as it was being repaired. We were able to use clay from a road allowance for the fix.

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| Hazlecliff (Grid 601 North) | |
| Construction (Budget \$105,000) | \$95,152.34 |
| Miscellaneous (Culverts, Gravel, RM Labour) | \$53,048.95 |
| GRAND TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COST | \$148,2201.29 (this amount includes PST) |

Hopper's Hill (Grid 601 Range Road 1333) Repair

The Hopper's Hill (Range Road 1335.11) road was a project that has been on the radar for a number of years. Weather was a factor in this job with the rain starting and causing us some issues with the clay. The job ended up being a bigger fix than originally expected and was over our estimated budget.

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| Hazlecliff (Grid 601 North) | |
| Construction (Budget \$75,000) | \$111,249.92 |
| Clay Crop Damage (Budget \$10,000) | \$ 4,500.00 |
| Miscellaneous (Culverts, Gravel, RM Labour) | \$ 53,653.10 |
| GRAND TOTAL CONSTRUCTION COST | \$169,403.03 (this amount includes PST) |

SO..... WHAT'S UP FOR 2020?

- \$40,000 into Fire Reserve (Moosomin Fire Department is purchasing an Emergency Response Vehicle)
- \$5,000 into Health Reserves
- \$50,000 into Special Savings Reserve
- \$100,000 into Capital Equipment Reserve
- McEachern Bridge was removed a couple years ago and this year we replaced it with a low-level crossing
- Broadway from St Andrews Grid 601 to Eden Grove Range Road 1333 clay cap/upgrade
- Correction Line Township Road 150 clay cap/upgrade

HOW ARE WE GOING TO ACCOMPLISH THIS?

As you can see from your Tax Notice there is no mill rate tax increase this year – Mill Rate remains the same! The Mill Rate is 10.25 Mills. Council did however raise the Minimum Tax to \$50 to all property classes so that every class of property is being treated the same. The RM has approved a budget of \$2,078,270 in expenses and \$2,131,750 in revenue for 2020. Going forward in the next few years you can expect more road upgrading, culvert replacement and on-going bridges maintenance to extend the bridges lives.