

# Minutes of the Red Deer River Municipal Users Group

## Regular Meeting

March 18, 2021 at 1:00 PM - Via Zoom

**Attendance:** D. Grover – County of Stettler, B. Windsor – Town of Didsbury, G. Keiver – Kneehill County, W. Blatz – Town of Olds, A. Campbell – Town of Stettler, J. Wallsmith – MD of Acadia Valley, R. Poole – Town of Blackfalds, A. Kemmere – Mountain View County, G. Bates – Town of Innisfail, M. Marshall – Starland County, B. Shaw – City of Red Deer/RDRMUG, G. Champion – Town of Hanna, J. Ireland – Lacombe County, D. Drohomerski – Town of Drumheller, A. Monkman – City of Red Deer, G. Parsons – Town of Sylvan Lake, T. Besuijen – Village of Alix, J. Slep – Special Areas, B. Kasco – Town of Oyen, A.M. Philipsen – County of Newell, K. Ryder – RDRMUG

### VISION

*“An enduring healthy Red Deer River system with sufficient flows through all seasons to sustain communities, the economy and healthy aquatic environments”*

#### 1. Call to Order:

Co-Chair J. Ireland called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.

#### 2. Adoption of Agenda:

**4.1** Additions to Agenda: J. Ireland added a discussion on the status of Strad Board Projects within the area.

**Motion:** R. Poole moved that the agenda for the March 18, 2021 RDRMUG regular meeting be adopted with addition. **Carried**

#### 3. Presenter(s): Alec Carrigy – Alberta Water Council, (AWC) Project Manager

Provided an update of current Alberta Water Council projects focusing on:

- Source Water Protection
- Drought Simulation

[Click here](#) for presentation.

#### 4. Minutes:

**4.1** Confirmation of Minutes of January 21, 2021

**5.1** Business arising from Minutes of January 21, 2021: None

**MOTION:** G. Champion moved that the Red Deer River Municipal User Group Meeting minutes of January 21, 2021 be adopted as presented.

**Carried**

## 5. Financial:

### 4.1 Financial Statements to February 28, 2021: ([Click here](#) for copy)

Executive Director Keith Ryder provided an overview of the financial statements to December 31, 2020 which is the end of the RDRMUG fiscal year and highlighted the following:

- Balance Statement: Bank Balance - \$ 53,229.34
  - Closing Surplus – \$ 64,459.40
  - Statement of Revenue and Expenses – Revenue - \$ 11,191.82 (includes deferred memberships)
  - Expenses - \$ 4252.05
- Surplus (Loss) for Year to-date – \$ 6,939.77

**MOTION G.** Bates moved to accept the Financial Statements to February 28, 2021 as presented. **Carried**

### 5.1 Operating Budget: ([Click here](#) for approved copy)

Presented for reference and information

## 6. New Business:

### 4.1 RDRMUG Handbook: “Looking Back – Moving Forward”

- Digital copies are available ([click here](#)). Members are encouraged to share with their Councils, Administration and Water Department Staff.
- Hard copies will be sent to all members. Additional copies available.
- Digital copies have been sent to all “Non” RDRMUG member municipalities within the Red Deer River Basin.
- Digital copies sent to all stakeholders including RDRWA, Alberta Water Council, AUMA, RMA, and Alberta Water Smart.

### 5.1 Steering Committee – Next Steps – Future Actions

- Meeting March 5, 2021 ([Click here](#) for meeting summary)
- Follow up meeting requested with Alberta Environment
  - Encourage Alberta Environment to review and initiate formal action to secure future storage within the Red Deer River Basin. Consensus is that future storage is required for the overall health of the River along with securing sufficient quality water to ensure the future population and economic growth of all municipalities.
  - Request an update of the status of RDRMUG Municipal Crown Reservation application.

## 7. Provincial Coal Mining Update:

RDRMUG will continue to monitor and provide members with relevant information as available pertaining to recent changes to the Provinces Coal Mining Policies and Licensing issues. RDRMUG position is to provide members with information that will assist in any actions or stands they may wish to pursue.

- Communications would request that the Province fully engage in extensive public consultation prior to any additional policy or licensing changes.
- Information has been shared with RDRWA
- Continue to monitor Provincial websites for licensing information.
- Contact [execdir@rdmug.ca](mailto:execdir@rdmug.ca) if you require information or have information or articles that you wish to share.

## 8. Agenda Additions:

### 8.1 Strad Board Projects

J. Ireland asked if any members had received information on a variety of Strad Board or similar projects being pursued in their communities.

Round table discussion ensued:

- G. Keiver, Kneehill County advised that there have been some inquiries in his area, however no concrete applications have been made to date.
- D. Grover, County of Stettler also stated that the County of Stettler has had some interest in a few different projects, no firm commitments or applications have been made.
- Any additional information will be shared with members through [execdir@rdmug.ca](mailto:execdir@rdmug.ca)

## 8. Executive Director Report:

K. Ryder advised that:

- Request has been made to Alberta Environment and Parks for a follow up meeting.
- Handbook is at printers.
- Has met with RDRWA to share information on common goals and projects.
- RDRMUG Video is in production, next step will be to send a draft copy for members review.
- WWWsite is being updated – if you need assistance in locating information please contact [execdir@rdmug.ca](mailto:execdir@rdmug.ca)

## 9. Correspondence & Articles:

- Email was received from Paintearth County stating that due to budget restraints they would not participate or contribute to RDRMUG.

**10. Next Meeting:** May 20, 2021 (Format to be confirmed)

**11. Adjournment:** 2:20pm

**Motion** by G. Campion to adjourn RDRMUG regular meeting.

**Carried**