



Local Government Administration Association

MINUTES OF THE ZONE 4 LGAA MEETING HELD AT THE VIKING CARENA COMPLEX September 12, 2008 @ 10:00 A.M.

PRESENT

Rod Krips – Viking
Jody Quickstad – Vegreville
David Connauton – Coronation
Wendy Ramberg – Killam
Al Radke – Camrose County
Colin Doupe – Municipal Affairs
Christine Bigoray – Municipal Affairs

Katherine Whiteside – Holden
Nancy Friend – Rosalind
Shelly McMann – Chauvin
Darlene Gotobed – Killam
Monica Northey - Forestburg
Theresa Ostrum – Municipal Affairs

Call to Order

A. Radke called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m..

Introductions

All present introduced themselves, positions and which municipality they were from.

Adoption of Agenda

- a) with additions
- b) with deletions

D. Connauton moved that the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

J. Quickstad asked that A. Radke follow up with the LGAA to confirm David Marynowich's length of service. He apparently received a 5 year pin but should possibly be in line for greater.

Discussion also ensued about associate memberships. A. Radke will follow up.

J. Quickstad moved that the minutes of the LGAA Zone 4 meeting held in Camrose on May 1, 2008 be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

Service Recognition

A. Radke said that he would bring the pins and list to the next meeting, he forgot to tag them along this time.

MPE Engineering – Mike Breunig

Mr. Breunig gave an informative presentation on template contracts, standards and infrastructure assessments. MPE can supply all of these services. The importance of having a plan was stressed and in how it can enable CAO's to keep priorities on the agenda. A. Radke suggested that if this seems like a daunting task, possibly explore the Regional Partnership Initiative grant to accommodate the venture. The Municipal Infrastructure Management System (MIMS) is also another great planning tool and the Municipal Sponsorship Program (MSP) grant is a grant opportunity to acquiring the end product.

Update From Municipal Affairs – Correspondence from Kristin Lewis

W. Ramberg shared her doubt that smaller municipalities could ever acquire an intern. She has applied for three years with no success. Other "sharing" scenarios were introduced. R. Krips offered to be a partner in an application. Viking has done so in the past and would welcome another opportunity.

S. McMann shared that they had just created the ICE Committee (Irma, Chauvin and Edgerton). They used an MSP grant to fund students to complete their Tangible Capital Assets (TCA) project. Other municipalities were interested in utilizing the students too but technical details in the grant did not allow them to. A lot of good information and best practices were able to be shared through this endeavor.

Municipal Affairs Presentation

Colin Doupe gave an overview of how the MSI funding is progressing. His presentation focused on capital projects. He cautioned everyone that the projected funding they have been given may not actually turn out in that manner. The final outcome will be dependent on your municipality's actual growth and the overall growth of the province. If you do not keep up with the curve then you could receive less than projected. Mr. Doupe gave examples of what qualified for funding projects and suggested that they are considering slightly adjusting the form formats in a few areas.

Christine Bigoray gave an overview of the operating component of MSI. She explained that the unexpected increase in operating funding came from both Edmonton's and Calgary's desire to only receive capital funding. She also gave examples of what qualified for funding.

Theresa Ostrum gave a quick summary of TILMA. We can expect seminars in late November targeted at explaining the implications of TILMA. Short debate ensued with a

general question as to how this is going to overall benefit a majority of Albertans or municipalities. She also spoke very briefly about Tangible Capital Assets and was asked to take back the message that this inception has caused many auditors to jump ship. She then gave a recap of the Minister's Tour; nine locations in three days. The questions of the day were:

- 1) What are the biggest challenges you are faced with today?
- 2) What changes are needed today to make you sustainable in the future?

Top items of discussion:

- ✓ Provision of infrastructure – core and social
- ✓ Stable professional and volunteer capacity
- ✓ Water supply and storage
- ✓ Aging population in communities and the associated challenges
- ✓ Loss of youth from communities

- ✓ Cooperation and communication with neighbors
- ✓ More training, advice and support
- ✓ Sustainable, predictable and timely funding
- ✓ Improving communication between ministries as well as municipalities

Minister using information gathered to share with colleagues. Minister has committed to doing it again next year. A report summarizing the tour will be forthcoming.

J. Quickstad suggested that in these changing times and greater reliance on one another, the time is maybe ripe for amalgamating the LGAA membership with that of AARMA. A. Radke advised the audience that it was one of the items on the current agenda of the LGAA Board.

Contaminated Property Reclamation

M. Yakielashek of Castor was not in attendance so an update was unavailable. Discussion occurred anyway regarding different situations each has experienced and the various outcomes. This topic will be left for future developments.

Salary Survey

A. Radke shared the salary survey template with those in attendance. He thanked everyone for their e-mail contributions. A big thanks goes to Thelma Rogers in Sedgewick because it meant the wheel did not have to be re-invented to come up with pertinent columns of interest for the survey. Suggestions were made for improvements and A. Radke will incorporate and then re-circulate.

Next Meeting

The next meeting was set for Friday February 13, 2009. The meeting will be hosted in Killam starting at 10:00 a.m.. Forestburg has offered to host the next meeting after that.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:26 p.m..