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NEWSLETTER –2023

Would you have preferred this notice by email? We can send you your notices, invoices, tax notices and assessments, receipts, and any custom letters by email. An email consent form is available on the website or in office. All personal information including email addresses are confidential.

<u>REEVE & COUNCILLORS</u>			<u>ADMINISTRATION</u>	
Reeve	Derreck Kolla	306-229-6161	CAO/CFO:	Fay Stewart fstewart@rmofhoodoo.ca
Division 1	Hal Diederichs	306-233-8405	Assistant Administrator/ Planning & Development:	Ashley Pfeiffer ashley@rmofhoodoo.ca
Division 2	Eugene Jungwirth	306-256-3698	Office Assistant:	Reanne Fontaine
Division 3	Reg Wedewer	306-256-3522	Foreman:	Ralph Myrheim 306-213-7466
Division 4	Donavin Reding	306-233-7750	Assistant Foreman:	Mike Doerksen
Division 5	Bruce Cron	306-514-2115		
Division 6	vacant			

EMAIL COMMUNICATION – if you have not been receiving emails from the RM regarding various communications such as fire bans, spring road ban information, election information, etc. and would like to receive these, please send an email to office@rmofhoodoo.ca.

BY-ELECTION DIVISION 6 – Advanced Poll will be held on Friday, August 4th, 2023, from 12 pm to 8 pm and Election Day will be held on Wednesday, August 16th, 2023, from 9 am to 8 pm, both at the Wakaw Legion Hall located at 314-3rd Street South, Wakaw. Results will be announced at the RM of Hoodoo office on August 17, 2023, at 9 am. If you are unsure of the division you are eligible to vote in, it is on the bottom right of the page on your tax notice.

The RM would like to take this opportunity to thank Don Gabel for his work on Council since elected in the fall of 2018. He has served not only as Council member but as an RM of Hoodoo representative on several committees such as Carrot River Watershed Authority, Wakaw Recreation Board, and Lakeview Pioneer Lodge Board, as well as many internal committees such as the budget committee. He has served tirelessly during his time on Council and took the responsibility of maintaining the best interests of the ratepayers in Division 6 and the RM as a whole seriously. The RM wishes both Don and Brenda the best in their next chapter in life!

RM of HOODOO WEBSITE – Please visit our website, rmofhoodoo.ca, for frequent updates around the RM, and other notices including meeting agendas/minutes, application forms, road restrictions, fire bans, and much more.

PAYMENT METHODS – The following are accepted by the RM for payment of accounts: cheque, cash, e-transfer (send via office@rmofhoodoo.ca) and telpay online through credit unions. The RM is also set up for monthly withdrawals for tax payments. Please contact the RM for more information.

MILL RATE & MILL RATE FACTOR– The mill rate for 2023 is 9.0835. Seasonal residential/residential properties for 2023 are at 6.1418 after a mill rate factor of .67615 is applied. The resort levy is approximately 35% of the total levy. The tax levy is based on the revenue required in the RM budget to operate the municipality. The school tax mill rates are set by the Province and are included on the tax notices.

DEVELOPMENT/BUILDING – A development permit is required for any type of development. It is needed to ensure the development complies with the RM Zoning Bylaw 14 of 2018, which can be found on the RM website. If a use is listed as discretionary in the Zoning Bylaw, it requires public notice, a public hearing, and a resolution of Council. Once the proposed project is approved by the municipality, you can proceed with the building permit process (if required).

A building permit is required to confirm that building plans and construction meet provincial building code, and is required for any building over 100 sq ft. The building permit is submitted to the RM office, which is then sent to the building inspector for their review & approval. Once the building permit is approved, construction may begin!

No construction may take place without proper permits being in place. You will receive a permit sign that is to be erected by your property so the bylaw officer is aware that the proper permits have been approved. Permits are required to protect you, your property, your neighbors, and the municipality as a whole. If in doubt, please give the office a call.

No structures are allowed on Municipal Reserve. Uses of Municipal Reserve are restricted to those indicated in the *Planning & Development Act* and *Dedicated Land Regulations*.

CIVIC ADDRESSING - Your new civic address is located on your tax notice directly under the legal location of your property. These numbers are now registered with 911 and can be used in case of an emergency. Lake residents will use their 4-digit number along with the new beach road names. Ag residents, your sign will indicate the full civic address of your location. For more information on this, please visit our website.

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – The 2022 audited financial statements are available on the website. The 2022 audited summary financial statements are included with the tax notices.

HOME-BASED BUSINESSES & COMMERCIAL USES – The RM does not issue business licenses; however, home based businesses/commercial uses are a discretionary use in the RM, and they must be applied for and approved by Council. Please refer to the Zoning Bylaw found on the RM website for the home-based or commercial use information in the district you are located in.

BYLAW ENFORCEMENT - The RM has contracted LM Bylaw Enforcement to perform bylaw enforcement within the RM. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, you can talk to Luc directly at 306-862-7521, by email to luc@lmbylawenforcement.ca, or contact the RM office. The bylaw officer will be patrolling the lake subdivisions on a regular basis and the remainder of the RM on an “as needs” basis.

ANIMAL CONTROL BYLAW - The RM passed Bylaw 8 of 2023 this year, which is a Bylaw to Control Domestic Animals around Wakaw Lake. Pets are not allowed to run at large (off your property) at any time. Please keep your animals on leash anytime you are off your property. If you witness someone contravening this bylaw, please call the bylaw officer. A full copy of the bylaw can be found on the website or in the office.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES - Operators must be familiar with all regulations governing off-road vehicular traffic. This includes ATV's, UTV's and Golf Carts. Most areas of the municipality and areas surrounding Wakaw Lake are private property and permission must be given for access. Bylaw 14 of 2023 was passed this year, which allows Golf Carts to be operated on public roadways within the RM, with restrictions. Please visit our website or the office to view a copy of the bylaw.

COYOTE SIGHTINGS – There have been multiple coyote sightings around Wakaw Lake recently. Conservation Officers have been contacted and said they are most likely young pups and are exploring. The RM does not have the means to remove the coyotes as traps can be considered too dangerous with the amount of foot traffic around the lake. Please make sure you are not leaving food (including cat or dog food) outside your cabin as this can attract coyotes.

GARBAGE FOR WAKAW LAKE – Garbage pickup will continue its regular schedule being:

- Weekly Monday from May long to Thanksgiving long weekend
- Bi-Weekly Mondays from Thanksgiving long weekend to May long weekend.

If Monday is a holiday, pickup will be Tuesday. Please have your garbage out before 7am. We highly recommend using garbage bins to keep critters out. Regular household garbage only is accepted and in a REGULAR garbage bag (75L Bags, not small plastic/grocery bags or the very large leaf bags) and no heavier than 40 lbs. **Nothing loose. Please do not put doggy bags in other people's bins, take it home with you and put it in your garbage bag.**

SNOW REMOVAL - Caution must be taken when clearing the snow onto the road allowance as no ridges or buildup of snow should be on edge of road (liability may fall to person responsible for the ridge). After a major snow fall, the policy of Council has been set as follows: All major grids are to be done first for emergency vehicles and then all other roads. **Make sure you have an alternative method of snow removal in the event of a major snow fall.**

RM ROAD SAFETY – The speed limit on the RM grid roads is 80 km/hr unless posted otherwise. The speed limit is reduced to 60 km/hr on all municipal roads for trucks over fifteen tonnes.

RM Employees/Equipment = Orange Zone. Please slow to 60 km/hr when passing RM employees and equipment. Be patient and drive with care when meeting or passing municipal equipment.

SEWER – Please ensure that you are following SHA regulations for septic services. All wastewater from residences/cottages around the lake is required to be in a holding tank. Grey water is not to be pumped onto the ground where it can find its way into the lake. **Please be responsible and protect your lake.**

FIRES & CONTROLLED BURN – Notice of fire bans are uploaded to the RM's website and sent out via email. If you are planning a controlled burn of bush, piles, stubble, etc. you **MUST** call and report it. To report a controlled burn, call **1-866-404-4911**. The RM asks that everyone follow the “Best Practices for Open Burning” as outlined on the Government of Saskatchewan webpage.

FIRE DEPARTMENT CHARGES – There are costs for the RM of Hoodoo Volunteer Fire Department to respond to a fire. Contact your insurance agent to arrange for coverage. The amount suggested to ensure you will not incur your own costs is \$20,000. The minimum charge for the fire department to respond is \$1,000.