

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF MORRIS

Minutes of a meeting of the Council of the R.M. of Morris held on Thursday April 30th, 2009 commencing at 9:00a.m in the RM of Morris Council Chambers. Reeve Martens, and Councillors Groening, Kornelsen, Neumann, Robert and Siemens were present with Reeve Martens in the Chair. This meeting had been called by Reeve Martens to do a debriefing from the 2009 flood, and also to discuss other municipal matters. Councillor Wiens had sent his apologies.

Mr. Don Harder, Dalton Duerksen, Jean Champagne, Lorne Siemens, Kerri Eidse, Henry Buhler, Henry Daniels, and Ernest Buhler were also present.

Reeve Martens advised that he would go around the table and would ask everyone to state what they saw as the good and the bad during this situation.

	Good	Bad
Reeve Herm Martens	Was keeping PR 422 open with 1 1/2 feet of water on the road. Extended Thank you to Don Harder and the Fire Department from Rosenort and Lowe Farm. Appreciated the cooperation with Henry Buhler.	Was told by EMO that they would help with the evacuation, and then when the time came said it was a municipal call.
Deputy Ralph Groening	Keeping PR 422 open, dealing with Riverside, and the process of speaking to people in advance.	Homecare was ready to walk out and hand their responsibilities over to the RM of Morris. People on Social Assistant became a municipal problem.
Sieg Neumann	Appreciate the government allowing the RM to make the decisions. Most people that are cut off are coming out for respite. Most have telephone and electrical power.	Still need more flood proofing, particularly with graineries. The RM of Morris gets sacrificed for the City of Winnipeg.
Jean Champagne	Cooperation amongst all the people. Information was coming down. Good communication.	Some guidelines are too broad, but this was better than 1997. Compensation issues were also bad.
Don Harder	Everybody pulls together, all departments are working together.	Too much water. Private dikes. He would like to help owners of private dike but believes it should be done by private contractors, there are insufficient dikes and culvert problems.
Dalton Duerksen	Working together. Willingness of people to give time.	Evacuation. Registration instructions should be more clear
Denis Robert	To see the Fire Departments work hand in hand with Lowe Farm and Rosenort. A Big Thank you!	The dikes there are no guide lines. There are questions regarding gravel on the shoulder or on the road. Private dikes and culvert closures did not work well. The RM of Morris needs a program to bring up lane ways.
Stan Siemens	Keeping PR 422 open. Not having compulsory evacuations.	The dikes could have been better. A lot of traffic on St-Mary's and some people are driving to slow or to fast.
Kerry Eidse	The big story is flood proofing. The number of volunteers needed is very low compared to 1997. Riverside was handled very well. The emergency helicopter.	Dirt was moved considerable distance to close ring dikes. The dikes could have been designed for dirt being moved less often. Dikes and culvert did not function as well as they could have. Small dikes with low driveways.
Lorne Siemens	PR 422 was good. The bridge should be manned year round. Garth Hannah did an excellent job. There was more positive than negatives.	Boats were in short supply. Operator knowledge was lacking. Many culverts were not blocked properly.
Leo Kornelsen	Everyone covered the flood well. Some roads are already able to be used again.	Ambulances touring around the country site seeing. Winnipeg flood crested before the Morris Flood.
Ernest Buhler	Mennonite Disaster Service and the Fire Departments	Was Red Cross. They were giving information that the RM of Morris would supply boats, pumps, lodging, food and cash.
Henry Buhler	Everything was very positive to date. The Highways and everyone else was cooperating. Dike patrols.	

Reeve Martens summed up that people now can appreciate the dikes. Most people seemed to like voluntary evacuation. Some people resist moving out. The Office of the Fire Commissioner had made commitments and then did not deliver. They had promised that they would check on the stranded, checked for two days, and then quit.

Denis Robert advised that we need to talk to the Premier about the number of cubic feet per second in the floodway. Right now the floodway is running at 97,000 cubic feet per second compared to 138,000 in 1997. There should also be some discussion about building illegally.

There being no further business the meeting was then adjourned at 10:40 a.m.



REEVE



CAO