#1 Transportation and Utilities News – The Municipal District of Bonnyville Council awarded the 2013 Paving Overlay tender for Range Road 450 and Range Road 475 to Knelsen Sand & Gravel Ltd. for $2,261,980 and approved a project budget of $2,431,980. Council agreed to take some used cold mix it is removing from Township Road 611 and lay it down on less than a half a mile portion of North Shore Heights Road as the two roads are in close proximity to each other. The Road Construction Crew has completed approximately 1.5 miles of Township Road 624 and will be moving to Township Road 622 when completed. Part of the construction crew has been working on the clean up on Township Road 600 and has completed the majority of it and just needs to reshape it. The Road Oiling Crew has completed Range Road 472A and are still prepping Township Road 604. They have completed half of the Lessard Road project and will be moving on to Range Road 450 north of Fort Kent. The MG 30 Crew has completed the reapplication process of 165 miles of road from last year and they have completed 10 miles of the new application on roads from this year’s list. The gravelling has been delayed because of the intermittent rain the M.D. has experienced, but roads should be completed by mid-July. The top paving lift should be completed on Gurneyville Road this week.

#2 Planning and Development Update – Council gave first reading to a number of bylaws. Bylaw #1542 to close and lease 550 feet of Range Road 464 from south of Township Road 646, to allow the homeowners to use the road as a driveway. Bylaw #LU 525 to amend the Land Use Bylaw clarifying that the installation and operation of municipal services, including solid waste management, utility installation, road construction and maintenance, does not require a Development Permit as set out in Section 14 of the bylaw. Bylaw #LU 526 and 527 to rezone part of SW 6-60-5-W4M from Agricultural ‘A’ to Country Residential ‘CR 2’. Bylaw #LU528 to rezone part of SE 30-61-5-W4M from Agricultural ‘A’ to Rural Industrial ‘RI’.

#3 Public Safety Report – Public Safety Industry Officers have been focusing on the Dupre area after recent road damage was discovered along the newly paved portion of Dupre Road. The wide deep ruts indicate heavy truck traffic was to blame for the damage. Patrol Officers have been cracking down on ATVers in the Crane Lake area, with a zero tolerance approach. Quads are being impounded when drivers are apprehended on the roadways. School Resource Officers received a lot of kudos for the programs being offered in the two school divisions at a recent year-end Advisory Committee meeting. Other municipalities from across the province are contacting the M.D. regarding the popular program and asking about the implementation process.

#4 Agricultural Programs – The M.D. is participating in multiple pest surveillance programs for the province. Bertha Army Worm traps will be set out this week in areas that have canola crops. Grasshopper surveys will be taking place in July to get a handle on potential problems. M.D. mowers are in the Cherry Grove area, moving north to the
Marie Lake area, then west along Highway 55. The Roadside Sprayers are concentrating their efforts in the Ardmore, Glendon and Flat Lake areas, working to get rid of brush and noxious weeds within our road right-of-ways. Over 100 km of roadside was cleaned by various groups from across the M.D. – ranging from the Glendon area over to Cherry Grove. M.D. staff helped collect the bagged garbage and looked after the traffic control on many of the cleanup days. Council agreed to take a $100 membership in the coalition that is organizing to support the continued operation of the Prairie Shelterbelt Program and to also write a letter of support to federal Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz to enable the Indian Head Tree Nursery to continue operation as a viable business that will sell trees on a cost-recovery basis.

#5 Funding Support – Council agreed to donate $10,000 to assist in alleviating the flood damage in southern Alberta. Administration will investigate the appropriate funding organizations in order to make sure the donation reaches the flood victims most in need. The Franchere Social Community Centre received a $5,000 Special Projects Grant as matching dollars for improvements made to the ball fields. Council agreed to cost share the improvements on the running track at Notre Dame Elementary School with a contribution of $687.00. Council agreed to purchase a $400 table of eight at the Bonnyville and District Oil and Gas Show Banquet. Council agreed to provide a donation of used cold mix to the Bonnyville and District Historical Society to support the addition of a farm implement display. The M.D. will dump the cold mix, but it will not lay out the material as it does not have the staff to do this during a busy construction season. A motion to provide a maximum of $2 million over two years (2014 and 2015) to the Lakeland Sports and Recreation Association for the construction of the Moose Lake Trail, subject to the group acquiring matching non-municipal funding, was defeated. Council also denied a $1,000 funding request from the Pirouette School of Dance to send one student to camp and a request from the Lakeland Centre for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder for in-kind assistance in clearing land for their new Children’s Summer Camp at the French Bay Provincial Recreation Area.

#6 Briefs, Briefs, Briefs – Council passed a motion to leave any decision regarding the direction of postal services in Ardmore in the hands of Canada Post. The M.D. investigated all the options available to the hamlet regarding postal services and Council agreed that Canada Post is the corporate body that must make the final decisions. Council approved the transfer of $57,642 from the Bonnyville and District Centennial Centre’s Operating Budget to the Capital Budget to cover the cost of a new condensing unit. Council was assured that the 2013 Operating Budget was in a surplus position and would end the year in the black.

For more information contact Diane Jenkinson, Marketing and Communications Manager at 780-826-3171. Our web site is a useful way to get the information you need. Visit: www.md.bonnyville.ab.ca Follow us on Facebook and Twitter @MDBville.