#1 Transportation and Utilities Update – Road paving projects carried over from 2010 have been completed, with minor clean up and deficiencies to be done as time and weather allow. The 2011 Road Paving projects are progressing and should be completed by the end of July if the weather cooperates. The contractor is currently working on the Wolf Lake Road with all but 1.6 km of the subgrade completed and gravel down on the north side of the bridge. Paving is scheduled to start at the end of June. Administration is writing a letter to Alberta Transportation regarding replacing the 35-year-old bridge on Wolf Lake Road, asking for a replacement structure in the next couple of years. Design work is completed and tender packages will be available shortly for the Fort Kent Main Street Reconstruction. E Construction will begin working July 4 on three blocks of dirt work, curbs and paving in the section begun last year. The Road Oiling Crew completed work on Township Road 610 in Ward 3 and moved back to the Minnie Lake Road to complete work started earlier in the year. The crew will then move to Township Road 610 south of Bonnyville in Ward 1. The majority of Road Graveling is completed, with a couple of weeks left to go on the summer program. Graveling will start again in the fall, with another run prior to freeze up. The patching trucks working in Wards 1 and 5 will move to Wards 2 and 4 in July. The Construction Crew is working on Range Road 430 and will then move on to the Baywood Road. Culvert replacements are continuing. The crew will move to Antler Drive the first week of July to complete the installation of the storm water drainage. The Brushing Crew will move to Ward 3 on June 27. A five mile trial of various dust suppressants will be starting shortly with Kortech to find a product that will provide better dust control than calcium chloride. Canadian Natural Resources Limited has committed $100,000 to complete the engineering of Phase II on Wolf Lake Road.

#2 C2 Lighting Upgrade – Council agreed to fund half the cost of a lighting upgrade to the Agriplex in the Bonnyville and District Centennial Centre. The total cost of the upgrade is $10,393.00 with the M.D. and the Town of Bonnyville each paying $5,196.50. The fixtures are from the original Agriplex construction and do not work properly in winter causing poor lighting conditions. The fixtures also consume more power than newer lighting, resulting in excessive electrical costs. New standardized lighting will make the operation of the facility more effective and efficient, as well as reducing the amount of replacement inventory required to be on hand for maintenance.

#3 Funding Support – Eastbourne Community Hall Society received their Annual Operating Grant of $15,000. Ardmore Senior Citizens received a Special Projects Grant of $5,000 to assist with the addition and renovation of their Community Hall. The total cost of the renovation is $17,093.41. The Cherry Grove Recreation and Agricultural Society received a $5,000 grant to upgrade their Community Hall fire suppression system and purchase a cooler and steam table. The total cost of the project is $11,742.36. Glendon Agricultural Society received a Special Projects Grant of $5,000 to assist with the purchase of a new/refurbished Ice Resurfacer. The Society has raised $31,000 of the
total cost of $65,000 (refurbished) to $100,000 (new). The majority of youth in the Glendon Minor Hockey Association are from the M.D. Council agreed to provide $500 for the 23rd annual Toxic Round-Up. Council agreed to allow Ardmore Extreme organizers to excavate and haul 280 cubic metres of sand from the M.D.’s Ardmore pit to their event site on Highway 28.

#4 Planning and Development Update – Council gave second and third reading to Bylaws 1486 and 1490 to close and lease Road Allowances North of North East 34, Township 63, Range 6, W4M (N/NE 34-63-6-4) and within SW 12-60-8-W4M a branch road under Road Plan 2468 LZ. Council also passed Bylaw 1472 to close and sell the road allowance in the Long Bay Estates subdivision. A parallel roadway will be built in the new subdivision.

#5 ATV Patrols – Public Safety Officers are continuing to patrol the Crane Lake area for off highway vehicles breaking the rules. Charges have been laid for operating ATVs on the access roads, as well as for not having registration and insurance. In addition parents have been charged for allowing their underage children to operate their quads on the roads. ATV complaints are a consistent theme in all the M.D. campgrounds. Officers are also continuing with formal quad patrols on the Iron Horse Trail, but few problems or complaints are encountered.

#6 Agricultural Update – The Strychnine Program for control of Richardson Ground Squirrels ended with only 48 bottles of strychnine sold, compared with 384 bottles in 2010. The lower sales are the result of the hard work of the producers who have used the program in the last five years. The dry conditions in May and the first two weeks in June slowed the grass growth in M.D. ditches, setting back the mowing program a week. With the recent rain staff will be starting mowing this week in the subdivisions and areas leading to the M.D. Parks.

#7 Briefs, Briefs, Briefs – Assessment Valuation Group (AVG) two year contract was approved for $270,500 in 2011-2012 and $284,025 in 2012-2013. AVG assesses farm and residential land, as well as other market values. Independent Municipal Assessment Corporation (IMAC) two year contract was approved for $90,620.00 in 2011-2012 and $93,340.00 in 2012-2013. IMAC assesses machinery equipment and industrial plants. The Parks Department will seed and landscape the vacant lot in Fort Kent previously occupied by the old Parks Shop. Picnic tables will also be put on the site.

For more information contact Diane Jenkinson, Communications Coordinator at 780-826-3171. Our web site is a useful way to get the information you need. Visit: www.md.bonnyville.ab.ca.