

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF MORRIS

Notes on a meeting that was held on Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2006 commencing at 7:30 p.m. This meeting had been called by Leo Kornelsen, Chairman of the R.M. of Morris Protection Committee. Leo Kornelsen and Lionel Wiens from the R.M. of Morris attended, as well as Bill Fulford and Ruth Murray from the Town of Morris, and Dave Thiessen and Colin Harbinson representing the Morris Fire Department. Ernest Buhler was also present and took these notes.


Leo Kornelsen distributed copies of the original fire agreements signed between the Town and the R.M. of Morris in 1983. Councillor Fulford distributed listings of the MPI claims from July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2001 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2005. This listing showed that in 2005 there were a total of 14 fire rescue calls for motor vehicle accidents. In 2004 there were a total of 13 such calls. From July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2001 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2003 this report showed a total of 1 claim. Mr. Dave Thiessen, the fire chief, showed a breakdown of fire fighting calls between the Town of Morris and other than the Town of Morris. This listing showed a total of 121 calls inside the town and a total of 96 calls outside of the town. Outside calls were not broken down based on R.M. of Morris or other.

Mr. Dave Thiessen advised that all fire departments train for the shortest time of extrication. There is a standard considered a golden hour during which people in accidents need medical attention. After the first hour the chances of survival decrease considerably. In rural areas, distance is the biggest killer because the fire truck has to go to the accident and then back to a hospital. Mr. Thiessen also advised that Rosenort and Lowe Farm call in the Morris Fire Department for almost all calls. Manpower is an ongoing problem in Lowe Farm and they usually do not have enough firemen at a fire in order to be able to enter the building. The Lowe Farm Fire Department therefore will only work from the exterior and will not do an interior attack. Rosenort has somewhat the same problem in that they have enough manpower but firemen are not allowed to use breathing apparatus or to enter a burning building if they wear a beard. Mr. Thiessen also mentioned that motor vehicle accidents are not considered a fire call and therefore there should be no money owing to the R.M. of Morris.

There was considerable discussion concerning the future of fire fighting in this area. There seemed to be general agreement that it would probably be best to have Mr. Roger Gillis involved and Dave Thiessen mentioned that the fire commissioner's office has a model agreement on their website.

Mr. Dave Thiessen also mentioned that the Morris Fire Department thinks the agreement is working just fine.

There being no further business the meeting was then adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

  
Reeve

  
CAO