

Rimbey Regional Synergy Group Meeting
Nov. 16, 2017 1 p.m.
Location: Bonavista Office, Rimbey

ATTENDANCE

Grant Burchnall, Landowner	Betty Reimer, Landowner
Mike Keegstra, Landowner	Irene Steeves, Landowner
James Lutes, Bonavista	Barry Hainswaorth, Gain
Leon Heck, Cenovus	Dan Pregoda, Landowner
Kelly Josephson, Tamarack Valley	Ray Dube, Landowner
Sharon Bowness, Landowner	Teri Ormberg, Landowner
Dallas Mannix, NAL	Michele Del Colle, FAO
Kevin Budvarson, NAL	Rick Anderson, Facilitator

Guest Speakers: Michele Del Colle, Farmers' Advocate Office

Meeting chaired by Rick Anderson and called to order at 1:10 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Teri Ormberg.

MEMBER AND GUEST INTRODUCTIONS – Welcome. Introductions were done. Attendance list circulated.

REVIEW OF AGENDA – Agenda approved by consensus.

PREVIOUS MEETING NOTES – Sept. 2017. Minutes circulated prior to the meeting listed Jill Salus and Jamie Fleck being in attendance in error, and Cenovus updates were not included. The minutes presented at the meeting showed the corrections. Minutes presented at the meeting approved by consensus.

PRESENTATION: Michele Del Colle gave a presentation on the Farmers' Advocate Office. The following are highlights:

- There are 5 people in the office and they were established in 1973 by the Ministry of Agriculture. They are to make information available for landowners to make informed decisions and seek common ground between industry and landowners.
- They administer the Farm Implement Act.
- Involved in water well restoration or replacement program.
- Deal with AFSC appeals with AgriInsurance and Agri Stability.
- Rural disputes between ranchers and farmers.
- The biggest concerns now with oil and gas industry and rural landowners due to the down turn are reclamation, weed control and bankruptcy. If anyone has received a bill for electrical sites they can contact the office for information on pursuing a refund if monies were paid and possibly legal costs.

- Renewable energy is not treated the same as oil and gas. It is under the Alberta Utilities Commission. There are no land agent requirements or agent regulating body. It is a civil contract and landowners can say no. No orphan well type association and there are no 5-year annual reviews, no annual rent or damage claims legislated. It is recommended that landowners retain a specialty lawyer to negotiate if you are approached for a wind or solar power plant. The need for transmission and distribution lines which are under the AER and expropriation can be done. Municipal taxes should be taken under consideration for the installations. You may also be impacted if construction takes place on your neighbours without compensation. Items landowners should take into consideration that it is a capacity marketplace and sites will not necessarily be producing at capacity and payment may only be on generation which can vary. Should ask for compensation for some fixed components.
 - o Process is as follows:
 - Notification is within a 2 km. radius.
 - Applications can take 6 mon. to 2 years due to studies required.
 - All paper work is done the old-fashioned way (not over the internet)
 - Decisions are made 90 days after the hearing
 - There is a 30-day appeal period and construction would start after this.
- So far 10 plants have been approved in the province and another 20 more applications have been filed.
- You can request to be on the email distribution list from the Farmers Advocate website www.farmersadvocate.gov.ab.ca
- Farmers Advocate has put out a publication “Renewable Energy in Alberta”

FOLLOW UP

Synergy Conference- It was held in Nisku Nov. 6 and 7. Synergy Alberta annual meeting was held Nov. 6 with the following new board members since the last conference: Darcy Allen representing the AER, Vanessa Cartwright representing industry, Kirby Big Child and Bryson Little as directors at large. Teri Ormberg reviewed some of the sessions held at the conference.

MEMBER UPDATES & ROUNDTABLE – written updates attached to minutes.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 2018 budget - Rick Anderson reviewed the financial statement to-date (balance Sept 30 of \$6759.75) and projected to the end of the year balance of \$4605.50. He also presented the 2018 budget. Income of \$18,000. Expenses of \$16025.40. Cost of advertising was increased. Moved by Kevin Budvarson and seconded by Kelly Josephison to approve the 2018 budget as presented. Carried.
- Annual open house 2018 – Discussion on whether to have a June or Nov. open house. To be decided at January 2018 meeting
- History of group- Synergy Alberta presents plaques in increments of 5 -years for a Synergy group. Synergy Alberta has the group as being started in 2001. The group also has a start date as the Rimbey & District Stakeholders group starting in 1994. No records were passed on with the items Rick has. Consensus to use

the documented 1994 date with the next presentation from Synergy then being in 2019.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting- January 18, 2018. Presentation by Crime Watch

ADJOURNMENT – 3:15 p.m. by Rick Anderson.

RRSG Written Member Updates for September 2017

Additional member updates were provided verbally at the meeting.

Ponoka County

- Not much for news, I was reelected.
- Graders were fitted with snow ploughs 2 weeks ago.
- Citizens on Patrol(COP) are almost ready to go out of the Liberty Hall area, other community areas will be brought on line as volunteer boards are formed. Rimbey had 2nd meeting Nov 13, hope to have people willing to commit. They have elected a volunteer board and will be moving ahead getting society status and patrols scheduled. County may be able to help rural groups with start up and collaboration.

Cenovus Energy

- Cenovus is selling some assets in the Clearwater Area. CIBC has been retained to market the properties
- We attended the Keyera full scale ERP drill on October 5th as an observer. Keyera sent an observer to our table top exercise on November 15th
- All the service rig activity we had in the Homeglen area is now complete. Eight more wells have been brought back on line after being down for over two years
- We continue to experience theft at our facilities. Security system updates and locks have all been replaced. Getting more requests from landowners for gates and locks to try and prevent some of the thieving going on.
- Quarterly food bank drives at our safety meeting have been very successful the last one brought in 700 pounds of food and \$1400 this was donated to the Breton food bank.

Keyera

- Nothing much as far as an area update other than the Keyera Keylink Pipeline Construction had its kick-off meeting this week. The construction will be north west of Rimbey and west to the Buck Lake area.

AER

- At the last RRSg meeting, Behn presented on the AER's Integrated Decision Approach. Since then, the AER has held engagement sessions with folks just like yourselves in Rocky Mountain House, Vulcan, and Bonnyville where we heard really valuable

feedback and insights. We also had some time on the Synergy Conference agenda to hold a mini-session.

-For those of you who are interested in attending a session, the closest remaining sessions would be in Calgary on December 6 and Whitecourt on December 12. You can sign up on talk.aer.ca. As always, Behn and I are available for questions or comments.

NAL Resources

-Not much happening. Normal operations.

-Well abandonment program has been started in the area.

Tamarack Valley Energy

-Drilling rig west of Blindman Valley Hall.

-All other operations standard day to day.