


COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

September 10, 2024

4:30 P.M.

AGENDA

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1. Agenda Additions/Deletions
 2. Agenda Approval
 3. Battle River Watershed Funding Request 2-5
 4. In-Camera: Employee Evaluations – FOIP – Section 19(1) – Confidential Evaluations
 5. Additions
 6. Adjournment

Town of Stettler
Box 280
Stettler, AB T0C 2L0

DATE: August 6, 2024

Dear Mayor and Council

Municipal Funding Request from the Battle River Watershed Alliance

This past year has presented significant challenges in the Battle River and Sounding Creek watersheds, with drought and extreme weather conditions impacting water flows, water quality, fish, and water availability for farmers. Flows in the Battle River are currently between 0 to 1.3 cubic meters per second and are expected to drop. As a result, emergency management and long-term resilience have been common themes as the Battle River Watershed Alliance (BRWA) interacts with municipalities across the watershed. BRWA achievements over the last year represent important services in our watershed and would not be possible without the collaboration and financial support from municipalities and stakeholders. The Board of Directors is grateful for the Town of Stettler's ongoing support and asks you to *Invest 50* in the watershed with a contribution to the BRWA of fifty cents per capita.

The ongoing support and funding from municipalities is critical. Municipal support enables the BRWA team to keep residents up to date on the state of the watershed, host events, deliver place-based watershed education programs, support on-the ground stewardship, and engage across sectors for informed and collaborative efforts to support a sustainable community. To engage municipalities, BRWA presented to more than 30 municipal councils and collaborated with staff from municipalities across the watershed. We are also fortunate to have the guidance of the new Land & Water Committee. As a multi-stakeholder committee, there are seven municipalities represented. The committee advises on watershed management planning, state of the watershed engagement activities, and strategies for supporting stakeholders in the implementation of watershed management recommendations. This year, BRWA:

- Delivered 8 workshops on Building Resiliency to Multi-Year Drought, engaging 60 municipalities and 235 participants
- Invested more than \$225,000 in conservation and restoration projects to protect shorelines, wetlands and overall riparian health
- Released data on over 2,000 km of creek and lake riparian intactness in the Sounding Creek watershed. This information may be used to identify priority areas for conservation and restoration, and is available on the Riparian Web Portal.
- Engaged with over 200 stakeholders to share state of the watershed data
- Received recognition as a finalist in the Water Canada Awards for the Riparian Web Portal
- Engaged with more than 3,500 students and 641 teachers across 83 schools through our place-based watershed education programs. These programs are provided free of charge to schools and BRWA pays for field trip busing.

As a municipality in the Battle River or Sounding Creek Watershed, we thank you for your ongoing stewardship of the land and water. We ask for your support in two key ways in the coming year:

1) We would like to meet with you to learn more about the sustainability efforts you have initiated in your community and discuss our shared priorities.

2) We ask you to Invest 50. For your convenience, we have enclosed an invoice for \$2,876.00. The invoice of fifty cents per capita is based on the recent census showing the Town of Stettler's population as 5,752 and the portion of the Town of Stettler (100%) located in the watershed. All funds remain in the watershed to support local programs. Funding is very important to preserve our watershed for future generations. Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,

Two handwritten signatures in blue ink. The first signature is a stylized 'AC' for Alan Corbett, and the second is 'Ryley Andersen' written in a cursive script.

Alan Corbett and Ryley Andersen, BRWA Co-Chairs

INVOICE



Invoice # 2024-123

FROM:
 Battle River Watershed Alliance (BRWA)
 Suite 3, Mirror Lake Centre
 5415 49 Avenue
 Camrose, Alberta

To:
 Town of Stettler
 Box 280
 Stettler, AB T0C 2L0

AUGUST 7, 2024		POPULATION	\$.50 PER CAPITA
	Town of Stettler	5,752	
DESCRIPTION			
	% of the Town of Stettler in the Battle River Watershed and/or Sounding Creek Watershed	100%	
	2024-2025 Battle River Watershed Alliance support request		\$2,876.00
			\$2,876.00
<p><u>Please make your cheque payable to:</u> Battle River Watershed Alliance Suite 3, 5415-49 Ave Mirror Lake Centre Camrose, Alberta, T4V 0N6</p> <p><i>Thank you for your support!</i></p>			

ABOUT THE BATTLE RIVER WATERSHED ALLIANCE

The Battle River Watershed Alliance (BRWA) was created in November 2006 as a non-profit society. Shortly after its formation, BRWA was designated by Alberta Environment, under Water for Life: Alberta's Strategy for Sustainability, as a Watershed Planning and Advisory Council for the Battle River and Sounding Creek watersheds. We are a multi-stakeholder non-governmental organization dedicated to preserving and enhancing the land and water in these basins. Our vision is to have a watershed that sustains all life by using sound knowledge, wisdom and wise actions to preserve our watershed for future generations. We achieve our vision by providing relevant science, social science, policies and education for a diverse community of people to create solutions to our watershed's challenges. The BRWA has grown into a well-respected community organization. Our work takes a balanced approach for healthy natural areas, resilient communities, and a stable economy.

MEET THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Agriculture

Khalil Ahmed, Battle River Research Group

Terry Vockeroth, County of Paintearth

Business/Industry

Ryley Andersen, BRWA Co-Chairperson

Dustin Owens, Heartland Generation

Health

Marilyn Weber, Healthcare Professional

Individual

Al Corbett, BRWA Co-Chairperson

Peter Pullishy

Greg Smith, BRWA Treasurer

Government Bodies (Municipal, Provincial or Federal)

Bruce Cummins, MD of Wainwright

Preston Weran, Town of Blackfalds

Dale Pederson, Beaver County

Jamie Bruha, Alberta Environment and Protected Areas

Ex-Officio

Melissa Orr-Langner, Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation

Lorne Ferguson, Past BRWA Board Treasurer

Catherine Peirce, Battle River Watershed Alliance Executive Director

BOARD OPENINGS

There are Director positions open for a 2-year term in the following sectors: Academia, Health/Wellness, Indigenous, and Environment. According to BRWA bylaws, there can be a maximum of two people allowed for each of these categories up to a total of 15 Directors. If your municipality is able to provide expertise in one of the open categories, please contact: sheila@battleriverwatershed.ca.