

South East Alberta Rural Crime Watch Association
Meeting Minutes

July 20, 2016

I. Call to order

Gene Diment called to order the regular meeting of the South East Alberta Rural Crime Watch Association Meeting at 7:05pm on July 20, 2016 at Dunmore AB.

II. Roll call

The following persons were present: Don Pakula, Travis Campbell, Terry & Arlene Krausz, Cst. Jeff Waites RCMP, Gene & Donna Diment, Wanda Gill, Kay Viken, Myrna & Jerry McGarry, Garry Lentz, Des Grant, Shannon Pakula

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

The minutes were provided in handout to all in attendance. The minutes were approved by Kay Viken, Second Don Pakula.

IV. Open issues

- a) Financial Report – as attached read by Shannon
- b) Correspondence – Website from Windsor Graphics – her quote is approved, Shannon will contact her to begin website. All in favor motioned by Terry, second by Kay. Approach park watch and citizens on patrol for participation.
- c) President's Address – Des. Provincial meeting held in Edmonton – Dean & Verna Hart in process of moving from Hanna to Red Deer. Supply Trailer has been decaled and the interior prepared for storage and use. Dean is looking after trailer for the time being. Dean and Verna both have some health issues to deal with. Dean also spearheads the Wise Owl program. Des has contacted the local presenter but has not heard back yet.
 - The RCMP has not been in contact on a regular basis. S/Sgt Maxwell and Cst Brunning standing invitation to meetings.
 - Poster Contest – ask provincial body about having a section for high school. Des will put poster contest papers out to all schools.

V. New business

- a) RCMP Report - Cst Jeff Waites – Alberta crime rates have increased (also country wide)
- Crime rates locally fairly flat overall
 - Uttering threats has increased. Possible people trying to collect owed funds on their own. Theft under \$5000 increased by 3 calls from 2015. Theft of motor vehicles is 3 files. Mischief to property doubled from last year. Vehicle collisions down from 77 to 59. Suspicious person called in has increased, 24 to 41. False alarms up – due to more home security systems.
 - Report read by Cst. Waites - Report by Jeff Zimmer, Fish & Game – Sask Conservation officer gave Jeff Z. copy of d/l of individual of concern in Sask. Local RCMP got involved. Over 100 charges on 3 individuals, of those 6 were under Firearms Act. All three individuals lost firearms, licenses seized. Matched bullets to weapon seized as well as from bullets found on road side. Same individuals were breaking into properties all over. Some included rash of break-ins south and east of med hat. Caught from suspicious vehicle report made by citizen.
 - Pokémon Go – A man reported a break in at his home in Redcliff. People suspected of playing this game and trying to get into the home. By river in Redcliff has been a hot spot for activity. Pastures and fields are possible spots where people can be found “searching” for Pokémon. People could also be using this game as an excuse to be scoping out potential properties to thief from.
 - CRA scam – active in area – be alert. Media reports of a person purchasing \$6100 in iTunes gift cards for CRA, which turned out to be a scam. A Brooks woman was told the local RCMP were on way to arrest her, she saw Brooks RCMP members across street for presentation (completely random) and she paid them because she was so panicked. Don't give out any personal or credit card information over the phone.
 - Search & Rescue – yesterday helped RCMP to find 4 canoeists stranded on river north of Drowning Ford on CFB property. They had camped for the night and found canoes had been washed downstream overnight when river levels rose. People were found by helicopter, S&E then went by boat and rescued all of the lost people. Canoes still not found.

- Motor vehicle collisions – two very serious accidents recently. Caused by driver error and inexperience.
- Make sure you know the contact info for RCMP. 911 is for any safety or emergency situation. Dispatch 4035482222. When calling in please say that you are a member of RCW simply for tracking purposes.
- Dash cams – judicial system is reluctant to accept as evidence. Responsibility still falls onto officers to gather and present evidence to support charge.

b) Garry Lentz – HALO

- Have not heard back from province regarding provincial monies towards HALO
- Scam out of Calgary by supposed hydrologist targeting counties – he’s seeking financial backing for project to remove water from surface water sources to store in underground aquifer to be held until needed for irrigation use (future). This is not possible due to environmental regulations.

c) Next meeting to be held on October 5, 2016 @ 6pm at Longfellow. BBQ if weather allows.

VI. Adjournment

Gene Diment adjourned the meeting at 8:30pm.

Minutes submitted by: Shannon Pakula