



# Wheatland County Annual Report

# 2010

# Wheatland COUNTY

## CONTENTS

### Wheatland County Annual Report for the year ended: December 31, 2010

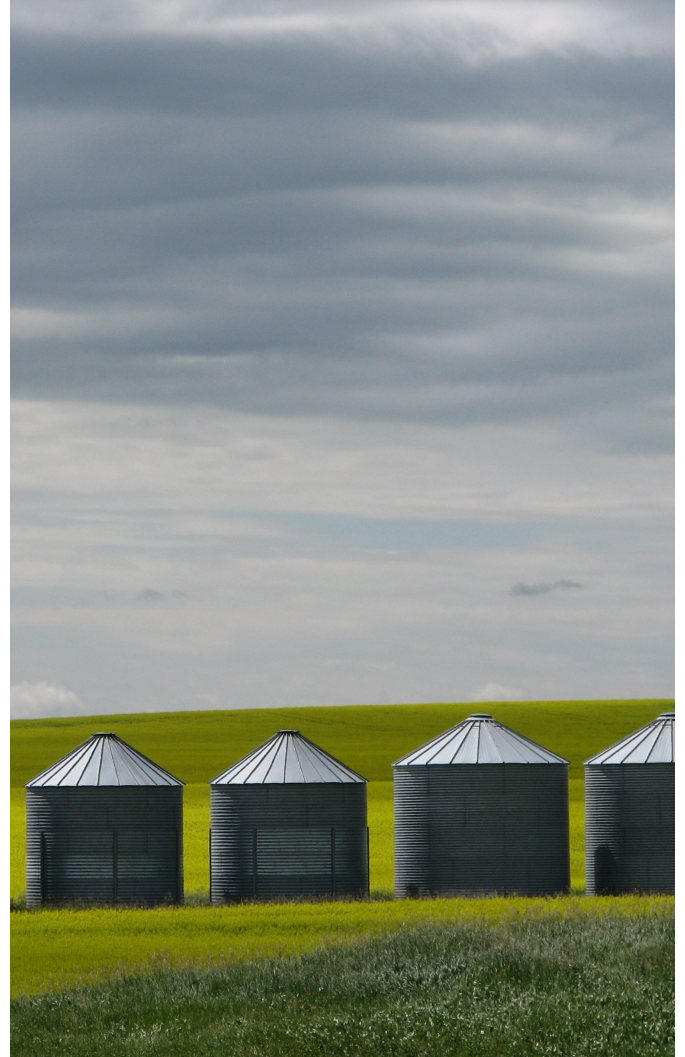
#### Corporate

- 3. Reeve's Message
- 4. County Council's Priorities 2007 - 2010
- 4. 2007 - 2010 County Council
- 5. County Organizational Chart
- 6. Chief Administrative Officer's Message
- 7. Highlights and Achievements

#### Departments

- 9. Administration
- 10. Agricultural Service Board
- 13. Assessment
- 15. Geographic Information Systems
- 16. Planning
- 17. Development
- 18. Protective Services
- 19. Public Works Department
- 22. Message from the Chief Financial Officer

#### 2010 Audited Financial Statements



#### Mission

*Wheatland County is committed to provide services that recognize and encourage balanced, sustainable, long term growth and opportunities. We advocate prudent use of our resources and promote a quality of life for our citizens that reflect our agricultural heritage.*

#### Vision

*To Provide Responsible, Accountable and Effective Governance*

# Reeve's Message

Once again, another year has passed. All of our crews have been very busy with our Road Construction and Paving Program, as well as our Maintenance Program. The Agricultural Department has also been very busy with their projects. The Planning Department has seen some very positive changes with the County once more taking over its own subdivision activities, resulting in improved service for our ratepayers. The particulars of these departments will be covered in more detail in their reports.

I reported last year that we were looking at acquiring a long term supply of potable water. It is disappointing to report that what we were working on did not pan out. The City of Calgary refused, after eight months of negotiations, to supply water for any non urbanized (rural) municipalities. We are still working with the M.D. of Rocky View and the Western Irrigation District (WID) on a different program. We just have to convince the Province that our project is worthy of their support. To date it is looking very positive.

The County terminated their membership from the Calgary Regional Partnership (CRP) in unison with three other rural municipalities at the Annual General Meeting of the CRP due to differences of opinion with the mandate of the CRP.

The purchase of the rail line between Standard and Bassano from Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) was finalized in July of 2010; a full year longer than was anticipated at the onset. I apologize to all the land owners along the line for the delay. Negotiations with CPR proved to be arduous.

The Canadian National (CN) line from Lyalta to Oyen is currently in discussions with a producer group who wish to acquire a short line railway along that corridor.

The Patterson Grain Company (out of Saskatchewan) Inland Grain Terminal located at Gleichen, as well as the Federated Co-op large scale fuel storage facility at Carseland are both on stream for completion in 2010. These are two very positive commercial industrial developments for Wheatland County.

The Town of Strathmore annexation was finalized in early 2010 with the Municipal Government Board awarding Strathmore 18.5 quarters of land. The decision was somewhat a disappointment to Council, however we are committed to work with Strathmore to make it happen for the benefit of all involved.

Development, especially on the west side of Wheatland County is still presenting Staff and Council with challenges, but Council will be looking at various options in 2011 to ensure proper planning.

All in all it has been a very full year for Council and Staff and on behalf of Council I would like to thank all of the staff from the Chief Administrative Officer, Jennifer Deak, to our temporary staff and summer students for all of their hard work and dedication to the County. We do not always recognize the staff as much as we should, but we really appreciate their efforts.

You, our Ratepayers, are who we serve. Should you require any information on our programs, policies, or just wish to make a comment, please contact your local Councilor or the County Office.

We all have the best interest of your Municipality at heart and welcome your comments.

On behalf of Council, respectfully submitted,

Reeve, Ben Armstrong



Ben Armstrong  
Wheatland County Reeve

# County Council 2007 - 2010

## County Council's Priorities 2007 - 2010

- *Ensure road surfaces are constructed and maintained to meet demands of growth and industry.*
- *Align with Provincial goals and objectives in the areas of water and waste water management.*
- *Strategic management of future development.*
- *Provide programs and adopt plans which are beneficial to our environment.*
- *Maintain a viable fire service.*
- *Bring greater awareness to our County heritage*
- *Encourage residents to interact, live, and retire in the community of Wheatland County.*

## County Council

Division 1 - Councilor Alice Booth

Division 2 - Councilor Ken Sauve

Division 3 - Councilor Don Vander Velde

Division 4 - Councilor Berniece Bland

Division 5 - Councilor/ Deputy Reeve Shirley Reinhardt

Division 6 - Councilor Glenn Koester

Division 7 - Councilor/ Reeve Ben Armstrong

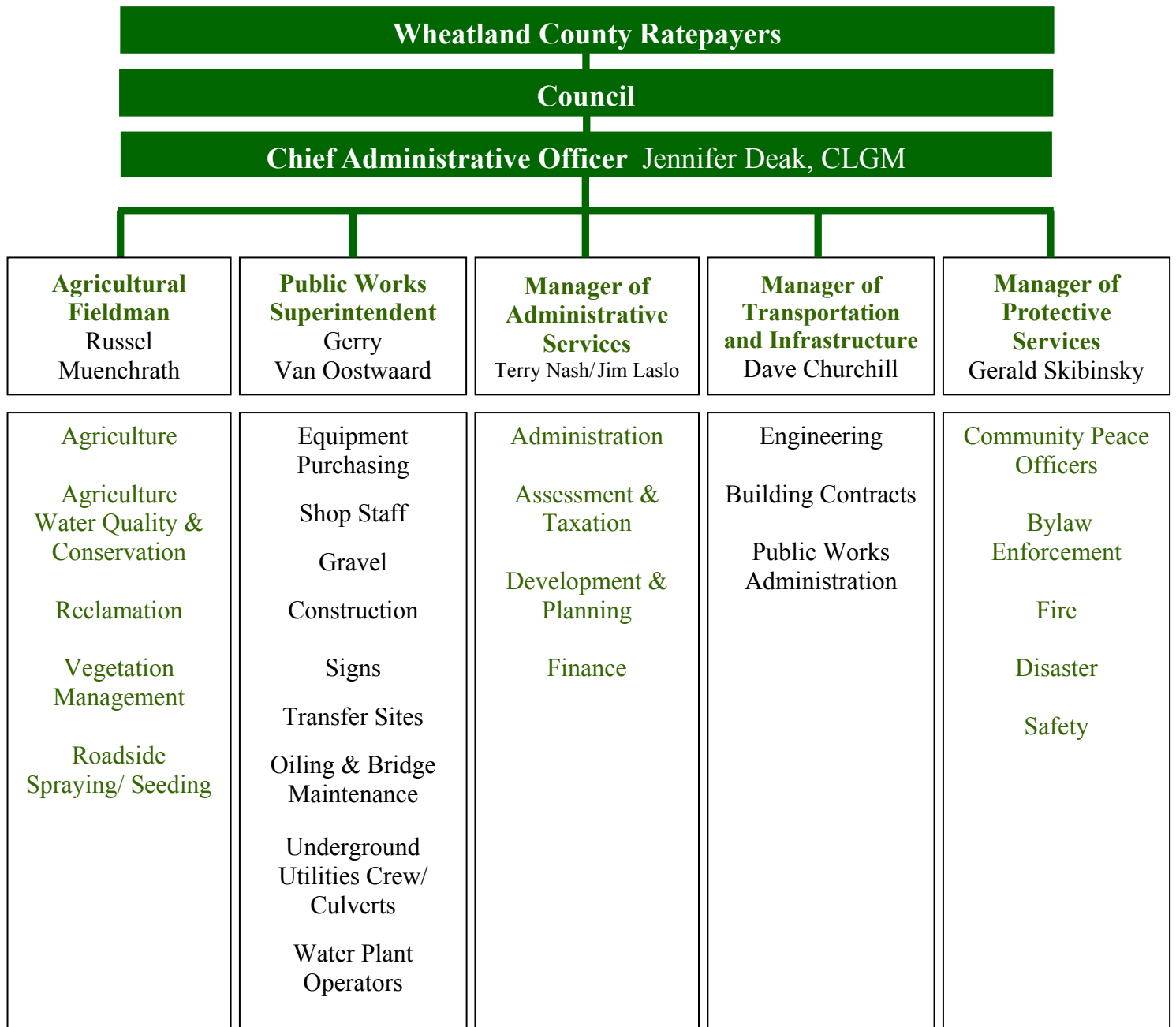
\* Division 5 Councilor Brenda Knight was elected in October 2010 →



Left to Right Top: Don VanderVelde, Ben Armstrong, Ken Sauve, Glenn Koester

Left to Right Bottom: Alice Booth, Shirley Reinhardt, Berniece Bland, Jennifer Deak

# Organizational Chart



# Message from the Chief Administrative Officer

The 2010 Annual Report is a recap and overview that highlights the milestones and the challenges of each department and component of Wheatland County during the year. These highlights are significant and reflect a County that continues to be spearheaded by a Council, department heads and staff that are committed to providing the best possible services to our ratepayers and communities while remaining cognizant of efficiencies and effective service delivery.

In recognizing the continued planning pressures, Council approved the preparation of a Regional Growth Management Strategy (RGMS) in 2010. The RGMS is a planning tool that looks at cumulative effects in developing a strategy along with a set of principles and guidelines for future development in Wheatland County. Through extensive consultation, information was gathered and analysed along with inventory and growth assessments. All this data will be compiled into a document that reflects the vision and aspirations of the community and provides guidance for the future. Along with the RGMS, Council committed to the preparation of two hamlet Area Structure Plans (ASP) per year with Rosebud and Nightingale identified for ASPs in 2010. An ASP is a formal document that sets out a roadmap for future development for the community identified in the plan. The ASP document provides a community vision that will provide the foundation for planning principles.

Of significance during 2010 were increased legislated reporting requirements both in accounting for tangible capital assets and assessment appeal processes that have resulted in additional training for staff and board members. We commend the members at large who sit on our Assessment Review Board (ARB) for their commitment in enrolling in the courses to acquire the skills and knowledge to implement the new legislated requirements. We are most fortunate to have such dedicated board members.

Eligibility for certain grant applications for public works projects required the municipality to adopt an Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP), a plan that sets out an integrated view of the environmental, economic, cultural and social aspects of the County's vision, along with identified goals and strategies, sustainability and planned activities. Rather than incur consultant expenses to compile this document our staff undertook the project and after public surveys and much research, compiled the document that has been approved and adopted by Council and the Province. It is available for viewing on our website or at our office.

Wheatland County presented six 100th farm anniversary plaques to local farm operations in 2010; two 60th and one 50th wedding anniversary plaques; and one 90th birthday plaque. The County began presenting 100th farm anniversary plaques in 2008 and to date have presented eighteen 100th farm anniversary plaques and one 125th farm anniversary plaque. This is truly a tribute to our pioneer families – Congratulations!

October 2010 was an election year for local municipalities. Our Division 5 Councillor and Deputy Reeve, Shirley Reinhardt, announced her retirement after serving 18 years on Council. Brenda Knight was successfully elected in Division 5 and all other incumbents were either re-elected or acclaimed. We extend our best wishes to Shirley in her retirement and welcome our new Councillor on board.

Moving ahead, the County continues to explore options to provide regional water services; promote new industry that complements our communities; and meet the challenges of constructing and maintaining our infrastructure. A lot is involved in providing municipal services and an integral role is played by you, our ratepayers. Delivery of municipal services require a team effort – you our ratepayers elect Councillors to represent you and your needs; Council in turn establishes policies and direction that reflect the best interests of our municipality and staff are charged with implementing Council's direction. Council and staff remain cognizant of financial obligations and commitments to our ratepayers to provide effective and efficient services and continually strive to achieve results that reflect these values and promote the quality of life that our residents expect. Through clear, concise communication on all levels, goals can be clearly defined and strategies to achieve these goals concisely planned. It is a team effort and our thanks go to all involved – ratepayers, elected officials and staff. It has been both a challenging and rewarding year and we look forward to meeting new challenges and achieving new milestones as we continue to serve you, our ratepayers, in 2011.

Jennifer Deak, CLGM  
Chief Administrative Officer

# Highlights and Achievements

*On February 14 & 15, 2008, Wheatland County Council and Staff joined together to participate in a Strategic Planning Session. The purpose of this exercise was to review the efficiency and effectiveness of County Services. Through a process of identifying, evaluating and prioritizing issues and opportunities, a course of action was then charted to achieve defined goals and objectives to the end of 2010.*

## **The top 3 issues/priorities (in order of importance):**

1. Infrastructure
2. Workforce
3. Rural Atmosphere

## **GOAL 1. To Improve and Expand Infrastructure**

### **Infrastructure objective: Funding**

- i) Ensure ongoing awareness of funding opportunities;
- ii) Increase opportunities to access all funding opportunities.
- iii) Pursue P3 opportunities.

#### **Actions to achieve objectives:**

- i & ii) Determine if there is a need for a grant coordinator (for the County and/or partnership with others) - **Not completed**
- iii) Council will draft a statement in regard to P3 opportunities - **Ongoing**

### **Infrastructure objective: Water/Sewer**

- i) Ensure safe and viable water supply that meets or exceeds environmental and health standards.

#### **Actions to achieve objectives:**

- i) Maintain and/or increase our water partnerships - **Ongoing**
- ii) Advocate/lobby appropriate legislative bodies - **Ongoing**
- iii) Review and redevelop waste/water policies to link to IDP - **Not Completed**
- iv) Educate ratepayers about water conservation/efficiency/surface water, etc. - **Ongoing**
- v) Develop a water management plan - **Not completed**

### **Infrastructure Objective: Roads**

- i) Ensure adequate road planning, development, and maintenance - **Ongoing**

#### **Actions to achieve objective:**

- i) Do annual review of existing plan(s) - **Completed**
- ii) Increase communications between Public Works/Planning staff regarding road planning and development - **Ongoing**

### **Infrastructure Objective: Solid Waste**

- i) Improve current waste management plan.

#### **Actions to achieve objective:**

- i) Enhance recycling initiatives - **On-going**
- ii) Explore options for industrial waste sites - **Completed (SAEWA)**

# Highlights and Achievements

## GOAL 2. Become An “Employer of Choice”

### Workforce Objective: Improve employee satisfaction/wellness/pride

#### Action to achieve objective:

- i) Establish a social committee - Completed

### Workforce Objective: Enhance retention and attraction strategies.

#### Actions to achieve objective:

- i) Offer management-training program to senior staff - Completed (SAIT)
- ii) Look internally when appropriate (e.g. seasonal workers) - Ongoing
- iii) Maintain competitive compensation package - Completed

### Workforce Objective: Improve internal/external communication(s).

#### Actions to achieve objective:

- i) Promote competitive advantages of working for the County - Completed
- ii) Enhance succession planning - Ongoing
- iii) Continue with regular Department Head meetings - Completed
- iiii) Update and distribute internal policies - Ongoing
- iiiii) Ensure technology is reviewed/recommended/used to its best advantage(s) - Ongoing
- iiiiii) Enhance communication to target audiences - Ongoing

## GOAL 3. Maintain County’s Rural Atmosphere

### Rural Atmosphere Objective: Communicate what rural life encompasses to residents

#### Action to achieve objective:

- i) Develop a welcome letter and/or informational package for new residents. - Completed

### Rural Atmosphere Objective: Address retention of rural schools.

#### Actions to achieve objective:

- i) Lobby for the retention of rural schools - Ongoing

### Rural Atmosphere Objective: Examine rural taxation policies.

#### Actions to achieve objective:

- i) Present taxation ideas/strategies as tied to budget; to Council - Accomplished

### Rural Atmosphere Objective: Ensure appropriate, planned development.

#### Actions to achieve objective:

- i) Understand consistent review of IDP, MDP, LUB, Codes, etc. to allow policy to guide decisions - Not Completed

## Administration

Of the 125 Wheatland County employees, the Administrative Services Function involves 15 employees placed within Departments of Finance, Assessment & GIS (Geographic Information System), Central Office Services, and Planning & Development.

Planning Services is lead by Planner Linda Hendrickson with assistance provided by Planning Clerk/Development Officer Kim Sandbeck. Staff worked with a private consultant to develop and complete the Wheatland County Growth Management Study in 2010. This valuable resource provides County Council with a roadmap of future land use and development in Wheatland County regulated through the Municipal Development Plan and Land Use Bylaw.

Development Services is lead by Municipal Engineering Technician Michael Ziehr with the additional support of Development Officer Suzanne Hayes. Recommended by the County's Development Services, the County commenced issuing Safety Code Permits with 2010 completing the first year of offering this service.

Financial Services is lead by Chief Financial Officer, Pat Leitch and is supported by Payroll and Human Resources Coordinator Bonnie Knox, Accounts Payable/Receivable Clerk Cindy Shackleton, Utilities Clerk Cheryl Klemmensen, and Tax Clerk Robin Steptoe. The large task of identifying and accounting for all County Tangible Capital Assets and reporting to Alberta Municipal Affairs within the newly revised Financial Statements and Financial Information Return was completed in 2010.

Assessment and GIS Services is lead by Assessor Dennis Klem with assistance provided by the Assessors Assistant, Nadine Bray. The continued development of residential, commercial, industrial and oil & gas activity within the County requires careful diligence and oversight. GIS services including mapping infrastructure and development combined with the commencement of the County rural addressing initiative was undertaken in 2010. Plans are in place to complete the Rural Addressing System in 2011.

Central Office Services involve Receptionist and Safety Codes Clerk Cindy Ramsay, Records Management and Purchasing Clerk Sheila Raine and Executive Assistant Margaret Desaulniers. Staff had a very busy year processing building, plumbing, electrical, gas and heating permits, identifying, sorting, and constructing an effective records management system, and carrying out legislative services to accurately record and maintain legal minutes. Risk management insurance, information technology, communications and advertising, and special projects are services provided by staff and the Manager of Administrative Services.

Respectfully Submitted

Jim Laslo, CLGM  
Manager of Administrative Services



Cindy Shackleton  
Accounts Payable/Receivables

# Agricultural Service Board

The 2010 Wheatland County Agricultural Service Board (ASB) included the entire County Council and CAO, Jennifer Deak. Glenn Koester served as Chairman, and Don Vander Velde as Vice Chair.

ASB Staff included Agricultural Fieldman, Russ Muenchrath; Assistant Agricultural Fieldman, Jason Regehr; Rural Extension Specialist, Sarah Schumacher; Equipment Operator's, David Pinder, Sheldon Roes, Calvin Klemmensen and Weed Inspector Ron Bartholow.

## Vegetation Management Program

Our vegetation management program involves the use of Integrated Pest Management techniques. Our equipment operators spot sprayed approximately 957 acres of noxious weeds while mowing grass on 3463 km's of road. Our grass cutting graders are equipped with a rotary grass mower, direct injection spray equipment, radiarc and boom-buster applicators, and a water tank. We also added a 15' Highline mower to our fleet in 2010 mowing a total of 450 km's on some of our newly constructed and heavily traveled roads. Spot spraying was also carried out on 373 km's of roadside spraying 408 acres of weed infestations.

Weed inspection, monitoring and control was a major focus throughout the year on private and public land, we are also participating in a provincial weed survey again this year as requested by Alberta Agriculture. Staff participated in an inspection trip along the Bow River which resulted in the control of approximately 43 Purple Loosestrife plants. An infestation in 2007 of 1889 Purple Loosestrife plants on private land dropped to 50 plants in 2008 after control measure were implemented with none being found in 2009 and then numbers jumping back up to 200 in 2010 showing us the importance of continued vigilance with this weed. Numerous other weed species were also noted along the Bow River; one being the restricted weed Spotted Knapweed which was hand picked throughout the season along with some controlled spraying. Monitoring continues for the Scentless Chamomile seed weevil and gall midge which are biological control agents for Scentless Chamomile released in 2007 along the Bow. In 2010 some new release sites were initiated in co-operation with Hidden Valley Resort within Siksika Nation.

Twenty five calls for weed identification and management along with 7 complaints were dealt with by staff along with 590 requests from environmental companies in regards to weed concerns on land being crossed by pipelines. Weed management meetings were held with Husky, EnCana & the WID as well as on-going communication with all the vegetation management contractors that work in our Municipality. The weed inspector is an active member of the Wheatland Weed Consensus committee which is made of up energy companies operating in the County as well as contract sprayers and landowners. The weed consensus committee organized a clubroot & weed update in March of 2010 with over 40 people in attendance.

On June 16, 2010 the new Provincial Weed Act came into force with an expanded list of invasive plants including 46 prohibited noxious and 29 noxious weeds. To assist people with learning the new species in the act Sarah Schumacher & Ron Bartholow developed the Alberta Invasive Plant ID Guide which was used as a learning and reference guide province wide. Our weed inspector was also part of numerous committees including the Alberta Weed Regulatory Advisory Committee, Wheatland Weed Consensus committee, the Calgary Weed Committee and the Clearwater County Weed Steering committee.

Spraying of hamlets and dump sites is done on a rotational basis at the end August and regular weed inspections are carried out in the Hamlets throughout the year.

The inter-local municipal agreement between Wheatland County, the Town of Strathmore, and Villages of Standard, Hussar and Rockyford for sharing a Weed Inspector has continued to be a success. Work involved identifying and controlling noxious and nuisance weeds of concern to the partners with attention on Scentless Chamomile, Dandelion, Canada Thistle, and Toadflax.

# Agricultural Service Board

## Roadside Seeding and Reclamation

ASB staff seeded approximately 27 km's of new road construction right of ways along with 70 acres of borrow areas. Work was also carried out in conjunction with contractors on pre-site assessments on borrow areas. Approximately 25 acres of borrow areas had straw shredded for erosion control with paratilling being done on approximately 92 acres of past road construction borrow areas to help alleviate compaction problems.

## Pest Control

Activities included participation with Alberta Agriculture in surveying for Bertha Armyworms and the yearly grasshopper survey. Counts of both pests were low this year. Dutch elm disease traps were also put out this year in Strathmore in conjunction with the program being run by the city of Calgary. Coyote control involved issuing 1080 poison bait to livestock owners experiencing predation problems. The Richardson's ground squirrel control program made 2% liquid strychnine available to farmers from March through July. A total of 148 orders were taken for a total of 244 cases of strychnine. Richardson's ground squirrel control was carried out on specified areas of County owned land by ASB staff. Surveying for Clubroot was continued in 2010, 40 canola fields were inspected no Clubroot was found. 46 fields were surveyed for Fusarium Graminearum, one positive sample was found.

## Shelterbelt Tree Program

Our shelterbelt tree program involved partnering with the Wheatland District 4-H Council in distributing trees supplied by PFRA Indian Head Nursery and Alberta Nurseries. 19,795 trees were distributed for planting in Wheatland County.

## Seed Cleaning Plants

Seed cleaning plants operating within Wheatland County that were licensed to clean seed include the Strathmore, Rosebud, and Hussar Cooperative stationary plants. Inspections were carried out throughout the year.

## Equipment Rental Program

Wheatland County continued the rental of our tree planter, weed wiper, pasture sprayer, tree sprayer, livestock scale, forage sampler, skunk and magpie traps and RFID tag reader.

## AESA Program

The 2010 program objectives were to:

- Improve the health of riparian areas in Wheatland County by encouraging producers to adopt best management practices such as offsite watering, fencing, and riparian buffers.
- Work towards improving water quality in Wheatland County by encouraging producers to adopt best management practices such as proper chemical use, manure management, relocation of livestock facilities and proper well abandonment.
- Promote reliable water quality supplies in Wheatland County by working with producers to develop a farm water plan, water conservation and efficiency projects.
- Support Alberta's Climate Change Strategy by assisting producers to increase farm energy efficiency, by promoting producers to move to green energy capture and storage, by reducing greenhouse gas emissions by providing information and assistance to producers
- Assist producers in Wheatland County through the Growing Forward Process and to complete an Environmental Farm Plans.

# Agricultural Service Board

To achieve these objectives the Rural Extension Specialist (Sarah Schumacher) was involved in the organization of the Ranching Opportunities conference at Olds College, Ladies Livestock Lessons, a Cattleman's Summer Workshop, Grazing Weeds Workshop and a Shelterbelt Workshop.

The RES was also available to provide assistance to producers of Wheatland County who were interested in applying for funding through the Growing Forward Stewardship Programs (including; Integrated Crop Management, Grazing and Winter Feeding and Manure Management), as well as the Farm Water Management Program. The RES was also available to producers who were interested in completing an Environmental Farm Plan.

This year the RES represented the County in the Classroom Agriculture Program, the Red Deer River Watershed Alliance, the Bow River Basin Council and the Red-Bow Regional Watersheds Alliance.

In 2010 four ASB Landowner Link newsletters were published and distributed through the Strathmore Standard newspaper reaching 16,000 readers.

The 2009 ASB Agriculture bursary recipient was Michelle Thurston of Strathmore. The Doug Clark Family were nominated as Wheatland County's representative for the 2010 Stampede Farm Family Award.

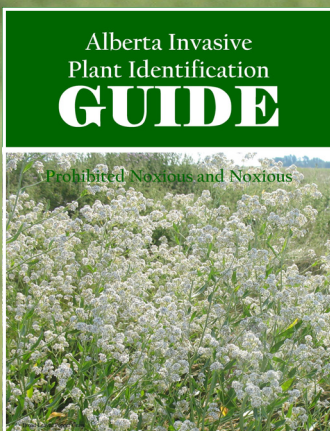
The ASB is proud of its programs and will continue to strive to meet the needs and improve the level of our service to the ratepayers of Wheatland County.

Respectfully submitted,

Russel Muenchrath, Agricultural Fieldman  
Glenn Koester, Chairman

**Vision** *The Wheatland County Agricultural Service Board is committed to strengthening; promoting and supporting agriculture and the environment within our municipality with a view to continually improve how we operate in future years.*

**Mission** *The ASB develops and implements programs and policies that focus on the areas of weeds, pests, soil and water conservation and environmental issues for the benefit of all rural residents. We will stay educated and current on new developments in agriculture. We work in partnership through good communication with other government agencies, the agriculture industry and rural residents on agricultural programs and issues.*



Ron Bartholow, Weed Inspector

# Assessment

## Assessment Department 2010 Highlights

As started in 2009, the 2010 Assessment year experienced a overall change of \$-51.2 million (M) or approximately -1.33% from the assessment roll compared to 2009 Assessment roll which results in a total 2010 taxable assessment of 3,782.80 M. Below is a chart that shows the change by assessment class and net change divided into Growth or Inflation.

Assessment Class	2009 Assessment Total	2010 Assessment Total	Net Change (2010-2010)	Growth Change (New or Removal)	Inflation (market/ regulated change)
Farmland	200,805,690	200,395,400	-410,290	-410,290	0
Machinery & Equipment	815,788,900	798,708,400	-17,080,500	2,060,070	-19,140,570
Non-Residential	310,972,650	342,424,240	31,451,590	34,684,740	-3,233,150
Non-Residential Linear	1,514,911,000	1,489,832,760	-25,078,240	-25,078,240	0
Non-Residential Railway	12,650,000	9,006,000	-3,644,000	-3,210,000	-434,000
Residential	974,746,920	938,409,180	-36,337,740	27,269,730	-63,607,470
<b>Subtotal Taxable</b>	<b>3,829,875,160</b>	<b>3,778,775,980</b>	<b>-51,099,180</b>	<b>35,316,010</b>	<b>-86,415,190</b>
Grant In Lieu					
Non-Residential	2,825,200	2,783,300	-41,900	-29,500	-12,400
Residential	1,294,300	1,236,000	-58,300	62,100	-120,400
Sub Total GIL	<b>4,119,500</b>	<b>4,019,300</b>	<b>-100,200</b>	<b>32,600</b>	<b>-132,800</b>
<b>Grand Total Taxable</b>	<b>3,833,994,660</b>	<b>3,782,795,280</b>	<b>-51,199,380</b>	<b>35,348,610</b>	<b>-86,547,990</b>

Assessment is the evaluation of all assessable properties on an annual basis with adherence to the Alberta Statute, Municipal Government Act (M.G.A.) and associated regulations. The purpose of assessment is to fairly and equitably establish values allowing for the fair distribution of the property tax burden.

Assessed values are based on establishing either a Market or Regulated Value.

- **Market Value** is defined by the M.G.A. Section 1(n) *means the amount that a property, as defined in section 284(1)(r), might be expected to realize if it is sold on the open market by a willing seller to a willing buyer.* The market value date is established as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, the year proceeding the tax year (i.e., July 1, 2010 Assessment (valuation Date) for 2011 Tax Year).
- **Regulated Value** is based on rates established annually by Alberta Municipal Affairs, Assessment Services Branch, and published in the Alberta Farmland Assessment Manual, the Alberta Machinery and Equipment Assessment Manual and the Alberta Linear Property Assessment Manual.

# Assessment

## Four Classes of Assessment Exist:

**Farmland:** Land used in the production of an agricultural product: (i.e. crop, hay, pasture, trees, sod, horticulture (shrubs), aviculture (birds), apiculture (bees), aquaculture (fish)) is assessed at a Regulated Value. The current base rate for the agricultural use value of farmland is set at \$350 / Acre for Dry Arable or Pasture Land and is adjusted downwards for any factors that hinder productivity (i.e., type of soil, amount of topsoil, texture of the soil's surface and subsurface, topography, stones, any other productivity impediment).

**Non-Residential:** An industry or commerce or another use takes place on the property including land, buildings and structures (i.e., stores, mechanical repairs, golf courses, gravel pits, land and structures situated at industrial plants excluding Machinery & Equipment) is assessed at Market Value. **Linear property**, a subclass of non-residential, includes cable distribution, electric transmission lines, telecommunication equipment, pipelines, oil and gas wells, is assessed at a Regulated Value.

**Machinery and Equipment:** Any installation used in the processing or manufacturing of a product (i.e., separators or dehydrators or compressors at gas and oilfield installations, certain components at the large grain elevators) is assessed at a Regulated Value.

**Residential:** Typically a residence or use of property that has not been classed as any of the above. The assessment for residential parcels less than or equal to 3 acres represents the average market value for land and improvements (any buildings or structures). For parcels greater than 3 acres, the assessment includes a minimum of 3 acres and the residential improvements assessed at market value and any remaining land is assessed at Market Value unless deemed farmland.

*The assessment department consists of 2.5 FTE personnel:  
Dennis Klem A.M.A.A. Senior Assessor, 1 FTE contracted personnel  
and .5 FTE Cheryl Klemmensen, Assessment Clerk*



Cheryl Klemmensen  
Assessment Clerk

# Geographic Information System (GIS) Profile

## Background

In 2004, Wheatland County established a Geographic Information System (G.I.S.) Department. The main purpose of the G.I.S. department is to digitize the County map and link all other digital County related data to the map, thereby allowing quick and easy retrieval of the County's digital information. Some examples of the digital information that is available through the County's GIS include:

- Property features such as: parcel boundaries and dimensions, legal description, location of residence
- Single Line Road Network
- 2010 color ortho aerial photography flown in spring with a detail resolution(0.3m pixel) for the portion of County south of Township 27
- 2009 color ortho aerial photography flown the fall with a detail resolution (0.3m pixel) for the only Township 27 and Township 28 (Balance of County was flown in 2010)
- 2007 color ortho aerial photography flown during the summer and fall with a detail resolution (0.3m pixel) for the entire County except for all of Township 21 and TWP22 Range 25
- 2005 color ortho aerial photography and 2000 ortho black & white aerial photography
- 2006 September black & white aerial photography for Highway No.1 area structure plan
- Ownership and contact information
- Assessment data including pictures of all residences and other assessable buildings
- Municipal data showing areas of: Electoral district, Fire Response, Rescue & Ambulance, As-built drawings for the County's underground assets such as water and sewer lines
- Oil & Gas installations including well and pipeline locations
- Agriculture displaying roadside mowing & spraying locations for 2005 and beyond

## 2010 GIS Initiatives

Some of the 2010 year initiatives have been:

- Created Rural Address Bylaw No 2010-43 "*To Provide And Implement A Rural Addressing System.*" This bylaw sets the process to have a Rural Address sign installed on every occupied Parcel of Land supporting a Structure and having a Primary Access onto a Public Road shall be assigned a Rural Address by the County. A "Structure" means a residential, commercial, industrial or recreational structure, or any other inhabited structure, that may be constructed or placed on a parcel of land.
- Finalized establishing Rural Addressing scheme for all properties outside of a hamlet Boundary
- Co-ordinated 2010 color ortho aerial photography
- Semi-annually, update the ownership wall maps & map book.
- Implementation of a weed inspection workflow using GPS.

## Planned future GIS Initiatives

Future projects include the following:

- Public website (WEBMAP) allowing free access to some of the GIS data
- Link Land Use and Development information to the WEBMAP for public access
- Review and update the civic addresses for all hamlet properties.
- Update Ownership maps on Quarterly Basis
- Implementation of a collection workflow for location of municipal water shut off valves within hamlets using GPS

## GIS Products for Sale

The following products are for sale in either paper copy or digital copy, please contact Wheatland County for Current prices:

- Ownership wall map 30"X42" (**Please note that all County maps are updated on a semi-annual basis**)
- Color aerial photography (2000, 2005, and 2007, 2009, 2010) can be printed on letter, legal or tabloid (11"X17") size paper.
- Map Book (approx 90 pages) that has the County map and hamlet map in one booklet form containing 1 page per township or hamlet

## Contacts

Please contact Dennis Klem, Senior Assessor / G.I.S. Co-ordinator or Reid Konschuch, IT/GIS/GPS Technician at the County office 403-934-3321 with any questions pertaining to the G.I.S. Department.

# Planning

## Planning

In 2009, Wheatland County created a new Planning Department to look after all planning matters for Wheatland County and our land owners. This has allowed us to provide a more personal and comprehensive service to our residents.

In April of 2010, Wheatland County's Planning Department began the task of preparing a Regional Growth Management Strategy. At the same time we prepared two new Area Structure Plans, for the Hamlet of Rosebud and the Hamlet of Nightingale.

These three documents were created in response to the tremendous development pressure, in particular a demand for country residential development and industrial lots. Now complete after one year of research and public consultation, it is anticipated that the development of these documents will be the catalyst to enhancing community leadership through strategic development and redevelopment. They will also be a model for Area Structure Plans to follow.

To assist in the process of Subdivision and Land Use Redesignation a guide has been prepared and can be found on our website ([www.wheatlandcounty.ca](http://www.wheatlandcounty.ca)) along with all the forms required to get started.

## 2010 Statistics

### Subdivision and Land Use Re-designation applications

- Subdivisions: 36
- Land Use Re-designations: 16
- Subdivision decision appeals: 0

A portrait of Kim Sandbeck, a woman with short brown hair, wearing a black blazer over a yellow top and a necklace. She is standing in front of a background of tall green grass.

Kim Sandbeck  
Planning Clerk/ Development Officer

# Development

## Development

While development permits slowed in 2010 with a reduction in the number of single family dwellings being constructed, industrial construction values rose dramatically in the County.

Development approvals of note for 2010 include the Strathmore Seed Cleaning plant being relocated into Wheatland County as well as construction commencing on the Paterson Grain Inland Grain Terminal, both of which should ease the transportation issues that plagued many of the grain producers in the eastern portion of the county.

Construction commenced on the 66 turbine wind farm being developed by Suncor Energy. The concrete bases of the turbines were poured, with the tower structures and blades to be installed and completed in 2011.

### 2010 Development Permit Statistics:

Type	Development permits issued in 2010	Development permits issued in 2009
Single Family Dwellings	55	74
Accessory/ Agricultural Buildings	55	80
Commercial/Industrial	12	11
Discretionary Uses	9	6
Secondary Use Businesses	16	14
Other/Refused	6	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>207</b>

### 2010 Building Permit Statistics:

Type	Building permits issued 2010	Total Project Value 2010	Building permits issued 2009	Total Project Value 2009
Residential	49	\$13,028,736	68	\$18,741,021
Commercial	7	\$12,990,254	2	\$466,000
Industrial	6	\$5,544,855	4	\$1,425,000
Institutional	0	\$0	1	\$292,000
Accessory Buildings	2	\$190,000	3	\$285,000
Other	3	\$299,000	4	\$1,295,000
Minor Permits	41	\$575,049	51	\$1,160,132
<b>Total</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>\$32,627,894</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>\$23,664,153</b>

# Protective Services



2010 was a very busy & challenging year for the Wheatland County Protective Services department. The Protective Services Department consisted of 3 Level 1 Community Peace Officer's working on many diverse files in 2010. Overall we saw an increase in total violations & a decrease in the number of case reports from the previous year.

Overload approvals almost doubled & multiple TVN (Traffic Violation Notices [warnings]) were issued. The 2010 statistics for Protective Services are as follows:

- Approximately 6,401 overload approvals were processed with the assistance of Roadata Services.
- Approximately 261 formal investigation files were created as a result of calls for service.
- 820 violation tickets were issued by Protective Services. This would include traffic, by-law & overweight violations.
- There were 51 TVN notices (warnings) issued to registered owners of vehicles for parking & license plate infractions.
- 46 Exemption Applications for use of banned roads.

With the continued increase in traffic flow throughout the county in both commercial & overall vehicles on the road, we will continue to be vigilant in our enforcement protocols to make sure our infrastructure is maintained & protected for years to come.

## Fire

- Implementation of a Fire Association By-Law, and Capital Fund Agreement.
- New Fire truck for Strathmore Rural
- New Fire Hall for the Rockyford Fire department
- New water tanker for Cluny fire department,
- Fire Ban signs 2 per fire department,
- 5 fire fighting courses were run through Fire Ect for approx 70 fire fighters paid primarily from a Wheatland county's training grant provide by AEMA .

## Safety

- Safety Courses Completed for 2010: First Aid and CPR, Auditor's rectification, Hazard identification and inspections courses
- Wheatland County hosted the Southern Regional Health and Safety Conference.
- Joint health and safety committee in the process of replacing the Safety Manual.
- Wheatland County Passed its Internal Health and Safety Audit

## Disaster Services

Wheatland County performed well on its Disaster Exercise held in March which was monitored by Alberta Emergency Management Agency.



# Public Works Department

2010 was a challenging year for the public works department with all the wet weather and the challenges associated with moisture and soft roads.

## Gravel

In 2010 the County gravel crew spread 184,583 tonnes of gravel on various county roads. This includes gravel used on construction projects as well as gravel on local roads. Our gravel crushing contractor also crushed 240,000 tonnes of gravel at various pits.

In 2011 we expect to spread 200,000 tonnes of gravel on various county roads and crush an additional 240,000 tonnes of gravel.

## Pavement

Wheatland County contracted several paving projects in 2010.

### Brooks Asphalt

Asphalt Overlay: Township Road 221 - S of 7, 8 & 9-22-26 Range Road 270 – W-7-22-26 - 4 miles

Asphalt Overlay: Glenmore Trail (Twp Rd 234) S-27 & 28-23-252 miles

Base Course & Asphalt Paving: Global Road (Twp Rd 240) S-3 & 4-24-25- 2 miles

Street Improvement:

- Replaced curb & gutter sidewalk & asphalt/Nelson Road in Carseland
- New curb & gutter & sidewalk & retaining wall/Main Street in Rosebud

**T.B.L. Construction** Intersection Improvement-construct turning lanes & paving

- Range Road 243 & Hwy # 1

In 2011 we plan to complete the base course & paving of the Rockyford Road from Twp Rd 270 to Hwy #9 and an asphalt overlay from Twp Rd 270 through Rockyford to Secondary Highway 564 to bring this road to a non-banned surface.

## Construction

In 2010 County forces completed the following.

### Construction

- Range Road 211: W 25-24-21, W 36-24-21 2.0 miles, 3.02 km
- Range Road 240: W 18-26-23 1 mile 1.6 km
- Rockyford Road - Range Road 232: W 2-27-23, W 11-27-23, W 14-27-23, W 23-27-23, W 26-27-23, 5 miles, 8 km

### Intersection Improvement

Range Road 213 & Secondary Highway 561: W 10-24-21, 0.5 miles, 0.8 km

### Slide Repair

- Range Road 222 & Secondary Highway 840: NW 11-26-22, 0.3 miles, 0.5 km
- Range Road 225: W 32-27-22, 0.3 miles, 0.5 km

# Public Works Department

---

In 2011 we hope to complete:

- Rockyford Road construction to Hwy #9,
- Duck Lake Road from Twp Rd 252 to Secondary Highway 564
- Twp Rd 230 - S-5 & 6-23-21
- Range Road 221 - W-25 & 36-23-22

## Oiling/Maintenance Crew

Projects include:

- Patching of chip seal & asphalt roads
- Crack fill on paved roads
- Dust control with both calcium chloride and oil
- Re-work & repair a number of old oil dust control locations
- Bridge maintenance including repairing guard rails, hazard markers & bridge decks
- New strip deck on Bridge file #78871 – W-13-24-25
- Namaka: extend chip seal on Main Street at west end across old rail line
- Cluny: Patch & re-chip streets
- Gleichen: Patch streets as required
- Rosebud: Chip seal east half of Main Street after completion of new sidewalk & retaining wall

## Bridge Structures (Replacement)

- B.F. #13497 NW 04-25-24 W4
- B.F. #84114 SW 04-25-23 W4
- B.F. #74510 SW 23-27-21 W4
- B.F. #72420 SE 17-26-18 W4
- B.F. #80564 WNW 6-25-24 W4 (Extensions only)

We have 4 bridge structures planned for replacement in 2011. We plan to contract out two of these projects.

## Road Reclamation Program

The road shoulder reclamation crew completed 38 miles of shoulder reclamation in 2010.

- 25 miles in Division 5
- 10 miles in Division 7
- 3 miles in Division

In 2011 we plan to expand this crew to include a packer and water truck to aid in compaction of the re-graded roads. We also plan some more extensive shoulder work on several roads to improve the road profile and drainage.

# Public Works Department

## Waste Transfer Sites

In 2010 there were no special projects completed at the waste transfer sites. However, each year the sites get busier and handle an increasing volume of materials.

In 2011 we plan to install loading ramps at several of the waste transfer sites recycling bins, to assist the transfer of heavy items into these bins.

## Hamlet Crew

In 2010 Wheatland County decommissioned the 8 abandoned water wells in Carseland. We drilled a new water well in Rosebud to provide water for the expansion of the hamlet as well as the expansion of the Rosebud School of the Arts. We also have ongoing projects like the upgrade of the SCADA system in the water plants, Carseland lagoon expansion and the UV upgrade in the Speargrass water treatment plant. We have also started to film and record all the underground sewer lines in Carseland & Gleichen.

During 2011 we will be completing the UV upgrade in the Speargrass water treatment plant, the connection of the new well in Rosebud and the expansion of the Rosebud sewage treatment field system. We will also continue working on the Carseland sewage lagoon upgrades, including replacement of the sewage treatment lift station and the replacement of the sanitary sewer main along Railway Avenue from Indus Street to west of Bartstow Street.

*Cindy Sweere started as the Transportation Secretary in March of 2010. She has been with Wheatland County since 1996 working as the Utilities Clerk, Accounts Payable, Taxes and GIS Department. Cindy's duties as the Transportation Secretary include; road bans, oil field forms, the community aggregate payment levy, reporting and grants.*

Cindy Sweere  
Transportation Secretary



# Message from the Chief Financial Officer

As Chief Financial Officer, I am pleased to present the financial statements of Wheatland County for the year ended December 31, 2010. A complete set of financial statements, with Auditor's Report, is available at our office and on our web site. The financial statements for 2010 follow the new format in compliance with the updated Public Sector Accounting Board requirements.

## Financial Statement Review

### Financial Statement Changes

Prior year adjustments were required to our capital asset register with some 2009 numbers restated to reflect these changes. Under the new accounting rules, the accumulated surplus is not shown in detail on the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position. A new schedule has been added this year, which shows more details of the changes in accumulated surplus and the breakdown between unrestricted surplus, restricted surplus (reserves) and net equity in tangible capital assets.

### Cash and Investments

Total cash and investments increased by \$8.5M from \$39.8M in 2009 to \$48.3M in 2010. This was largely due to the increase in internally restricted reserves of \$4.5M and the increase in deferred grant revenue of \$4.5M. The decrease of \$500K is from an increase in accounts receivables.

### Restricted Reserves

The total restricted reserves at the end of 2010 increased from \$23.5M in 2009 to \$28M in 2010.

The restricted reserves have been established by Council to be used for specific purposes in future years. The most significant reserves include the following:

**Future Expenditure Reserve** - \$10.6M - This reserve represents the need for funding of major projects that the County deems necessary to meet the needs of the ratepayers. Setting the funds aside in advance reduces lending costs and helps to keep tax rates from fluctuating in years with large capital projects.

**Municipal Equipment Reserve** - \$4.68M – Every year Council budgets to spend approximately \$2M on large equipment purchases. Any funds not required in the given year are set aside in this reserve to fund future purchases. This helps stabilize the investment in equipment and avoids fluctuations in taxes when large purchases need to be made. This fund will be used in 2011 to fund three large equipment purchases.

**Used Equipment Reserve** - \$3.97 million – Proceeds from the sale of capital equipment are placed in the used equipment reserve. These funds will be used to help replace capital equipment in the future.

**Rural Road Reserve** - \$3.8M - Council has made a motion to contribute a minimum of \$500,000 every year for the future construction of roads in the County. A contribution of \$2.3M was made to this reserve in 2010 to help fund future road projects. In the 2011 budget, a large contribution (\$8.5M) will be made to this reserve and all road projects (\$8.3M) will be funded from the reserve. This process will be used for future budgets as well to help smooth out the requirement for cash in years with large road projects.

**Municipal Reserve** - \$2.1M – These funds are collected from developers as cash in lieu if no land is provided in the subdivision as per Section 667(1) of the *Local Government Act*. The use of these funds is restricted to use for parks and schools. In the 2010 and 2011 fiscal years, a portion of these funds are being used for the water tower park in Gleichen (\$239K) and washrooms at Severn Dam (\$35K).

# Message from the Chief Financial Officer

## Net Equity in Tangible Capital Assets

The net equity in tangible capital assets is calculated as the total cost of the tangible capital assets less the accumulated amortization to date and any long term debt outstanding for the purchase of the assets. This reflects the estimated value of what the County has invested in the capital assets. As amortization is recorded, the net equity in the capital assets goes down. When the County purchases additional tangible capital assets, the net equity goes up. In 2010, the net equity in tangible capital assets decreased \$2.63M from \$204.84M in 2009 to \$202.21M in 2010. This is because the accumulated amortization increased by \$8.16M and the total cost of tangible capital assets only increased by \$5.47M.

This was partly due to the disposal of the assets that were annexed by the Town of Strathmore in 2010. When the assets were transferred to the Town of Strathmore, both the cost and accumulated amortization for these assets were removed from the capital asset register. This resulted in a net loss to Wheatland County as follows:

Class	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Net book value
Roads	\$3,904,011.67	\$2,237,471.20	\$1,666,540.47
Bridges	285,072.48	162,395.78	122,676.70
Road allowances	47,901.89	0.00	47,901.89
<b>Total transferred</b>	<b>\$4,236,986.04</b>	<b>\$2,399,866.98</b>	<b>\$1,837,119.06</b>

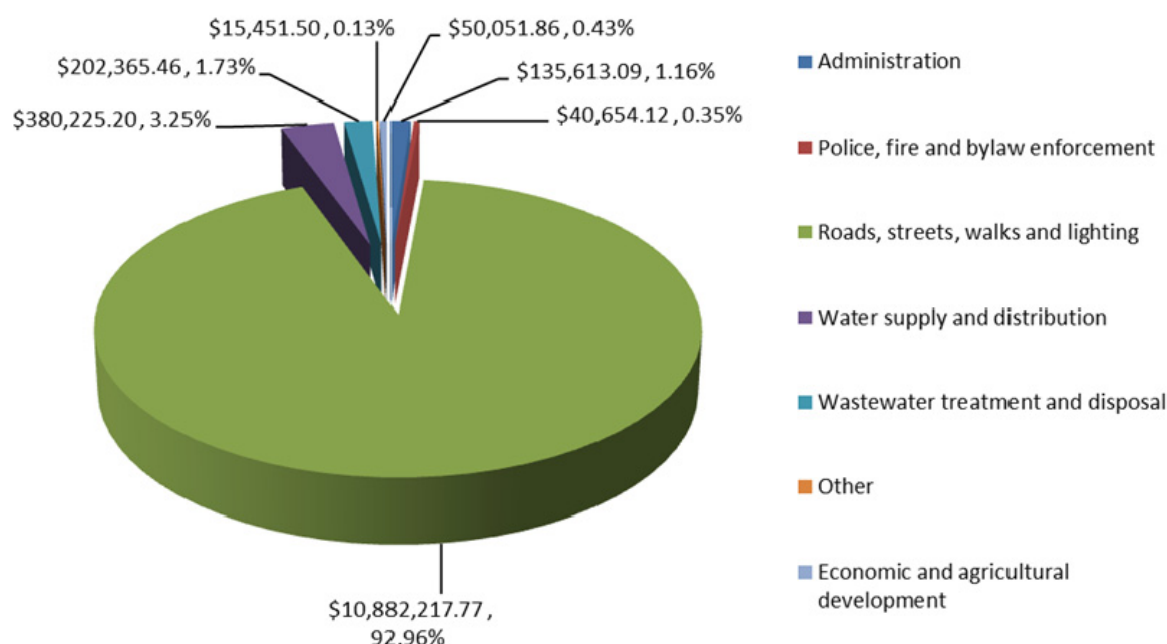
The additional drop in net equity was due to the capital asset additions being less than the amortization for the period.

## 2010 Amortization of Tangible Capital Assets

The 2010 financial statements include as operating expenses the amortization of the tangible capital assets over their expected useful lives. The estimated amount in the 2010 budget was overstated due to the lack of accurate

information when making our budget estimate. The estimate was based on the estimated cost of building all the roads. When the road assets were deflated to the estimated cost in the year they were actually built, the actual amortization was about 75% below budget. The total amortization recorded in 2010 by department is shown at the right.

**Wheatland County - 2010 Amortization by Department**

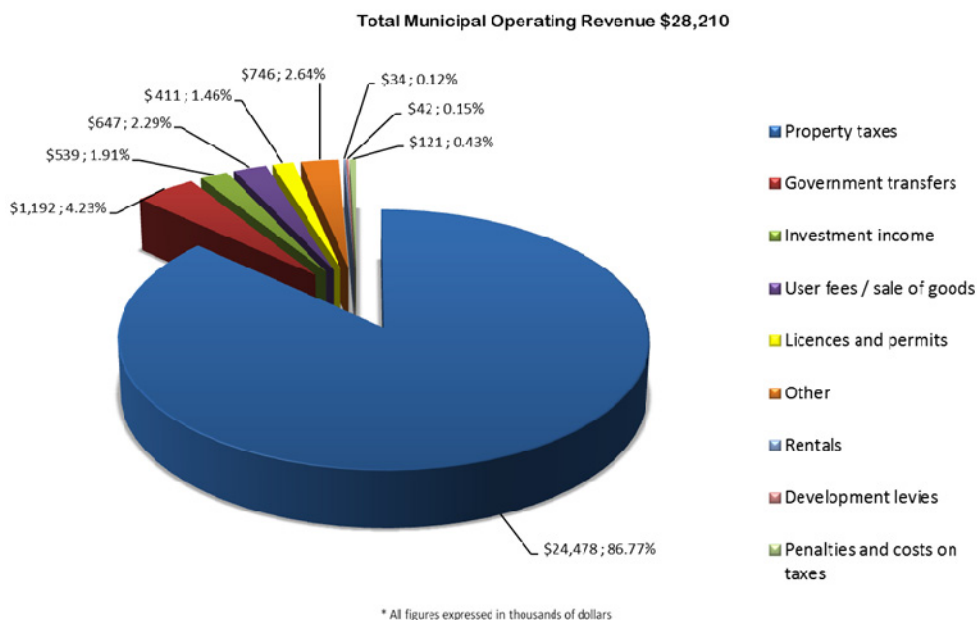


# Message from the Chief Financial Officer

## 2010 Operating Financial Summary

The following graphs outline our operating revenue and expenses. These graphs are prepared on a full accrual basis and include our operational revenue and expenditures only. This includes amortization but does not include amounts for capital expenditures or transfers to or from reserves. For the 2010 financial year, the County had an overall excess of operating revenue over expenditures of approximately \$962K.

### Wheatland County - 2010 Operating Revenue\*



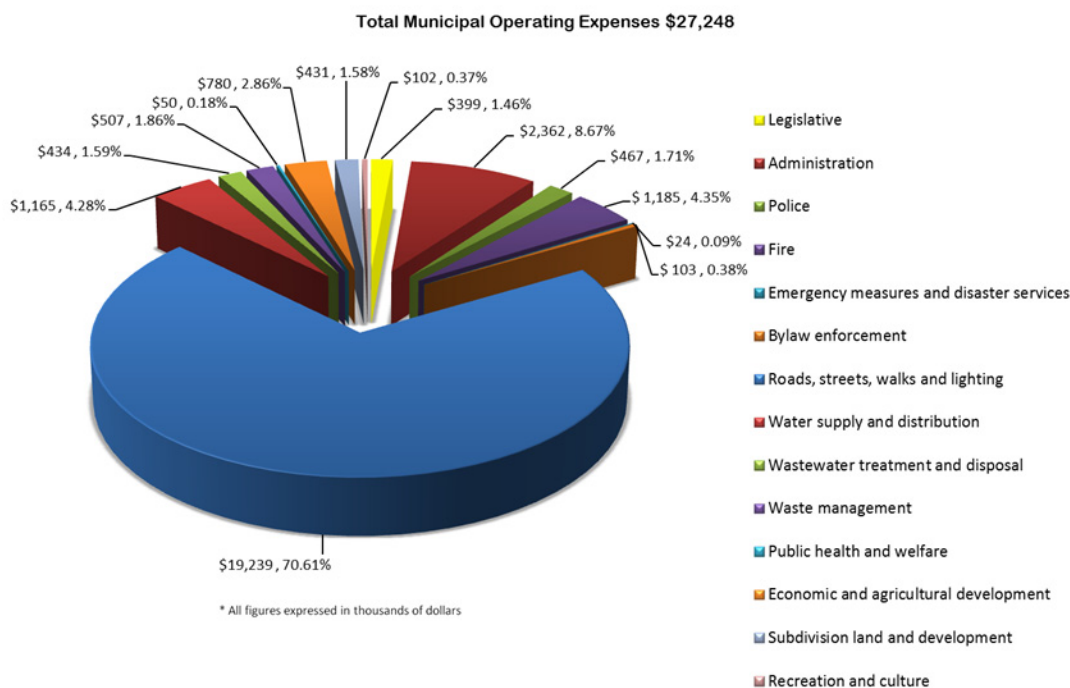
### 2010 Operating Revenue

Property taxes represent 86.77% of the total Wheatland County operating revenue. The remainder of the revenue comes from a variety of sources including government transfers, user fees, investment income and other income.

## 2010 Operating Expenses

The operating expenses include the amortization of capital assets but no capital expenditures or transfers to reserves. These are outlined on the separate schedules to the financial statements. Roads, streets, walks and lighting make up 70.61% of the total operating costs. Water supply and distribution make up the next largest segment with 8.67% of total operating costs. The fire services department is the third largest, with a 4.35% share of the total.

### Wheatland County - 2010 Operating Expenses\*



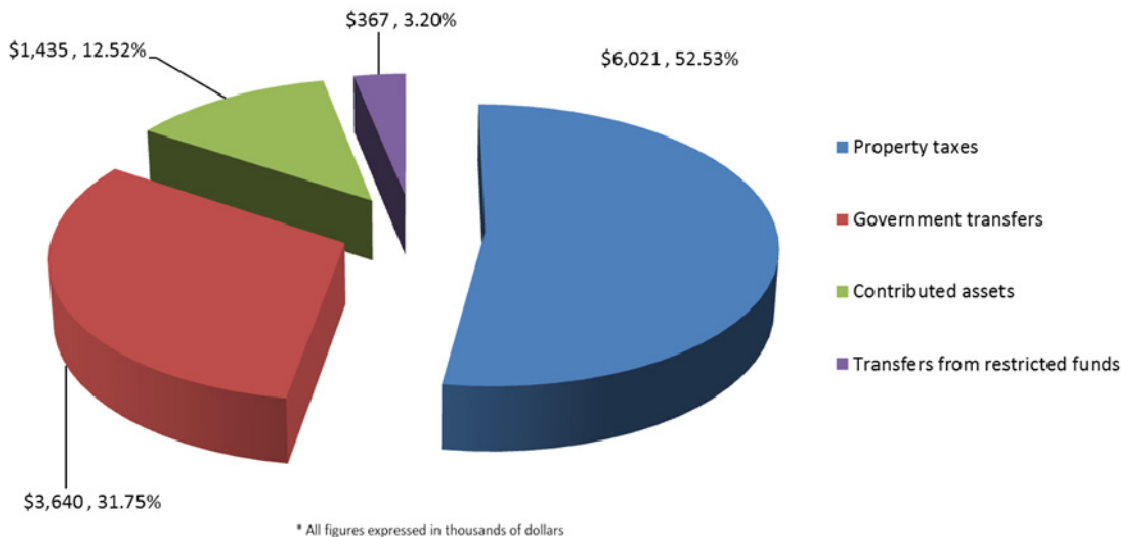
# Message from the Chief Financial Officer

## 2010 Capital Funding and Expenditures

The capital expenditures are not included on the Consolidated Statement of Operations, they are outlined in summary on the Schedule to the Consolidated Financial Statements. The tangible capital assets register required a prior period adjustment decreasing our net capital assets by \$344K. The prior net unrestricted surplus increased by \$210K. These restated amounts have been used for the financial statements and the net equity in tangible capital assets analysis above.

### Wheatland County - 2010 Capital Funds Acquired \*

Total capital funding \$11,463



### Capital Funds Acquired

Only the revenue from capital grants and contributions is shown on the operations statement. This gives the appearance of a large surplus, but these funds must be used to purchase any capital assets required and are shown in the "Government transfers" and "Contributed assets" sections of the Capital Funds Acquired graph.

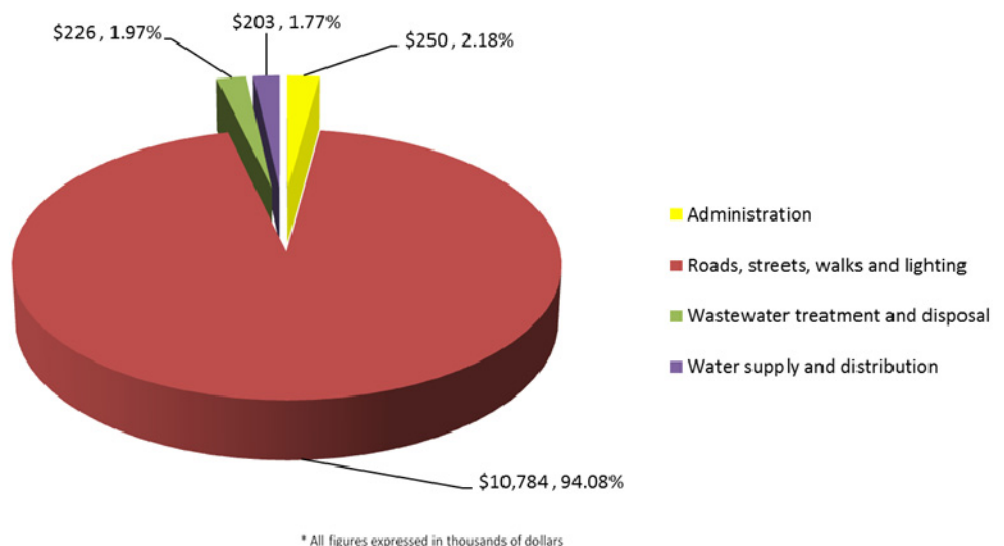
The capital funding from "Transfers of Restricted Funds" (reserves) and property taxes is included for information only and is not outlined on the financial statements.

## 2010 Capital Spending

The majority of the capital spending is for Roads, streets, walks and lighting. This makes up 94% of the total capital spending in 2010. The remainder of the capital spending is comprised of administration, wastewater treatment, wastewater disposal, water supply and water distribution.

### Wheatland County - 2010 Capital Spending \*

Total capital spending \$11,463



# Message from the Chief Financial Officer

## 2010 Achievements

### Tangible Capital Asset (TCA) Project

Robin Steptoe has been hired as the new Tangible Capital Asset/Accounting Clerk responsible for the capital asset accounting including proceeding with selection and implementation of asset management software. The new software will assist with long term forecasting for asset replacement and allow long term financial management of our capital assets.

### Process Improvements

In 2010 an evaluation of our internal systems was completed to determine process improvements necessary to strengthen internal controls, provide more accurate and timely information and improve efficiency. Enhancements were made to the project costing, gravel inventory and utility processes. A full integration of the payroll grid into our budget process, increasing the accuracy of our wage and benefit budget estimates was also completed. Procedures were implemented for gathering information for grant reporting through our project costing module.

### Utility Cost Recovery Analysis

A review of the utility revenue and costs for each hamlet was conducted in 2010. After this review it was determined that costs have been steadily increasing while utility rates have not increased since 2004. This has resulted in a significant shortfall in cost recovery for utility services. In order to move towards a full cost recovery system for utilities including capital replacements, a 10% increase will be implemented effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011. A further review of each hamlet will be completed in 2011.

### Conclusion

Continued progress in 2011 involves improving and streamlining business processes and long term planning. Long term planning helps to ensure that funds can be collected over a longer time frame for large projects, reduces property tax fluctuations and provides affordable sustainable infrastructure for County residents. The finance department also has an ongoing training and development program to ensure that staff are continually improving their skill set and keeping informed on financial accounting changes.

A full copy of the financial statements is included in this annual report and can also be downloaded separately from the County website. Wheatland County strives to provide full disclosure of financial information. The 2011 budget can also be downloaded directly from the website and can be viewed at the County office.

If you have any questions regarding the budget or financial statements, please feel free to call, email or come in to the County office.

Sincerely,  
Pat Leitch, CGA, Chief Financial Officer



Robin Steptoe  
Tangible Capital Asset/Accounting Clerk

# **WHEATLAND COUNTY**

## **Financial Statements**

**For the year ended December 31, 2010**

---

**WHEATLAND COUNTY**  
**TABLE OF CONTENTS**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2010**

---

<b>INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT</b>	1
<b>MANAGEMENT REPORT</b>	2
<b>FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</b>	
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION	3
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS	4
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN NET FINANCIAL ASSETS	5
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW	6
NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	7 - 18
SCHEDULES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	19 - 20

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To: The Mayor and Members of Council of  
Wheatland County

We have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of Wheatland County which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2010, and the consolidated statements of operations, change in net financial assets, and cash flow for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

### *Management's Responsibility for the Consolidated Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these consolidated financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### *Auditor's Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

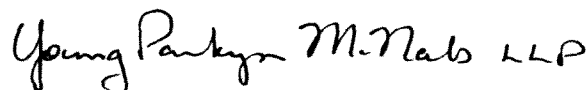
### *Opinion*

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Wheatland County as at December 31, 2010 and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

### *Emphasis of matter*

We draw attention to note 12 to the consolidated financial statements which describes the amendments made to the prior year's figures. Our audit opinion is not qualified in respect of this matter.

Lethbridge, Alberta



April 19, 2011

Chartered Accountants

## **MANAGEMENT REPORT**

The consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the management of Wheatland County.

These consolidated financial statements have been prepared from information provided by management. Financial statements are not precise since they include certain amounts based on estimates and judgments. Management has determined such amounts on a reasonable basis in order to ensure that the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects.

The County maintains systems of internal accounting and administrative controls that are designed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial information is relevant, reliable and accurate and that the County's assets are properly accounted for and adequately safeguarded.

The elected Council of Wheatland County is responsible for ensuring that management fulfils its responsibilities for financial statements. Council carries out its responsibility principally through the committee as a whole.

The Council meets annually with management and the external auditors to discuss internal controls over the financial reporting process, auditing matters and financial reporting issues, and to satisfy itself that each party is properly discharging its responsibilities. Council also considers the engagement or re-appointment of the external auditors. Council reviews the monthly financial reports.

The consolidated financial statements have been audited by Young Parkyn McNab LLP, Chartered Accountants, the external auditors, in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards on behalf of the Council, residents and ratepayers of the County. Young Parkyn McNab LLP has full and free access to the Council.

Chief Administrative Officer

**WHEATLAND COUNTY**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**As at December 31, 2010**

	2010	2009 (restated)
<b>Financial assets</b>		
Cash and temporary investments (note 2)	\$ 48,312,210	\$ 39,802,938
Taxes and grants in place of taxes receivable (note 3)	777,224	584,138
Trade and other receivables	4,663,521	1,432,037
Land held for resale	245,283	54,186
Loan receivable (note 4)	150,000	-
	<u>54,148,238</u>	<u>41,873,299</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	2,995,072	4,537,831
Employee benefit obligations (note 5)	742,106	308,502
Provision for reclamation	777,796	498,354
Deferred revenue (note 6)	10,358,008	5,847,398
Long-term debt (note 7)	707,207	768,570
	<u>15,580,189</u>	<u>11,960,655</u>
<b>Net financial assets</b>	<u>38,568,049</u>	<u>29,912,644</u>
<b>Non-financial assets</b>		
Prepaid expenses	238,052	198,933
Inventory for consumption	9,696,662	9,662,457
Tangible capital assets (schedule 2)	202,918,742	205,609,549
	<u>212,853,456</u>	<u>215,470,939</u>
<b>Accumulated surplus (note 8)</b>	<u>\$ 251,421,505</u>	<u>\$ 245,383,583</u>

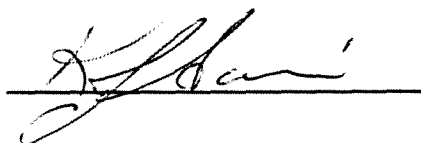
*Commitments and contingencies (note 19)*

Approved on behalf of Council:

Councillor



Councillor



**WHEATLAND COUNTY**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS**  
For the year ended December 31, 2010

	Budget (Unaudited)	2010	2009 (restated)
<b>Revenue</b>			
Net municipal property taxes (note 9)	\$ 24,575,412	\$ 24,477,703	\$ 24,360,043
User fees and sales of goods	648,440	647,176	732,174
Government transfers for operating (note 10)	788,840	1,192,141	579,472
Investment income	389,000	539,063	558,910
Penalties and costs of taxes	87,900	120,644	94,546
Development levies	36,664	41,556	1,481,309
Licenses and permits	310,800	410,506	263,484
Rental	43,400	33,873	43,277
Other	577,997	746,477	547,258
	27,458,453	28,209,139	28,660,473
<b>Expenses (note 11)</b>			
Legislative	431,600	398,504	416,173
Administration	2,450,636	2,361,878	2,099,991
Police	431,580	466,603	295,548
Fire	1,794,179	1,184,664	1,462,373
Emergency measures and disaster services	31,400	23,729	19,469
Bylaw enforcement	106,650	103,384	87,629
Roads, streets, walks and lighting	51,442,269	19,238,912	19,696,624
Water supply and distribution	1,443,694	1,165,268	1,174,370
Wastewater treatment and disposal	544,882	433,798	372,275
Waste management	585,800	506,693	480,585
Public health and welfare services	51,520	50,045	53,434
Economic and agricultural development	856,306	779,660	777,293
Subdivision land and development	626,820	430,787	745,529
Recreation and culture	58,775	102,164	57,475
	60,856,111	27,246,089	27,738,768
<b>Excess of revenue over expenses before other</b>	(33,397,658)	963,050	921,705
<b>Other</b>			
Government transfers for capital (note 10)	8,411,392	3,640,183	2,574,177
Contributed assets	-	1,434,689	963,922
	8,411,392	5,074,872	3,538,099
<b>Excess of revenue over expenses</b>	(24,986,266)	6,037,922	4,459,804
<b>Accumulated surplus, beginning of year</b>			
As previously stated	245,727,265	245,727,265	241,477,118
Prior period adjustment (note 12)	-	(343,682)	(553,339)
As restated	245,727,265	245,383,583	240,923,779
<b>Accumulated surplus, end of year</b>	\$ 220,740,999	\$ 251,421,505	\$ 245,383,583

**WHEATLAND COUNTY**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN NET FINANCIAL ASSETS**  
For the year ended December 31, 2010

	Budget (Unaudited)	2010	2009 (restated)
<b>Excess of revenue over expenses</b>	<b>\$(24,986,266)</b>	<b>\$ 6,037,922</b>	<b>\$ 4,459,804</b>
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(18,482,443)	(11,463,096)	(19,788,022)
Amortization	44,233,485	11,706,579	12,714,641
Loss on disposal of tangible capital assets	(294,600)	2,089,289	236,580
Proceeds on disposal of tangible capital assets	305,716	358,035	225,790
Net book value of tangible capital assets reinvested	-	-	4,631,137
	25,762,158	2,690,807	(1,979,874)
Net change in inventory for consumption	-	(34,205)	379,938
Net change in prepaid expense	-	(39,119)	(512)
	-	(73,324)	379,426
<b>Increase in net financial assets</b>	<b>775,892</b>	<b>8,655,405</b>	<b>2,859,356</b>
<b>Net financial assets, beginning of year</b>	<b>29,912,644</b>	<b>29,912,644</b>	<b>27,053,288</b>
<b>Net financial assets, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 30,688,536</b>	<b>\$ 38,568,049</b>	<b>\$ 29,912,644</b>

**WHEATLAND COUNTY**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW**  
For the year ended December 31, 2010

	2010	2009 (restated)
<b>Operating transactions</b>		
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$ 6,037,922	\$ 4,459,804
Adjustments for items which do not affect cash		
Loss on disposal of tangible capital assets	2,089,289	236,580
Amortization	11,706,579	12,714,641
	19,833,790	17,411,025
Net change in non-cash working capital items		
Taxes and grants in place of taxes receivable	(193,086)	(121,672)
Trade and other receivables	(3,231,485)	297,382
Land held for resale	(191,097)	(30,502)
Loan receivable	(150,000)	-
Inventory for consumption	(34,205)	379,938
Prepaid expenses	(39,119)	(512)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(1,542,759)	1,750,955
Employee benefit obligations	433,604	(39,420)
Deferred revenue	4,510,610	169,651
Provision for reclamation	279,442	100,000
Cash provided by operating transactions	19,675,695	19,916,845
<b>Capital transactions</b>		
Proceeds on disposal of tangible capital assets	358,035	225,790
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(11,463,096)	(19,788,022)
Net book value of tangible capital assets reinvested	-	4,631,137
Cash applied to capital transactions	(11,105,061)	(14,931,095)
<b>Financing transactions</b>		
Repayment of long-term debt	(61,362)	(57,203)
<b>Increase in cash and temporary investments</b>	8,509,272	4,928,547
<b>Cash and temporary investments, beginning of year</b>	39,802,938	34,874,391
<b>Cash and temporary investments, end of year</b>	\$ 48,312,210	\$ 39,802,938

---

**WHEATLAND COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2010**

---

**1. Significant accounting policies**

The consolidated financial statements of Wheatland County are the representations of management prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for local government established by the Public Sector Accounting Board of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants. Significant aspects of the accounting policies adopted by the County are as follows:

**(a) Reporting entity**

The consolidated financial statements reflect the assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses, changes in fund balances and change in financial position of the reporting entity which comprises all of the organizations that are owned or controlled by the County and are, therefore, accountable to the Council for the administration of their financial affairs and resources.

Taxes levied also includes requisitions for educational, health care, social and other external organizations that are not part of the municipal reporting entity.

The statements exclude trust assets that are administered for the benefit of external parties. Interdepartmental and organizational transactions and balances are eliminated.

**(b) Basis of accounting**

The financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. The accrual basis of accounting records revenue as it is earned and measurable. Expenses are recognized as they are incurred and measurable based upon receipt of goods or services and/or the legal obligation to pay.

Funds from external parties and earnings thereon restricted by agreement or legislation are accounted for as deferred revenue until used for the purpose specified.

Government transfers, contributions and other amounts are received from third parties pursuant to legislation, regulation or agreement and may only be used for certain programs, in the completion of specific work, or for the purchase of tangible capital assets. In addition, certain user charges and fees are collected for which the related services have yet to be performed. Revenue is recognized in the period when the related expenses are incurred, services performed or the tangible capital assets are acquired.

**(c) Investments**

Investments are recorded at amortized cost. When there has been a loss in value that is other than a temporary decline, the respective investment is written down to recognize the loss.

**(d) Debt charges recoverable**

Debt charges recoverable consist of amounts that are recoverable from municipal agencies or other local governments with respect to outstanding debentures or other long-term debt pursuant to annexation orders or joint capital undertakings. These recoveries are recorded at a value that equals the offsetting portion of the unmatured long-term debt, less actuarial requirements for the retirement of any sinking fund debentures.

---

**WHEATLAND COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2010**

---

- (e) Land held for resale  
Land held for resale is recorded at the lower of cost and net realizable value. Cost includes costs for land acquisition and improvements required to prepare the land for servicing such as clearing, stripping, and leveling charges. Related development costs incurred to provide infrastructure such as water and waste water services, roads, sidewalks, and street lighting are recorded as physical assets under their respective function.
- (f) Reserves for future expenses  
Reserves are established at the discretion of Council to set aside funds for future operating and capital expenses. Transfers to and/or from reserves are reflected as an adjustment to the respective fund.
- (g) Requisition over-levy and under-levy  
Over-levies and under-levies arise from the difference between the actual property tax levy made to cover each requisition and the actual amount requisitioned.
- If the actual levy exceeds the requisition, the over-levy is accrued as a liability and property tax revenue is reduced. Where the actual levy is less than the requisition amount, the under-levy is accrued as a receivable and as property tax revenue.
- Requisition tax rates in the subsequent year are adjusted for any over-levies or under-levies of the prior year.
- (h) Government transfers  
Government transfers are the transfer of assets from senior levels of government that are not the result of an exchange transaction, are not expected to be repaid in the future, or the result of a direct financial return.
- Government transfers are recognized in the financial statements as revenue in the period in which events giving rise to the transfer occur, providing the transfers are authorized, any eligibility criteria have been met, and reasonable estimates of the amounts can be determined.
- (i) Use of estimates  
The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenue and expense during the period. Where measurement uncertainty exists, the financial statements have been prepared within reasonable limits of materiality. Actual results could differ from those estimates.
- (j) Non-financial assets  
Non-financial assets are not available to discharge existing liabilities and are held for use in the provision of services. They have useful lives extending beyond the current year and are not intended for sale in the normal course of operations. The change in non-financial assets during the year, together with the excess of revenues over expenses, provides the consolidated Change in Net Financial Assets for the year.

**WHEATLAND COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
For the year ended December 31, 2010

(i) Tangible capital assets

Tangible capital assets are recorded at cost which includes all amounts that are directly attributable to acquisition, construction, development or betterment of the asset. The cost, less residual value, of the tangible capital assets is amortized on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life as follows:

	Years
Land improvements	15-30
Buildings	25-50
Engineered structures	20-55
Machinery and equipment	5-40

One-half of the annual amortization is charged in the year of acquisition and in the year of disposal. Assets under construction are not amortized until the asset is available for productive use.

(ii) Contributions of tangible capital assets

Tangible capital assets received as contributions are recorded at fair value at the date of receipt and also are recorded as revenue.

(iii) Leases

Leases are classified as capital or operating leases. Leases which transfer substantially all of the benefits and risks incidental to ownership of property are accounted for as capital leases. All other leases are accounted for as operating leases and the related lease payments are charged to expenses as incurred.

(iv) Inventories

Inventories held for consumption are recorded at the lower of cost and replacement cost.

(v) Cultural and historical tangible capital assets

Works of art for display are not recorded as tangible capital assets but are disclosed.

**2. Cash and temporary investments**

	2010	2009
Cash	\$ 1,177,365	\$ 3,505,562
Temporary investments	47,494,200	36,679,697
Cash held in trust	(359,355)	(382,321)
	<u>\$ 48,312,210</u>	<u>\$ 39,802,938</u>

Temporary investments are guaranteed investment certificates with maturities of less than 6 months and interest rates of 1.25% to 1.48%.

The County has an operating loan facility of up to \$5,448,000, repayable on demand with interest at bank prime minus 0.25% per annum. This facility was not being used at year end.

**WHEATLAND COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
For the year ended December 31, 2010

**3. Taxes and grants in place of taxes receivables**

	2010	2009
Current	\$ 559,751	\$ 495,562
Arrears	274,204	156,907
	833,955	652,469
Allowance for doubtful taxes	(56,731)	(68,331)
	\$ 777,224	\$ 584,138

**4. Loan receivable**

	2010	2009
Rosebud Fire Association	\$ 150,000	\$ -

This unsecured loan accrues interest at a rate set annually by Council (2010 - 1.28%). Payments on the loan are made annually over ten years.

**5. Employee benefit obligations**

	2010	2009
Vacation and overtime	\$ 350,320	\$ 49,641
Early retirement incentive	391,786	258,861
	\$ 742,106	\$ 308,502

**Vacation and overtime**

The vacation and overtime liability is comprised of the vacation and overtime that employees are deferring to future years. Employees have either earned the benefits (and they are vested) or are entitled to these benefits within the next budgetary year.

**Early retirement incentive**

The County provides an early retirement incentive plan. Employees who have at least 5 years of service and are over the age of 55 are eligible to be paid 3% of their annual salary for every year of service, up to a maximum of 50% of their annual salary. The incentive lapses at age 65.

**WHEATLAND COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
For the year ended December 31, 2010

**6. Deferred revenue**

	2010	2009
Alberta Municipal Infrastructure Program - capital	\$ 7,596,410	\$ 4,841,231
Municipal Sustainability Initiative - capital	910,644	-
Municipal Sustainability Initiative - operating	364,941	305,275
Federal Gas Tax Fund - capital	969,104	506,508
Street Improvement Program - capital	352,820	161,885
Other capital	89,927	18,911
Other operating	74,162	13,588
	<u>\$ 10,358,008</u>	<u>\$ 5,847,398</u>

**7. Long-term debt**

	2010	2009
Special levy and utility supported debentures	\$ 707,207	\$ 768,570
Current portion	\$ 65,838	\$ 61,363

Principal and interest repayments are due as follows:

	Principal	Interest	Total
2011	\$ 65,838	\$ 43,923	\$ 109,761
2012	70,656	39,106	109,762
2013	44,234	33,920	78,154
2014	46,935	31,219	78,154
2015	49,801	28,353	78,154
Thereafter	429,743	108,996	538,739
	<u>\$ 707,207</u>	<u>\$ 285,517</u>	<u>\$ 992,724</u>

Debenture debt is repayable to Alberta Capital Finance Authority and bears interest at rates ranging from 4.365% to 9.125% per annum and matures in periods 2012 through 2026. Debenture debt is issued on the credit and security of the County at large.

Interest on long-term debt amounted to \$46,851 (2009 - \$51,106).

The County's total cash payments for interest in 2010 were \$48,399 (2009 - \$52,558).

**WHEATLAND COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
For the year ended December 31, 2010

**8. Accumulated surplus**

Accumulated surplus consists of internally restricted and unrestricted amount and equity in tangible capital assets as follows:

	2010	2009 (Restated)
Unrestricted surplus	\$ 21,211,966	\$ 17,047,097
Internally restricted surplus (reserves) (note 13)	27,998,004	23,495,507
Equity in tangible capital assets (note 14)	202,211,535	204,840,979
	<u>\$ 251,421,505</u>	<u>\$ 245,383,583</u>

**9. Net municipal property taxes**

	Budget (Unaudited)	2010	2009
<b>Taxation</b>			
Real property taxes	\$ 17,137,173	\$ 17,563,815	\$ 16,990,576
Linear property taxes	16,578,100	16,164,547	16,260,447
Government grants in place of property taxes	29,100	40,547	29,115
Community aggregate levy	175,000	52,755	75,095
	<u>33,919,373</u>	<u>33,821,664</u>	<u>33,355,233</u>
<b>Requisitions</b>			
Alberta School Foundation Fund	8,904,318	8,904,318	8,665,870
Wheatland Foundation and Housing Management Body	147,045	147,045	108,484
Drumheller Solid Waste Management Association	292,598	292,598	220,836
	<u>9,343,961</u>	<u>9,343,961</u>	<u>8,995,190</u>
	<u>\$ 24,575,412</u>	<u>\$ 24,477,703</u>	<u>\$ 24,360,043</u>

**10. Government transfers**

	Budget (Unaudited)	2010	2009
<b>Transfers for operating:</b>			
Provincial unconditional grants	\$ 685,035	\$ 1,047,222	\$ 512,478
Other local government transfers	103,805	144,919	66,994
	<u>788,840</u>	<u>1,192,141</u>	<u>579,472</u>

**WHEATLAND COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
For the year ended December 31, 2010

**10. Government transfers, continued**

**Transfers for capital**

Provincial unconditional grants	8,411,392	3,640,183	2,574,177
	8,411,392	3,640,183	2,574,177
	\$ 9,200,232	\$ 4,832,324	\$ 3,153,649

**11. Expenditures by object**

	Budget (Unaudited)	2010	2009 (restated)
Salaries, wages and benefits	\$ 6,884,971	\$ 7,661,731	\$ 6,687,328
Contracted and general services	4,386,841	3,504,577	1,247,887
Materials, goods, supplies and utilities	2,738,285	747,439	2,606,879
Bank charges and short-term interest	2,600	4,603	2,114
Interest on long-term debt	46,851	46,851	51,106
Loss on disposal of tangible capital assets	296,000	2,089,289	236,580
Transfers to organizations and others	1,890,849	1,314,897	1,637,214
Purchases from other governments	265,629	72,600	2,430,319
Provision for allowances	110,600	97,523	124,700
Amortization of tangible capital assets	44,233,485	11,706,579	12,714,641
	\$ 60,856,111	\$ 27,246,089	\$ 27,738,768

**12. Prior period adjustment**

During the year certain discrepancies were noted within the tangible capital asset information and adjustments were made for missing or duplicate entries. The net result was a decrease in tangible capital assets of \$343,682, an increase in the prior year excess of revenue over expenses of \$209,657 and a decrease in the equity in tangible capital assets of \$343,682. These adjustments are as follows:

**Adjustments to January 1, 2009 accumulated surplus:**

As previously reported	\$ 241,477,118
Adjustment to net book value of tangible capital assets	(553,339)
<b>As restated</b>	<b>\$ 240,923,779</b>

**WHEATLAND COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
For the year ended December 31, 2010

**12. Prior period adjustment, continued**

**Adjustments to excess of revenue over expenses for the year ended**

**December 31, 2009:**

As previously reported	\$ 4,250,147
Tangible capital assets recorded but previously expensed	200,047
Reversal of applicable amortization	9,610

<b>As restated</b>	<b>\$ 4,459,804</b>
--------------------	---------------------

**Adjustments to tangible capital assets as at December 31, 2009:**

As previously reported	\$ 205,184,661
Adjustments to historical cost of tangible capital assets	(919,454)
Accumulated amortization recorded	575,772

<b>As restated</b>	<b>\$ 204,840,979</b>
--------------------	-----------------------

**13. Reserves**

Council has set up reserves for various purposes. These reserves are either required by legislation or set up at the discretion of Council to provide funding for future expenditures.

	2010	2009
Future expense reserve	\$ 10,632,094	\$ 10,201,641
Municipal equipment	4,681,130	3,891,989
Used equipment	3,968,059	3,611,014
Rural roads	3,795,241	1,510,129
Municipal reserve	2,065,401	2,142,753
Fire capital	994,270	583,170
Agriculture Service Board	763,711	613,711
Cluny	254,381	251,559
Waste	180,356	160,231
Standard site	161,906	161,906
Rosebud future projects	120,000	-
Rosebud	84,137	83,269
Gleichen capital	82,510	81,518
Gravel reclamation	60,774	58,189
Safety reserve	50,484	42,234
Jubilee insurance	43,947	43,947
Special land tax sale	28,515	28,162
Water meters	17,277	16,437
Gleichen lagoon	8,936	8,826
Speargrass pump	4,287	4,234
Cenotaph	588	588
	<b>\$ 27,998,004</b>	<b>\$ 23,495,507</b>

**WHEATLAND COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
For the year ended December 31, 2010

**14. Equity in tangible capital assets**

	2010	2009 (restated)
Tangible capital assets (schedule 2)	\$ 492,458,098	\$ 486,985,354
Accumulated amortization (schedule 2)	(289,539,356)	(281,375,805)
Long-term debt (note 7)	(707,207)	(768,570)
	<u>\$ 202,211,535</u>	<u>\$ 204,840,979</u>

**15. Debt limits**

Section 276(2) of the Municipal Government Act requires that debt and debt limits as defined by Alberta Regulation 255/00 for the County be disclosed as follows:

	2010	2009
Total debt limit	\$ 42,313,710	\$ 42,990,710
Total debt	707,207	768,570
	<u>\$ 41,606,503</u>	<u>\$ 42,222,140</u>
Debt servicing limit	\$ 7,052,285	\$ 7,165,118
Debt servicing	109,672	109,672
	<u>\$ 6,942,613</u>	<u>\$ 7,055,446</u>

The debt limit is calculated at 1.5 times revenue of the municipality (as defined in Alberta Regulation 255/00) and the debt service limit is calculated at 0.25 times such revenue. Incurring debt beyond these limitations requires approval by the Minister of Municipal Affairs. These thresholds are guidelines used by Alberta Municipal Affairs to identify municipalities which could be at financial risk if further debt is acquired. The calculation taken alone does not represent the financial stability of the municipality. Rather, the financial statements must be interpreted as a whole.

**WHEATLAND COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
For the year ended December 31, 2010

**16. Trust funds**

Trust funds are administered by the County on behalf of others consist of the following:

	2010	2009
Off site levy	\$ 164,794	\$ 162,758
Madsen charity	72,408	81,400
Handicapped	61,056	76,625
Madsen scholarship	38,418	39,486
Off site levy	15,695	15,501
Thurston	6,614	6,551
Rosebud Historical Society	370	-
	<b>\$ 359,355</b>	<b>\$ 382,321</b>

The above trust funds are not recorded in the financial statements (Note 1a).

**17. Salary and benefits disclosure**

Disclosure of salaries and benefits for elected municipal officials, the chief administrative officer and designated officers as required by Alberta Regulation 313/2000 is as follows:

	(1) Salary	(2) Benefits & allowances	2010	2009
Council				
Armstrong	\$ 20,617	\$ 33,630	\$ 54,247	\$ 55,866
Bland	24,292	27,971	52,263	48,324
Booth	24,150	28,437	52,587	48,689
Knight	3,869	3,367	7,236	-
Koester	25,699	28,751	54,450	52,005
Reinhardt	13,319	26,827	40,146	52,760
Sauve	20,570	28,223	48,793	52,445
Vander Velde	15,803	28,242	44,045	44,652
Chief Administrative Officer				
Deak	\$ 130,818	\$ 23,941	\$ 154,759	\$ 134,335

(1) Salary includes regular base pay, bonuses, overtime, lump sum payments, gross honoraria and any other direct cash remuneration.

(2) Benefits and allowances include the employer's share of all employee benefits and contributions or payments made on behalf of employees including pension, health care, dental coverage, vision coverage, group life insurance, accidental disability and dismemberment insurance, long- and short-term disability plans, professional memberships, and tuition.

Benefits and allowances figures also include the employer's share of the costs of additional taxable benefits including special leave with pay, financial planning services, retirement planning services, concessionary loans, travel allowances, car allowances, and club memberships.

**18. Local Authorities Pension Plan**

Employees of the County participate in the Local Authorities Pension Plan (LAPP), which is covered by the Public Sector Pension Plans Act. The Plan serves about 200,000 people and over 400 employers. It is financed by employer and employee contributions and investment earnings of the LAPP fund.

Contributions for current service are recorded as expenditures in the year in which they become due.

The County is required to make current service contributions to the Plan of 9.06% of pensionable earnings up to the year's maximum pensionable earnings under the Canada Pension Plan and 12.53% on pensionable earnings above this amount. Employees of the County are required to make current service contributions of 8.06% of pensionable salary up to the year's maximum pensionable salary and 11.53% on pensionable salary above this amount.

Total current service contributions by the County to the Local Authorities Pension Plan in 2010 were \$411,457 (2009 - \$378,159). Total current service contributions by the employees of the County to the Local Authorities Pension Plan in 2010 were \$370,126 (2009 - \$333,381).

At December 31, 2009, the LAPP disclosed an actuarial deficiency of \$3.999 billion.

**19. Commitments and contingencies**

Wheatland County is a member of the Jubilee Reciprocal Insurance Exchange (JRIE) and the Genesis Reciprocal Insurance Exchange (GRIE) which provide liability insurance. The investment in these programs is not reflected as an asset in the accompanying financial statements.

Under the terms of membership, the County could become liable for its proportionate share of any claim losses in excess of the funds held by either exchange. Any liability incurred would be accounted for as a current transaction in the year the losses are determined.

The County has been named in several lawsuits. The County has been found liable in one lawsuit, however the amount of the liability can not be reasonably estimated. Accordingly, no amount has been recorded in the financial statements for any claim.

---

**WHEATLAND COUNTY**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2010**

---

**20. Financial instruments**

The County's financial instruments consist of cash and temporary investments, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities, and long-term debt. It is management's opinion that the County is not exposed to significant interest currency, or credit risk arising from these financial instruments.

The County is subject to credit risk with respect to taxes and grants in place of taxes receivables and trade and other receivables. Credit risk arises from the possibility that taxpayers and entities to which the County provides services may experience financial difficulty and be unable to fulfil their obligations. The large number and diversity of taxpayers and customers minimizes the credit risk.

Unless otherwise noted, the carrying value of the financial instrument approximates fair value.

**21. Approval of financial statements**

These financial statements were approved by Council and Management.

**22. Budget amounts**

The 2010 budget for the County was approved by Council on April 7, 2010 and has been reported in the consolidated financial statements for information purposes only. These budget amounts have not been audited, reviewed, or otherwise verified.

The approved budget contained reserve transfers, capital additions and principal payments on debt as expenditures. Since these items are not included in the amounts reported in the consolidated financial statements, they have been excluded from the budget amounts presented in these financial statements.

Budgeted deficit per financial statements	\$ (24,986,266)
Less: Capital expenditures	(18,482,443)
Long-term debt repayments	(61,363)
Transfers to reserves	(1,303,729)
Add: Amortization	44,233,485
Proceeds on disposal of tangible capital assets	305,716
Gain on sale of tangible capital assets	294,600
Equals: Balanced budget	\$ -

**23. Comparative figures**

The financial statements have been reclassified, where applicable, to conform to the presentation used in the current year. The changes do not affect prior year earnings.

**WHEATLAND COUNTY**  
**SCHEDULES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
For the year ended December 31, 2010

**Schedule of changes in accumulated surplus**

**Schedule 1**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Equity in tangible capital assets	2010	2009 (Restated)
Balance, beginning of year					
As previously stated	\$ 17,047,096	\$ 23,495,507	\$ 205,184,662	\$ 245,727,265	\$ 241,477,118
Prior period adjustment	-	-	(343,682)	(343,682)	(553,339)
As restated	17,047,096	23,495,507	204,840,980	245,383,583	240,923,779
Excess of revenue over expenses	6,037,922	-	-	6,037,922	4,459,804
Unrestricted funds designated for future use	(6,192,324)	6,192,324	-	-	-
Restricted funds used for operations	1,689,827	(1,689,827)	-	-	-
Current year funds used for tangible capital assets	(10,028,406)	-	10,028,406	-	-
Contributed tangible capital assets	(1,434,689)	-	1,434,689	-	-
Disposal of tangible capital assets	2,447,324	-	(2,447,324)	-	-
Annual amortization expense	11,706,579	-	(11,706,579)	-	-
Long term debt repaid	(61,363)	-	61,363	-	-
Change in accumulated surplus	4,164,870	4,502,497	(2,629,445)	6,037,922	4,459,804
<b>Balance, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 21,211,966</b>	<b>\$ 27,998,004</b>	<b>\$ 202,211,535</b>	<b>\$ 251,421,505</b>	<b>\$ 245,383,583</b>

**WHEATLAND COUNTY**  
**SCHEDULES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
For the year ended December 31, 2010

**Schedule of tangible capital assets**

	Land	Land improvements	Buildings	Engineered structures	Machinery and equipment	Vehicles	Construction in progress	2010	2009 (restated)
<b>Cost:</b>									
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 13,078,474	\$ 1,036,612	\$ 8,130,335	\$ 440,904,505	\$ 16,837,803	\$ 6,415,156	\$ 582,471	\$ 486,985,354	\$ 475,514,033
Acquisitions	196,833	23,945	75,704	7,762,732	1,246,361	423,703	1,733,818	11,463,096	19,788,022
Disposals	(60,189)	-	-	(4,586,422)	(810,174)	(533,567)	-	(5,990,352)	(8,316,701)
Balance, end of year	13,215,118	1,060,557	8,206,039	444,080,815	17,273,990	6,305,292	2,316,289	492,458,098	486,985,354
<b>Accumulated amortization:</b>									
Balance, beginning of year	-	624,170	1,553,539	269,804,342	5,890,161	3,503,593	-	281,375,805	271,884,361
Annual amortization	-	53,139	166,705	9,932,273	1,093,176	461,286	-	11,706,579	12,714,641
Disposals	-	-	-	(2,756,459)	(410,332)	(376,237)	-	(3,543,028)	(3,223,197)
Balance, end of year	-	677,309	1,720,244	276,980,156	6,573,005	3,588,642	-	289,539,356	281,375,805
<b>Net book value</b>	<b>\$ 13,215,118</b>	<b>\$ 383,248</b>	<b>\$ 6,485,795</b>	<b>\$ 167,100,659</b>	<b>\$ 10,700,985</b>	<b>\$ 2,716,650</b>	<b>\$ 2,316,289</b>	<b>\$ 202,918,742</b>	<b>\$ 205,609,549</b>

**2009 net book value (restated)**

\$ 13,078,474	\$ 412,442	\$ 6,576,796	\$ 171,100,162	\$ 10,947,642	\$ 2,911,563	\$ 582,471	\$ 205,609,549
---------------	------------	--------------	----------------	---------------	--------------	------------	----------------

