

Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	Friday, June 3, 2011				Report Date	Monday, May 30, 2011			
Decision Required	X	Yes		No	Priority	X	High		Low
Direction	x	Information Only			Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed
REPORT TITLE									
Nuisance Beaver Maintenance Report 03/06/11/1201									

Subject: Reconsider compensation for the removal of nuisance beaver.

RECOMMENDATION: That the price per nuisance animal be increased from \$35 to facilitate attracting interested persons to assist in eliminating the problem.

**WHEREAS** the current price that the municipality pays for a nuisance beaver removed from problem areas along municipal roads is \$35;

**AND WHEREAS** local trappers are not interested in trapping the animals for such a small sum as setting traps along roadways increases the risk of the loss of expensive equipment;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby approve an increase in the amount per animal that is paid to authorized individuals as compensation for the removal of each nuisance beaver from along municipal roads from the current \$35 per animal to \$100 per animal.

BACKGROUND/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: Annually, beaver build dams and plug culverts along creeks along Mackey Creek, Kenny and Adelard Roads. Each year the damage caused by these animals cost upwards of \$1,000 in time spent travelling to and unclogging the culverts and considerably more money in repairing roads, including replacing culverts.

In 2011, over this past couple of weeks, Adelard Road has been completely washed out. The costs to repair this road will have to come from either contingency or from reserves set aside from a past road grant.

In the past, HCM has received permission from the MNR to trap or shoot these nuisance beaver to avoid further damage to roadways. The current bounty paid by HCM is \$35 per animal. Practise is to have Terry first ask the trapper responsible for the area to trap the animals on our behalf. He then contacts other area trappers. The past few years, he has been unable to locate a trapper willing to remove these nuisance animals for such a small fee. The reasoning is the lack of quality of the fur at this time of year, and the risk of losing traps set alongside roads. Time and fuel to travel should be considered as well.

To alleviate this problem, Terry is requesting that Council consider increasing the fee paid to somewhere closer to \$100 per animal to make the practise worthwhile for the trappers.

Although this increase is significant, compared to the costs to repair damaged roads and time spent clearing culverts it is actually quite low.

It is staff recommendation that a fee of \$100 per animal be paid.

Financial Implications/Budget Impact: Negligible when you consider the costs of repairing roads. Considering we normally have a surplus of a couple of thousand dollars at the end of each year, the small amount needed for this purpose is not cause for concern.

Policy Impact: None, as per policy and with approval of the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Others Consulted: Terry Lamure, Road Super;

Approved and Recommended by the Clerk

Melinda Reith,  
Municipal Clerk

*Melinda Reith*