

Commission working to get towns back

BY DAN SINGLETON

MVP Staff

Talks are underway in an attempt to have the Mountain View Regional Waste Management Commission again oversee garbage collection in Didsbury and Carstairs, Mountain View County councillors heard July 2.

During the policies and priorities committee meeting, commission CAO Al Graham told councillors that he would like to see the two communities return to the waste collection fold, more than a year after Didsbury and Carstairs went with another collection agency.

Not having Didsbury and Carstairs on board has cost the commission about \$300,000 over the past year, he said.

"I've had conversations with the CAOs of

Didsbury and Carstairs and there are ongoing talks. It's at the point where we are reestablishing relationships," said Graham.

The commission is managed by a board of directors appointed by the municipal councils of Olds, Sundre, Cremona, Didsbury and Carstairs.

April 2013 the Didsbury and Carstairs councils voted to select a tender from Can-Pak for garbage collection.

As well as talks Didsbury and Cremona, the commission is also examining long-term options for the collection and disposal of waste, he said.

"People say, 'you have 10 trucks that go around the county and pick up garbage.' We are a lot more than that. Landfills aren't the answer and we've got to start looking for better solutions. I think it's the commission's mandate to find those solutions and a better way to take care of the county's refuse," he said.