

The Agricultural Service Board – Municipal District of Wainwright No. 61 met in the Administration Building at 8:30 a.m., Thursday, January 15, 2009.

Present: Chairman – Clr. Ted Wilkinson, Councilor – Phil Valleau. Farm Members – Dennis Leggett, Chris Oracheski, Karla White. Pest Control Officer – Rod Gabrielson, Agricultural Fieldman – James Schwindt, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman & Secretary – Aimee Wonsik.

The Chairman Clr. Wilkinson called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

01/09 Moved by Dennis Leggett to approve the agenda as presented. CARRIED

02/09 Moved by Karla White that the minutes from November 25, 2008 accepted as presented. CARRIED

1. (November 26, 2008) John Knapp, Deputy Minister, response to Brazeau County, AESA Farm-based Grant Program concern.
2. (December 11, 2008) Joan Hughson, Chairman ASB County of Forty Mile, letter supporting Alberta Beef Producers.
3. (December 19, 2008) Karen R. Cannon, Technology and Innovation Branch Section Head, Letter approving 2009 AESA application
4. (December 19, 2008) Gerald Hauer, Chief Provincial Veterinarian, letter and CD describing Alberta Emergency Carcass Disposal Pilot Project 2008

Correspondence was reviewed.

03/09 Moved by Dennis Leggett that the correspondence be filed. CARRIED

The Agricultural Fieldman James Schwindt presented his report.

- Ribstone Tankloader Update
- RFID Tag Reader and Ag2network Software update
- 2009 Mowing Program
- Update on Weed Inspector position
- CWD update

James commented on the Ribstone tankloader project. Twyla Legault from PFRA will present her findings at the next council meeting. James commented that there have been no updates on the RFID tag readers that were offered to ASB's by the Alberta Government back in December. James noted that the Weed Inspector position has been filled. He also stated that the Mowing Program will be sent out for tender for 2009; with the councilors selecting roads of priority within their respective divisions. James reported on the findings of the latest Chronic Wasting Disease results, and is concerned that one of the six positives found is located south of Irma, which is a new area for this disease. Agricultural Service Board members commented that more research is needed to understand CWD.

The Assistant Agricultural Fieldman Aimee Wonsik presented her report.

- January Newsletter is completed and mailed out (574 households)
- Alberta Environmental Farm Plan Update
- Upcoming Events
 - Wainwright EFP Workshop, February 17
 - Working Well Workshop, February 19

Some discussion on EFP's, Aimee commented on her frustration of lack of information or direction for the upcoming local meeting. Without the assistance of EFP meeting Facilitators or the EFP Review Committee, Aimee is apprehensive of leading meetings, or liability issues when signing the final certificate for a completed workbook. Clr. Ted Wilkinson

commented that the M.D. of Wainwright will continue to participate with the program, to assist ratepayers with environmental farm plans, if the interest is there.

The Rat Control officer Rod Gabrielson presented his report. Rat inspections are up to date and there are zero infestations in the M.D. of Wainwright; however the M.D. of Provost may have a potential situation. Rod will be attending the Cattlemen's Corral in Lloydminster, to showcase the Alberta Rat Control display. June 19, 2009 has been chosen as a date for the annual Rat Patrol Workshop, to be held in Cold Lake this year; Rod will continue to assist with the planning of this event, and will request assistance from the ASB at the next meeting. Beavers will be a problem at Riverdale this coming spring, hopefully water levels will be high enough so that Rod can effectively alleviate this problem.

04/09 Clr. Phil Valleau moved that the reports be accepted. CARRIED

Break 10:05a.m. – 10:20a.m.

Review and discussion of the initial 2009 ASB Budget occurred. A review and finalization of the 2009 ASB budget will occur at the next meeting.

James led the Agricultural Service Board through each individual 2009 ASB Conference Resolutions, so that all members have reviewed what is being proposed.

Clr. Ted Wilkinson and James Schwindt reviewed the ARD & ASB Extension Model and their corresponding recommendations and comments with the board members.

Updated photos were taken of the Agricultural Service Board to be uploaded onto the municipal website.

05/09 Clr. Phil Valleau moved that the Rat Control Program display be included in the upcoming Wainwright Chamber of Commerce Tradeshow. CARRIED

Next meeting tentatively set for the month of February (TBA).

06/09 Moved by Dennis Legget that the meeting be adjourned. (11:55a.m.) CARRIED

Chairman

Secretary

(1 Day)