

The Agricultural Service Board – Municipal District of Wainwright No. 61 met in the Administration Building at 8:30 a.m., Thursday, October 8, 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. Delegation of Darrell Bignall from ARD

The Chairman Clr. Wilkinson called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

16/09 Moved by Karla White to approve the agenda as presented. CARRIED

17/09 Moved by Karla White that the minutes from February 24, 2009 accepted as presented. CARRIED

Clr. Wilkinson welcomed Darrell to the ASB meeting. Darrell is a livestock modeling analyst with the provincial government and is looking to see what ASB will be expecting of him, to utilize his duties. Darrell has been working with age verification, and RFID tag readers. He can also do age verification for cattle producers. He does not have much grain background, but there are other specialists that he can coordinate with.

1. (March 6, 2009) Jason Krips, Assistant Deputy Minister, letter directed to Ted Wilkinson introducing ARD Extension Team.
2. (March 19, 2009) Eileen Chauvet, Supervisor A.S.B. Grand Program, letter advising of ASB grant approval.
3. (April 6, 2009) Chuanliang Su, letter of appreciation and enclosed copy of Alberta Agriculture Statistics Yearbook.
4. (April 27, 2009) Pat Jacobs, ASB Chairman County of Grande Prairie, letter directed to Jason Krips, Assistant Deputy Minister regarding agreement with M.D. of Taber; and overall dissatisfaction with lack of reliable lab accreditation for clubroot testing.
5. (May 11, 2009) Dale Evert, PFRA, information package directed to James Schwindt on 2008/ 09 Water supply and forage monitoring program..
6. (July 6, 2009) Patrick Gordeyko NE Regional ASB Chairman, letter directed to Honorable George Groeneveld, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, suggesting further changes to drought emergency disaster relief programs.
7. (August 10, 2009) Eileen Chauvet, Supervisor ASB Program, letter directed to Ted Wilkinson advising the ASB maintaining eligibility for the ASB grant for 2009/10.
8. (August 17, 2009) Laura Nelson, Executive Director Alberta Farm Safety Centre, letter detailing municipality total of children educated by program.
9. (September 12, 2009) "Capturing Feed Grains and Forage Opportunities", December 9-10 brochure and invitation (early bird Nov 13)
10. (September 22, 2009) Eileen Chauvet, Supervisor ASB Program, letter directed to Ted Wilkinson informing upcoming random ASB audits.
11. (September 29, 2009) Brenda Brindle, Director Environmental Stewardship, package directed to Ted Wilkinson with outline of potential AESA program delivery options plus survey.

18/09 Moved by Chris Oracheski that the correspondence be filed. CARRIED

Break 10:00a.m. – 10:15a.m.

The Agricultural Fieldman James Schwindt presented his report.

- Strychnine – 372 cases sold in 2009
- Clubroot – 40 fields inspected
- Grasshoppers – 48 locations surveyed
- Spray program – 2nd year of blanket program, 2010 will go back into spot spraying again, overall successful year. Karla White suggested rotating each division for blanket spray, to spread out cost annually. Clr. Valleau would like to see more information on the wet blade trials in Lacombe County.
- Mowing Program – 1284 linear miles completed this year

The Assistant Agricultural Fieldman Aimee Wonsik presented her report.

- September newsletter printed, upcoming November newsletter (print in Oct, last one for year, 6 completed this year)
- Bertha + Diamondback counts low numbers, Wheat Midge fall survey will be participated in
- Upcoming Events
 - Shelterbelt Tree meeting, November 19 (re-scheduled)
 - "Beef Bush and Grazing", December 4 (partnered hosted meeting with County of Minburn)
- GSFW 2010; ASB agreed to a reduced effort towards event, still participate with advertising and donating to cause.

19/09

Karla White made motion to do look into the criteria for application for 100 year Farm Family Awards, when it comes to purchased CPR land, and consider changing policy. CARRIED

The Rat Control officer Rod Gabrielson presented his report. There have been a total of 50 dams blown in the Ribstone Creek area. Rat inspections are up to date and there are zero infestations in the M.D. of Wainwright. The province has had higher rat awareness because of the activity in SK and Calgary. Rod is still concerned with Special Areas 4, lack of regular patrol for rats; no appointed inspector for that area. There may be a larger problem of coyotes in spring 2010, however Rod has already seen mange starting.

20/09

Karla White made motion to have the costs of beaver removal in policy reviewed. CARRIED

21/09

Dennis Leggett moved that the reports be accepted. CARRIED

James led ASB through initial proposed changes for ASB policy. James and Aimee will be working on the No Spray and Haying Schedules. Dennis Leggett commented that if a land-owner signs the agreement, they should quickly manage noxious weeds, not wait for the municipality to warn them. Karla White mentioned that the new forms should be bold typed in important areas.

James led discussion on the AESA survey, which will be sent out to ASB members for review before the Regional Meeting Nov 2nd, responses for the survey need to be returned by Nov 15.

James needs to know by Oct 23 who is going to the ASB Regional Meeting November 2nd at Tulliby Lake.

No resolutions put forth by ASB, to take to Regional Meeting.

Clr. Wilkinson thanked Dennis Leggett for his 3 years of service.

Next meeting will be at the call of the chairman (late November or early December, TBA).

22/09

Moved by Dennis Leggett that the meeting be adjourned. (12:20p.m.)
CARRIED

Chairman

Secretary