

The Agricultural Service Board (ASB) of the Municipal District of Wainwright No. 61 met in the Administration Building at 9:00 a.m., Monday June 17th, 2019.

Present: Chairman – Councillor Ryley Andersen
Reeve Bob Barss

Farmer Members – John Campbell, Wayne Leskow and Bob Dickson
Agricultural Fieldman – James Schwindt
Assistant Agricultural Fieldman and A.S.B. Secretary – Tanis Ponath
Pest Control Officer – Rod Gabrielson

The Chairman Clr. Andersen called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

There were no additions to the agenda.

23/19 Moved by Wayne Leskow to approve the agenda as presented. **CARRIED**

24/19 Moved by John Campbell that the minutes from February 22nd, 2019 be accepted as presented. **CARRIED**

Correspondence was reviewed by James Schwindt and Tanis Ponath,

1. (March 12th, 2019) Brian Dutcher, Chair, BRAED; sent a letter thanking James Schwindt and the M.D. of Wainwright for their assistance in organizing the Plant Protein Alliance of Alberta Tour.
2. (March 13th, 2019) Jaime Curran, Assistant Deputy Minister, Livestock and Crops Division, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry; sent an email to ASB's outlining the new pilot program for the Ministerial Review process for the *Alberta Weed Control Act* appeal reviews.
3. (April 3rd, 2019) CleanFarms; sent a letter outlining the new pilot program to provide collection bags to producers for empty pesticide and fertilizer container collection.
4. (April 4th, 2019) Town of Wainwright; forwarded the Town of Wainwright's 2019 Weed Control Projected Work Report.
5. (April 9th, 2019) Greg Sawchuk, Reeve, M.D. of Bonnyville; a letter was sent on behalf of the M.D. of Bonnyville requesting feedback and possible commitment from Municipalities in our region regarding the construction and operation of an agricultural plastics recycling facility.
6. (April 11th, 2019) CleanFarms; a letter was sent thanking participants for their support over the last 30 years. In addition, CleanFarms passed along important information about their recycling and stewardship programs.
7. (April 16th, 2019) Devin Dreeshen, Minister, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry; sent a letter to AAAF President Eldon Kozak outlining the new piloted Ministerial Review process for the *Alberta Weed Control Act* appeal reviews. Given the success of the pilot program Alberta Agriculture and Forestry has decided to adopt the new process. In addition, the same letter was forwarded to Corey Beck, Chair, Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee.
8. (May 15th, 2019) Sara Wheale, ASB Chairperson, Brazeau County; a letter was sent to the Minister of Transportation on behalf of Brazeau County regarding Farmer Class 1 Training Exemptions.

9. (June 6th, 2019) Jody Bignell, Agricultural Service Board Chair, Clearwater County; a letter was sent to the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry on behalf of Clearwater County regarding the Agriculture and Forestry website concerns.
10. (June 10th, 2019) ASB Review Steering Committee; sent an email outlining the ASB Grant Program Review Engagement standouts.

25/19

Moved by John Campbell to accept the correspondence. **CARRIED**

James Schwindt, Agricultural Fieldman presented his report.

James provided the ASB with an update on strychnine sales. To date we have sold 88 cases and 12 bottles to 43 producers.

26/19

Moved by Reeve Barss to authorize the ASB to purchase additional strychnine on an as needed basis for the 2019 season. **CARRIED**

James updated the ASB on the roadside spraying program. We are currently spraying brush on the designated right of ways. General weed spraying will follow after the brush program is complete.

James updated the ASB on the roadside grass seeding projects. We have completed all roadside seeding with the exception of two projects.

James led a discussion with the ASB on phase 4 of Battle River Area for Economic Development (BRAED). Council decided to provide additional funds to the project.

James led a discussion with the ASB on the Irma and Giltedge tankloader usage. High usage and drainage of tankloaders has led to the requirement of tank recharge and therefore, tankloader shutdown. James brought forward a previous suggestion of adding an above ground seasonal storage tank to reduce wait times.

It was with the consensus of the ASB to recommend to council to explore options and costs of adding additional storage capacity to the two-tankloader locations.

James informed the ASB that the M.D. of Wainwright received a grant to move forward with a livestock emergency plan. Planning will be ongoing and a meeting will be held with a producer panel in the M.D. office.

Tanis Ponath Assistant Agricultural Fieldman presented her report.

Tanis gave the ASB an update on the 1st Annual Gardening Workshop and the Grazing School for Women.

Tanis stated that she is busy with the 2019 pest surveys. Diamondback moth surveys wrapped up last week with no recorded moths. Bertha armyworm and swede midge traps were set up and monitoring is ongoing.

Rod Gabrielson, Pest Control Officer presented his report.

Rod informed the ASB he is starting another round of rat control inspections. This spring Rod responded to two coyote calls and has approximately removed 100 beavers. Rod has been busy monitoring and cleaning out the problem beaver sites in the M.D. of Wainwright.

James led a discussion with the ASB about adding additional personnel to our damage control permits to assist Rod with our problem beaver areas as required. We will be exploring options for the 2020 season.

27/19

Moved by Bob Dickson to accept the reports. **CARRIED**

The board took a break from 10:33 a.m. – 10:47 a.m.

Tanis led a discussion with the ASB regarding the Ag in Motion Tour in Langham, SK from July 16th – 18th, 2019. The ASB discussed who is attending and what days we will be going.

James led a discussion with the ASB regarding the Alberta Agriculture Plastics Recycling Program. The Alberta Beef producers were successful in receiving the grant, from the Alberta Government. The Alberta Beef Producers chose CleanFarms to lead the pilot program. The ASB discussed however, any pilot program involvement would be the decision of the Wainwright Regional Waste to Energy Authority.

James and Tanis led a discussion with the board regarding the NE Regional Conference hosted by the M.D. of Wainwright on October 31st, 2019. The ASB discussed and provided direction on the agenda, meal and attendee gifts.

Next meeting at the call of the chair.

28/19

Moved by Wayne Leskow that the meeting be adjourned. (11:53 a.m.)
CARRIED

Chairman – Clr. Andersen

Secretary – Tanis Ponath

Wainwright, Alberta
June 17th, 2019