

The Agricultural Service Board (ASB) of the Municipal District of Wainwright No. 61 met in the Administration Building at 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 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  
Assistant Administrator – Neil Loonen

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

There were no additions to the agenda.

**29/19** Moved by John Campbell to approve the agenda as presented. **CARRIED**

**30/19** Moved by Reeve Bob Barss that the minutes from June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019 be accepted as presented. **CARRIED**

Correspondence was reviewed by James Schwindt and Tanis Ponath,

1. (June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019) Bruce Hamblin, Director, Inspection and Investigation Sector; sent a letter referencing the M.D. of Wainwright's agreement for the Implementation of Wild Boar Containment Standards under the *Agricultural Pests Act*.
2. (June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019) CleanFarms; sent out a Q&A regarding the Alberta Ag Plastics Pilot Program they are implementing.
3. (June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019) Eric Andersen, County of Minburn, Agricultural Service Board Chairman; provided a copy of a letter sent to Alberta Agriculture and Forestry outlining their concerns regarding Ropin the Web. This letter was in support of the previous letter sent by Clearwater County.
4. (July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019) Alberta Farm Animals Care; sent a brochure thanking the M.D. of Wainwright for our support in 2019.
5. (July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019) Connie Huelsman, Red Deer County, Agricultural Service Board Chairman; provided a copy of a letter sent to Alberta Agriculture and Forestry outlining their concerns regarding Ropin the Web. This letter was also in support of the previous letter sent by Clearwater County.
6. (July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019) CleanFarms; sent various advertising materials regarding their pesticide and fertilizer container recycling program.
7. (July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019) John Larson, M.D. of Pincher Creek, Agricultural Service Board Chairman; provided a copy of a letter sent to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency expressing their concerns regarding the proposed amendments to the federal *Health of Animals Regulations*.
8. (August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019) Provincial ASB Committee; a draft copy of the 2019 Report Card on Resolutions was sent out to ASB's for review and comment. The comment period ended on September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019 with a finalized copy expected to be sent out by October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019.
9. (August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019) Dr. Jaspinder Komal, Vice President, Science Branch, Chief Veterinary Officer for Canada; sent a letter in response to the M.D. of Pincher Creeks letter. The letter outlined that proposed amendments to the Health of Animals Regulations are expected to come winter or spring 2020 and all stakeholders will have an opportunity to comment during the consultation period.

31/19

10. (August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019) Tammy Shields, Western Region Project Coordinator, CleanFarms; sent out the announcement for the first twenty collection sites for year one of the Alberta Ag-Plastics *Recycle It!* Pilot program for the collection of grain bags and twine.
11. (September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019) Rajan Ahluwalia, Ultimate Hemp World Inc; send an email inviting producers and Agricultural Fieldman to a workshop providing information on a wheat straw and hemp fibre pulp mill in the Viking, AB area.
12. (September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019) Laura Nelson, Executive Director, Farm Safety Center; sent the M.D. of Wainwright the Farm Safety Center Annual Report for 2018-2019.
13. (September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019) Agriculture for Life; sent out a news bulletin about promoting agriculture education and sharing the truth about Alberta's food story. Agriculture for Life is also looking for support to deliver their programs.
14. (September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019) Raelyn Petersen, Farm Safety Coordinator, Agriculture and Forestry; sent the M.D. of Wainwright a package of farm safety resources for youth.

Moved by Wayne Leskow to accept the correspondence. **CARRIED**

James Schwindt, Agricultural Fieldman presented his report.

James updated the ASB on the 2019 Vegetation Management Program. General weed spraying is complete, touch up efforts on toadflax and thistles are still ongoing. The program is expected to wrap up by the middle of October.

James informed the ASB that we worked with Alberta Transportation to control weeds on the Alberta highways in the M.D. of Wainwright. A full list of GPS locations was sent to Alberta Transportation/Emcon who hired a contractor to complete the work order.

James informed the ASB that Alberta Environment and Parks received a special use approval to spray the Phragmites location on the CN right-of-way in the M.D. of Wainwright.

James provided the ASB with a quick update on the Prohibited Noxious and Noxious weeds found in the M.D. of Wainwright this year.

James led a discussion with the ASB and provided an update on the status of the Purple Loosestrife infestation south of Wainwright. M.D. staff collectively worked to control Purple Loosestrife on the M.D. of Wainwright's property. The Town of Wainwright was notified and clean-up efforts commenced on their property. The M.D. of Wainwright met with Nicole Kimmel with Alberta Environment and Parks to discuss applying for a special use approval and future eradication efforts.

James informed the ASB that 2019 mowing operations have been completed. Council was satisfied with the work done by A & R Contracting. Council made the decision to send out a request for quotes for the 2020 mowing contract.

Tanis Ponath Assistant Agricultural Fieldman presented her report.

Tanis provided the ASB with an update on the pest monitoring completed this summer. Diamondback moth and bertha armyworm numbers were low this year. The swede midge traps were sent to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada for testing. We expect the results to be sent back this winter. Tanis will complete soil sampling for wheat midge and sent samples to Alberta Agriculture.

Tanis updated the ASB on the ongoing Clubroot Survey. The survey is approximately 90% complete. Approximately 2 fields per township were randomly selected for the survey.

Tanis led a discussion with the ASB regarding the Rural Routes supper. It was council's decision to send out a request for quotes for the 2020 catering contract.

Tanis provided the ASB with information about the upcoming Western Canada Conference on Soil Health and Grazing December 10-12, 2019 in Edmonton.

Tanis is busy with the 2020 calendar. Revisions are currently being done with an expected completion date of the end of October.

Rod Gabrielson, Pest Control Officer presented his report.

Rod informed the ASB that he is caught up on all rat checks and is giving out bait to producers.

Rod has been very busy with beaver control this summer. Beaver issues are ongoing. When the ASB begins budgeting for 2020 there is potential to add funds for additional casual labour to assist Rod with beaver control on M.D. right – of – ways. Rod ordered additional 6 skunk traps for the M.D. of Wainwright.

Moved by Wayne Leskow to accept the reports. **CARRIED**

The ASB took a break from 10:19 a.m. – 10:25 a.m.

James brought forward the Agricultural Services Board Program Review document. The ASB members will review before the NE Regional ASB Conference.

James brought forward the final copy of the 2019 Agricultural Service Boards Resolution Report Card.

The ASB discussed the 2019 CleanFarms Obsolete Collection program. Program dates for the M.D. of Wainwright is October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Nutrien Ag Solutions. There are additional locations in the surrounding areas.

James and Tanis led a discussion with the ASB regarding the upcoming Northeast Regional Conference the M.D. of Wainwright is hosting. The ASB discussed the finalized agenda, registration and catering.

Next meeting at the call of the chair.

**32/19**

Moved by John Campbell that the meeting be adjourned. (11:09 a.m.)

**CARRIED**

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Chairman – Clr. Andersen

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Secretary – Tanis Ponath