

The Agricultural Service Board (ASB) of the Municipal District of Wainwright No. 61 met in the Administration Building at 9:07 a.m., Monday, December 9th, 2019.

Present: Chairman – Reeve Bob Barss

Councillor Bill Lawson

Farmer Members – Wayne Leskow, Bob Dickson and Mel Erickson

Agricultural Fieldman – James Schwindt

Assistant Agricultural Fieldman and A.S.B. Secretary – Tanis Ponath

Pest Control Officer – Rod Gabrielson

The Chairman Reeve Bob Barss called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Additions to the agenda, correspondence numbers 10 and 11.

33/19

Moved by Bob Dickson to approve the agenda as presented. **CARRIED**

34/19

Moved by Wayne Leskow that the minutes from October 2nd, 2019 be accepted as presented. **CARRIED**

Correspondence was reviewed by James Schwindt and Reeve Bob Barss,

1. (September 26th, 2019) Doug Macaulay, Manager Agriculture Service Board Unit, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry; a summary report of the information collected during the 2018-2019 ASB program review. This information was used by the steering committee to provide recommendations to the Minister of Agriculture.
2. (October 2nd, 2019) Provincial ASB Committee; a final copy of the 2019 Report Card on Resolutions was sent out to ASB's.
3. (October 24th, 2019) Clean Farms, Recycle It! Program; 2019 Alberta Farmer Survey Summary Report.
4. (October 30th, 2019) Agricultural Plastics Recycling Group (APRG); the fall newsletter was sent out along with a final copy of the Alberta Agricultural Waster Characterization Study 2019.
5. (November 4th, 2019) Peter Harris, Deputy Reeve, County of Grande Prairie; a letter was sent stating an Agriculture disaster in the County of Grande Prairie.
6. (November 15th, 2019) Michael Harding, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, Clubroot Management Committee; a draft copy of proposed changes to the Clubroot Management Plan.
7. (November 15th, 2019) Battle River Watershed Alliance; a letter requesting funding through the Invest 50 Campaign.
8. (November 20th, 2019) Brent Punga, Agromax Distributors; a letter to update Counties and Municipalities on maxim Chemicals renewal application for 2% Liquid Strychnine.
9. (November 21st, 2019) Cliff Martin, ASB Chairman, County of St. Paul; a letter to the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry stating County of St. Paul's concerns on the Agricultural Service Board grant funding.
10. (November 25th, 2019) AgSafe Alberta; an email outlining changes to the Farm Freedom and Safety Act.
11. (December 2nd, 2019) Conny Kappler, Author "Dirt to Dinner"; a letter to Agricultural Service Board members regarding a childrens book titled Dirt to Dinner which aims to teaching children about agriculture.

The request from Battle River Watershed Alliance Invest 50 will be forwarded to budget discussions.

35/19 Moved by Bill Lawson to send a letter to Conny Kappler author of Dirt to Dinner encouraging them to contact local libraries and school districts in the M.D. of Wainwright. **CARRIED**.

36/19 Moved by Wayne Leskow to accept the correspondence. **CARRIED**

James Schwindt, Agricultural Fieldman presented his report.

The Agricultural Fieldman provided various maps for the ASB to review that showed the 2019 completed sprayed roads, 2019 weed inspections and the 2019 roadside mowing miles.

The Agricultural Fieldman updated the ASB on the Regional ASB Conference hosted by the M.D. of Wainwright on October 31st, 2019.

Tanis Ponath Assistant Agricultural Fieldman presented her report.

A copy of the grasshopper and clubroot survey map was provided for the ASB. The Agricultural and Assistant Agricultural Fieldman completed a total of 39 grasshopper surveys and 72 clubroot surveys.

The ASB was provided information on FarmTech 2020. The conference will be at the Expo Center in Edmonton from January 28th – 30th, 2020. Members from the ASB will be attending the conference.

37/19 Moved by Bill Lawson to authorize ASB and staff to attend FarmTech 2020 in Edmonton, AB on January 29th and 30th. **CARRIED**.

The Assistant Agricultural Fieldman led a discussion with the ASB on winter and spring workshops. The ASB provided input on what they believe would interest rate-payers.

Rod Gabrielson, Pest Control Officer presented his report.

An update was given to the ASB regarding the number of rat control inspections and bait provided to ratepayers. Questions were asked by the ASB regarding bait stations.

An year end update was provided to the ASB for beaver and coyote control.

A discussion was had with the ASB regarding casual labour to assist the Pest Control Officer with beaver control. Potential costs will be brought forward for budget discussions.

38/19 Moved by Mel Erickson to accept the reports. **CARRIED**

The Assistant Agricultural Fieldman led a discussion with the ASB regarding a letter to the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry expressing our concerns regarding the Agricultural Service Board Grant application process and timeline.

39/19 Moved by Bob Dickson to forward the letter regarding the Agricultural Service Board Grant to Alberta Agriculture and Forestry. **CARRIED**

The ASB reviewed the Town of Wainwrights Weed Control Work Summary Report 2019.

40/19

Moved by Wayne Leskow to authorize payment to the Town of Wainwright for the Urban Weed Control Grant in the amount of \$4000.00. **CARRIED**

The Assistant Agricultural Fieldman led a discussion with the ASB on potential entertainers for the 2020 Rural Routes Supper. A list was sent to the ASB prior to the meeting for review.

The Agricultural Fieldman led a discussion with the ASB regarding roadside mowing. A map was provided to the ASB showing the 2020 proposed miles.

The Assistant Agricultural Fieldman provided an update to the ASB on the 2020 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference in Banff, AB from January 21st – 24th, 2019. Members from the ASB board will be attending the conference.

Next meeting January 9th, 2020 at 9:00a.m.

41/19

Moved by Mel Erickson that the meeting be adjourned. (11:17 a.m.)
CARRIED

Chairman – Reeve Bob Barss

Secretary – Tanis Ponath

Wainwright, Alberta
December 9th, 2019