

The Agricultural Service Board (ASB) of the Municipal District of Wainwright No. 61 met in the Administration Building at 9:00 a.m., Friday March 6th, 2020.

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 ASB Secretary – Tanis Ponath

Pest Control Officer – Rod Gabrielson

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

9/20 Moved by Wayne Leskow to approve the agenda as presented. **CARRIED**

10/20 Moved by Mel Erickson that the minutes from January 9th, 2020 be accepted as presented. **CARRIED**

Correspondence was reviewed by the Agricultural Fieldman, James Schwindt,

- a. January 2nd, 2020) Alberta Farm Animal Care; sent a letter and renewal invoice for the 2020 M.D. of Wainwright bronze sponsorship.
- b. (January 9th, 2020) Farm Safety Center; a letter requesting 2020 sponsorship for the Safety Smarts program. In addition, a summary of the 2019 delivery in the M.D. of Wainwright was included.
- c. (January 15, 2020) Honourable Devin Dreeshen, Minister, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry; sent a letter in response to the November 21st, 2019 letter regarding Agricultural Service Board grant funding sent by the M.D. of Wainwright.
- d. (January 28th, 2020) Honourable Devin Dreeshen, Minister, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry; sent letter in response to the November 27th, 2019 letter regarding the continued regulation of *Fusarium graminearum* on the *Agricultural Pest Act* sent by the M.D. of Spirit River.
- e. (February 18th, 2020) Prairie Cover Crop Survey; the University of Manitoba is conducting a three-year survey on cover crops. If you grew cover crops in 2019 they are requesting if producers could fill out a survey.

11/20 Moved by Clr. Lawson to accept the correspondence. **CARRIED**

James Schwindt, Agricultural Fieldman presented his report.

The Agricultural Fieldman provided an update on the Special Use Approval for the control of Purple Loosestrife at Enstrom Pond.

The ASB discussed the final decision on the re-evaluation of 2% liquid strychnine concentrate, the registration for 2% liquid strychnine concentrate has been cancelled. The Pest Management Regulatory Agency will be implementing a three-year phase out period. One year of sale by registrant from March 4th, 2020 until March 4th, 2021. One year of sale by retailer from the last date of sale by registrant followed by one year permitted used from the last date of sale by the retailer. The ASB discussed pricing for strychnine in 2020.

- 12/20** Moved by Wayne Leskow to purchase 140 additional cases of 2% liquid strychnine concentrate from AgroMax Distributors Inc. for the cost of \$36,260.00. **CARRIED**
- 13/20** Moved by Bob Dickson to set the 2020 price of 2% liquid strychnine concentrate at \$260.00/case and \$11.00/bottle and to start sales on March 31st, 2020 and continue until June 30th, 2020. **CARRIED**
- The ASB discussed the recent cutbacks to the Agricultural Service Board Grant. The ASB discussed writing a letter to the Government of Alberta.
- 14/20** Moved by Clr. Lawson to send a letter on behalf of the Agricultural Service Board to the Government of Alberta and Alberta Agriculture and Forestry explaining the impacts to the M.D. of Wainwright the recent cutbacks to the Agricultural Service Board grant will have. **CARRIED**
- Tanis Ponath, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman presented her report.
- The Assistant Agricultural Fieldman provided the ASB with a copy of the newspaper ad for the 2020 pest surveys. The ASB discussed whether they would like the surveys advertised to the public this year.
- The Assistant Agricultural Fieldman presented the ASB with the 2020 BMO Farm Family Award application. This year it is the Edgerton Agricultural Societies turn to nominate a Farm Family to be recognized at Farm Fair International. Deadline for submissions is May 29th, 2020.
- The Assistant Agricultural Fieldman present a letter that was received from the Edgerton Agricultural Society's Ladies Sprig Break Committee requesting sponsorship for the 2020 event. The committee requested sponsorship for \$400.00 to cover the cost of the hall rental.
- 15/20** Moved by Wayne Leskow to sponsor the 2020 Edgerton Ladies Spring Break by covering the cost of the hall in the amount of \$400.00. **CARRIED**
- The Assistant Agricultural Fieldman led a discussion with the ASB regarding the 2020 Ag in Motion Tour July 21st -23rd, 2020.
- The Assistant Agricultural Fieldman led a discussion with the ASB regarding the Alberta highways weed control program.
- Rod Gabrielson, Pest Control Officer presented his report.
- The Pest Control Officer is completing rat checks. With a recent Norway rat outbreak in a neighbouring municipality near the M.D. of Wainwright border, the Pest Control Officer has set up control areas on our boundary near the infestation to prevent Norway Rats from establishing in the M.D. of Wainwright.
- The Pest Control Office has removed three beavers on the Ribstone Creek and removed nine problem coyotes.
- The Agricultural Fieldman informed the ASB the dynamite license has been renewed.
- 16/20** Moved by Mel Erickson to accept the reports.
- The Agricultural Fieldman informed the ASB that CleanFarms has set up an office in Lethbridge, AB.

The ASB discussed the new CleanFarms collection bags for pesticide and fertilizer containers. The retailers will be distributing the bags when producers purchase products.

The ASB discussed the 2021 Provincial Agricultural Service Board conference. Comments will be forwarded to the Facility Committee planning the 2021 conference.

The ASB took a break from 10:25 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.

The board reviewed the 2020 Proposed ASB budget. The board reviewed it, with questions being asked and answered with clarification. The description of activities in Special Project projections plus the 10-year ASB Capital Purchase Prioritized List was also reviewed.

17/20 Moved by Clr. Lawson to accept the 2020 Proposed ASB Budget as presented with amendments and forward it to council to include in the 2020 Budget File.
CARRIED

The ASB discussed the potential of purchasing a gain bag roller to add as rental equipment for M.D. residents.

Next meeting at the call of the chair.

18/20 Moved Mel Erickson by that the meeting be adjourned. (11:56 a.m.)
CARRIED

Chairman – Reeve Bob Barss

Secretary – Tanis Ponath

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