

The Agricultural Service Board (ASB) of the Municipal District of Wainwright No. 61 met in the Administration Building at 9:00 a.m., Thursday February 25th, 2021.

Present: Chairman – Councillor Bill Lawson
Councillor Ryley Andersen
Farmer Members – Bob Dickson, Mel Erickson and Jesse Campbell
Agricultural Fieldman – James Schwindt
Assistant Agricultural Fieldman and ASB Secretary – Tanis Ponath

- 1/21 The Chairman Clr. Lawson called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.
- Moved by Clr. Andersen to approve the agenda as presented. CARRIED
- 2/21 Moved by Mel Erickson that the minutes from December 16th, 2020 be accepted as presented. CARRIED
- 3/21 Correspondence was reviewed by the Agricultural Fieldman, James Schwindt and Assistant Agricultural Fieldman, Tanis Ponath.

- a. (December 18, 2020) Megan Evans, Executive Director, Alberta Invasive Species Council (AISC); a letter announcing two new projects the AISC is undertaking. First, the Alberta Certified Weed Free Forage Program and second, the Squeal on Pigs campaign.
- b. (December 28, 2020) Annemarie Pedersen, Executive Director, Alberta Farm Animal Care; sent a letter thanking the M.D. of Wainwright for our support in 2020 and outlining the activities that occurred in 2020.
- c. (December 29, 2020) Brent Punga, Agromax Distributors Inc; sent a letter updating Counties and Municipalities on 2% Liquid Strychnine.
- d. (January 5, 2021) Toso Bozic, Yard Whispers; a price breakdown of the services Yard Whispers offers to Municipalities and Counties. Services offered include pest ID, tree risk assessment and training for staff.
- e. (January 19, 2021) CBC; published an article on the increase of rat sightings in Alberta in 2020.
- f. (January 26, 2021) Megan Evans, Executive Director, Alberta Invasive Species Council (AISC); sent a letter outlining various sponsorship options that are available along with a brief outline of their activities in 2020.
- g. (February 8, 2021) Laura Nelson, Executive Director, Farm Safety Centre; a letter outlining the delivery of the program and the challenges the Farm Safety Centre experienced due to COVID-19. In addition, they provided a breakdown of the program delivery in the M.D. of Wainwright from 2011-2020. The Farm Safety Centre requested sponsorship in the amount of \$1,151.50.

- 4/21 Moved by Bob Dickson to accept the correspondence. CARRIED

The ASB agenda package included the January and February ASB monthly reports. Taken as information.

James Schwindt, Agricultural Fieldman presented his report.

The Agricultural Fieldman provided the ASB with an update on the Resource Management Funding. To date no decision has been made by the Alberta Government.

The Agricultural Fieldman provided an update on the rat and beaver control programs. The Ag Services Department is currently working through the process with administration on how the department will proceed with the programs.

The Agricultural Fieldman sent in the 2021 Rat Control bait order.

The Rat Control Grant will now be processed in conjunction with the Agricultural Service Board Grant. The Agricultural Fieldman will be bringing forward the new agreement to Council.

The Agricultural Service Board discussed Municipal beaver control priorities.

The Agricultural Fieldman informed the ASB that we have had some minor Tankloader issues this winter. They have all been rectified and the tankloaders are up and running.

The Agricultural Fieldman informed the ASB that CleanFarms approached the Wainwright Regional Waste to Energy Authority about being apart of the grain bag recycling program.

The Agricultural Fieldman inquired if any ASB members had any questions or concerns regarding the Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference.

Tanis Ponath, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman presented her report.

The Assistant Agricultural Fieldman reported to the ASB on the evaluations from the succession planning webinar.

The Assistant Agricultural Fieldman proposed a Backyard Gardening workshop and a fusarium information webinar for producers.

5/21 Moved by Mel Erickson to accept the reports. CARRIED

The ASB took a break from 10:36 a.m. – 10:42 a.m.

The Agricultural Fieldman, James Schwindt led a discussion with the ASB on 2% Liquid Strychnine sales protocol for 2021.

6/21 Moved by Clr. Andersen to set the price of 2% Liquid Strychnine to \$280.00/case or \$12.00/bottle and set a limit of up to 5 cases of 2% Liquid Strychnine per purchaser per each visit, limits set until June 1st, 2021. CARRIED

The Agricultural Fieldman provided the ASB with a summary sheet of grain bag roller information from Municipalities and Counties across the Province. The ASB discussed the potential options and discussed the need for a grain bag roller in the M.D. of Wainwright.

The ASB reviewed the 2021 Proposed ASB Budget. The ASB reviewed it, with questions being asked and answered with clarification. In addition, description of activities in Special Projects projections plus the 10-year ASB Capital Purchase Prioritization List was reviewed.

7/21 Moved by Mel Erickson to accept the 2021 Proposed ASB Budget as presented with amendments and forward it to Council to include in the 2021 Budget File. CARRIED

Next meeting at the call of the chair.

Moved by Clr. Andersen that the meeting be adjourned. (12:48 p.m.)
CARRIED

Chairman – Councillor Bill Lawson

Secretary – Tanis Ponath