

The Agricultural Service Board – Municipal District of  
Wainwright No. 61 met in the Administration Building at 9:00  
a.m., Tuesday, January 8, 2013.

Present: Chairman – Clr. Bruce Cummins, Clr. Ted Wilkinson  
Farm Members – Grant Aykroyd, Rod Thirsk, Steve Raasok  
Agricultural Fieldman – James Schwindt  
Assistant Agricultural Fieldman & Secretary – Aimee Wonsik  
Pest Control Officer – Rod Gabrielson

The Chairman Clr. Cummins called the meeting to order at 9:05  
a.m.

01/13 Moved by Ted Wilkinson to approve the agenda as presented.  
CARRIED

02/13 Moved by Ted Wilkinson the minutes from January 15, 2011 be  
accepted as presented. CARRIED

The ASB reviewed the past 3 months A.S.B. reports for November,  
December and January.

Correspondence was reviewed by James Schwindt:

1. (October 29, 2012) Ray Barnard, Chief Administrative Officer, City of  
Medicine Hat, letter of appreciation of pest control experience.
2. (December 12, 2012) Carol Goodfellow, Ass't Farmers' Advocate-  
Land and Energy, letter and brochure inviting municipal joint public  
information sessions focusing on landowners information on  
negotiating surface lease and surface rights agreements.

Rod Thirsk commented that putting in the municipal newsletter an article  
of the Farmers Advocate Office information, to gauge the public interest  
on if people may be interested in setting up a municipal meeting with  
them. Aimee will incorporate in the next newsletter for March 2013.

3. (December 12, 2012) Sarah Skinner, Watershed Planning  
Coordinator, invitation to submit input on draft Approved Water  
Management Plan for the Battle River Basin, and attend municipal  
forum February 1, 2013. (copies available through email or website).

The Battle River watershed encompasses the whole watershed, water  
bodies, river and streams across the municipality, not just the Battle River.  
This is an important meeting for setting water allocation limits,  
establishing water conservation objectives, enabling transfers from senior  
water license holders, and introducing water conservation holdbacks for  
the Battle River basin. This meeting on February 1, 2013 is open for  
municipal representation, however on March 5<sup>th</sup> a meeting for the general  
public will be held.

4. (December 17, 2012) Francis Malecha, Director of Glencore, North  
America, letter announcing the successful completion of Glencore's  
acquisition of Viterra.
5. (December 18, 2012) Shawna Batten, Executive Director, Wainwright  
and District Chamber of Commerce, letter presenting the 2013  
Chamber Expo April 13 + 14, application package.

ASB members discussed the issues relating to the Rat Control Awareness Display booth in this year's Wainwright Chamber Expo. The issues included the expo being held on weekend and not being able to get the required manpower to work the shifts, also the Provincial Rat display is unavailable at this time and finally the questions to the Rat Control Officer at the previous Expo's have been minimal. This decision will be reevaluated on an annual basis whether to register a Rat Display Booth in future years. Rod Thirsk commented that if there is no benefit to not bother attending. Clr. Ted Wilkinson commented that a 3 year cycle might be more worthwhile. Rod Gabrielson commented that the Cattlemen's Corral is better for exposure for the agricultural cliental that attends, plus the people that live on the border of the Saskatchewan that have different Provincial tolerances to rat control issues are more aware. Steve Rassok said a more agriculture based or rural based people attending is a benefit for agricultural issues.

03/13

Moved by Rod Thirsk, that a Rat Control booth not be placed in the Wainwright Chamber of Commerce Expo this year due to the lack of staff available to work during the weekend, not having access to the complete Provincial Rat display, and the lack of questions and interest in rat control at the booth over the past few years. CARRIED.

6. (January 7, 2013) Dr. Darrell Dalton, Deputy Registrar Alberta Veterinary Medical Association, letter, posters and brochures of recently released resources for Biosecurity of small avian flocks and animal shelter and rescue standards.

04/13

Moved by Rod Thirsk to accept correspondence. CARRIED.

James Schwindt, Agricultural Fieldman Report

- Gilt Edge Tank Loader

The Gilt Edge tank loader heat shut off over the Christmas holidays which in turn froze multiple parts of the system. The emergency alarm did not work as required. It is unknown at this time how much damage the system sustained. A backup electric heater will be installed with a thermostat that can be set at a low level temperature alarm, so that in the future this problem can be avoided. Rod Thirsk asked if the tank loader is checked on a regular basis and James responded that it is semi-regularly checked. Clr. Ted Wilkinson mentioned that we want to keep the building as a heated building. More information on this issue will be shared with the A.S.B. once Stafford's Plumbing finds the reason for the freeze up.

- Strychnine Update

James commented that there is some confusion on of the product label renewal for Strychnine, which hopefully will be renewed to 2015 year date. This date is the same timeline for the product registration which would coincide well with each other. Strychnine product will be available for sale to farmers for 2013 season. There will be a colour marker in the product for the 2013 season. Advertising for the product will commence in the spring depending on the weather. As a municipality, A.S.B. informs all users of all the specific label requirements.

- Mowing Program 2013, Request for Proposals

James will be once again putting out the request for 850 linear miles of a roadside mowing program and hopes to extend the contract for multiple seasons. Steve Rassok asked a question about leaving windrows of cut hay if mowers leave it alone and James responded that all haying operations must be completed by July 15, and have a submitted municipal mowing agreement. Steve Rassok also mentioned that moving swather headers or larger and wide machinery on older municipal roads is starting to be more difficult because of brush growth, and James responded that any brush over 2.5 m high should be requested to the area Councillor so that Public Works crew can be dispatched with a brush mower to mulch. Any brush under 2.5 m height will be controlled with the Herbicide Spray Program.

The A.S.B. took a short break from 9:59 a.m. to 10:10 a.m.

Aimee Wonsik, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman Report

- 2013 Farm Tech, Edmonton, January 29, (registrations and agenda)

Aimee briefed the ASB on details for the upcoming Farm Tech single day registrations for the event. She has spots for 3 additional people to join her for the day trip. This is part of her Schedule A Environmental Agreement planning.

- 2013 Cattlemen's Corral and Crop Visions, Lloydminster, January 14-16 (agenda handout)

Aimee has printed the agenda for the 3 day event and shared it with A.S.B. She believes that since it is a local event and full of good information with the speakers that are presenting that the A.S.B. would benefit from the information. Aimee will be attending the event in Lloydminster.

Rod Gabrielson, Municipal Pest Control Officer Report

- 2012 Rat checks

693 rat checks within the control zone of Alberta and 326 checks on the Saskatchewan side; and at this time there is no positives found. Rod mentioned that the SK program is coming along well and getting much better. Rod estimates 40% of RM's are actively working on rat control. James mentioned that the Rat Control meeting with Phil Merrill was an excellent meeting; Clr. Ted Wilkinson agreed that municipal concerns were shared and definitely acknowledged. Rod would like to become a member of the Alberta Pest Management Association of Alberta, whereby he can attain more licensing credits, which will benefit in the exchange of information between private and public sectors for rat finds. Rod has completed the municipal bait order for 2013, which reflects the estimated carryover of farmers. The approximate shelf life is good for the product as long as not exposed to the elements. Preventive maintenance goes a long way with the rat control program which extends within the first 3 ranges of the Province of Alberta being covered.

05/13

Moved by Grant Aykroyd that Rod Gabrielson be able to join the Alberta Pest Control Association of Alberta. CARRIED.

Rod discussed the Magpie traps that the M.D. rents out to be a popular program. The A.S.B. discussed the benefits of these traps especially during calving time for cattle producers. These traps are very valuable and easy to use for catching Magpies, which are a scavenger bird.

06/13

Moved by Ted Wilkinson that Rod Gabrielson purchase supplies and build 8 more Magpie traps. CARRIED.

Rod discussed the Skunk Traps that the M.D. rents out, and says that there are less traps in inventory over the past few years. These traps are not built by the M.D., they are purchased through Halfords company in which there is a discount if purchasing 6 from the supplier. The A.S.B. discussed the benefit of the traps and popularity of the program.

07/13

Moved by Ted Wilkinson that we purchase 12 more skunks traps. CARRIED.

Rod mentioned that the Raccoon Traps that the A.S.B. recently purchased will be a benefit for rural ratepayers having pest problems. Aimee advertised them in the latest newsletter, so people are informed that the traps are available to be rented out, at a \$30.00 deposit. Rod commented that he does not feel comfortable handling the rental deposits at the Chauvin shop, and should all go through the Public Works office.

08/13 Moved by Rod Thirsk that the reports be accepted as presented.  
CARRIED

James briefed the A.S.B. of the current 2013 Management Plan changes, which are brief and mostly grammatical. The updates are completed on an annual basis.

09/13 Moved by Grant Aykryod to submit the current 2013 A.S.B. Management Plan to Council, for approval and submission to Alberta Agriculture. CARRIED.

The major changes to the Municipal Policy include 2 new updates to the A.S.B. section. Policy #5.3.2. Fire Permit, includes a provision of a fact sheet with burning permits written. Policy #5.3.7 Targeted Weed Species sets out more commonly found municipal weeds, with municipal direction of action; as previously only focused on Scentless Chamomile.

James led discussion on the 2013 draft A.S.B. budget. The proposed budget was discussed per line item. The A.S.B. discussed and evaluated the draft budget as proposed, and will table a decision until the next meeting for approval.

The A.S.B. took a lunch break from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00p.m.

James discussed the A.S.B. Conference and that hotel reservations are taken care of, with confirmation numbers being given to A.S.B. members. These reservations have been switched to the Edmonton Ramada. James covered the Conference Agenda with the A.S.B.; which is hosted by the Peace region this year.

The A.S.B. reviewed each resolution in depth to discuss the group's consensus. There are 13 resolutions for this conference.

James also mentioned the dates for the A.S.B Summer Tour hosted by the M.D. of Bonnyville July 8-11, 2013. Rooms are pre-booked already, and there will be updated information at the Conference.

James passed out photos of an idea of a tailgate wrap of weed awareness advertising. Aimee read an email of information on costs and availability from Truck FX, Wainwright. The A.S.B. board looked on the idea favorably, and suggested to continue to look into the possibilities and cost. The 2 municipal trucks that potentially would be covered would be the Fieldman and Assistant Fieldman. There is potential to also include the Pest Control municipal vehicle advertising Norway Rat awareness.

Next meeting at the call of the Chair for February 2013.

10/13

Moved by Ted Wilkinson that the meeting be adjourned. (2:58 p.m.) CARRIED

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Chairman

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Secretary

(Full Day)