

AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING
Mountain View County

Minutes of the Agricultural Service Board Meeting held on Monday, January 17, 2011, in the Council Chambers, 1408 Twp Rd. 320, Didsbury, AB.

PRESENT: Chair, Bill Sheehan
Councillor Bruce Beattie
Councillor Duncan Milne
Councillor Kevin Good
Member John Overwater
Member Arnold Lachman
Member Everett Page

IN ATTENDANCE: Jeff Holmes, Manager, Agricultural & Parks Services
Jane Fulton, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman
Christine Edgar Recording Secretary

ABSENT: Steve McInnis, Director, Operational Services
Amber Hines, Sustainable Agricultural Specialist

CALL TO ORDER: Chair, Bill Sheehan called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

AGENDA: Moved by Arnold Lachman
ASB11-001 That the Agricultural Service Board adopt the agenda for the January 17, 2011 Agricultural Service Board meeting with the amendment of the additional item under

IN CAMERA
6.2 White Pit Lease Extension

Carried.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: Moved by John Overwater
ASB11-002 That the Agricultural Service Board adopt the minutes of the November 8, 2010 Agricultural Service Board meeting.
Carried.

DELEGATION:
Olds Agricultural Society
Youth Funding request

Tammy Gardener and Tracy Lundago joined the meeting at 9:15 a.m.
- They provided information on the funding they were requesting from Mountain View County.
- They explained their initiative partnership with the Didsbury, Sundre, Carstairs and Lone Pine Agricultural Societies.
- They gave a breakdown on their daily costs and what the funding would be used for.
They left the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

DELEGATION:
Sustainable Resource
Development / Bearsmart
Deadstock Removal
Program

Chiara Feder and Paul Fraser joined the meeting at 9:50 a.m.
- They provided information on the grant from Fish & Wildlife for the administration of the program, and how Mountain View County would be involved in the administration.
- They reported on the program already underway in other Counties.
- Paul Fraser informed the Board that he is also interested in participating in the program.
They left the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

Moved by Bruce Beattie

ASB11-003 That the Agricultural Service Board contact the one interested producer to see if he is willing to work with Fish & Wildlife and take on the administration involved in the deadstock disposal bin.

The question on Motion ASB11-003 was called.

Arnold Lachman requested that the vote be recorded.
In Favour: Chair Sheehan, Councillors Beattie, Milne, Good, Members Overwater and Page.
Opposed: Member Arnold Lachman

Carried.

DELEGATION:
Grant Lastiwka
Alberta Agriculture
Liaison

Grant Lastiwka was unable to attend the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Riparian Funding
Application

Moved by Bruce Beattie
ASB11-004 That the Agricultural Service Board approve \$2,045.88 of funding from the Alberta Conservation Association Grant Eligible Fund and \$545.82 from Mountain View County Voluntary Projects budget, for an exclusion riparian fencing project completed on NE 03-33-05 W5 during the summer of 2010.

Carried.

Moved by Bruce Beattie
ASB11-005 That the Agricultural Service Board receive the request for funding from the Foothills Forage and Grazing Association as information.

Carried.

ASB Conference Resolutions
ASB11-006 Moved by Arnold Lachman
That Bill Sheehan and John Overwater be appointed as voting members for the 2011 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Conference, with Bruce Beattie as the alternate, as amended.

Carried.

Discussion on Agricultural Service Board Resolutions:

Resolution # 1 ASB Funding – Special Areas 2,3, & 4
The Agricultural Service Board agreed that the resolution be Carried.

Resolution # 2 Eradicable Weeds Program Funding
The Agricultural Service Board agreed that the resolution be Carried.

Resolution # 3 Mitigating the Effects of Agricultural Disaster Years on Crop Insurance Levels and Premiums
The Agricultural Service Board agreed that the resolution be Defeated.

Resolution # 4 Monitoring of Groundwater Wells
The Agricultural Service Board agreed that the resolution be Defeated.

Resolution # 5 Environmental Regulations on Crown Land
The Agricultural Service Board agreed that the voting members should hear more information on the resolution at the 2011 Provincial ASB Conference, before making a decision.

Resolution # 6 BSE Class Action Lawsuit
The Agricultural Service Board agreed that the resolution be Carried.

Resolution # 7 Disposal of Agricultural Plastics
The Agricultural Service Board agreed to wait on making a decision until Jeff Holmes spoke to Don Reid, Waste Management.

Recess and
Reconvene Chair Sheehan recessed the meeting for lunch at 12:05 p.m. and reconvened at 12:37 p.m.

Resolution # 8 Enforcement of Clubroot Infestations
The Agricultural Service Board agreed that the resolution be Carried.

Resolution # 9 Richardson Ground Squirrel Control
That the emergency registration of 2% Liquid Strychnine Concentrate be extended to allow for further control of Richardson Ground Squirrel populations.

The Agricultural Service Board agreed that the resolution be Carried.

Resolution # 10 Richardson Ground Squirrel Control
That 2% Liquid Strychnine be made available on a permanent basis to bonafide agricultural producers for the control of Richardson Ground Squirrels.

The Agricultural Service Board agreed that the resolution be Defeated.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION Moved by Everett Page
ITEMS ASB11-007 That the Agricultural Service Board receive the following items as information.

Carried.

1. Seed Plant Update
 - a) Olds Seed Cleaning Plant
Arnold Lachman reported
 - The plant inspection received a 98% grade.
 - The gravity table will be hooked up in four months.
 - 40,000 bushels were cleaned in December.
 - Low winter cleaning numbers because of low germination.
 - Rates were 42¢ before Christmas, presently at 43¢ and should be up to 51¢ by May. The consensus is that they are too low.

b) Mountain View Seed Cleaning Plant

Bill Sheehan reported

- That new officers had been elected.
- Negotiating salaries at the next meeting
- Low winter cleaning numbers because of low germination.
- One large account is overdue.
- Cleaned 385,000 bushels last year.
- Rates will be increasing from 48¢ in December and January to 51¢ in April and 56¢ in May.

2. Alberta Transportation Weed Control Program – 2010

Jeff Holmes reported that

- Alberta Transportation contracts the weed control of the Primary and Secondary Highways to Alberta Highways, who then subcontracts it out.
- Alberta Highways has refused to pay the subcontractor due to not fulfilling the conditions of the contract for the weed control.
- Jeff suggested that Mountain View County apply for the contract for weed control on the Primary and Secondary Highways within the County to resolve the problem.

Moved by Everett Page

ASB11-008 That the Agricultural Service Board recommend that the Agriculture Department approach Alberta Transportation to apply for the contract for weed control on the Primary and Secondary Highways in Mountain View County.

Carried.

3. Wheat Midge Survey Results - Maps

Jane Fulton reported that

- Mountain View County is at low to medium risk.
- The new forecast has not yet been published.
- Alberta Agriculture will be providing a training session for Agricultural Fieldmen to scout for it and evaluate the risk.

4. Pest Act Review

Jeff Holmes reported that

- The Pest Act will be up for review in the coming year.
- There will be nine questions regarding the Pest Act Review at the Agricultural Service Board Conference.

5. Hillers Dam Application to TD Environmental Fund – Floating Island
Jeff Holmes reported that
 - Application for the grant for funding of this project has been submitted. As of yet, there has been no confirmation if the grant application was successful.
 - The Floating Island would remove sediment and excess nutrients to improve the water quality.

6. Environmental Funding Agricultural Service Board Grant
Jeff reported that
 - Application was made to the AESA and ASB grant (which are now combined) for \$70,000 for the next three years. We received \$50,000 per year.
 - Recommends to keep the budget the same.

7. February Agricultural Service Board Meeting Date
 - The February meeting is rescheduled for February 14, as February 21 is a statutory holiday.

8. Expense Forms attached to back of agenda.

IN CAMERA: ASB11-009 Moved by Bruce Beattie
That the Agricultural Service Board go IN CAMERA at 1:17 p.m.
Carried.

ASB11-010 Moved by Arnold Lachman
That the Agricultural Service Board return to Open Meeting
at 1:25 p.m.
Carried.

Moved by Arnold Lachman
ASB11-011 That the Agricultural Service Board select Larry Mullen as the
2011 Farm Family.
Carried.

IN CAMERA: ASB11-012 Moved by Arnold Lachman
That the Agricultural Service Board go IN CAMERA at 1:30 p.m.
Carried.

ASB11-013 Moved by Bruce Beattie
That the Agricultural Service Board return to Open Meeting
at 1:45 p.m.
Carried.

Moved by Bruce Beattie
ASB11-014 That the Agricultural Service Board send a thank you letter to the Olds Agricultural Society for their presentation, but not make any recommendations to Council for a funding request.
Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

ASB11-015 Moved by Bruce Beattie
That the Agricultural Service Board meeting of Monday, January 17, 2011 be adjourned at 1:52 p.m.
Carried.

Chair

I hereby certify these minutes are correct.

Manager, Agricultural and Parks Services