



WHEATLAND COUNTY

Agricultural Service Board Minutes

April 29, 2020, 9:00 a.m.

Members Present: Chair J. Wilson
Vice Chair G. Koester
A. Link
B. Armstrong
D. Biggar
T. Ikert
B. Walker
B. Van Laar
R. Harwood
S. Klassen (alternate)

Administration: M. Ziehr, GM of Transportation and Agriculture
R. Muenchrath, Manager of Agriculture and Environment
M. Soltys, Communications Specialist
G. Mowat, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER AND RELATED BUSINESS

1.1 Call To Order

Note: meetings are recorded and may be posted on the official Wheatland County website and/or via social media.

Chair WILSON called the meeting to order - time **9:00 A.M.**

Chair Wilson informed that the April 29, 2020 Agricultural Service Board (ASB) meeting will be conducted via conference call in accordance with the Municipal Government Act, Section 199. Chair Wilson reviewed the process for the meeting. [Note: a 'notice of meeting change' was posted on the County website.]

1.2 Adoption of Agenda

RESOLUTION ASB-2020-04-01

Moved by LINK

APPROVAL of the agenda, as presented, with the following addition(s):

Addition(s)

Under Agenda Item 2.1 - Unfinished Business or Business Arising
2.1.1 - Dropping Commodity Prices - Round Table Discussion

• Carried

1.3 Adoption of Minutes

1.3.1 ASB Organizational Meeting Minutes - January 15, 2020

RESOLUTION ASB-2020-04-02

Moved by IKERT

That the January 15, 2020 Wheatland County Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Organizational meeting minutes are approved, as presented.

• Carried

1.3.2 ASB Meeting Minutes - January 15, 2020

RESOLUTION ASB-2020-04-03

Moved by KOESTER

THAT the January 15, 2020 Wheatland County Agricultural Service Board (ASB) meeting minutes are approved, as presented.

• Carried

2. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND RELATED BUSINESS

2.1 Unfinished Business or Business Arising

2.1.1 Dropping Commodity Prices

Chair Wilson deferred agenda item 2.1.1 to a time later in the meeting.

Note: agenda item 2.1.1 was addressed following the Manager of Agriculture and Environment Report (agenda item 3.2).

Round table discussion on the effects of the dropping commodity prices to producers. Highlights of the discussion: Is there assistance and support we can provide to producers such as lobbying the Provincial and Federal government; the whole agriculture sector is effected but still able to access product like seed & fertilizer; we need to be ready for investment and poise ourselves to attract investments especially in terms of processing and value added agriculture; problems in agriculture are often government generated because of things like trade wars with other countries.

The round table discussion is included in the recording of the meeting and is posted on the County Website.

2.2 New Business

2.2.1 ASB Grant Program Application 2020-2024

Manager R. Muenchrath presented the Request for Decision (RFD) and Wheatland County Agricultural Service Board Grant Program 2020-2024 application, submitted to Alberta Agriculture and Forestry on April 24, 2020 (note: a copy of the RFD and application were included in the agenda package).

RESOLUTION ASB-2020-04-04

Moved by HARWOOD

APPROVAL to ratify the Wheatland County Agricultural Service Board Grant Program Application 2020-2024 as presented.

• Carried

2.2.2 2% Liquid Strychnine Pricing

Manager R. Muenchrath presented the Request for Decision (RFD) regarding 2% Liquid Strychnine Pricing (note: a copy of the RFD included in the agenda package). Manager R. Muenchrath informed that due to the shortage of supply of strychnine, producer orders will be limited.

RESOLUTION ASB-2020-04-05

Moved by HARWOOD

APPROVAL to maintain the current price of strychnine at \$284.90/case for the remainder of 2020.

• Carried

2.2.3 Brandings and Social Distancing Requirements

Manager R. Muenchrath provided information on a document sourced by the Canadian Cattlemen's Association, dated March 26, 2020 in regards to 'Branding/Processing Time, COVID-19 Information and Tips for Canadian Beef Operations'.

3. REPORTS AND RELATED BUSINESS

3.1 Chair's Report

Chair Wilson presented the Chair's Report. The verbal report informed under the current circumstances, COVID-19, minimal activity. There are rising concerns of commodity prices for agricultural producers. The verbal report is included in the recording of the meeting and is posted on the County Website.

3.2 Manager of Agriculture and Environment Report

R. Muenchrath, presented the Manager of Agriculture & Environment Report (report included in the agenda package). In addition, R. Muenchrath provided the following as information: seasonal staff cutbacks; cancellation of events; Alberta Agriculture and Forestry layoffs.

RESOLUTION ASB-2020-04-06

Moved by VAN LAAR

ACCEPTANCE of the Manager of Agriculture and Environment Report, as presented/provided.

• Carried

4. CORRESPONDENCE / INFORMATION

4.1 Correspondence and Information Items

RESOLUTION ASB-2020-04-07

Moved by ARMSTRONG

TO ACCEPT the following items as information, as provided in the request for decision:

- M.D. of Spirit River Correspondence, dated January 28, 2020 – RE: Regulation of Fusarium graminearum
- Alberta Invasive Species Council (AISC) Correspondence, dated March 5, 2020
- Strychnine and Its Associated End-use Products (Richardson's Ground Squirrels) Final Decision, dated March 4, 2020
- Biocontrol Release Program Report – Annual Report 2019
- 2020 Alberta Agriculture Hall of Fame Nomination Form
- 2016 Census of Agriculture for Alberta.

• Carried

5. **ADJOURNMENT**

RESOLUTION ASB-2020-04-08

Moved by BIGGAR

 THAT the meeting adjourn - time 9:50 A.M.

• Carried

Chair

General Manager of Transportation
and Agriculture

Recording Secretary

UNAPPROVED COPY