

Minutes of a Meeting of the Agricultural Service Board of the Municipal District of Peace No. 135, Province of Alberta, held February 27, 2020 at the Municipal Office, Berwyn, Alberta.

**Present**

Chairman	Sandra Eastman
Councillor Member	Janice Reyda
Members at Large	Rick Keillor
	Judy Bowcott
	Nigel Thorne
	Christi Friesen
	George Leger

  

Manager of Agricultural Services	Nasar Iqbal
Recording Secretary	Michele Coutu

**Regrets**                      Members at Large                      Brian Grant

**Call to Order**                      Chairman Eastman called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

**Adoption of Agenda**

George Leger:                      MOVED that the agenda for the February 27, 2020 ASB meeting be approved with addition:

H.1 Grimshaw Gravels Source Water Protection Plan

Carried

**Approval of Minutes**

**November 8, 2019 Agricultural Service Board Meeting**

Nigel Thorne:                      MOVED that the minutes of the November 8, 2019 ASB meeting be approved as amended below.

*New Business                      1. Strategic Plan and 2020 ASB Budget*

*...  
Nigel Thorne:                      MOVED to accept the proposed 2020 ASB Budget with the following amendment: ~~remove ASB Federal Grant Canada Summer Jobs of \$4,000~~ and increase \$1,000 to NPARA.*

*Carried*

Carried

Christi Friesen arrived at 9:09 am

**Business Arising Out of Minutes**

**1. Sale of Equipment – Request for Decision (RFD)**

Members reviewed the RFD, Disposal and/or Replacement of Capital Equipment (ADM-28), and Tangible Capital Assets (ADM-19) Policies, equipment advertisements, and appraisals. The Manager of Ag Services will research best pricing/best trade-in at the time of equipment purchase and make sale decision as per policy.

Members accepted for information.

**Reports**

**1. Manager of Ag Services Report – Request for Decision**

The Manager of Ag Services reviewed his written report, outlining his activities and noted the 2020 Shelterbelt Tree Program has been advertised. Seedlings are purchased from Boreal Horticultural Services Ltd and Woodmere Nursery Ltd.

Janice Reyda:                      MOVED that the Manager of Agricultural Services' Report be accepted as presented.

Carried

**New Business**      **1. Review of Agricultural Service Board Policies ASB 1 to 9**

- ASB-1 – Employee Use of Vehicles**
- ASB-2 – Vegetation Management Policy**
- ASB-3 – Roadside Seeding Policy**
- ASB 4 – Predator Control Policy**
- ASB-5 – Weed Inspection in the Village of Berwyn and Town of Grimshaw**
- ASB-6 – ASB Records**
- ASB -7 – Appointment of Agricultural Service Board Members**
- ASB-8 – Fusarium Head Blight (FHB) Control Program**
- ASB-9 – Virulent Blackleg in Canola Policy**

*Sandra Eastman called a short break at 10:35 am  
Members reconvened with all present at 10:39 am*

*Peace Country Beef and Forage Association joined the meeting at 10:39 am*

**Delegation**

**1. Peace Country Beef and Forage Association**

Chelsey Hostettler and Akim Omokanye from the PCBFA joined the meeting to present information to the Agricultural Service Board on the Association's past two years.

*Members of the PCBFA left the meeting at 11:11 am*

**New Business continued**

**1. Review of Agricultural Service Board Policies 10-12**

- ASB-10 – Clubroot of Canola Policy**
- ASB-11 – Weed Control Act Appeal Panel**
- ASB-12 – Agricultural Pests Act Appeal Committee**

Janice Reyda:      MOVED to accept the ASB Policies 1 through 12 as presented and/or amended.

Carried

**2. Revision of Agricultural Pest Act and Fate of *Fusarium graminearum***

Members reviewed the letter from Alberta's Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Devin Dreeshen.

Nigel Thorne:      MOVED that the Chair of the Agricultural Services Board write a letter to the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry stating the importance to the Peace Region that *Fusarium* remain in the *Agricultural Pest Act*.

Carried

**3. Emergency Livestock Evacuation Planning**

Christi Friesen:      MOVED that the Manager of Agricultural Services explore other municipal livestock emergency management plans in order to begin a Plan consultation process for the MD of Peace and possible cooperation with its neighbouring municipalities.

Carried

#### **4. Letter from Berwyn 4-H Club**

Members reviewed the letter from Berwyn 4-H Club. Nasar Iqbal, Manager of Agricultural Services suggested that the group earn fundraising dollars by assisting the MD of Peace with weed picking. Board members suggested the group could clean up garbage bags at the Griffin Creek Landfill, as well as by apply for the Grants, Donations, and Funding Policy at the Municipal District.

*Janice stepped away from meeting at 12:05 pm*

#### **5. Farmers Appreciation Night 2020**

Christi Friesen will confirm a photographer that she spoke to who would charge the ASB approximately \$900-\$1200 to attend and provide custom photos of attendees.

*Janice returned to meeting at 12:10 pm*

Members approved April 3, 2020 for the date of the Farmer Appreciation Night 2020. The event will open at 5:00 pm to approximately 9:00 pm with supper at 6 pm.

*ASB Members got lunch at 12:20 pm and continued with the meeting.*

Presentations at the event will be given by various members eg. Christi Friesen to provide information on fungal scans and intercropping. Nasar Iqbal and Sandra Eastman to provide a brief ASB program overview.

Members also discussed give away items, free prize draw tickets for those who go through photo booth, and video ideas.

#### **6. Manager of Ag Services Performance Review**

*Nasar Iqbal and Michele Coutu excuse themselves at 12:41 pm*

*Barb Johnson, CAO joined the meeting at 12:55 pm*

*Barb Johnson, CAO left the meeting at 1:15 pm*

*Nasar Iqbal returned to meeting at 2:00 pm*

*Michele Coutu returned to meeting at 2:05 pm*

#### **Member's Business**

##### **1. Grimshaw Gravels Aquifer Source Water Protection Plan**

Rick Keillor brought forward this information and asked if members knew of someone who lives on the aquifer, that can qualify for surface water runoff and water percolation studies.

Christi Friesen mentioned that Henry Vos invited Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister of Canada to sit with select farmers in the region to better understand issues producers have. Members discussed carbon tax on grain drying (propane/gas), market access for grains and peas, etc, rail issues, specialized machine codes on equipment, legislation currently in place, band-aid solutions, and investors (eg Manulife) purchasing land in small areas like Deadwood to then rent out to individuals who are cannot afford to buy. Other provinces are lobbying the government for the future of farming.

Christi also discussed Bell Lets Talk and mental health since many are coming off of a bad harvest, as well as Farm Tech where she personally met Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Devin Dresheen.

February 27, 2020

**Information**

**1. Letter from Minister of Agriculture and Forestry**  
Accepted as information.

**Next Meeting**

The next Agricultural Service Board meeting is scheduled for June 11, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

**Adjournment**

Being that the agenda matters have been concluded, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Manager of Agricultural Services

These minutes approved by Council the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reeve

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Administrative Officer

DRAFT