

Regular Agricultural Service Board Meeting of the County of Forty Mile No. 8 of the Province of Alberta held in the Board Room of the County Office, Foremost, Alberta on Tuesday, December 9, 2008.

The Meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Joan Hughson at 9:00 A. M.

*Members Present:*        *Ronald Lane*  
                                      *Ronald Harty*  
                                      *Tom Thacker*  
                                      *Lynden Hutchinson*  
                                      *Otto Gross*  
                                      *Craig Widmer*

*Also Present:*             *Sharon Burgess-Brown, Director of Finance*  
                                      *Dave Matz, Agricultural Fieldman*

#### Minutes

MOVED approval of the Minutes of the Regular Agricultural Service Board Committee Meeting held on November 4, 2008.

CARRIED.

#### Delegation

10:00 A. M. – James Horsman, Government Relations Advisor.

#### Items Added to the Agenda

Several items were added to the Agenda by the Board Members present.

#### Treasurer's Report

MOVED approval of the Treasurer's Report for the period ending November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

CARRIED.

#### STAFF REPORTS

The Agricultural Fieldman, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman, and Alberta Environmentally Sustainable Technician's reports were presented and added as per Addendum "A" to the Minutes.

George Piper, Nathan Ogden and James Horsman present. Mr. Horsman, Government Relations Advisor, was welcomed to the Meeting.

The following items were discussed:

- Mr. Horsman's role as Facilitator between Alberta Electric System Operator and Municipalities
- Regional Map
- Growing demand on electricity
- Alberta Electric System Operator Open Houses
- North-South transmission line
- NIMBY (Not In My Backyard) – stumbling blocks
- Additional wind power proposals
- Location of transmission lines
- Additional power if generated, exported
- Nuclear power
- Reliability of wind power

- Utilization of common resource
- Landowner adequate compensation
- Possible location of transmission line along abandoned rail line
- Lengthy process and consultations

Mr. Horsman, Mr. Piper and Mr. Ogden left the Meeting.

#### 2008 Spraying Projects

Dave Matz, Agricultural Fieldman provided Council with a map showing the Spraying Projects completed in 2008.

#### 2% Liquid Strychnine

Mr. Matz advised Council he felt the 2% Liquid Strychnine was the best option for pest control.

Council advised Mr. Matz no additional restrictions are required at this time.

#### Clubroot Management Plan

Council reviewed and discussed the *Alberta Clubroot Best Management Practices*.

The Agricultural Service Board responsibilities are to provide support and recommendations to Farmers.

Council also stated extension companies such as fertilizer plants had Agronomists that will detect infestations of the Alberta Clubroot Disease.

Mr. Matz advised a Draft Policy would be prepared for the February 2009 Meeting.

#### Agricultural Service Board Provincial Conference

Mr. Matz advised Council the Agricultural Service Board Provincial Conference will be held at the Cypress Centre in Medicine Hat from January 26<sup>th</sup> to January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Council Members will confirm their attendance with Mr. Matz prior to the registration deadline.

#### Charity Auction

Council discussed making a donation to the Provincial Agricultural Service Board Charity Auction.

No action taken.

#### Agricultural Service Board Conference Program Committee

MOVED that the County contribute \$250.00 to the Agricultural Service Board Conference Program Committee to assist with the costs of hosting the Agricultural Service Board Conference.

CARRIED.

#### Mowing Report

Dave Matz provided Council with the Mowing Report for 2008.

Mowing services for Volker Stevin were discussed and Council requested the Agricultural Fieldman review Contractor prices and provide this information at the next Agricultural Service Board Meeting.

### Capital Plan List

Dave Matz provided the Agricultural Service Board Members with his proposed Capital Purchases for 2009 as per Addendum "B" to the Minutes.

Council advised Mr. Matz to bring his purchase requests to the Budget Committee when the Budget is being prepared for 2009.

### Vulcan County Letter

Council discussed an Open Letter from The Alberta Beef Producers regarding the Alberta Livestock and Meat Strategy.

MOVED that a letter be written to the Honourable George Groeneveld, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development supporting the Alberta Beef Producers position on the Alberta Livestock and Meat Strategy.

CARRIED.

### Invitation

Council received a verbal invitation to attend a Progressive Conservative Fundraiser to be held on December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at the Taber Legion at 5:00 P. M.

### INFORMATION ITEMS

#### Letters

- Letter to the Agriculture Minister regarding Farmer Pesticide Certificate Course.
- Letter to the Assistant Deputy Minister regarding Extension Services.

#### Survey

Results from Survey completed at the South Region Agricultural Service Board Conference.

MOVED that the Meeting adjourn at 12:35 P. M.

CARRIED.