

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, September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

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

*Members Present:*

	<i>Ronald Lane</i>
	<i>Bruce Robertson</i>
	<i>Ronald Harty</i>
	<i>Bryne Lengyel</i>
	<i>Craig Widmer</i>

*Also Present: Dale Brown, County Administrator*  
*Dave Matz, Agricultural Fieldman*

*Absent: Councillor Tom Thacker*

### Minutes

Moved approval of the Minutes of the Regular Agricultural Service Board Meeting held on July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

CARRIED.

### Delegations

10:00 A. M. – Bob Kaufman

### Treasurer's Report

Moved approval of the Treasurer's Report for the period ending August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011.

CARRIED.

### STAFF REPORTS

#### Agricultural Fieldman's Report – July/August, 2011

##### *Roadside Spraying:*

- Staff have sprayed three quarters of the County roads to date.
- The spray trucks with the new configuration have operated very well this year.

##### *ATV Spraying:*

- Spraying has been completed on all Knapweed and Leafy Spurge sites along with the rail lines. Some work has also been completed on Baby's Breath.
- Leafy Spurge Beetles were also released near the Wallwork gravel pit.

##### *Roadside Mowing:*

- Roadside Mowing Contract with Volker Stevin has been completed.

##### *Cemetery Mowing:*

- Staff have completed the second cut on all cemeteries, along with the required mowing in the various hamlets.

##### *Crop Inspections:*

- Bacterial Ring Rot Inspections has been completed on a small number of potato fields.

- A random survey was also completed in the Foremost area for Fusarium Head Blight on dry land.
- Staff will be completing some late Fall spraying for green foxtail.

Tom Simanton, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman, has submitted his letter of resignation effective September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011.

Bob Kaufman present.

Mr. Kaufman, Conservation Co-ordinator, reported on activities that he has been involved with in July and August, 2011. A copy of the reports have been attached as Addendum "A" to the Minutes.

Mr. Kaufman left the Meeting.

#### Baby's Breath Infestation

A significant infestation of Baby's Breath has been found in two areas of the County, both on a mix of public and private land. One of the sites covers only a quarter section of grassland in which the County does not have the resources to control. Presently, Baby's Breath is listed as a noxious weed under the new Weed Act.

The Agricultural Fieldman is presently in discussions with Sustainable Resource Development to discuss the future control of Baby's Breath on public land.

#### Farming Smarter Conference

The 2011 Farming Smarter Conference will be held in Lethbridge at the Lethbridge Lodge Hotel on December 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

The Organizing Committee has inquired to see if the Agricultural Service Board would make a financial contribution towards the Conference. The consensus of the Committee is that they would continue to provide a financial contribution when the Conference is held in Medicine Hat.

Joan Hughson requested the Committee's approval to be excused from the Meeting during the Bursary Application discussions as one of the applicants is her granddaughter.

#### Agricultural Service Board Bursary

Bursary Applications were received from Austin Reimer and Bailey Hughson for 2012. The Applications were presented to the Service Board Members for their review.

Moved that the Agricultural Service Board Committee 2012 Bursary be awarded to Bailey Hughson.

CARRIED.

Joan Hughson returned to the Meeting.

#### INFORMATION ITEMS

##### Scentless Chamomile Infestation

Letter sent to Pepsico Canada regarding their Scentless Chamomile Infestation.

##### Weed Control

Letter and invoice to Canadian Pacific Railway for weed control.

Flooding Impact

Letter from the Municipal District of Taber No. 14 to Minister Jack Hayden with respect to flooding impact on Agriculture.

Agricultural Service Board Grant Allocation

A letter from Maureen Vadnais – Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development advising approval of payment for the 2011 Agricultural Service Board Grant allocation in the amount of \$191,788.03.

Thank You

A thank you card for sponsorship of Age Awareness has been received from Ann Braden – Bow Island Pivot Country Fair.

Moved that the Meeting adjourn at 12:05 P. M.

CARRIED.