

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, May 7, 2013.

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

*Members Present: Ronald Lane  
Tom Thacker  
Ronald Harty*

*Also Present: Dale Brown, County Administrator  
Dave Matz, Agricultural Fieldman  
Darrell Van Arragon, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman  
Sandra Reid, Secretary to the County Administrator*

*Absent: Bryne Lengyel  
Bruce Robertson  
Craig Widmer*

### Minutes

MOVED approval of the Minutes of the Regular Agricultural Service Board Meeting held on March 5, 2013.

CARRIED.

### Items Added to the Agenda

One item was added to the Agenda by the Members present.

### Treasurer's Report

MOVED approval to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented.

CARRIED.

### STAFF REPORT

#### Agricultural Fieldman's Report

The Agricultural Fieldman's Report was presented by Dave Matz and is attached as Addendum 'A' to the Minutes.

- Attended the *Pest Surveillance Update* in Lethbridge. Some of the key points include:
  - 2012 Canola surveys show high incidence of *Blackleg* and *Schlerotinia*
  - Peas in the south show 100% incidence of *Ascochyta*.
  - Two new HRS varieties for tolerance to *Fusarium Head Blight*.
  - Survey of *Prohibited Noxious Weeds* was completed in 2012.
  - Insect Forecasts will continue with some occurring during the growing season.
  - The new Agricultural Pest Act has been scheduled for a 2016 reading.
- Attended a startup Meeting for Biological Weed Control and ordered five releases for Leafy Spurge control.
- Prepared maps and air photos for truck binders.
- Updated laptops and initiated a new Flag System for tracking problem weeds along roadsides.
- Prepared project tracking and assigned hourly equipment costs for both Agriculture and Park Departments.
- Two new employees have been hired as well as an employee who transferred from Public Works. One Summer Student returned as well.
- Spray Crews have been training for herbicide usage and ATV Safety.
- Equipment has been repaired and readied for use. Safety evaluations have been performed on most equipment.
- Five ratepayers have had trees moved and the drills are being rented with a short waiting list started.

- Krovar application has begun.
- 16 concrete planters have been purchased for the Park, Administration Office and the new Public Works Shop.
- Shelterbelt trees from PFRA are scheduled to arrive May 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Work scheduled for Burdett cleanup includes:
  - remove and stump grind dead trees
  - edge grass along sidewalks around Park
  - repair tables
  - install bulletin board
  - clean up and repair flower beds
  - plant perennials and landscape around Cenotaph
- Trees will be moved to 40 Mile Park as well as extending the row of trees along the west fence at the new Shop.
- Spraying season will begin with applying residual herbicides around the Shop Yards and Landfill Sites, as well as spraying in Hamlets and 40 Mile Park.
- Grass seeding along roadsides will begin.

#### 2013 Southern Alberta Grazing School for Women

Council Members reviewed a request to sponsor the Women's Grazing School which is to be held in Foremost this year.

MOVED approval to provide financial support for the 2013 Southern Alberta Grazing School for Women in the amount of \$1,000.00.

CARRIED.

#### Youth Range Days

Council Members reviewed a request to sponsor Youth Range Days.

MOVED approval to provide financial support for the Youth Range Days Program in the amount of \$500.00.

CARRIED.

#### Weed and Pest Inspector Appointment

MOVED to rescind Resolution No.'s 362/06 and 363/06.

CARRIED.

MOVED approval to appoint Darrell Van Arragon as the County's Weed Inspector under the Weed Control Act.

CARRIED.

MOVED approval to appoint Darrell Van Arragon as the County's Pest Inspector under the Pest Control Act.

CARRIED.

#### Winnifred Cemetery

Dave Matz presented proposed changes to the layout of the Winnifred Cemetery for the Members review. The suggested changes would include adding a trail and opening a new area. The Committee also reviewed fees charged in other centers.

#### Agricultural Tour – Farming Smarter

Chairman Joan Hughson provided information regarding the Farming Smarter Agricultural Tour to be held July 9 - 11, 2013, leaving from the Lethbridge Research Station and touring through to Montana.

## Agricultural Bursary

The deadline to apply for the County's Agricultural Bursary is September 1<sup>st</sup>.

## INFORMATION ITEMS

Council Members reviewed the following Information Items:

### Certified Statement of Income and Expenditures

- Mr. Matz presented the Statement of Income and Expenditures applied to the Agricultural Service Board Grant.

### Letters

- *Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development* – identifying requirement to appoint Inspectors and an Appeal Committee.
- *Red Deer County* – funding for Invasive Plants Council.
- *Environmental Farm Plan Transition* – Agricultural Research and Extension Council of Alberta will now administer Environmental Farm Plans.
- *Sustainable Resource Development* – Funding available for Invasive Plant Survey.

### Agricultural Service Board Grant – Reporting Templates

- Results from consultations on changes to the Agricultural Service Board Grant.

### Thank You's

- Milk River Watershed – financial support.
- Alberta Farm Safety Centre – financial support.

MOVED that the Meeting adjourn at 11:10 A. M.

CARRIED.