

AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD MEETING
Mountain View County

Minutes of the Agricultural Service Board Meeting held on Monday, October 17, 2011, in the Council Chambers, 1408 Twp Rd. 320, Didsbury, AB.

- PRESENT: Chair, B. Sheehan
Councillor B. Beattie
Member J. Overwater
Member A. Lachman
Member E. Page
- ABSENT: Councillor D. Milne
Councillor K. Good
- IN ATTENDANCE: J. Holmes, Director Legislative, Community & Agricultural Services
J. Fulton, Manager of Agricultural Services
A. Hines, Sustainable Agricultural Specialist
J. King, Recording Secretary
- CALL TO ORDER: Chair, B. Sheehan called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.
- AGENDA: Moved by J. Overwater
ASB11-089 That the Agricultural Service Board adopt the agenda for the October 17, 2011 Agricultural Service Board meeting as presented.
- ADOPTION OF MINUTES: Moved by E. Page
ASB11-090 That the Agricultural Service Board adopt the minutes of the September 19, 2011 Agricultural Service Board meeting as amended.
Carried.
- OLD BUSINESS Moved by J. Overwater
ASB11-091 That the Agricultural Service Board approve funding an additional amount of \$8,951.09 for the 2011 Alberta Conservation Association (ACA) Riparian Enhancement Projects as outlined in the project evaluation summary spreadsheet.
Carried.

Moved by J. Overwater

ASB11-092 That the Agricultural Service Board approve funding an additional amount of \$4,228.09 for the 2011 Mountain View County Riparian Enhancement Projects as outlined in the project evaluation.

Carried.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION
ITEMS

- a. Olds Seed Plant Update – A. Lachman
- Quote for two bins on the east side of the plant for out-loading was high, looking into other options. The plant as asked the County if they would be willing to put money towards it.
 - There seems to be more weeds coming in with peas and canola this year.

Carstairs Plant Update – B. Sheehan

- The plant renewed the insurance. It was decided that replacement cost would be at 2 – 3 million dollars.
- For four months, starting in June, the plant cleaned less than 10,000 bushels.
- Raxil costs have increased and this will be recovered in treating rates.
- There is ongoing discussion on a color sorter.
- An assistant has yet to be found.

b. Regional ASB Conference

- J. Fulton asked the Board for members who wish to attend the Regional ASB Conference in Leslieville, Alberta on October 26, 2011.
- The Board reviewed the Resolution submitted by Clearwater County.

c. AIPC 2011 ASB Letter

- J. Fulton gave a summary of the sponsorship request for 2012.

Recess and Reconvene

Chair Sheehan recessed the Agricultural Service Board meeting of Monday, October 17, 2011 at 9:45 am and reconvened at 10:00 a.m.

B. Beattie joined the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

DELEGATIONS:
Mountain View County

Pete Waycott, Manager Infrastructure Maintenance, provided an overview on the reasons why the Mountain View County Operations Department has requested the Agricultural Department increase the frequency of mowing and to perhaps change the style of the equipment being currently used.

Discussion between the Manager and the Board provided the following information:

- Rocks and gravel in the ditches create drainage and mowing issues. Landowners are unable to hay or maintain ditches due to damage to their equipment.
- The County needs to be aggressive at controlling the current vegetation situation so that moisture can drain into the ditches as the vegetation has grown onto the County roads.
- The Ag Department has used chemical in the past as a means to control the vegetation but it was not effective on all the weeds. They have not used chemical in the last three years.
- Operations would agree to increased mowing in an area where the vegetation is worst as a pilot project to see if it helps with the situation.
- Gravel surfaces have more vegetation issues than hard surface roads.

The Board instructed staff to coordinate an area for increased mowing as well as chemical control as an experimental section for controlling vegetation.

NEW BUSINESS

Moved by J. Overwater

ASB11-093 That the Agricultural Service Board forward the 2012 Operating Budget to Council for approval.

Carried.

Moved by B. Beattie

ASB11-094 That the Agricultural Service Board forward the 2012 Capital Budget to Council for approval.

Carried.

Moved by B. Beattie

ASB11-095 That the Agricultural Service Board go into closed session at 12:35 p.m.

Carried.

Moved by B. Beattie

ASB11-096 That the Agricultural Service Board come out of closed session at 12:37 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

November 21, 2011.

ADJOURNMENT

ASB11-097 Moved by E. Page

That the Agricultural Service Board meeting of Monday, October 17, 2011 be adjourned at 12:42 p.m.

ADOPTED

Carried.

Chair

I hereby certify these minutes are correct.

Manager, Agricultural Services