

**COUNTY OF ST. PAUL NO. 19
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD**

September 27, 2013

1. The Agricultural Service Board meeting was called to order by Chairman F. Sloan at 10:05 a.m. on Friday, September 27, 2013 at the County Office in St. Paul, there being present the following Members:

Councillor F. Sloan, Chairman
Councillor G. Ockerman
Councillor D. Dach
Councillor C. Martin
Councillor M. Fodness
Councillor A. Corbiere
Reeve Steve Upham
Sheila Kitz, CAO
Kyle Attanasio, Intern CAO
Dennis Bergheim, Agricultural Fieldman
Keith Kornelsen, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman
Jack Vanden Berg, ASB Field Officer
Betty Way, Recording Secretary

a. Agenda:

Additions to 4. New Business:
i. Beaver
j. Mouse Poison

Moved by Councillor G. Ockerman to accept the Agenda as amended.
Carried.

2. MINUTES

Motion by Councillor D. Dach to adopt the Minutes of the Agricultural Service Board Meeting held August 22, 2013 as presented. **Carried.**

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a. Weed Appeal/Pest Appeal Board:

Dennis Bergheim informed Members that from our meeting with ARD Staff, that it would be in our best interest to form a Weed/Pest Appeal Board, being Members at large. Dennis concluded that from speaking with other Municipalities, there was no interest in the formation of such a Board. Sheila Kitz then asked of Council, that they bring forth three names for appointment on this Board.

Councillor C. Martin noted that this item be brought to the Organizational Meeting and so moved that the Weed/Pest Appeal Board consist of three Members; to include two Members at large with one Council Member with an Alternate Council Member being appointed. **Carried.**

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. ASB Grant Application 2014 – 2016 (Program):

Keith Kornelsen stated that our ASB Grant Application is due October 1, 2013, also mentioning that this application becomes our Business Plan. Members briefed through Grant Application.

Councillor A. Corbiere moved that the ASB Grant Application be approved as presented. **Carried.**

b. Equipment Rental Discussion – Landrollers:

Jack Vanden Berg commented on the transportation of Landrollers, which is becoming that of a safety issue with repairs costs for the two units, estimating between \$10,000.00 to \$12,000.00 and rental fees of under \$15,000 in 2013. Members noted that Landrollers were rented out to a number of smaller parcels of land with an estimation of Jack's time dealing with Landrollers at approximately 110 hours within a three week window.

Members discussed in detail this service we have provided to our Landowners over the past number of years.

Councillor M. Fodness then moved that the 30 ft. Landroller no longer be rented by the ASB, for concern of employees being at risk when transporting Landroller, becoming a safety issue.

Councillor G. Ockerman then called for a recorded vote on the motion:

Councillor A. Corbiere – Opposed

Reeve S. Upham – Opposed

Councillor F. Sloan – Opposed

Councillor D. Dach – Opposed

Councillor M. Fodness - For

Councillor G. Ockerman – Opposed

Councillor C. Martin – Opposed

Councillor G. Ockerman then moved that above noted motion be brought back to the next Strategic Planning meeting. **Carried.**

c. Equipment Purchases – 2014:

Members discussed equipment purchases for 2014; Post Pounder and Sprayer.

Reeve S. Upham moved that the ASB bring back price quotes on above noted equipment to next meeting. **Carried.**

Councillor D. Dach then moved that we bring idea for the purchase of above noted equipment to the next Strategic Planning meeting. **Carried.**

d. Roadside Mowing:

Jack Vanden Berg talked of very minimal repairs being done to the mower. Dennis Bergheim expressed his views on the wet blade system as being very successful.

Reeve S. Upham made mention of high traffic roads being given first priority for mowing.

e. Private Spraying:

From a thorough discussion of Members, Dennis Bergheim commented on this issue as being brought forth to our Strategic Planning.

It was noted that this issue be brought back for discussion at the next ASB meeting.

f. ASB Employees:

Dennis Bergheim informed Members of Jack Vanden Berg's thoughts to revert his responsibilities back to the Mechanics field, where his ability will be best suited. Reeve S. Upham spoke of importance of finding a suitable candidate with equal knowledge for this position.

Sheila Kitz commented on matter being a succession planning issue.

Keith Kornelsen stated that this Field Officer posting shall be promoted through a Job Fair taking place at Lakeland College in Vermilion on October 25, 2013 which he will attend in link with the Alberta Association of Agricultural Fieldmen.

Councillor F. Sloan stated that a recruitment program must commence.

Councillor C. Martin then moved that the ASB proceed with succession planning for the hiring of a Field Officer. **Carried.**

g. No Spray Agreements:

Keith Kornelsen shared with Members, a number of changes made to our No Spray Agreement.

Councillor C. Martin moved that the ASB accept the Weed and Brush Control Agreement for the Summer of 2014 as presented. **Carried.**

Sheila Kitz stated this item will be a new policy to be reviewed.

h. Coyote/Wolf Bounty:

Members briefed through Coyote/Wolf Reduction Incentive Program application for the 2013/2014 winter season, noting a few changes. Time frame shall be from November 1, 2013 to April 30, 2014.

Councillor G. Ockermen then moved that the Coyote Bounty remain at \$15.00 and that the Wolf Bounty now be raised to \$75.00, with photo identification taken of Wolves. **Carried.**

i. Beaver Control:

Councillor G. Ockerman spoke of landowner with concern to the blowing a number of beaver dams, requesting that ASB assist in the matter. Members discussed issue in detail and Councillor F. Sloan stated that this matter be referred back to guidelines within our Beaver Control Policy.

j. Mouse Poison:

Due to a ruling change for the sale of Mouse Poison, now under Federal Regulation, Keith Kornelsen stated that Warfarin is no longer available and that an upgraded form called Ramex will now be sold to landowners. Mention of a form being devised with record of legal land location where bait will be used. Keith will contact surrounding Counties upon their sales procedures.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Keith Kornelsen informed Members of a Tree Health Workshop taking place on October 2, 2013 – 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the County of St. Paul Office.

Councillor F. Sloan expressed his words of appreciation to Councillor A. Corbiere for his many years of commitment to the ASB, followed by recognition from Members.

6. NEXT MEETING

To be scheduled at a later date.

7. ADJOURNMENT

With business on the Agenda being concluded, Councillor F. Sloan adjourned the meeting. Time: 11:34 a.m.

Date

A.S.B. Chairperson