COUNTY OF ST. PAUL NO. 19
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD

July 27, 2018

1. The Agricultural Service Board Meeting was called to order by Chairman C. Martin at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, July 27, 2018 at the County Office in St. Paul, there being present the following:

Councillor C. Martin, Chairman
Councillor D. Younghans
Councillor K. Wirsta
Councillor M. Fodness
Councillor D. Hedrick
Councillor L. Amyotte
Reeve S. Upham
Sheila Kitz, CAO
Tim Mahdiuk, Director of Community Services
Keith Kornelsen, Agricultural Fieldman
Warren Leister, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman
Phyllis Corbiere, Recording Secretary
Kaitlyn Kenney, Municipal Intern

2. MINUTES

Motion by Councillor K. Wirsta to adopt the Minutes of the March 27, 2018 Agricultural Service Board Meeting as presented. Carried.

3. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA AND ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Moved by Reeve S. Upham to accept the Agenda for the July 27, 2018 ASB Meeting with the following addition:

6d) Silage Tarp & Bale Wrap/Strapping Bales

Carried.

5. DELEGATION – Alberta Agriculture & Forestry

Toso Bozic and Krista deMilliano with Alberta Agriculture and Forestry entered the Council Room at 1:00 p.m. Toso is the contact for Alberta Agriculture for the County's Ag Service Board and will attend ASB Meetings as requested.

Council asked about regulations around Dicamba Chemicals. Toso will get back to Council with the information.

Toso also spoke about the devastation of trees due to caterpillars which will cause a fire hazard. He spoke about FireSmart and suggested doing an assessment of

the areas that were the hardest hit. Council also discussed their tree spraying program.

Krista, on behalf of Minister MacAulay spoke about field visits and what's been done for the ASB Grant with policies and procedures as well as what groups are doing outside of what they are required to do. She will send a report with recommendations.

The delegation remain for the duration of the meeting.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Nothing to report

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Program Updates:

Roadside/Private Spraying

Roadside spraying west of Town is working well. ASB Staff have found that it is weedy in areas where it is not being properly maintained and are looking for a new approach. Council discussed prohibited noxious weeds on private property. Staff will work with the landowners to control the weeds. Discussion on a 4-year plan.

Roadside Mowing

Mowers are currently working around Mallaig and will be moving North in Division 6. Will be done the first pass by mid-August. Mowing has been done along the trail from Abeline east. The rest of the mowing along the trail to be done within the next week. Mowing at Crestview is complete.

Discussion on mowing during 2019 season. ASB Staff feel they will have capacity to do more mowing next year.

Roadside Seeding

Seeding is done on new road construction projects. Will be seeding at Richland Road.

Roadside Backsloping

Nothing new to report

Clubroot Update

Approximately 200 fields checked. No clubroot found.

Beaver Control

Contractor has done a lot of trapping throughout the County. Council discussed implementing a beaver bounty, the rates, and how it would work. Council agreed to bring the Beaver Bounty to strategic planning for further discussion.

Beaver Gizmo at Laurier Lake has been cleaned out.

Coyote Reduction Program

The number of coyotes paid out through the program has decreased over the past four years. Council agreed to continue with the Coyote Bounty for 2018-19.

b. Dog Kennels Update

The new kennel is complete.

c. Report on 2018 ASB Tour – Strathcona County

General discussion on tour.

Administration has been asked about purchasing an aerator for ratepayers to rent. Aerators range in price from $20,000 to $40,000. Discussion on cleaning the equipment to prevent spread of clubroot. Toso suggested that Council may want to consider a program where a landowner rents an aerator and the County reimburses the costs. Council agreed to discuss purchasing an aerator further during budget.

d. Silage Tarps/Bale Wrap & Strapping Bales

MD of Bonnyville has purchased a baling machine for plastic. Bales are transported down South; transportation costs are high. Discussion on the tarps and wrap which end up in the landfill.

Discussion on the increased regulations for strapping down bales for transportation, which in turn is increasing the costs for the consumer. Council discussed what has changed, enforcement and permits. Administration to look into this further.

7. COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Nothing to report

8. NEXT MEETING

To be determined

9. ADJOURNMENT

Business on the agenda being concluded Chairman C. Martin adjourned the meeting at 2:50 p.m.

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Date A.S.B. Chairperson