

Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee
Conference Call Minutes
October 7, 2016
9:00 am

Attendance:

Pat Gordeyko, Chair, Northeast Regional Representative
Lloyd Giebelhaus, Vice Chair, Northwest Regional Representative
Steve Wikkerink, South Regional Representative
Jim Duncan, Central Regional Representative
Corey Beck, Peace Regional Representative
Elden Kozak, Secretary, AAAF Representative
Maureen Vadnais, Executive Assistant

Call to Order

Pat called the meeting to order at 9:05 am.

Adoption of Agenda

No additions were made to the agenda. Jim made a motion to adopt the agenda – CARRIED.

Adoption of Minutes

Lloyd made a motion to adopt the minutes from the September 5, 2016 meeting – CARRIED.

Steve made a motion to accept the meeting notes from the September 6, 2016 meeting with the Minister as information – CARRIED.

Discussion

a. Final Grading for Report Card

- Resolution 1: Proactive Vegetation Management on Alberta Provincial Highways
 - Maintain the grade as Unsatisfactory as there are still parts of the resolution that have not been answered. Jim mentioned that another similar resolution will be coming forward at the Central Regional ASB meeting. This should be a topic of discussion with AAMDC at the November meeting.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Maureen to continue trying to arrange a meeting with Transportation Minister. If unsuccessful, Committee members will try through the trade show at AAMDC also.
- Resolution 2: Reinstate Provincial Funding for the Canada and Alberta BSE Surveillance Program
 - Maintain the grade as Unsatisfactory but try to find current information about the size of Alberta's cow herd to show the changes in the cow herd since BSE was first discovered in the province.
- Resolution 3: Agricultural Plastics Recycling
 - Maintain the grade as Accept in Principle. Jim said he would try to find out how many grain bags had been bought in the province for additional information in the

comments. There was also discussion about why the province wasn't working with CleanFARMS like other provinces currently are on ag plastics recycling. Doug contacted Dale Chrapko and found out that Alberta is now starting to work with CleanFARMS on some of these issues.

- Resolution 4: Agricultural Opportunity Fund for Agricultural Research and Forage Associations
 - Maintain the grade as Accept the Response.
- Resolution 5: Climate Stations
 - Maintain the grade as Accept in Principle but acknowledge that the data collection gaps are primarily in the northern part of the province in the comments.
- Resolution 6: Compensation for Coyote Depredation
 - The response from Environment and Parks was reviewed and a grade of Accept in Principle was assigned. There was discussion about if coyotes were eligible for compensation as a predator if they would have to be taken off of the *Agricultural Pests Act* and put onto the *Wildlife Act* and the impact that would have on allowing producers to hunt coyotes. The question was also raised about if there were any statistics on coyote predation that could be included in the comments for additional information. Doug contacted Phil Merrill and found out that there are currently no statistics kept on coyote predation and there would not be any changes to either Act if coyotes were designated as a predator for compensation.
- Resolution 8: Species at Risk Act (SARA)
 - The responses from Environment and Climate Change Canada and Environment and Parks were reviewed and a grade of Accept in Principle was assigned. The Committee felt that we should have contacted AAMDC and AAAF for their response to this resolution as the resolution requested them to be part of the round table discussion. This resolution will be a topic of discussion with AAMDC and the Committee will work with AAMDC and AAAF to try to arrange a round table discussion with the federal and provincial Environment ministries.
- Resolution E1: Enhanced Protection of Farm and Ranch Workers
 - Maintain the grade as Accept in Principle.
- Previous Years Resolutions & Expiring Resolutions
 - There was no discussion on these items.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Maureen to circulate the report card by Monday for review. Committee members to review and send feedback by Wednesday so the report card can be sent out to all ASB members on Thursday.

b. Meeting with AAMDC

- Topics to Discuss:
 - Weeds along transportation right of ways
 - Species at Risk Act
 - Bill 6
 - Agricultural Plastics
 - ABC (Agencies, Boards Commissions) Review

- Corey mentioned that there were several agricultural agencies dissolved the last time the review was conducted and wanted to know what AAMDC has been hearing about the dismantled agencies and if they had any information about a second “ABC Review”.
- **ACTION ITEMS:** Maureen to contact Tasha Blumenthal with AAMDC to arrange a meeting on the first day of the convention. Maureen also to contact John Brown and invite him for lunch/discussion.

Next meeting:

November 14, 2016

Motion to adjourn

Lloyd made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 am – CARRIED.