

ASB PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE MEETING
J.G. O'Donoghue Building, Edmonton
July 13, 2018

In attendance:

Corey Beck, Chair and Peace Representative
Steve Upham, Northeast Representative
Wayne Nixon, Central Representative
Sebastien Dutrisac, 1st Vice President, AAAF
Doug Macaulay, ASB Program Manager, AF
Maureen Vadnais, Executive Assistant, ASB Provincial Committee
Pam Retzloff, Recording Secretary, AF

1. Call to Order

Corey called the meeting to order at 1:15 pm

2. Adoption of Agenda

Wayne made a motion to adopt the agenda – CARRIED

3. Adoption of Minutes – May 9, 2018 conference all

Steve made a motion to adopt the minutes – CARRIED

4. OLD BUSINESS

(a) Grading of Resolution Responses

Resolution 2-18: Appeals to the Minister under the *Weed Control Act* and *Agricultural Pests Act*
The committee agreed to change the grading on this resolution to **UNSATISFACTORY** as the response does answer the resolution and but does not meet the expectations of the Committee. A comment will be added to the Report Card saying the Committee will continue to advocate for this to be changed in the Acts. Steve made a motion to accept this change - CARRIED

Resolution 6-18: Review of the AFSC Crop Insurance Program

The committee agreed to change the grading on this resolution to **UNSATISFACTORY** as it did technically answer the question but the Committee still needs to meet with AFSC. Wayne made a motion to accept this change – CARRIED

Resolution 7-18: Crop Insurance for Fruit Producers

The committee agreed to change the grading on this resolution to **ACCEPT THE RESPONSE** as AFSC did say they would work with producers on this issue. The Committee is already working to provide AFSC the contact information for the appropriate people from fruit producers who would have the information AFSC needs to satisfy this resolution. Steve made a motion to accept this change – CARRIED

(b) Meeting with AFSC – resolutions

Maureen asked for a motion to accept the letter as written that is being sent to Steve Blakely with AFSC. Wayne made a motion to accept – CARRIED

(c) Alberta Seed Growers Association Meeting

Maureen advised that she has requested a meeting with the Seed Growers Association and they would like to conference call with Committee next week or face to face mid July or August. The Committee agreed they would like to meet with the Deputy Minister of Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (AF) first, possible in the morning and then meet with the Seed Growers after that. Steve made a motion to set up meeting – CARRIED

ACTION ITEM: Maureen will try to set up a meeting in mid August with the Deputy Minister of AF and with the Seed Growers Association. Possible meeting location in Leduc

ACTION ITEM: Maureen will do some training/education with the Committee members before the meeting

(d) 75th Anniversary of ASBs

Sebastien reported that the ASB Provincial conference will be hosted by the Central region in 2020 which is the 75th anniversary for ASBs. Celebration activities are being worked on.

(e) Peace Region GM Alfalfa Bylaws

Several municipalities bylaws requesting GM alfalfa be elevated to Prohibited Noxious have been denied by the Minister so some municipalities are working on putting bylaws in place under the authority of the *Municipal Government Act* to prevent GM alfalfa from being grown within their areas. There are currently 11/13 municipalities that are considering putting these bylaws in place.

(f) Strategic Planning Session

Maureen advised she has been working with Culture and Community Spirit to get started on this and November 19th, 1-5 pm has been set up to get started.

(g) Funding for ASB Provincial Committee Executive Assistant

Doug advised that funding for this position has been extended for one more year and that he will try to amend the existing agreement but if not then a new one will be created

(h) ASB Program Review

Doug advised that he has received sign off on the review and it should be up and running this fall. He said a survey will be sent out to all the Agricultural Fieldmen and there will be focus groups set up throughout the province.

5. NEW BUSINESS

(a) Debrief from meeting with Rural Caucus

Overall the Committee was very disappointed at how few members from Rural Caucus were present. It was decided that the Committee should create a “to do” list for the Caucus to better educate them and have them prepare the same type of list for the Committee.

ACTION ITEM: The Committee is to send ideas to Maureen as to what they think should go on the “to do” list

(b) Agriculture and Forestry Restructuring

Doug updated the Committee on the new restructuring that took place in AF and specifically on the ASB Program and how it would impact the ASBs. It was felt that it was a very positive step going forward.

(c) Consultation on Strychnine

Maureen advised that Strychnine was scheduled for review by PMRA and that PMRA wants 2% Strychnine cancelled. There is an open consultation being held and is open until September 27. The Committee would like to ask the ASBs to provide input into the consultation. The Committee will then meet in August to discuss and will circulate their recommendations to the ASBs so that the same message goes to PMRA. Steve made a motion to send a letter to the ASBs to inform them of this consultation and encourage them to respond - CARRIED

ACTION ITEM: Maureen to compose letter to go out to the ASBs

(d) Roundup Ready Wheat Discovery

Sebastien briefed the Committee on the situation that occurred with the discovery of Round up Ready Wheat in Southern Alberta

6. Items for information

Maureen briefed the Committee on the letters that have been sent out in the last few weeks and replies that have been received.

7. Delegations

There were no delegations at the meeting

8. Next Meeting

Maureen will be attempting to set up a meeting for mid August to meet with the Deputy Minister of AF and the Seed Growers Association

9. Adjournment

Steve made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:00 pm - CARRIED