

ASB PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE MEETING
Conference Call
May 9, 2018

In attendance:

Corey Beck, Chair and Peace Representative
Merrill Harris, South Representative
Steve Upham, Northeast Representative
Sebastien Dutrisac, 1st Vice President, AAAF
Doug Macaulay, ASB Program Manager, AF
Pam Retzloff, Recording Secretary, AF

1. Call to Order

Corey called the meeting to order at 9:08 am

2. Adoption of Agenda

Steve made a motion to adopt the agenda – CARRIED

3. Adoption of Minutes – March 19 regular meeting

Merrill moved to adopt the minutes – CARRIED

4. Adoption of Minutes – March 19 Minister meeting

Merrill moved to adopt the minutes – CARRIED

5. Old Business

(a) Provincial Rules of Procedure

Steve made a motion to approve subject to further comments – CARRIED

(b) Meeting with Alberta Seed Growers Association

It was agreed that this would be dealt with at the next Provincial Committee meeting

(c) 75th Anniversary of ASBs

It was agreed that this would be discussed at the next meeting once we get some information from Sebastien.

6. New Business

(a) Review and grade initial resolution responses

Resolution No. 1-18 – Environmental Stream Funding of the Agricultural Service Board Grant

Grade: Accept in Principle

- Response states no change can be made until next agreement
- Funding can't be released until April 1st, so further discussion is needed as to whether it will make any difference

Resolution No. 2-18 – Appeals to the Minister under the *Weed Control Act* and *Agricultural Pest Act*

Grade: Incomplete

- Government has committed to a review process of timelines but no timeline has been given
ACTION ITEM: Steve made a motion to write a letter to AF to get an idea of the timelines for this review – CARRIED

Resolution No. 4-18 – Weed Control on Alberta Vacant Public Lands within Green Areas

Grade: Incomplete

- Hearing funds are being committed but not staff
- Comprehensive framework asked for in resolution was not addressed
ACTION ITEM: Merrill made a motion to write a letter to Environment and Parks and thank them for money committed. Also ask which staff to contact regarding the funding if weeds are identified and also how the framework will be rolled out and who will be identifying the weeds ie. landowners or ASBs.

Resolution No. 5-18 – Wildlife Predator Compensation Program Enhancement

Grade: Accept in Principle

- Need to see what additional resources are going to be
- Resolution was basically answered as it asked for trained Municipal Problem Wildlife and response indicated no additional staff were being trained

Resolution No. 6-18 – Review of Agriculture Financial Services Corporation (AFSC) Crop Insurance Program

Grade: Incomplete

- Committee felt resolution was not answered
ACTION ITEM: Set up a meeting with AFSC to discuss these issues as there is too much information required to put in a letter

Resolution No. 7-18 – Crop Insurance for Alberta Fruit Producers

Grade: Incomplete

- This will be discussed when the Committee meets with AFSC

Resolution No. 9-18 – Farm Direct Marketing of Eggs and Products using Eggs

Grade: Accept in Principle

- Question has been answered – may not like it but was answered
- A review is mentioned but nothing has happened yet
ACTION ITEM: Doug is to request information as to when the review will take place

Resolution No. 10-18 – Proposed Federal Tax Changes

Grade: Accept

- Many of the concerns have been reversed so the resolution has been answered

Resolution No. 11-18 – Organic Food Testing and Labeling

Grade: Accept in Principle

- AF indicated it was working on the intra-provincial gap
 - New act is being developed
 - Provincial Committee would like to be part of the consultation process
- ACTION ITEM:** Doug is going to find out what kind of consultation will be done on the development of the new Act.

(b) Peace Region GM Alfalfa Bylaws

- Sebastien briefed the Committee on the Peace Regions effort to elevate GMO Alfalfa
- Two letters were sent to the Minister and both declined
- Sebastien wanted Committee to understand issues here
- Need to acknowledge situation and have more discussions so everyone is on same page
- Steve moved to accept this as information – CARRIED

Next Meeting:

- Will aim for meeting during Summer Tour
 - Alternates to be included in next meeting
 - Possible delegations: Deputy Minister of AF and Rural Caucus
- ACTION ITEM:** Motion was made by Steve to send letters of invitation to the Deputy Minister of AF and the Rural Caucus to attend next Committee meeting – CARRIED

Merrill made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:25 am - CARRIED