

POLICY:

The Agricultural Service Board's Business Plan strives to "develop and implement programs and services that will assist County residents to maintain and improve the efficiency and sustainability of family farms" and "create independence and opportunity through education". County Council shall support the Business Plan by providing financial assistance to rural landowners who attend agricultural events that provide opportunities for education with an agricultural focus.

ELIGIBILITY:

This Policy shall apply to all bonafide farmers and immediate family members who are actively involved in an agricultural operation within Beaver County.

Eligible residents will be reimbursed for a maximum of two events over a four-year period.

A maximum of five eligible residents may attend a single event.

GUIDELINES:

Educational opportunities shall be determined at the sole discretion of the County and may include conferences, field days, and seminars related to the agricultural industry; either in primary production or value-added production associated with the landowner's operation.

Eligible residents shall be reimbursed for the registration fee for the agricultural event, to a maximum of \$100 per participant. Incidental expenses such as meals, kilometreage, accommodations, etc. shall be the responsibility of the participant.

A maximum of \$2000 per year shall be allocated in the Agricultural Services Board budget for reimbursements under this Policy.

PROCEDURE:

1. Eligible residents requesting reimbursement under this Policy shall contact the Agricultural Fieldman or Conservation Technician by phone, e-mail, or fax at least one day prior to attending the event.
2. Applications for reimbursement will be considered in the order in which they are received.
3. Eligible residents approved for reimbursement shall submit a claim form, accompanied by detailed receipts, to the County Office.

Council Approval

Date: April 16, 2008

Motion: 08-160

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