

**Minutes
A.S.B. Provincial Committee
Shaw Convention Centre
Edmonton, AB**

March 23rd, 2011

Present for the Provincial ASB Committee:

Patrick Gordeyko - Northeast Representative and Chair

Garry Lentz - South Representative

Lloyd Giebelhaus - Northwest Representative

Jim Duncan – Central Representative

Mary Ann Eckstrom - Peace Representative

Soren Odegard – AAMD&C

Geoff Thompson, Secretary and AAAF 1st Vice President

Maureen Vadnais – ARD, representing Eileen Chauvet

Pam Retzliff - ARD

Appointments – Jo Anne Hall, ARD

Patrick called the meeting to order at 1:30pm

Introductions were made around the table.

1. The Agenda was reviewed and amendments and additions discussed were:

- Pennycress
- Farm Safety Centre
- Joint meeting with AAMDC

Gary moved the agenda adopted as amended CARRIED

2. Lloyd moved that the minutes of the January 18th, 2011 meeting be adopted as presented

CARRIED

Joe moved to ACCEPT Motion to accept notes from the January 18th Ministers Meeting

CARRIED

3. New Business

3.1 Motion to table the SRD Wildlife Fencing Report – Mary Ann Eckstrom with the concern that this may not be public information

CARRIED

3.2 Richardson Ground Squirrel Report

Maureen to follow up and get report for the committee

3.3 Meeting with Mister Jack Hayden

- Questions about tax code resolution
- Maureen to send recommendations out again
 - Summer meeting with Minister
- Pam to Schedule meeting with his office

- **Action items from previous meeting**
 - Follow up with John Knapp

- **Clicker voting pads from Alberta Agriculture- Maureen**
 - Perhaps a request to AAMD&C – technical costs to be approximately \$500
 - 120 pads may be available
 - Test run the pads at Regional Conferences
 - Host region responsible for the return of the pads
 - Technical issues such as software and how to use clicker pads
 - Have ASB Conference evaluation done on-line
 - Maureen and Geoff will work to investigate with Mark Muchka on costs of additional clicker pads and technical support

- **Fusarium Committee – Jim Duncan**
 - Send minutes and consultation to Provincial Committee
 - AFSC does not want to be in the business of telling producers how to manage their farm – no changes until 2012
 - Minister has ability to exempt an area on the Pest Act
 - Crop Residue is the concern – not the seed
 - Crop rotation and education the key

- **Pennycress- Mary Ann**
 - Funding won't come from government
 - Food prices increasing
 - Using Pennycress as biofuel
 - Plant is easily controlled with herbicides
 - Grown on marginal land as to not to take away from productive land
 - Mary Ann will forward information to the committee
 - What does this committee need to do?- tabled until next meeting

- **Appointment – Jo-Anne Hall**
 - Introductions to the new executive
 - Talked about Provincial Key Contact model
 - Is it working in all Municipalities
 - Need to strategically look at resources to support ASB's
 - Need to have a contact with experience to understand the relationship better and working with producers
 - Ongoing discussions around key contacts to continually expand and improve

- Some ASB's want a different model
 - Do an annual review
- **Farm Safety- Jo Ann Hall**
 - Requests to local ASB's to request them to pay 1/3rd of share to keep farm safety going from Alberta Farm Safety Program
 - Consolidate the funding and run one program
 - Redundant for money to go out to Ag Societies and ASB's and then to Farm Safety Centre
 - \$2500 was a promotional tool to get Ag Societies thinking about farm safety
 - Original letter did not look like it was conditional funding
 - AAAS has more positive input than negative from the funding
 - Needs more coordination
- **Eradicable weeds – Jim Duncan**
 - Resolution came forward at Provincial Conference
 - Where the funding can come from started the discussion
 - Funding from excess ASB funding not utilized is not acceptable with AAAF
 - Concern that it would take funding away from other good initiative already initiated
 - Apply as a municipality to the Province for an allotment
 - Draw up a program and present it to the Minister
 - Weed Control Act and some of the weeds on the list that should not be another concern
 - Whole issue needs to be part of the ASB Act review
- **2% Liquid Strychnine**
 - Registration came through
 - Letter came from AAAF – mixing has changed compared to Saskatchewan
 - Gophers out already
 - When letters come out they will be forwarded to the Provincial Committee
 - MP Benoit requested extension to end of July to use product
 - Deadlines need to be changed
 - No evidence of any off-site targeting use to date
 - Do we have to revisit this issue annually for product registration?
- **Weed Control Fines**
 - Jim Duncan will forward letter from the Minister
 - Go to Minister and setup with RSD
 - Move forward and keep working with group
 - Confusion on how it may be carried out
 - Fines Act would have to be changed
 - Pleased with response letter and set up a committee and start pilot project

- **Review of Resolutions**
 - Table item
 - Send reminders to ASB's to review
 - Jason Cripps offered to also review
 - Forward to Jo Ann Hall as well once all are compiled
 - Keep sending to the committee as we receive them

- **Joint meeting with AAMD&C**
 - Coordinate with Ministers meeting
 - Meet and have joint AAMC&C and resolutions meeting

- **Letter to AAAF from MountainView County on Ministers Forum**
 - Suggestions for future Conferences
 - Submit questions in advance similar to AAMD&C
 - Resolution Review process
 - Not enough background provided
 - Too much redundancy with resolutions
 - More clarification required

 - No evaluation form provided
 - Use of Ministers Forum
 - Bio of Ministers provided
 - Response provided- Forum is up to hosting region
 - One MLA chairs the Forum
 - MLA's can set the parameters
 - Chair has the ability to limit the questions
 - Pat and Geoff to work on a response letter

Motion to adjourn by Jim at 3:15pm