

Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee meeting
J.G. O'Donoghue Building, Edmonton
March 17, 2014
9:00 am – 3:30 pm

In attendance:

Patrick Gordeyko, Chair and Northeast Representative
Jason Storch, President, AAAF
Trent Keller, Secretary and 1st Vice President, AAAF
Garry Lentz, South Representative
Cory Beck, Peace Representative
Phillip Massier, Alternate, Central Representative
Lloyd Giebelhaus, Northwest Representative
Soren Odegard, AAMD&C Representative
Maureen Vadnais, ASB Program Manager, ARD Representative
Pam Retzliff, Recording Secretary, ARD

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 am

Adoption of Agenda:

The Eradicable weeds fund was added into Item No. 8 on the agenda (Crowsnest Pass)
Rural Economic Development Invitation as added in as Item No. 9 on the agenda.
Corey made a motion to adopt the agenda – CARRIED

Adoption of Minutes:

Garry made a motion to adopt the minutes – CARRIED
Lloyd made a motion to write a letter to the Clubroot Management Committee requesting that they hold a meeting to discuss concerns brought forward to the Committee – CARRIED

ACTION ITEM: Committee writes a letter to Murray Hartman, Chair of the Clubroot Management Committee

A discussion took place on the meeting with the Pest Surveillance Branch delegation and some of the resolutions that should be brought to their attention.

Business:

1. Meeting with Minister Olsen July/August

The Committee would like to arrange a meeting with the Minister at the same time as the summer tour. Trent has contacted the Minister's office but no date has been set yet for the meeting.

ACTION ITEM: Trent arrange a meeting with the Ministers of ARD and ESRD to discuss resolutions.

2. Timeline of Resolution Responses/Resolutions

Maureen asked the Committee how long they felt resolutions should be kept active. Garry felt that if it hadn't been addressed then it should be kept on the table and if dealt with it should be archived. Lloyd said the sponsoring municipality may need to re-introduce the resolution.

Soren suggested that the resolutions be advocated for four years before going back to the sponsoring municipality and let them decide if the issue is still current and needs to be re-introduced. Trent and Jason will work on putting something together for bringing forward resolutions. Corey made a motion to bring resolutions forward after four years before being archived – CARRIED

ACTION ITEM: Trent and Jason work with Maureen to develop a system for tracking resolutions for advocating on and archiving purposes

3. Key Contact Initiative

Maureen informed the Committee that a survey is going to be sent out to the Agricultural Fieldmen in an effort to determine the effectiveness of the Key Contact Program. The Committee agreed that the Fieldmen should fill out the survey on behalf of the ASB and suggested that a letter go out to the ASB Chairmen informing them that the survey is being done. Maureen will send out the questions to the Committee for their review before sending out the survey.

ACTION ITEM: Maureen to send Key Contact Survey for ASBs to the Committee for review and send the ASB Chairmen a letter informing them of the purpose of the survey

4. Bacterial Ring Rot

Maureen advised that a new plan has been drafted up and that most issues have been sorted out. This issue has been resolved.

5. Fusarium Action Committee (FAC)

Garry discussed the process that occurred at the meeting on February 10, 2014 regarding the vote that occurred. Garry indicated that the Chairman of the Committee asked how they group wanted to decide how they would move forward. One of the members suggested that they take a simple majority vote to make a decision if there was no consensus. Garry indicated that the decision to make changes to the how decisions would be made was not on the agenda and that there was no change made to the Terms of Reference for the FAC.

Garry made a motion that the Provincial Committee write a letter to the Minister of Agriculture stating they are not happy with the change in process for making decisions and to reaffirm their position of zero tolerance. Pat and Jason will draft the letter – CARRIED

ACTION ITEM: Pat and Jason to draft a letter to the FAC

6. Review discussion with the Minister at Provincial Conference

Corey raised the issue of the Saddle Hills delegation that were at the meeting and said that the last time he spoke with Saddle Hills, no one had gotten back to them yet. Maureen suggested a call be made to Gayah Sieusahai and gave Corey his number. Maureen asked the Committee how they felt the discussion with the Minister went and Pat felt it went well and the Minister seems to want to get issues dealt with so the same issues are not always coming forward.

7. Railways/Grain Transportation issues

Corey advised the Committee that he met with Minister Olson and filled the Committee in on their discussion.

8. Crowsnest Pass

Maureen informed the Committee that the Council wanted to disband the ASB program after their Agricultural Fieldman resigned. She said she had met with the Council and ASB and that they have decided to continue with their ASB Program.

Gary reviewed a letter send from CNP requesting the Committee work with the Minister to establish an Eradicable Weeds Fund. The Committee discussed the possibility of this coming forward as a resolution.

DELEGATIONS:

Jim Calpas, Executive Director and David Feindal, Branch Head from the Pest Surveillance Branch joined the meeting at 9:30 am

- Jim and David introduced themselves and gave a brief overview of their backgrounds.
- Pat Gordeyko reviewed the purpose of the Provincial Committee
- A discussion took place on some of the resolutions from previous years that weren't addressed
- A discussion took place on the need for more provincial inspectors as the rural municipalities need additional help with ensuring that the urban municipalities are doing their job. Jim stated he needs to get a list of the areas that have appointed inspectors.
- A discussion took place on the Fusarium Management Plan and the disease itself. Pat advised that the Committee's position on Fusarium is still zero tolerance.

Rod Carlyon, Director, Rural Development Division and Murray Greer, Branch Head, Agriculture Grants Program Branch joint the meeting at 11:00 am

- Murray advised that Maureen had put together a document outlining the Roles and Responsibilities of the Provincial Committee and ARD. The document outlined what the past history and current situation is and how those roles and responsibilities could change going forward. Maureen went through the document and explained the proposed changes.
- The Committee needs to discuss several items such as budget, administration, minutes, Ministers briefing, handbook, resolution report card and how to handle resolution responses.
- Corey suggested a handbook with timelines etc. be prepared for new members
- Pat suggested everyone go back to their regions and present this to their region
- It was suggested a conference call or face to face meeting with the AAAF and Provincial Committee be set up for the end of April for further discussion.
- Committee would like Jason Storch to keep attending the Provincial Committee meetings to help with this process

Lloyd moved that the meeting be adjourned at 2:15 pm