

**Agricultural Service Board Provincial Committee conference call
October 1, 2015 at 9:00 am**

In attendance:

Patrick Gordeyko, Chair and Northeast Representative
Trent Keller, Secretary and AAAF 1st Vice President
Jim Duncan, Central Representative
Lloyd Giebelhaus, Northwest Representative
Steve Wikkerink, South Representative
Soren Odegard, AAMD&C Representative
Elden Kozak, 2nd Vice President, AAAF
Doug Macaulay, Acting ASB Program Manager, Agriculture and Forestry Representative
Murray Greer, Director, Agriculture Grants Program Branch, Agriculture and Forestry
Pam Retzloff, Recording Secretary, ARD

1. Call to Order

Pat called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Jim made a motion to adopt the agenda – CARRIED

3. Adoption of Minutes

Lloyd moved to accept the minutes from the March 16, 2015 meeting – CARRIED

4. Old Business

Nothing was brought forward

5. Resolution Responses/Grading/Report Card:

Resolution 1-15 Adapt Crop Insurance to protect Clubroot tolerant varieties

Unsatisfactory

The Committee stated that Clubroot is a real threat and AFSC needs to be more proactive in enforcing best management practices in support of the Alberta Clubroot Management Plan.

Resolution 2-15 Pest Control Act – Clubroot

Accept in Principle

The Committee felt that there needs to be more mandatory information sharing and could also include other pests. They agreed to accept in principle as long as mandatory notification is put in place once the review has taken place.

Resolution 3-15 Standardized Clubroot Inspection Procedures

Accept in Principle

The resolution asked for new money and not to have to utilize current funding. Areas that have very little Clubroot would absorb the cost of doing the testing but other areas with larger infestations will have higher costs. The Committee agreed to Accept in Principle but did not like the answer.

Resolution 4-15 Additional funding for municipalities dealing with Prohibited Noxious weeds that come from outside the Province of Alberta

Accept in Principle

The Committee expressed concern that budgets for weed control are being cut and this will have an effect on the entire Province and for emerging issues. The resolution asked for additional funding to deal with this issue but are being asked to utilize current funding.

Resolution 5-15 Maintaining Canada Thistle (*Cirsium arvense*) as a Noxious Weed under the *Alberta Weed Control Act* and Regulation.

Accept in Principle

The Committee agreed to Accept in Principle as this has only been informally discussed and no decision has been made. The Committee supports Canada Thistle remaining as a noxious weed under the *Alberta Weed Control Act*.

Resolution 6-15 Legal Opinion on the jurisdiction of the *Weed Control Act* on CN Rail

Accept the Response

The Committee agreed that the question was answered.

Resolution 7-15 Prevention of the introduction of Zebra and Quagga Mussels into Alberta water bodies.

Accept the Response

The Committee was pleased that inspection stations have been set up and hope to see 24 hour stations in the future.

Resolution 8-15 Monitor Ergot Levels in Livestock Feeds

Accept in Principle

The Committee agreed that this should be sent to CFIA for a response.

ACTION ITEM: Trent to send letter to CFIA for response.

Resolution 9-15 Elk Quota Hunt

Accept in Principle

The Committee felt that the trend was going in the right direction but would like to see what the harvest rates were from other seasons.

Resolution 10-15 Alberta Fish and Wildlife Officer Availability

Accept in Principle

The Committee felt that even though there has been more officers hired there are still areas that are unserved. There was no clarification as to which offices remain closed and where the 30 new officers are being deployed.

Resolution 11-15 Wildlife predator compensation for domestic equine loss

Accept the Response

The Committee felt the response was acceptable as the program was developed for meat animals so animals being raised for other purposes would not be included.

Resolution 12-15 Agriculture Plastics Recycling

Unsatisfactory

The Committee felt that this issue should be brought forward to the new government's attention and that ESRD should be involved in a stewardship program for agricultural plastics.

Resolution 14-15 Management of Farm and Agricultural Leases

Accept in Principle

The Committee felt that this issue should be brought forward to the new Minister due to the realignment of both departments involved.

Resolution 15-15 Farm Property Assessment

Accept in Principle

The Committee is waiting for the *Municipal Government Act* Review to be completed in order to make comments. They hope this resolution is incorporated in to the Act.

ER1-15 Fusarium graminearum Management Plan

Accept in Principle

The Committee is waiting to see what the Fusarium Management Plan will say. They Committee still supports a zero tolerance position.

6. Request to meet with new Minister

Trent advised that in order to get a meeting with the Minister, the Committee needs to give the Scheduler in the Minister's office an agenda. The Committee will submit agenda items to Trent.

7. AAMD&C meeting – November 16, 2015

Trent will make arrangements for the Committee to meet with the AAMD&C before the AAMD&C conference in November and will put together an agenda for the meeting.

8. AAMD&C-ASB Provincial Committee TOR

Pat said the Terms of Reference looked good and it was agreed that the TOR would be discussed further with the AAMD&C Board when they meet in November.

9. Length of Terms of appointments to Provincial Committee

Jim stated he wasn't sure if the length of appointments had been included in the Terms of Reference for the Provincial Committee but two year terms have been included.

10. Letter from John Brown

The Committee agreed that the letter doesn't really explain who is doing what. Murray Greer explained the three year funding that will be available to help the committee hire a part time administrative person. Funding will decrease each year and Murray said they need to lessen administration costs but Pat questioned how the Committee could lessen the costs. Pat suggested that this be brought up to the new Minister. The Committee agreed to have a further discussion about this when they meet on November 16, 2015.

11. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on November 16, 2015 and Trent will book a meeting location.

THE CONFERENCE CALL ADJOURNED AT 11:10 AM.