

COUNTY OF ST. PAUL NO. 19

AGRICULTURAL SERVICE BOARD

DECEMBER 17, 2008

A meeting of the Agricultural Service Board Committee of the County of St. Paul No. 19 was held in the County Office, Council Room on Wednesday, December 17, 2008.

BOARD MEMBERS:

Cliff Martin
Glen Ockerman
Tom Kurek
Maxine Fodness
Alphonse Corbiere
Regrets: Robert Bouchard, Frank Sloan

Dennis Bergheim, Agr. Fieldman
Jeremy Robinson, Asst. Agr. Fieldman
Betty Way, Recording Secretary

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**

Cliff Martin called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

2. **ADDITIONS TO AND ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA:**

The following additions were made:

Item 4.f. New Business: a. Livestock Insurance Program

Motion to accept Agenda as amended, moved by
Glen Ockerman. **Carried.**

3. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:**

Minutes of the October 28, 2008 meeting were distributed to Members.

Alphonse Corbiere moved to accept the Minutes of the October 28, 2008 meeting. **Carried.**

4. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:**

- a. **Evaluation** – Agriculture Food and Rural Development Survey from Regional A.S.B. Conference in Chauvin handed out to Members. Discussions followed relating to ARD'S partnership with ASB's across Alberta.

Glen Ockerman commented on the state of Alberta Beef Producers and the Beef Strategy Plan.

It was then moved by Glen Ockerman, on behalf of the Beef Producers, that the Agricultural Service Board draft a letter to the Federal Government Agricultural Minister, asking that a National Program be established for the Beef Strategy Plan, with a copy of letter sent to the Provincial Agricultural Minister, George Groeneveld and Brian Storseth, M.P. **Carried.**

- b. **Response to Hub Office** – Cliff Martin informed Members that no Specialist is in place as of yet throughout this Region. Members acknowledged letter addressed to George Groeneveld, dated November 7/08 with regard to the establishment of additional Hub Offices across Alberta, with our focus primarily in the northeast part of the province.

L.A.R.A. Delegation: Keith Kornelson - 1:25 p.m.
Keith informed the Board of activities surrounding L.A.R.A. with the assistance of Megan Ford. Based on AOA funding, a three year program proposal is being prepared, being completed by end of December. Keith stated that L.A.R.A. is still involved with Regional Variety Trials, Age Verification Workshops, with Megan having assisted approximately one hundred producers and Grazing Conferences are still taking place. Keith stated that Workshops and Field Days are well attended. Dennis Bergheim will make contact with Jo-Ann Hall, Director – ARD, commenting on a few areas of concern. L.A.R.A. Annual General Meeting will take place on February 26, 2009 at Boscombe Hall. Keith was commended for his involvement with L.A.R.A. by Glen Ockerman and left the meeting at 1:40 p.m.

5. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. **Mowing Program** – Jeremy Robinson shared with Members a cost analysis of mowing programs from surrounding Counties; Minburn and Wainwright. Discussion continued surrounding the purchase of a new tractor and mower, based on pricing from last year: Tractor, Mower and Side Arm – Basic price of \$125,000.00. Budget for 2009 estimate for Roadside Mowing - \$15,000.00.

Maxine Fodness moved that the A.S.B. purchase an additional tractor, mower and side arm. Jeremy Robinson will acquire price quotes for these units and bring them forward to the December 23, 2008 Public Works meeting. **Carried.**

- b. **A.S.B. Proposed Budget** - Members glanced over Summary of 2009 A.S.B. Budget with only slight changes; Roadside Seeding increased from \$8,000.00 to \$15,000.00.

Tom Kurek moved that the Interim Proposed Budget be approved as presented. **Carried.**

- c. **Capital Purchases** - Included in Capital purchases will be an A.T.V. and Sprayer Unit. Members glanced through equipment spreadsheet on price comparisons for a number of units.

Glen Ockerman moved that the A.S.B. purchase a Kubota unit, valued at \$19,110.00, along with two spraying units a Pro-Tech - \$5,500.00 and an Intelli-Spray - \$10,955.00. **Carried.**

- d. **A.S.B. Provincial Conference – January 26-29, 2009, Medicine Hat:**
Members will plan to be in attendance at the Cypress Centre. Accommodations will be at the Coast Hotel.

- e. **Livestock Identification** – Jeremy Robinson informed Members of email received, whether the A.S.B. would like to be a part of program, purchasing a wand and software. As the C.C.I.A. and Alberta Government have people in place to instruct this program, our A.S.B. will not be a part.
- f. **Livestock Insurance Program** – Members glanced over news release of a first in Canada program, the Cattle Price Insurance Program offered by Agriculture Financial Services Corporation, which will help Alberta beef producers protect their operations from fluctuating market prices.

6. **OTHER BUSINESS:**

None to mention.

7. **ADJOURNMENT:**

At 2:35 p.m., Maxine Fodness moved that the meeting be adjourned. **Carried.**

(January 14, 2009)

Date

(Original Signed by Cliff Martin)

A.S.B. Chairman