Wainwright, Alberta
February 24th, 2025

The Agricultural Service Board (ASB) of the Municipal District of Wainwright No. 61 met in the Administration Building at 9:00 am, February 24th, 2025.

Present: Chairman – Councilor Mike Wildeboer
Councilor Bruce Cummins
Farm Members – Jason Dahlgren, Colton Ukrainetz, and Shaun Rue
Agricultural Fieldman – Shelby Oracheski
Assistant Agricultural Fieldman and ASB Secretary – Kaitlin Hirsekorn

The Chairman Clr. Wildeboer called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

06/25 Moved by Clr. Cummins that the agenda be accepted as presented. CARRIED

07/25 Moved by Colton Ukrainetz that the minutes from January 13th, 2025 be accepted as presented. CARRIED

Correspondence was reviewed by the Agricultural Fieldman, Shelby Oracheski and Assistant Agricultural Fieldman, Kaitlin Hirsekorn.

a) Letter of Concern Regarding Bill C-293 (Starland County, Lac La Biche County, Lacombe County)
b) Letter of Concern Regarding Richardson Ground Squirrel Infestations (Kneehill County)
c) Request for Update Regarding the Farmer Pesticide Program (Kneehill County)
d) Letter Regarding the 2025 ASB Conference (County of Northern Lights)
e) Letter of Interest Regarding Hosting the 2026 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Tour (Wheatland County)
f) Declaration of Agricultural Disaster for Honey Producers (Northern Sunrise County)

The correspondence was taken as information.

The ASB agenda package included the January and February ASB monthly reports.

Reports were taken as information.

Shelby Oracheski, Agricultural Fieldman and Kaitlin Hirsekorn, Assistant Agricultural Fieldman presented their report

a) An extension programming update was provided which included event evaluations and the current registration numbers. There are currently 2 events being advertised.

b) The Strategic Priorities from the 2025-2029 ASB Grant were provided.
c) An update was provided on operational modifications including spray rotation and herbicide.
d) An update on Rural Routes was provided. Ryan Lindsay has been booked for the event entertainment and Veras Catering has been selected to cater the event.
e) A Beaver Control Officer update was provided, the job posting will close on March 10th.
f) ASB Provincial Conference feedback was collected and discussed.
g) Grass seed has been ordered for the 2025 reclamation projects.
h) An update was provided on the Wainwright Chemical Container Site Phase II ESA.
i) The roadside mowing contract has been extended for the 2025 season.
j) An update on the waterless CD3 boat cleaning unit was provided. Applicable grants have closed, but AISC is willing to bring a mobile unit out to Clear Lake for outreach. The Clear Lake Watershed Association will be consulted to gauge interest in having a unit at the boat launch.

08/25 Moved by Shaun Rue that the reports be accepted as presented. CARRIED

The ASB took a break from 10:22am-10:35am.

A discussion was initiated regarding new programming.

a) The Fenceline Spray Program will launch this spring, graphics and maps will be developed for clarity on applicable fence lines.
b) A discussion was initiated regarding the Canola Mapping Program. The ASB was in favour of taking the information to Council.

09/25 Moved by Shaun Rue to take the Canola Mapping Project to Council. CARRIED

c) A discussion was initiated regarding a potential partnership opportunity with Battle River Research Group (ARA). The Board was in favour of inviting them to present at the next ASB meeting.

A discussion was initiated regarding long term programming development:

a) A Water Well Decommissioning Program was proposed. The Board recommended developing a water well decommissioning

information package to provide information and promote awareness.

b) A Shelterbelt Establishment program was proposed. The Board was in favor of the Shelter Belt Establishment Program and recommended taking the program to Councils Planning Meeting to gauge interest.

Potential collaboration opportunities were presented including relationship building with Ag Societies and cooperation with neighboring Municipalities. Future plans will be to attend a meeting with each of the Ag Societies to present on the ASB.

An overview of Proposals that are going to the planning meeting were presented.

A review of the 2025 ASD Budget was initiated.

10/25 Moved by Colton Ukrainetz to accept the proposed budget. CARRIED

11/25 Moved by Clr. Cummins that the meeting be adjourned. CARRIED

Reeve Wildeboer adjourned the meeting at 11:48am.

_____
Chairman – Councillor Mike Wildeboer

_____
Secretary – Kaitlin Hirsekorn