

Meeting Minutes
of the
Agricultural Service Board – Municipal District of Pincher Creek No. 9
April 19, 2023 – MD Council Chambers

Present: Chair Frank Welsch, Vice Chair Martin Puch, Councillors Tony Bruder as well as member Members Anna Welsch.

Also Present: CAO Roland Milligan, Agricultural Fieldman Shane Poulson, and Executive Assistant Jessica McClelland.

Absent: Councillor Harold Hollingshead and Member David Robbins.

Chair Frank Welsch opened the meeting at 1:30 pm.

A. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Martin Puch 23/014

Moved that agenda for April 19, 2023 be amended to include Field Visit,

AND THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

Carried

B. DELEGATION

Kelly Cooley attended the meeting at this time.

Vice Chair Martin Puch arrived at the meeting at this time, the time being 1:54 pm.

ALUS Updates:

- Has ALUS proposals / potential for contracts from three producer operations that PAC will deliberate soon; hopefully the PAC can meet prior to the end of April, but for sure in the first part of May before seeding really gets going.
- Attended Crown Managers Partnership Forum in Browning, Montana in February. This was a chance to meet with several area potential partners for our ALUS Pincher Creek program, including both Alberta Environment and Parks Canada officials as well as the Piikani and Kainai Nations.
- ALUS application to the GOA Rangeland Sustainability Program was not approved, though they complimented our submission and recommended they reapply in the next cycle.
- Pincher Creek Watershed Group is back at the table together - ALUS may assist them in doing some follow up riparian health assessments through Cows & Fish, but that has not been formalized yet.
- The proposals for wind and solar farms near Pincher Creek and near Waterton Lakes National Park has generated a lot of discussion in the farm community.
- ALUS allocations and final payments for 2022 through ALUS Western Hub and Meghan from the MD. Also received the ALUS MOU for 2023, Kelly will be working through that process with Meghan and Roland and the ALUS PC PAC right

away. Applying for funding from the Land Stewardship Centre's Watershed Stewardship Grant Program

- Red Deer April 26th to visit with ALUS Red Deer and hear about their updated riparian health assessments (before & after) on around 50 projects. ALUS RD is the leading program in Alberta.
- A reminder to direct producers with interest to our website - ALUS PC Community Profile Website at alus.ca/alus-community/alus-pincher-creek ; they should review alus.ca/faq first

South West Invasive Managers (SWIM) Updates:

- Most of SWIM related work over the past few months has been helping the group plan workshop in Fort Macleod. At last report we had 70 registrants from across Southwest Alberta from the public, private, and non-profit sectors. The theme for this year's workshop is Invasive Species Prevention.
- Intending to host workshops each spring, with 2024's on Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR), 2025 featuring Integrated Control Strategies, and 2026 on Reclamation & Restoration.
- Another season approaches where SWIM will be hosting weekly cooperative control events in all the SWIM partner communities, sharing the resources of our seasonal crews to tackle tough weed sites.
- Working with Roddy Watt from Waterton Lakes National Park to develop a backpack sprayer calibration clinic for SWIM area landowners. Location and time to be announced.
- Shane asked Kelly to develop an area landowners Weed Walk (mostly identification and control tips) where he would lead a group of producers through different weed species and their characteristics.
- Took in a Ventenata webinar hosted by NAISMA and specifically our friend Dr. Jane Mangolct in Montana. Another invasive winter annual grass to watch for.

Kelly Cooley left the meeting at this time, the time being 2:50 pm.

C. MINUTES

Anna Welsch 23/015

Moved that the minutes of February 1, 2023 be approved as presented.

Carried

D. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

F. 2023 AES DEPARTMENT REPORT

Councillor Tony Bruder 23/016

Moved to accept for information the departmental reports from the Agricultural Fieldman for March and April 2023.

Carried

G. CORRESPONDENCE

1. For Action

- a) Pre-registration Invoice for hosting 2024 ASB Provincial Conference in Lethbridge

Anna Welsch 23/017

Moved that the ASB make recommendation to Council to approve the Pre-registration Invoice for hosting 2024 ASB Provincial Conference in Lethbridge in the amount of \$1500.00.

Carried

- b) Funding request from Foothills Forage and Grazing

Councillor Tony Bruder 23/018

Moved that the ASB make recommendation to Council to approve a \$5000 contribution to the Foothills Forage and Grazing Association with the stipulation that \$2000 is for their core funding with up to an additional \$3000 for individual events, for the 2023 year.

Carried

- c) South West Invasive Managers Workshop Registration - April 20, 2023

Councillor Tony Bruder 23/019

Moved that the ASB make recommendation to Council to approve a \$500 contribution to Waterton Biosphere to go towards the South West Invasive Managers (SWIM) Program.

Carried

- d) Working with Beavers Symposium - July 13 & 14, 2023

Martin Puch 23/020

Moved to accept the Working with Beavers Symposium on July 13 & 14, 2023 be received as information and that the information be shared on social media.

Carried

2. For Information

- a) Moisture Situation Update

Anna Welsch 23/021

Moved that the Moisture Situation Update as of March 30th be received as information, along with the following:

- Map 1 30 day Temperatures
- Map 2 Cold Season Precipitation Relative to Normal
- Map 3 Cold Season Precipitation Accumulations
- Map 4 Snowpack Relative to Normal
- Map 5 Snowpack Water Equivalent

Carried

b) Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)

Councillor Tony Bruder

23/022

Moved that the letter from Chief Provincial Veterinarian regarding Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) be received as information, and shared on social media.

Carried

c) 2022 Provincial Plant Pathology Survey report

Anna Welsch

23/023

Moved that the 2022 Provincial Plant Pathology Survey report be received as information.

Carried

d) Agricultural Service Board Program Team Field Visit

The board directed for the Agricultural Service Board Program Team Field Visit be scheduled for the ASB meeting on June 7, 2023 or in early July.

H. NEW BUSINESS

I. CLOSED SESSION

J. NEXT MEETING – **June 7, 2023**

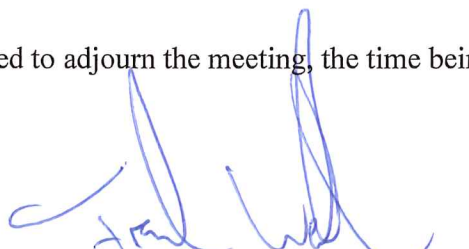
K. ADJOURNMENT


Martin Puch

23/024

Moved to adjourn the meeting, the time being 3:48 pm.

Carried



ASB Chairperson

ASB Secretary